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**ArtsWave marks a decade of broadened mission and impact,
rolling out its latest efforts to support the community**

October 30, 2020 – Marking an unprecedented year, today ArtsWave commemorated the 10th anniversary of the evolution of broadening its mission, support and impact as well as a change in its name. At its annual meeting of its Board of Directors, Board members awarded \$231,000 in Catalyzing Impact project grants to 39 organizations and also elected new Trustees and Officers.

Alecia Kintner, ArtsWave President and CEO, remarked, “It’s been 10 years since the nationally-noted change from the Fine Arts Fund to ArtsWave. We’ve gone from providing operating or project support for dozens of arts groups each year to now supporting over 100 organizations and projects a year.” In the process of broadening its support, aggregated donation revenue over the past decade versus the prior decade is up 11 percent.

Over the past decade, many local arts organizations have evolved their missions with a focus to serve the community as their first priority. ArtsWave has introduced collaborative strategies for the arts sector, including the [Blueprint for Collective Action in the Arts](#) Sector and [Lifting As We Learn](#) diversity, equity, inclusion and access strategy. Next year, organizations receiving the largest ArtsWave grants will also be asked to share their own diversity, equity, inclusion and access plans as a condition of full funding.

ArtsWave’s support for many facets of the community is exemplified in the Catalyzing Impact grants category, which funds projects that advance ArtsWave’s Blueprint for Collective Action. At Friday’s meeting, a total of \$231,000 was approved by the Board to 39 projects impacting various regional communities in areas related to arts education, digital media, live performance, social justice and public art. These are the first grants of the 2021 Campaign cycle. A complete list of funded projects is attached.

Also at this meeting, 2021 ArtsWave Campaign Chairman Terry Horan of HORAN made the case for increased investment in Greater Cincinnati’s arts organizations as being essential in the ongoing pandemic. “What we do now will determine how quickly and

successfully Greater Cincinnati's arts institutions recover from a year of total disruption," he explained. "When asked to chair the 2021 ArtsWave Community Campaign, I understood that this is a year with unusual urgency and much at stake."

James Zimmerman, Managing Director of Taft Law, was re-elected for a second year as Chair of ArtsWave's Board of Directors. Tony Mathis of GE Aviation and Mel Gravely of TriVersity Construction were elected Vice Chairs. Rhonda Whitaker-Hurtt was named Secretary and Matt Stautberg was elected for a second year as Treasurer. Also at this meeting, longtime executive committee members George Vincent and Mike Prescott were each celebrated for concluding nine years of service, as were members-at-large Dianne Dunkelman and Jodi Woffington.

Nine new Trustees were elected to three-year terms: Tysonn Betts, Michael Betz, Carri Chandler, Brendon Cull, Chip Gerhardt, Agnes Godwin-Hall, Nerissa Morris, Deana Taylor, and Alicia Townsend. Elected to one-year terms were Joe Muraca and Herb Robinson. Trustees voted to renew their service for another term included Ronald Bates, Laura Brunner, Christopher Carlson, Philip Duncan, Trey Grayson, Delores Hargrove-Young, Melanie Healey, Monica Posey, Mu Sinclaire, Eddie Tyner, and Stanford Williams.

"We thank all of these tremendous leaders for serving as ArtsWave Trustees over the last several years, or for stepping up to take the reins of board leadership in terms beginning in 2020," said Zimmerman. Also acknowledged for their service were Tom DeWitt of Cincinnati Children's (three years) and Bobbie McTurner, representing Wyoming Fine Arts Center (one year) and Chip Gerhardt, representing Ensemble Theater (one year).

Two staff appointments were also announced: Mary Stagaman as Impact Executive-in-Residence and Janice Liebenberg as Director of Corporate Giving and Equitable Arts Advancement. Stagaman is a Life Trustee of ArtsWave and most recently, she was Vice President for Inclusion at the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber; she has been active in the region's arts scene. Liebenberg has been with ArtsWave for six years and she is an alumnus of C-Change and WE Lead programs from the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber.

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 2020, ArtsWave amassed \$13+ million for the arts, through a combination of its 2020 Campaign and a separate Arts Vibrancy Recovery Fund, designed to ensure the solvency and a vibrant return of the region's arts assets in the wake of the unprecedented health and economic crisis.

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 43 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.



FY2021 Catalyzing Impact Grant Program – Fall 2020

The purpose of the Catalyzing Impact Grant Program is to encourage a breadth of programming through arts and cultural heritage projects that support the goals of ArtsWave's Blueprint for Collective Action. In fall 2020, over \$230,000 in grant support was awarded to the following 39 organizations:

Organization	FY21 Grant
4-Way Quartet LLC	\$6,000
A Mindful Moment	\$3,600
Academy of Cinematic Arts	\$8,000
Activities Beyond The Classroom – Fourthwall Youth Studios	\$6,000
Activities Beyond the Classroom - The Ben Carlson-Berne Scholarship Fund	\$4,100
American Legacy Theatre	\$5,000
Art Academy of Cincinnati	\$5,000
Art of the Piano	\$6,500
Art on the Streets	\$8,000
Artsville Corp	\$4,875
Band in a Bus	\$5,000
Chase Elementary-Cincinnati Public Schools	\$7,000
Church of Our Saviour/La Iglesia de Nuestro Salvador	\$6,000
Cincinnati Center City Development Corporation (Memorial Hall)	\$6,500
Cincinnati Fusion Ensemble	\$10,000
Cincinnati Music & Wellness Coalition	\$6,500
Cincinnati Parks Foundation	\$7,000
Cincinnati Skirball Museum of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion	\$5,490
Cincinnati Song Initiative	\$4,900
College-Conservatory of Music/University of Cincinnati Foundation	\$8,000
Corporation for Findlay Market	\$10,000
Corryville Suzuki Project Inc.	\$6,000
Covington Partners	\$8,000
Creative Aging Cincinnati	\$6,000
Episcopal Retirement Services Affordable Living	\$6,500
i.imagine	\$2,100
Jazz Alive, Inc.	\$3,500
Keep Cincinnati Beautiful	\$8,000
Living Arrangements for the Developmentally Disabled, Inc. (LADD)	\$6,500
Paloozanoire, LLC	\$5,000

Queen City Cabaret	\$1,300
Revolution Dance Theatre	\$8,000
SCPA Fund	\$3,000
Southbank Partners, Inc	\$7,000
The Catalytic Fund (Catalytic Development Funding Corp. of Northern Kentucky)	\$5,000
The Melindy Condo Association's Northern Row Park	\$5,000
Warren County Arts Council, dba ArtScape Lebanon	\$5,000
Wave Pool	\$3,600
WordPlay Cincy	\$8,000