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### **ArtsWave announces second year of grant program supporting Black and Brown artists in the Cincinnati region**

October 11, 2021 – Today, ArtsWave, the engine for the arts, opened its second round of Truth and Reconciliation Project Grants for Black and Brown Artists. The program, made possible by a partnership between ArtsWave, the City of Cincinnati, Greater Cincinnati Foundation, Duke Energy and Macy's, is meant to uplift the artistry and experiences of people of color through projects addressing the dual themes of "truth" and "reconciliation."

In its inaugural year, the Truth and Reconciliation commissioning grant program funded a collection of 27 projects by local artists, reflecting a variety of artistic disciplines and approaches to the theme. The projects culminated with a three-part Artist Showcase, with a visual art exhibition and film short screenings at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center as well as live performances at Memorial Hall.

As the program opens its second year, ArtsWave encourages Black and Brown artists living in the Cincinnati region to apply for up to \$15,000 to create a work, in any artistic discipline. All artists selected for commissioning grants will be asked to involve community members and to complete their projects by summer 2022. ArtsWave will again collaborate with local partners to execute the program. Approximately 10-12 commissions are likely to be awarded in this round.

Projects will be selected based on eligibility guidelines and how they advance ArtsWave's Blueprint for Collective Action, including the powerful goals of bridging cultural divides, promoting understanding and empathy, deepening the roots of residents, and improving neighborhoods. The application deadline is October 29, 2021.

Artists can find eligibility guidelines, program requirements and application instructions for Truth and Reconciliation Grants at [artswave.org/apply](https://artswave.org/apply).

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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. ArtsWave raised \$11 million for the arts in 2021, despite the difficult 18-month health and economic crisis that has affected the entire region. Donations can be made at [artswave.org/give](https://artswave.org/give).