

Contact: Kathy DeBrosse Vice President, Marketing & Engagement, ArtsWave 937.207.3079

Arts join together to create virtual camp program, Camp cARTwheel, presented by ArtsWave

Three Cincinnati nonprofit organizations, ArtWorks, The Well and Wave Pool, have teamed up with 40+ Greater Cincinnati artists and organizations to create Camp cARTwheel, a virtual arts and culture summer camp program, presented by ArtsWave, the engine of the region's arts.

Camp cARTwheel strives to foster creativity, play, empathy and connection, targeting families with children ages 6-12 looking for summer camp opportunities.

The virtual camps run the week of July 20-24 (Ages 6-8) and July 27-31 (Ages 9-12). Camp cARTwheel Kits will be available for pick up or shipping the first week of July.

At the heart of Camp cARTwheel are camp kits that come with art-making activities and supplies. There will be an additional "channel" with videos and supporting documents for those who wish to have a self-guided experience. From dance to mindfulness, from STEM to STEAM, from social justice to art in action, Camp cARTwheel Kits will provide a wide diversity in experiences from Greater Cincinnati's exceptional art organizations and artists.

ArtWorks Youth Apprentice artists will work with Wave Pool's resident artist Julia Lipovsky, a multidisciplinary artist and community educator living and working in Cincinnati, on curating and designing the camp kits and will also serve as Camp cARTwheel Virtual Counselors. Area artists and representatives from collaborating organizations will also be featured on the camp "channel" and as guests at the virtual camps.

There are several affordable camp options from which to choose, ranging from no money at all for free access to the Camp cARTwheel Web Channel; \$30 for social

service and arts organizations who wish to serve a group of youth; \$60 for a self-guided experience; and \$80 for Camp cARTwheel Kit with one week of virtual camp.

Besides ArtWorks, The Well and Wave Pool, other participating arts organizations include: Art Academy of Cincinnati, ART HAGS, Art on the Streets, Cincinnati Museum Center, Clifton Cultural Arts Center, Contemporary Arts Center, DanceFix Kids, Democracy & Me from WVXU, Indigo Hippo, Kennedy Heights Art Center, Praise Ekeng and Ijo Ugo Performing Arts, Taft Museum of Art, TRIIIBE, Visionaries + Voices, WordPlay, Wyoming Fine Arts Center and more

Alecia Kintner, President & CEO of ArtsWave says "ArtsWave is excited to see arts organizations and artists come together to create the ultimate virtual camp experience." Colleen Houston, CEO and Artistic Director of ArtWorks notes, "This is a time when our community's youth are in great need of creativity. Expressing yourself through art can be a life-changing experience for anyone, especially kids living through a challenging time." "Colleen is so right," says Stacy Sims, Founder and Director of The Well. "Peter Levine, one of the pioneers of trauma-informed care, suggests that the first sign of resilience is the evidence of curiosity." Wave Pool Co-Founder and Executive Director Cal Cullen agrees. "Collaboration is needed now more than ever. A silver lining to these times is that it has become easier to partner with so many great organizations to build on the collective strengths across the city."

Registration is open through July 1, 2020. For more information go to <u>artswave.org/camp</u>.

About ArtsWave

ArtsWave is the non-profit engine for Greater Cincinnati's arts. Tens of thousands of individuals and companies give to ArtsWave each year, supporting 100+ arts projects and organizations through impact-based grants. The 2020 ArtsWave Community Campaign has raised more than \$9.5 million so far and is still actively seeking donations. To make a donation, go to <u>artswave.org/give.</u>

About ArtWorks

ArtWorks is an award-winning Greater Cincinnati nonprofit that transforms people and places through investments in creativity. The organization creates jobs for youth, ages 14-21 with the majority from underserved households, providing competitive 21st-century career-readiness skills through mentorship by professional artists. Since 1996, ArtWorks has employed more than 3,600 youth and 3,200 creative professionals, and the organization has completed more than 12,500 public and private art projects that include 190 permanent outdoor murals, contributing to the region's global reputation as an arts destination. Learn more at ArtWorksCincinnati.org.

About Wave Pool

Wave Pool pairs communities' knowledge of their needs with artists' sense of possibility. They are best known for initiating and supporting artist driven creative place-making projects and exhibiting work that stretches beyond gallery walls through interactive projects that proactively help their neighbors. They often work with partner organizations to tackle tough problems through asset based development and center artist-driven solutions. Learn more at wavepoolgallery.org

About The Well

The programs of The Well, including Mindful Music Moments, City Silence and True Body Project, elegantly combine aspects of mindfulness, arts, social-emotional learning, play, movement and poetry into practices for regular use within schools, hospitals, and communities. We love collaboration so our best work is with others and we are delighted to partner with world-class arts, social service, education and health care providers. Learn more at TheWell.World.