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ArtsWave Launches “\$20 Sends a Student” Final Campaign Push During Teacher Appreciation Week

CINCINNATI — 5/3/2026 — ArtsWave is closing out its annual community campaign with a focused push during Teacher Appreciation Week, highlighting how the community can support teachers by expanding what their students can experience. The effort centers on a simple, actionable message: \$20 sends a student on an arts field trip, helping provide teachers with valuable tools to enrich their classrooms and connect students to learning beyond the school walls.

Through ArtsWave's More Arts, More Kids initiative, nearly 20,000 students attend curriculum-based arts field trips each year at no cost to their schools or families. Students attend performances, exhibitions and experiences at arts organizations across the region, bringing classroom lessons to life in real time. The \$20 message reflects the average cost to send one student and is designed to make participation simple for both new and returning donors.

“This is about making it easy for people to take part in something tangible,” said Alecia Kintner, president and CEO of ArtsWave. “\$20 is a clear, immediate way to connect a student to a live arts experience. In the final weeks of the campaign, we’re focused on showing just how accessible it is for anyone to make a difference, whether it’s their first gift or an additional one.”

Multiple school corporations are involved in the initiative, including Ludlow Independent Schools, Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Education Services, Hamilton City Schools, Catholic Inner City Schools and Cincinnati Public Schools, where every 1-6 grade student will go on an arts field trip.

“Teachers are constantly looking for ways to bridge the classroom and the community, sparking a lifelong appreciation for the arts, said Emily Campbell, Cincinnati Public Schools Director of Curriculum and Instruction. “The ArtsWave-funded experiences connect directly to our curriculum, allowing students to see Cincinnati’s vibrant arts offerings up close and discover new possibilities for creative expression.”

Access to arts field trips has declined nationwide, with only about half of schools offering them today, according to a [2024 federal report](#). Through More Arts, More Kids, ArtsWave is working to restore these opportunities in the Cincinnati region and ensure students can once again experience the arts as part of their education.

To incentivize residents across the region to support the initiative, a matching gift from Cintas Cares is helping extend the impact of More Arts More Kids, Doubling each gift's impact up to \$25,000 to reach more students.

In the final weeks of the campaign, ArtsWave is inviting the community to take part by making a gift or simply sharing the message. To give, visit www.artswave.org/morekids.

ArtsWave and CPS leaders are available for interviews throughout Teacher Appreciation Week the campaign's final weeks.

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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 to the 2026 community campaign, visit artswave.org.