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Regional Architecture Leader and UC Campus Innovator Honored Last Night for Regional Arts Impact

CINCINNATI March 8, 2018) – Jay Chatterjee, known for his involvement in transforming both UC’s architecture program and the campus itself, was honored by ArtsWave last night with the 2018 Sachs Fund Prize at a reception held at the Contemporary Arts Center, attended by 100 people.

The Rosa F. and Samuel B. Sachs Fund Prize is made possible through an endowed gift to ArtsWave in 1929, a bequest from the late Samuel B. Sachs to honor outstanding accomplishments in the arts — inclusive of visual arts, music, theatre, dance, literature, sculpture and architecture. Over the years, the Sachs Fund Prize has recognized individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the cultural life of Cincinnati, bringing distinction to themselves and the region through their work. Previous recipients include Zaha Hadid, Leah Stewart, Phyllis Weston, Stephen Sondheim, Shepard Fairey, James Conlon, Kathy Wilson and Jim Borgman.

The Sachs Fund Prize Committee — led by ArtsWave Life Trustee Richard Rosenthal — decided early on not to make this a competitive process with a call for nominations and/or applications. Rather, using the MacArthur Foundation’s “genius grants” as a model, ArtsWave assembles a group of this region’s most knowledgeable leaders in the areas of theater, music, dance, architecture, visual arts, photography and literature to select the individual who, in their combined estimation, best meets the criteria for this award.

“We are delighted to honor Jay Chatterjee with the 2018 Sachs Fund Prize,” said ArtsWave President and CEO Alecia Kintner. “His contributions to the architecture and aesthetics of the University of Cincinnati, as well as to numerous cultural and civic projects, will help to distinguish our region for its arts and innovation for years to come.”

About Jay Chatterjee

Jay Chatterjee is Dean Emeritus at the University of Cincinnati. He earned a Bachelor’s degree in Architecture from the Indian Institute of Technology, and holds a Master’s degree In Regional Planning from the University of North Carolina, and a Master’s degree in Architecture (U. D.) from Harvard University.

Dean Chatterjee’s efforts have had a lasting effect on UC’s architecture program and the school itself. This includes top ten national rankings for most of the programs at the College of DAAP. His leadership and vision transformed the UC campus through innovative planning and design, and attracted renowned architects like Frank Gehry, Thom Mayne, Peter Eisenman, Bernard Tschumi and Michael Graves, among others. The resulting campus structure led Forbes Magazine to recognize the university’s campus as one of the most beautiful in the world. He also played a major role in attracting influential architects like Cesar Pelli and Zaha Hadid to Cincinnati.

His service on the Cincinnati Urban Design Review Board spans three decades with major, orderly growth and development of downtown Cincinnati. He has served on numerous civic boards, including that of the Contemporary Arts Center, the Historic Conservation Board, the Architecture Foundation of Cincinnati and the Seasongood Foundation of Good Government, among others. He is a past President of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, and is a Founding Member of the Planning Accreditation Board. He also founded and edited the Journal of Planning Education and Research. He has authored numerous articles and has lectured extensively both here and abroad.

Dean Chatterjee has been recognized with numerous awards, including the ACSP award for "Distinguished Service to the ACSP," which was renamed in his honor. Among his other awards are the Post-Corbett Lifetime Achievement Award, the Apple Award of the AFC, Thomas Jefferson Award of the AIA, Meyerson Award for leadership in Higher Education and more. In addition, the University of Cincinnati created the "Chatterjee-Global" lecture program in his honor. The mayor of the City of Cincinnati declared June 10, 2013, to be "Jay Chatterjee Day," acknowledging the impact Dean Chatterjee has had on our region.

The presentation of the 2018 Sachs Fund Prize to Dean Chatterjee comes during this year's ArtsWave Community Campaign, chaired by President of Duke Energy, Ohio & Kentucky Jim Henning. Also at the March 7th reception, ArtsWave will acknowledge the impact of contributions made by more than two thousand individuals to the Community Campaign for 15 or more consecutive years. The Community Campaign relies on donations made by approximately 40,000 residents throughout the region and runs through April 26. Support the arts that fuel Greater Cincinnati's vibrancy 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.