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Over \$160k in Grants for Arts Awarded Throughout the Region

CINCINNATI (February 12, 2018) — Through the help of tens of thousands of donations, ArtsWave, the planner, promoter and fundraiser for Greater Cincinnati's arts sector, has awarded \$168,805 in grants to 29 organizations across the region for various projects.

\$118,805 of the total was awarded for one-time Catalyzing Impact Grants that further ArtsWave's vision to create a more vibrant and connected community, emphasizing one or more of the arts sector's [Blueprint for Collective Action](#) goals. \$35,000 of the total was directed toward grants that enable neighborhood-based community arts festivals. The remaining \$15,000 was allocated towards two capital grants, providing funds for audio and lighting equipment needed for continued operations.

More than a quarter – eight of the 29 organizations – are receiving monies for the first time from ArtsWave. ArtsWave President & CEO of ArtsWave Alecia Kintner noted, "Expanding the breadth of arts is important to creating an inclusive and reflective community that's able to connect all of us. This variety jumpstarts our neighborhoods, fueling an economic boost as well."

ArtsWave provides Catalyzing Impact Grants three times a year; Neighborhood & Festival Grants once a year; and Capital Grant Programs on a rolling (ad hoc) basis. For more information on ArtsWave's grant and other funding opportunities, visit <http://www.theartswave.org/apply-for-funding>.

Here are the grant recipients and descriptions of the projects funded:

Catalyzing Impact Grants:

Living Arrangements for the Developmentally Disabled – Awarded \$15,000 for the Over-the-Rhine International Film Festival to elevate awareness and inclusion, celebrating all types of people, including individuals of different races, ethnicities, faiths, genders, genders/sexual identities and disabilities.

Center for Great Neighborhoods of Covington – Awarded \$11,250 for a community engagement initiative in Northern Kentucky to partner artists with creative solutions to challenges and opportunities faced by Covington neighborhoods.

Easterseals* – Awarded \$11,250 for an intergenerational art-making program for people with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of neurocognitive disorders to improve the quality of life for

individuals with developmental disabilities, providing therapeutic opportunities for creative self-expression and social engagement.

Queen City Opera – Awarded \$11,250 for an Ohio premiere of Tchaikovsky's final opera, "Iolanta," in collaboration with Cincy Blind to focus the work on disability advocacy.

Professional Artistic Research Projects – Awarded \$10,560 for an applied arts and digital media educational program in collaboration with Kennedy Heights Arts Center to increase the availability of community-accessible arts training in Cincinnati's underserved communities.

The Catalytic Fund* – Awarded \$10,000 for an initiative of the Public Arts Network of Northern Kentucky to connect the communities and tell their stories through public art and a community-wide picnic on the Purple People Bridge.

Happen, Inc.* – Awarded \$8,250 for a music enrichment program for families, individuals, and groups highlighting acoustic, electric, and brass music and instruments from diverse cultures.

Commonwealth Artists Student Theatre, Inc. dba CAST* – Awarded \$7,500 for a student performance of Teresa Rebeck's "O Beautiful," a contemporary biting satire that focuses on far-flung political ideology, the role of media and "fake news" in today's society, including references to many current hot-button issues in schools.

Dramakinetics of Cincinnati – Awarded \$7,500 to develop a preschool curriculum that uses the performing arts to promote academic and social emotional growth as well as kindergarten readiness in preschool aged children.

Young Professionals Choral Collective – Awarded \$7,500 for a new choral orchestral work highlighting stories of inmates exonerated through the Ohio Innocence Project and performed in partnership with the Cincinnati Opera.

4-Way String Quartet LLC – Awarded \$5,625 for a free, one-on-one string and music instruction program based at Woodford Paideia Arts and Culture Elementary, where 99% of students are economically challenged.

Sidekicks Made – Awarded \$4,795 for an initiative to empower children experiencing homelessness by providing social emotional support and creative expression through the process of co-designing and co-creating stuffed animal companions.

The Woven Oak Initiatives of Norwood, Inc.* – Awarded \$3,970 for a community outreach effort in West Norwood, engaging youth 5 to 11 years old in creative exploration and service learning.

Jhankar – Awarded \$2,850 for a classical instrumental concert featuring 'Santoor' an ancient 100-stringed Indo-Persian instrument, presented by Rahul Sharma and accompanied by percussionist Aditya Kalyanpur.

