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## **CMF Outdoor Museum returns with artists and apprentices honoring musical legends**

**CINCINNATI (July 1, 2025)** – The sixth annual CMF Outdoor Museum will kick off with a live painting event on Friday, July 18, flowing directly into the popular Friday Flow concert series at Washington Park. This integration creates an exciting evening of art and music as part of the "Road to CMF" events leading up to the Cincinnati Music Festival.

P&G, the long-time presenting sponsor of the Cincinnati Music Festival (CMF), ArtsWave, the engine for the Cincinnati region's arts, and the Cincinnati/Dayton division of Kroger, have partnered to create this unique experience where art creation and live music combine in one vibrant setting.

The CMF Outdoor Museum, an outdoor public art exhibition, will feature works from six regional artists, each paired with an apprentice, creating pieces that celebrate iconic music legends. **The artists will create their artwork live at Washington Park, beginning at 4 p.m. and continuing throughout the evening as Friday Flow concert-goers arrive and enjoy the performances.**

New for 2025, the exhibition titled "Rhythm & Renaissance: A Visual Celebration of Legends" will focus on celebrating artistic lineage by memorializing musical icons while highlighting relationships between local artists and their apprentices. The artists' tents will be strategically positioned along the walkway just behind the Main Stage green space, allowing Friday Flow attendees to naturally experience the art creation during their time in the park. After the Friday event, the artwork will remain at Washington Park for a period of a few weeks, then move to Court street for further exhibiting.

Funding for the artists comes from ArtsWave through the support of the over 20,000 gifts to the 2025 ArtsWave Community Campaign that finished in May. Art curation is being handled by AGAR, with recommendations from a core team of artists.

Members of media outlets and the community are invited to witness the live painting by the artists on Friday, July 18 from 4-9 p.m. in Washington Park. The featured artist-apprentice pairs and their musical inspirations are:

- Javarri Lewis with apprentice Jace Lewis, inspired by Frankie Beverly
- April Sunami with apprentice Nine Wells, inspired by Angie Stone
- Erin Smith with apprentice Zipporah Arrington-Bey, inspired by Roberta Flack
- Hannah Jones "Jonesy" with apprentice Sarah Hunter, inspired by Aretha Franklin
- Gift Mayambi, with apprentice Romain Mayambi, inspired by Tina Turner
- See Drye (Christian Dryer) with apprentice Julian Sorrells, inspired by Fred White of Earth, Wind & Fire

As the artists work, visitors will enjoy musical entertainment starting at 7 p.m. with the Friday Flow concert, presented by P&G featuring The Levert Experience. The event schedule is:

- 4 p.m.: Artists begin painting, public is invited to watch
- 7 p.m.: Friday Flow entertainment kicks off
- 9 p.m.: Artists complete their work as The Levert Experience performs

The Cincinnati Music Festival, presented by P&G, takes place the following weekend, July 24-26, with a stacked lineup including Earth, Wind & Fire, LL Cool J with DJ Z-Trip, Anthony Hamilton, Jazmine Sullivan, and a special tribute to Frankie Beverly featuring the TMF Band (formerly Maze) with special guests including Ronald Isley, Joe, and Toni Braxton.

The CMF Outdoor Museum and "Road to CMF" Friday Flow concert are free and open to the public. For more information on this year's CMF Outdoor Museum, visit [artswave.org/CMF](http://artswave.org/CMF).

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## **About the Cincinnati Music Festival**

The Cincinnati Music Festival began in 1962 and is one of the largest music festivals in the United States attracting over 90,000+ people from around the country with its roster of leading R&B, jazz, soul and hip-hop artists creating an economic impact of \$107 million for Cincinnati. CMF is held at Paycor Stadium in partnership with the Cincinnati Bengals.

## **About ArtsWave**

ArtsWave fuels the Cincinnati region's arts, supporting 150+ organizations, projects and artists each year. Since 1927, it has been the primary way the region funds the arts, raising millions annually from tens of thousands of individuals, businesses and foundations to drive a more vibrant economy and connected community. Through the Blueprint for Collective Action, ArtsWave strategically makes investments that maximize the arts' impact across the region. **To learn more and give, visit [artswave.org](http://artswave.org).**

## **About Cincinnati/Dayton Kroger Division**

The Kroger Family of Companies has been serving communities across the U.S. for more than 135 years. Kroger's Cincinnati/Dayton Division operates food stores, pharmacies, fuel centers, warehouses and offices in Greater Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky, Eastern Indiana, and Greater Dayton. We are dedicated to Our Purpose: To Feed the Human Spirit™ while creating a world with Zero Hunger | Zero Waste.

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