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ArtsWave encourages local artists of color to apply for grants that fund projects that foster truth and innovation.

October 19, 2023 – ArtsWave, the engine for the arts, is actively seeking applications for Black and Brown Artist Project Grants through November 3. The artists selected for this year's program will create projects across artistic genres focusing on the themes of Truth and Innovation. Now in its fourth year, the project focuses on elevating Black and Brown artists and is made possible by a partnership between ArtsWave, the City of Cincinnati, Greater Cincinnati Foundation, Duke Energy and Macy's.

Over the past four years, ArtsWave's Black and Brown Artist Program has explored important themes of the minority experience, including truth, reconciliation, inspiration and healing. Last year's program awarded funding to 19 local artists of color, culminating in a visual art exhibition, film festival and live performance at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center.

Applicants should use the arts to explore the theme of Truth and Innovation to build upon the current artistic commentary of health and race and to connect it with historical events and visions of a more equitable future. ArtsWave's Black and Brown Artist program will provide financial support for local BIPOC artists in the Greater Cincinnati Region, and artists who have received at least two consecutive grants must take off at least one year from applying.

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 roots in the region, and improving neighborhoods. The application deadline is November 3.

Artists can find eligibility guidelines, program requirements, grant support, including writing resources and coaching, and Truth and Innovation Grants application instructions at artswave.org/apply.

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About ArtsWave

ArtsWave, the local nonprofit arts agency 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 established 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 new technologies to maximize arts engagement; and developing resources for the arts. Each year, ArtsWave raises nearly \$12 million from tens of thousands of donors — corporations, employees, foundations, residents and others — to support more than 150 arts organizations, projects and artists. Donations can be made at artswave.org/give.