Cincinnati Song Initiative – Awarded \$1,500 for a partnership with Cincinnati Shakespeare Company to pair spoken word with art song to illuminate some of William Shakespeare's most famous words.

Neighborhood Arts & Festival Grants:

Juneteenth Cincinnati, Inc. – Awarded \$5,000 for a two-day festival commemorating the end of American slavery taking place in Eden Park.

Kennedy Heights Community Council* – Awarded \$4,000 for a series of weekly summertime neighborhood programming in a public park serving the Kennedy Heights and Silverton communities.

Price Hill Will – Awarded \$3,500 for a free summer concert series hosted in St. Lawrence Square in Lower Price Hill.

South Cummins Community Council – Awarded \$3,500 for a day-long music, art and food festival in South Cummins.

Seven Hills Neighborhood Houses – Awarded \$3,450 for a community festival to be held in Laurel Park, celebrating the history of West End's very own Heavyweight Champion Ezzard Charles.

Madisonville Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation – Awarded \$3,000 for a Jazz & BBQ Festival in Madisonville.

Dearborn Highlands Arts Council – Awarded \$2,500 for a series of events taking place January through December in a gallery space on Walnut Street, Lawrenceburg, IN.

CliftonFest Partners, Inc., LLC – Awarded \$2,050 for a day-long art and music festival in Clifton.

Arts Revival of College Hill – Awarded \$2,000 for a day-long fall festival taking place at the Town Hall Park in College Hill.

Friends of Peaseburg Neighborhood Association* – Awarded \$2,000 for a free outdoor cinema series taking place three times in the Linden Grove Cemetery in Covington, KY.

Hartwell Improvement Association* – Awarded \$2,000 for an arts and crafts fair taking place at the Hartwell Rec. Center in Hartwell.

Renaissance Covington – Awarded \$2,000 for a collaborative art exhibition and block party, celebrating baseball, and the Cincinnati Reds.

Capital Grant Awards:

Footlighters, Inc. – Awarded \$5,000 to update audio and lighting systems.

School for the Creative and Performing Arts – Awarded \$10,000 to update audio systems.

While ArtsWave is jumpstarting these projects throughout the region, the local arts council is also actively raising funds during its most critical period, its 2018 Community Campaign. Monies raised from the Campaign, chaired by President of Duke Energy, Ohio & Kentucky Jim Henning, will fund 100+ arts and community organizations throughout the region. During this year's Campaign, ArtsWave has kicked off a new event series, ArtsWave Days, running throughout the 12 weeks of the Campaign; a new loyalty program, ArtsWave Rewards; ArtsWave CincySings, the nationally-acclaimed workplace singing event focused on employee engagement; ArtsWave Presents, a series of community engagement events throughout the region; and ArtsWave Toast to the Arts, a variety of wine, beer, and cocktail promotions held at 35+ local establishments as well as a MAKE WAVES! beer in collaboration with Braxton Brewing Company. In addition, ArtsWave has created a variety of online resources, such as its ArtsWave Guide, a regional calendar of arts events and an online job board. The 2018 Community Campaign, which is dependent on donations made by approximately 40,000 residents throughout the region, runs through April 26 and has a goal of \$12.25 million dollars. Support for the campaign that fuels the vibrancy of the region's overall health can be made at ArtsWave.org/Give.

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About ArtsWave:

ArtsWave, a nonprofit serving the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky Region, is the lead planner, promoter and fundraiser of the arts. Its roots stem back to the late 1920s when the Cincinnati Taft family provided initial investment matched by community support. In the late 1940s, it evolved to become the first united arts fund in the nation and in the mid-1970s, the first organization to initiate workplace giving for the arts. ArtsWave continues to innovate while leading, as illustrated by its No. 1 rank nationally in community arts fundraising; coordination of a sector-wide Blueprint for Collective Action; piloting of new technologies to maximize arts engagement; and development of resources for the arts.

Strong funding for the arts has allowed Cincinnati's arts and culture scene to become a national draw and regional asset, creating a ripple effect of economic and community benefits. ArtsWave supports the work of over 100 arts organizations, school outreach programs, festivals, community centers, neighborhoods and various collaborations through impact-based grants. In 2017, ArtsWave broke its own fundraising record by mobilizing tens of thousands of contributions from corporations, foundations and individuals and raising \$12,500,000 to support the arts plus \$1 million for arts marketing, grants and services in partnership with the Cincinnati USA Regional Tourism Network.

* New recipient to grant funding from ArtsWave