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### **Free Performances and Admission to Freedom Center as Part of ArtsWave Campaign**

CINCINNATI (February 18, 2019) – The second of six ArtsWave Days, Freedom Celebration, happens Saturday, February 23, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. Through ArtsWave Days, brought to you by Macy’s, twice-a-month, the nonprofit planner, promoter and funder of the arts is showcasing the region’s arts as part of its 2019 annual ArtsWave Community Campaign, which runs through April 30.

During Freedom Celebration, ArtsWave is partnering with the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center to celebrate Black History Month, civil rights and the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Freedom Summer. In total, more than a dozen performances will be programmed throughout the museum, including The Children’s Theatre staging “Martin’s Dream,” Cincinnati Black Theatre Company performing monologues from “For Colored Girls,” MYCincinnati presenting works by composers of the African diaspora and performances by Elementz Hip Hop, Princesses Ballet, School for Creative and Performing Arts, Sharon McCollum of Shannay Productions, Ed Sax Thomas and more.

Besides Macy’s title sponsorship, Frisch’s® Big Boy® is the series sponsor and Enquirer Media is the Print Media Sponsor.

For a full schedule of ArtsWave Days, please see [ArtsWave.org/Days](http://ArtsWave.org/Days).

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#### **About ArtsWave:**

ArtsWave, a nonprofit serving the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky Region, is the lead planner, promoter and fundraiser for 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. Each year, ArtsWave supports the work of over 100 arts organizations, school outreach programs, festivals, community centers, neighborhoods and various collaborations through impact-based grants. In 2018, ArtsWave raised more than \$12 million for the region’s arts, marking its fifth year in a row of this funding magnitude. ArtsWave remains the largest community campaign for the arts throughout the country, both in total contributions and number of donors. In addition, the organization partners with the

Cincinnati USA Regional Tourism Network to fund an additional \$1 million for arts marketing, grants and services.

