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ArtsWave expands its impact, re-granting federal dollars to help the arts

CINCINNATI (May 27, 2022) – ArtsWave, the region’s engine for the arts, now qualifies to receive federal dollars to re-grant to arts organizations throughout Greater Cincinnati thanks to resolutions by both Cincinnati and Hamilton County. Last year, City Council and County Commissioners formally designated ArtsWave as their “local arts agency” partner for the distribution of government funds. The first benefit for the region, realized by these designations, is a new award of \$50,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to help fund organizations in the year ahead.

“This support supplements more than \$11,000,000 in ArtsWave Community Campaign donations made by residents, businesses and foundations,” said Alecia Kintner, ArtsWave President and CEO. “With official designation as the region’s local arts agency, ArtsWave can increase access to resources for driving more than 1,000 arts experiences each year by 150 arts and cultural organizations.”

The groundwork for these new partnerships was laid in 2020 when the City of Cincinnati asked ArtsWave to distribute \$200,000 in CARES Act dollars in the form of individual artist pandemic assistance. Mayor Aftab Pureval mentions, “ArtsWave is an invaluable partner in our collective mission of fostering a vibrant community that values unique perspectives. From supporting our major cultural institutions, to lifting up diverse and talented creators throughout the city, their impact can be felt by all of us — and the City of Cincinnati is thrilled to continue our partnership.

Likewise, Hamilton County allocated \$3,000,000 for arts organization relief through an ArtsWave-managed grants program. In 2021, the City allocated \$8,000,000 in American Rescue Plan funds for arts grants and Hamilton County provided an additional \$2,000,000. ArtsWave leveraged these government relief dollars by raising matching funds, extending the programs’ impact and reach. “ArtsWave has been a committed partner in helping the Board of County Commissioners ensure the viability of our arts and cultural organizations through the strategic distribution of millions of dollars in federal COVID-relief funds,” said Commission President Stephanie Summerow Dumas. “ArtsWave provided that lifeline during an immensely difficult time for these nonprofits.”

“The National Endowment for the Arts is proud to support arts and cultural organizations throughout the nation with these grants, including ArtsWave, providing opportunities for all of us to live artful lives,” said NEA Chair Maria Rosario Jackson, PhD. “The arts contribute to our individual well-being, the well-being of our communities, and to our local economies. The arts are also crucial to helping us make sense of our circumstances from different perspectives as we emerge from the pandemic and plan for a shared new normal informed by our examined experience.”

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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 has set a goal of \$11.5 million for its 2022 Campaign, an amount necessary for the arts, given the difficult health and economic crisis that has spanned nearly two years, affecting the entire region. Donations can be made at artswave.org/give.



FY2022 Catalyzing Impact Grant Program

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. This spring \$165,000 in grant support is being awarded to the following 24 organizations:

Organization Name	Project Title	Awarded
American Legacy Theatre	Home Theatre 2.0: The 21st Century Theatre Experience	\$5,000.00
Art Academy of Cincinnati	Creative Recovery	\$10,000.00
ARTE	"I'm Listening" Documentary	\$10,000.00
Carthage Civic League	Putting the ART in Carthage	\$2,000.00
Chamber Music Cincinnati	Chamber Music Cincinnati Spring 2022 Arts Bridge Project	\$10,000.00
Cincinnati Black Pride	Black Alphabet Cincy Film Festival	\$8,400.00
Cincinnati Center City Development Corporation	Fountain Square Rise Up Concert	\$5,000.00
Cincinnati Nature Center	2022 Earth Expressions	\$5,000.00
Community Matters Cincinnati, Inc.	Investing in Arts Exhibits at Lower Price Hill's "Outerspace" Creative, Community Hub	\$5,000.00
Corporation for Findlay Market	170th Findlay Market Birthday Bash	\$10,000.00
Episcopal Retirement Services Affordable Living	Madison Villa Mural	\$7,500.00
Greater Cincinnati Chinese Cultural Exchange Association	Family Recipe Book	\$6,000.00
Hamilton Fairfield Symphony Orchestra (aka Butler Philharmonic Orchestra)	Remembering Paul Stanbery	\$9,850.00
Jazz Alive, Inc	Jazz at the CampSITE	\$5,000.00
Joy Brasileira	Brazil Day Cincinnati 2022	\$8,000.00
Keep Cincinnati Beautiful	The Hopple Gateway Project	\$10,000.00
Living Arrangements for the Developmentally Disabled, Inc.	Freedom Film Series	\$5,000.00
Lydia's House Inc.	Community Designed Mural at Affordable Housing Site for Low Income Families	\$5,500.00
MAKETANK Inc.	Sharing the Illustrated Memoirs of Immigrant and Refugee Youth	\$10,000.00
Professional Artistic Research Projects	Launching a Visiting Artist Studio Program	\$5,000.00
Queen City Opera	Defiant Requiem in collaboration with the Nancy and David Wolf Holocaust and Humanity Center	\$5,000.00
Queen City Performing Arts Organization, dba Cincinnati Men's Chorus	Pride Concert Production Support and Online Content Development	\$3,500.00
Renaissance Covington, Inc.	Innovation Alley Portrait Gallery	\$4,250.00

