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ArtsWave receives another NEA grant to regrant to the arts as Cincinnati's Local Arts Agency

CINCINNATI (May 24, 2023) – ArtsWave, the region's engine for the arts, has received its second grant from the Local Arts Agency program of the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) to regrant to the Cincinnati region's arts organizations.

The NEA award of \$70,000 will be used in the year ahead to support nonprofit arts organizations that are vital to the economic vibrancy of the region. This grant, combined with \$50,000 from the year before, creates \$120,000 in additional arts funding from the NEA that would not otherwise have come to Cincinnati.

ArtsWave President & CEO Alecia Kintner notes that “Federal funding through that NEA is an important supplement to the annual ArtsWave Campaign, the primary mechanism for funding the Cincinnati region's arts.”

Beyond qualifying to receive federal dollars through the NEA to regrant funds to the arts, last year, Cincinnati City Council and Hamilton County Commissioners formally designated ArtsWave as their “local arts agency” partner for the distribution of government funds. In total, ArtsWave has regranted more than \$13 million to the arts (organizations and individual artists) through government funding via the CARES Act and American Rescue Plan relief efforts.

“The National Endowment for the Arts is pleased to support a wide range of projects, including those of ArtsWave, demonstrating the many ways the arts enrich our lives and contribute to healthy and thriving communities,” said NEA Chair Maria Rosario Jackson, PhD. “These organizations play an important role in advancing the creative vitality of our nation and helping to ensure that all people can benefit from arts, culture, and design.”

The 2023 ArtsWave Campaign ends June 1, and ArtsWave is 90% of its \$11.7 million goal. With arts funding reliant on gifts from tens of thousands of individuals and companies throughout the community, it's not too late to support the arts; go to artswave.org/give to make a donation.

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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 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. Each year, ArtsWave raises \$11+ 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.