



Contact: Zach Moning
Marketing & Communications Manager
513.2-7.2949

ArtsWave Opens Applications for Catalyzing Impact Grants

CINCINNATI (August 8, 2020) — ArtsWave, the engine for the region's arts, has announced that the first round of 2021 Catalyzing Impact grants is open for applications.

The Catalyzing Impact Grant Program seeks to encourage a breadth of programming through arts and cultural heritage projects that support the goals of ArtsWave's Blueprint for Collective Action. In response to the devastating impacts of the global pandemic on the arts sector, the previously scheduled round of Catalyzing Impact grants in spring 2020 was reallocated to emergency funding for hard-hit arts organizations. ArtsWave is pleased to bring this important source of funding back now, for new and innovative projects that use the arts to strengthen greater Cincinnati communities. ArtsWave plans to offer two rounds of Catalyzing Impact funding this year, one in fall 2020 and one in spring 2021.

Grant awards are made on a competitive basis after review by a panel of volunteer business and civic leaders, up to a maximum of \$10,000 or 50% of total expenses for the proposed project. Organizations may only submit one application per deadline, and only receive one Catalyzing Impact Grant in a single fiscal year.

Grant recipients and funding amounts will be determined based on demonstrated community impact that further the goals of ArtsWave's Blueprint for Collective Action. The Blueprint is a 10-year strategy to create a more vibrant economy and connected community through the arts sector.

ArtsWave President & CEO Alecia Kintner explains, "The arts have tremendous power in this moment to provide healing, connection, diversion and expression. We look forward to seeing innovative project ideas proposed by local organizations to bring hope and inspiration through the arts in the months ahead."

Made possible by donors to the ArtsWave Community Campaign, Catalyzing Impact grants in prior years have been awarded to Film Cincinnati, City Silence (now The Well), Jazz Alive, School House Symphony, City Gospel Mission, Young Professionals Choral Collective, Queen City Opera and dozens of other recipients.

Organizations interested in applying for a Catalyzing Impact grant can find more information at artswave.org/funding. ArtsWave will also host a free webinar to go over the Catalyzing Impact Grant Program guidelines, the application process and questions about the program. The one-hour webinar will be held on Wednesday, August 12 at 10 a.m. [Click here to register](#).

###

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 2019, ArtsWave raised over \$12 million, marking its sixth year in a row surpassing this milestone. The 2020 ArtsWave Community Campaign has raised more than \$10 million so far and is still actively seeking donations.

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 44 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.