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### **ArtsWave approves \$50,000 in grants to attract Young Professionals to the arts**

CINCINNATI (August 28, 2018) – Friday afternoon, ArtsWave’s Board of Directors approved \$50,000 in grant expenditures from its recent 2018 Community Campaign, slated to support programming from five arts organizations that will attract and engage Young Professionals (YPs) to the arts.

The projects chosen reinforce “Arts Deepen Roots,” one of ArtsWave’s five goals for the region’s arts sector as noted in its [Blueprint for Collective Action](#). Below is a list of the projects selected:

- **Cincinnati Museum Center** – awarded \$5,000 to support “CurioCity,” an educational series aimed at engaging YPs with a goal to encourage lifelong learning in a fun, casual and interactive way. Each monthly event has a different theme and different organizational partnership, designed to attract a broad range of interests.
- **Cincinnati Opera** – awarded \$10,000 to support “Preludes,” a series of programs for Young Professionals led by the Opera’s Center Stage, YP group, with the goal of broadening geographical reach, engaging more YPs, and expanding community partnerships. The monthly Preludes series is an introduction to opera for YPs through a variety of experiences.
- **Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park** – awarded \$10,000 to support “Off the Grid,” a series of one-of-a-kind curated theater events specifically tailored to engage YPs who may not be interested in traditional theatre, but who still value unique, creative, and participatory arts experiences.
- **Taft Art Museum** – awarded \$15,000 to support “House Party,” a new series for YPs featuring live music, food, special tours, talks, demonstrations and drop-in artmaking workshops, with specialty cocktails and craft brews.
- **Young Professionals Choral Collective** – awarded \$10,000 to support a series of varied and inclusive choral concerts during the 2018-19 season, providing new avenues for YPs to enter the arts community, develop their relationships with the arts, and strengthen roots to the region.

Funding for the YP grant program is made possible by donations from the 2018 ArtsWave Community Campaign, given by ArtsWave Young Professionals, an ArtsWave Connects group. Ten percent of all donations given by ArtsWave Young Professionals are designated for these grants. Projects were chosen through a cross-section of YPs throughout the region who met early last week to make recommendations.

ArtsWave President and CEO Alecia Kintner praised the selection of projects, noting “Our region’s arts organizations have taken our challenge seriously to create compelling programming for YPs. From curated theater for the non-theater goer to drop-in artmaking workshops, these grants are meant to invite Cincinnati’s emerging leaders into the arts.”

**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. 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.