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ArtsWave Hosts Virtual Fundraiser and Live Performance Party

CINCINNATI (May 15, 2020) — ArtsWave, the engine for the Cincinnati Region's arts, is hosting a [Cheers to the Arts Party and \[Fun\]draiser](#) to close out the 2020 ArtsWave Campaign and help the hard-hit arts recover strong and as soon as possible.

The Zoom party will be held this coming Tuesday, May 19, at 7:30 p.m. with signup [here](#).

Over a dozen artists and celebrities will make appearances and performances during the party, which will be kicked off by ArtsWave Board of Directors President **James Zimmerman**. The lineup includes: 98 Degrees singer and actor **Drew Lachey**; "WKRP in Cincinnati" actor **Gary Sandy** making a special return visit; Singer and Cincinnati contestant from The Voice **TyShawn Colquitt**; Cincinnati Pops Conductor **John Morris Russell**; Cincinnati Ballet dancers **Samantha Griffin** and **Taylor Carrasco** along with Artistic Director **Victoria Morgan**; Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park Monologues of Hope actress **Ernaisha Curry** and Artistic Director **Blake Robison**, Emmy-nominated jazz vocalist and Learning Through Art CEO & Co-Founder **Kathy Wade**; Cincinnati Art Museum Director **Cameron Kitchen**, social distancing from the Museum; and funk and blues band **Kyle Hackett Trio**, performing live from Fretboard Brewing Company with introductory comments by co-owner **Kevin Moreland**.

Besides performances and appearances, the evening features simple, at-home pastry making that will be led by Taste of Belgium Pastry Chef **Kira Robinson**, and a wine tasting for all to enjoy, guided by wine educator **Kathy Merchant**.*

May 19 is also the 51st birthday of ArtsWave President & CEO Alecia Kintner and because the event is a fundraiser, gifts that are 51-related (i.e., \$1,510, \$510, \$51) are encouraged, although all donations are appreciated.

**To participate in the wine tasting, please choose a red wine from Tuscany (including a Super Tuscan) or Piedmont. [Nicola's Ristorante](#) has an excellent retail selection available for pick up or delivery, or you can buy wine from your favorite shop. Our partner, Fretboard Brewing, has carryout beer for sale, including Wave Maker, a collaboration between ArtsWave and Fretboard.*

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About ArtsWave:

ArtsWave, a nonprofit serving the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky Region, is the engine 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 wave 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 2019, ArtsWave raised over \$12 million, marking its sixth year in a row surpassing this milestone. ArtsWave remains the largest community campaign for the arts throughout the country, both in total contributions and number of donors. The ArtsWave Community Campaign is going on now through June 1, 2020.

ArtsWave is focused on helping the Cincinnati Region's arts sector weather the coronavirus crisis. The region's arts sector has an economic impact of more than \$300 million annually and includes more than 225 organizations throughout Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky and Southeastern Indiana that employ 10,000+ individuals as artists, performers and staff. The sector was hit at the onset of the coronavirus crisis, when venue and performance closures were announced in early March. ArtsWave has accelerated \$2.4 million in grant payments for 44 organizations which receive operating revenues, expanded its \$10,000 Working Capital Bridge Loans for eligible arts organizations, and has provided Emergency Arts & Culture Organization grants to 47 organizations. The public can help fund these and additional, evolving efforts at artswave.org/give.