Village of Woodlawn Parks and Recreation Center	Woodlawn Enrichment and Cultural Arts Program	\$10,000.00
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PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

American Legacy Theatre

Home Theatre 2.0: The 21st Century Theatre Experience

“Home Theatre 2.0” is a critical expansion of the 2021 innovation in theatre that had not yet been done in the region nor in America before American Legacy Theatre brought it to life. Built upon greater accessibility and building empathy, this new theater experience elevates community members beyond controlling their own truth narrative, into a space where they leverage 21st Century technology to control how they experience the live production of their truth. In building new audiences, A.L.T. will also build new artists. One artist. One community member. Seven Days. World Premiere. Accessible for All.

Art Academy of Cincinnati

Creative Recovery

“Creative Recovery” is an in-school outreach project by the Art Academy of Cincinnati (AAC) Office of Engagement. It provides educational enrichment for learning recovery communities and extended learning plans for Cincinnati Public School (CPS) students attending Summer Scholars. Interdisciplinary arts and creative writing structure the academic enrichment that occurs directly as in-school workshop sessions taught by an AAC Teaching Artist & Writer in collaboration with the host school, educator and the CPS Board of Education. The Creative Recovery curriculum emphasizes studio-based and choice-based pedagogies and instructs the 21st Century skills of creativity, collaboration and critical thinking through expressive and experiential learning.

ARTE

“I’m Listening” Documentary

The “I’m Listening” documentary will depict Cincinnati Police Department officers and local teens creating a collaborative mural to strengthen police-community relationships. Officers in each of CPD’s five districts will participate with 10-20 youth from the district’s neighborhoods in a series of eight artistic workshops facilitated by lead artist and project manager Brent Billingsley. Artwork produced in the workshops will be combined into a large-scale, portable mural to be displayed at a chosen venue. The image will be law enforcement engaging the members of a community in a spiritual, meaningful, playful heartfelt and always positive manner.

Carthage Civic League

Putting the ART in Carthage

As a part of the 2022 Carthage Event Series, “Putting the ART in Carthage” is a one-day event to be held on May 21, 2022. The event’s goal is to showcase the creative talent of the residents of Carthage through fine art, craft and performance art. Anyone who lives, works or worships in Carthage is invited to submit their creative works for the opportunity to exhibit and sell their fine art or craft. The spirit of the Carthage Event Series is all about bringing our neighbors together. What better way to commune than through the arts?

Chamber Music Cincinnati (CMC)

Chamber Music Cincinnati Spring Arts Bridge Project

This Spring, 92-year-old Chamber Music Cincinnati will build on its groundbreaking fall 2021 season through programs representing uniquely diverse artists, composers, venues and audiences. The season includes America’s foremost string quartet, with Black cellist Astrid Schween, as well as the nation’s premier Hispanic string trio and Anthony McGill with pianist Gloria Chien. Artists will perform at Memorial Hall, local schools and major Black churches in Carthage, Bond Hill and Roselawn. Works by Black and White composers will be performed by Asian, Black, Hispanic and White musicians creating the most diverse experience ever for audiences attending a Cincinnati chamber series.

Cincinnati Black Pride

Black Alphabet Cincy – Film Festival (BAFF)

Since its launch as a satellite event in 2018, "Black Alphabet Cincy" has encouraged storytelling, cultivated dialogues and educated communities about the cultural and social contributions of Black LGBTQ-identified people. BAFF's founding mission "to identify and present the stories that portray the variety of gender and sexual expressions of the Black queer community through the art of film" has sustained the organization for several years. Black Alphabet's vision and mission reflect the desire to use media and the creative arts to promote healthy and whole lifestyles to the Black LGBTQ+ community.

Cincinnati Center City Development Corporation

Fountain Square Rise Up Concert

This summer, Memorial Hall will present the "Fountain Square Rise Up Concert," a free event featuring an inspiring, female national act with local and regional support acts. It will also include on-site women-owned vendors, food trucks and more. Taking place in one of the city's most democratic spaces, the featured performers are projected to attract a young and racially diverse crowd, with the concert acting as a catalyst for Memorial Hall's Rise Up Women's Empowerment Series.

Cincinnati Nature Center

2022 Earth Expressions

The Cincinnati Nature Center's "2022 Earth Expressions" project is an immersive, one-of-a-kind sculpture installment that blends a traditional art experience in a non-traditional natural environment. Prominently displayed and accessible to all visitors, it invites the viewer to ponder the relationship of nature and art and explore through engagement and interaction.

Community Matters Cincinnati, Inc.

Investing in Arts Exhibits at Lower Price Hill's "Outerspace" Creative Community Hub

For the 2022-2023 season, Community Matters and The Collective, Lower Price Hill's resident-led artist group, are excited to launch creative programming from their new home in "Outerspace." Located at 734 State Avenue, "Outerspace" was designed to serve as a welcoming hub for neighbors to explore creativity through a cooperative workspace and gallery. This fall, the gallery space will host two exhibitions and invite Cincinnati-area residents to come and experience the culturally and artistically diverse expressions of this unique neighborhood.

Corporation for Findlay Market

170th Findlay Market Birthday Bash

Findlay Market invites the community to join them in celebrating its 170th birthday. Findlay Market is nothing without the community members who live and work in the neighborhood, who have supported the many local business owners for their grocery needs year after year. The bash will be a community-focused celebration consisting of kids' art activities, free food, giveaways and live music. The celebration will last June through August, with a full-scale event on July 23-24.

Episcopal Retirement Services Affordable Living

Madison Villa Mural

The mission of the Madison Villa Mural is to transform people and places through investments in creativity. Episcopal Retirement Services (ERS), in partnership with ArtWorks, will create a mural on the east elevation of Madison Villa Affordable Living Community. Work begins in June 2022, concluding with a project dedication in the fall. The final project design concept will be a collaboration of ideas from Madison Villa residents and community volunteers. The result will be a large-scale, colorful installation adding beauty and pride not only for Madison Villa residents, but for all of Madisonville, as well as the thousands of commuters who drive on the heavily trafficked Madison Road.

Greater Cincinnati Chinese Cultural Exchange Association

Family Recipe Book

This youth-driven project helps Asian youth embrace their cultural heritage while growing their roots in this region. The "Family Recipe Book" will contain traditional Asian/Chinese recipes from local Asian families and restaurants in the Greater Cincinnati area. With the book, the Greater Cincinnati Chinese Cultural Exchange Association hopes to share the stories of immigrant families: their culture, their story of coming to America and how they preserve everlasting traditions.

Hamilton Fairfield Symphony Orchestra (aka Butler Philharmonic Orchestra)

Remembering Paul Stanbery

The 2021-2022 season is dedicated to the late Maestro Paul Stanbery. During his 25-year tenure, Stanbery not only expanded the professional orchestra, but he also started the Butler Philharmonic Chorus and Butler Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. This May, in honor of Maestro Stanbery, all three groups will perform together for the first time ever. The performance will celebrate the Maestro's contribution to the arts, as well as the Philharmonic's 70th anniversary.

Jazz Alive, Inc.

Jazz at the CampSITE

Jazz Alive presents "Jazz at the CampSITE," a weekly outdoor jazz concert series in the Cincinnati neighborhood of Camp Washington. Held every Wednesday in June, "Jazz at the CampSITE" is held at the CampSITE Sculpture Park, an outdoor sculpture park that features works by local neighborhood and other artists from Greater Cincinnati. The park also serves as a welcoming gathering space for events. The 5-week series will feature well-known jazz artists from the greater Cincinnati area. Admission for Jazz at the CampSITE is free, so visitors can bring a chair or blanket to enjoy the music.

Joy Brasileira

Brazil Day Cincinnati 2022

"Brazil Day Cincinnati 2022" is both the start of an annual tradition and the bicentennial of Brazil's independence. Joy Brasileira invites the region to join the Brazilian community and friends in celebrating Brazilian music, food, dance, culture, art and more. The celebration will continue throughout the day. At the end of the night, a premium stage show featuring professional samba dancers from Joy Brasileira and Revolution Dance Theater shares the story of how samba became integral to Brazil's identity.

Keep Cincinnati Beautiful

The Hopple Gateway Project

Keep Cincinnati Beautiful's (KCB) "Spaces to Places" project takes underutilized, forgotten spaces and turns them into celebrated, community places. This initiative aims to improve the safety, property values and overall quality of life in each neighborhood it works in by meeting the needs of the community and partnering with neighborhood stakeholders to create tailored spaces that showcase the community's unique attributes. In 2022 KCB will expand upon the greenspace work started in Camp Washington with "The Hopple Gateway Project," installing a public art piece made from reclaimed materials in a highly visible neighborhood gateway corridor.

Living Arrangements for the Developmentally Disabled, Inc. (LADD, Inc.)

Freedom Film Series

As part of the Over-the-Rhine International Film Festival, LADD, Inc. launches the new "Freedom Film Series" in collaboration with the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. This year's launch of the "Freedom Film Series" will use film to address issues of systemic injustice, inviting the audience into dialogue with filmmakers, content matter experts and activists following the screenings. Topics addressed during the series will include inequity in policing and the criminal justice system, the disparate impact of illegal drugs on communities of color, systemic racism and more.

Lydia's House, Inc.

Community Designed Mural at Affordable Housing Site for Low-Income Families

Lydia's House provides supportive, affordable housing for single mother-led families earning at 30% Area Median Income or below. In response to the need for participatory art in our community, they are executing a

mural covering one side of the building that now faces their arts-focused creative play space. The mural will greet tenants, neighbors and children in the Azalea Montessori preschool, located on the first floor of the building. The mural and play space were designed with resident input and reflect the lives and desires of families served, including imagery of African American mothers.

MAKETANK, Inc.

Sharing the Illustrated Memoirs of Immigrant and Refugee Youth

This illustrated memoir project positions local immigrant and refugee high school students as the authors and illustrators of their own life stories. Through the creation of these memoir books, young authors convey their unique lived experiences in words and images. Memoirs are created throughout the school year and will be published and recorded. Sharing these stories with the community through libraries, exhibitions, readings and podcasts will enhance understanding of the global nature of our region as well as the individual and collective strengths and resiliencies of our immigrant and refugee neighbors.

Professional Artistic Research Projects (PAR- Projects)

Launching a Visiting Artist Studio Program

Professional Artistic Research (PAR-) Projects will create two new studio spaces at Studeō PAR- and launch a new studio artist residency program. This program will focus on ways to elevate the studio practices of local artists and put a particular emphasis on working with female artists and artists of color — groups historically overlooked and/or ignored by prominent art institutions and curators.

Queen City Opera

Defiant Requiem in collaboration with the Nancy and David Wolf Holocaust and Humanity Center

During the 1940s, in the Terezín Concentration Camp, Jewish musicians organized performances of the Verdi Requiem as an act of defiance against the Nazis. Although they only had one copy of the score, hundreds of musicians learned the piece from memory and rehearsed in the evenings in a cold cellar following hours of brutal labor. Queen City Opera will commemorate this testament to the power of the arts by performing Verdi's music, combined with narration and videos of survivor testimony from Terezín. The production will be presented in collaboration with the Nancy and David Wolf Holocaust and Humanity Center.

Queen City Performing Arts Organization, dba Cincinnati Men's Chorus

Pride Concert Production Support and Online Content Development

In the Spring of 2020, The Men's Chorus was getting ready to take audiences across the pond, then host their first Big Gay Sing to celebrate Pride. That was not to be, until now. The Cincinnati Men's Chorus will bring back the best of both concerts in a smash-up extravaganza celebrating hits from Britain's "Top of the Pops" and treasured divas. Cincinnati Men's Chorus presents "God Save the Dancing Queens" at Finneytown High School Auditorium in June.

Renaissance Covington, Inc.

Innovation Alley Portrait Gallery

In 2019, Emersion Design created design concepts for the rejuvenation of three alleyways in Covington's Central Business District. The improvements increased safety and aesthetics, serving as a catalyst for other alley improvements around the city. They limit vehicular traffic and add vibrancy, connectivity and walkability. Each alley design is unique and reflects the context, character and identity of surrounding areas. The "Innovation Alley Portrait Gallery" will showcase a diverse roster of past and present innovators of Northern Kentucky.

Village of Woodlawn Parks and Recreation Center (WRC)

Woodlawn Enrichment and Cultural Arts Program (WECAP)

The Village of Woodlawn Parks and Recreation Center's (WRC) "Woodlawn Enrichment and Cultural Arts Program" is a season of free events ranging from theater to dance, music to visual arts, all located at the WRC. The WRC will produce each event, coordinating logistics, scheduling, booking artists and reaching out to the

community. Each event will be free and open to the public, focused specifically on increased accessibility for residents of the Village of Woodlawn.