

Learning to be Advocates

Alecia Kintner, President & CEO
For Americans for the Arts 5.26.21



What is ArtsWave?

We Fund the arts and Fuel the community.

- Over **seven decades**, the annual **ArtsWave Campaign** has raised and invested **\$350 Million** in arts that create a stronger regional economy and more connected community.
- Through the community's help, ArtsWave provides grants to 100+ arts organizations and projects each year. ArtsWave also provides infrastructure and services for the arts and connects the public to arts experiences and to each other.
- Community fundraising through ArtsWave is **how we fund the arts in Cincinnati**. The ArtsWave Campaign leads the nation in the number of community campaign donors!



We're in it together.

With public events canceled, your gift to ArtsWave matters more than ever. It ensures that music, art, theater, dance and festivals keep our region vibrant for years to come.

Give today at artswave.org/give.



**arts
wave**
Funding Arts. Fueling Community.

Help the region.

With public events canceled, your gift to ArtsWave matters more than ever. It ensures that music, art, theater, dance and festivals keep our region vibrant for years to come.

Give today at artswave.org/give.



**arts
wave**
Funding Arts. Fueling Community.

Stronger together.

With public events canceled, your gift to ArtsWave matters more than ever. It ensures that music, art, theater, dance and festivals keep our region vibrant for years to come.

Give today at artswave.org/give.



**arts
wave**
Funding Arts. Fueling Community.



The Time for Arts Relief is Now

Add your name to ArtsWave's petition to city, county, state and federal officials for meaningful financial relief.

#ArtsRelief

artswave.org/relief

arts
wave
Funding Arts. Fueling Community.

2,514 signatures

arts wave
Funding Arts. Fueling Community.

» Ways to Give » Arts Relief

Ways to Give

- Planned Giving
- Donor Advised Funds
- Retail Partners
- Hook & Hastings Bourbon Whiskey
- Arts Vibrancy Recovery Fund
- Benefits
- Team Cincinnati + Enjoy Arts at Parks
- ArtsWave Groups
- Young Professionals

Add Your Voice for Arts Relief

Add your name to our petition below in support of meaningful financial relief NOW for our nonprofit arts organizations.

When the State of Ohio ordered entertainment venues to close and public gatherings be limited to stop the spread of COVID-19, the lights went down on our region's nonprofit arts.

With the dimming of the lights went millions of dollars in revenue – \$40 million and counting in the Cincinnati region since March – and thousands of jobs. According to June 2020 Ohio Labor

Add Your Name!
Sign up here to have your name included. Your address will not be publicly displayed.

First Name *

Last Name *

Street *

City *

State *

The Time for Arts Relief is Now

When the State of Ohio ordered entertainment venues to close and public gatherings be limited to stop the spread of COVID-19, the lights went down on our nonprofit arts organizations and places ranging from Cincinnati Shakespeare Company to the Taft Theatre, from the Fitton Center to the Covedale, Music Hall and more.

With the dimming of the lights went millions of dollars in revenue – \$40 million and counting in the Cincinnati region since March – and thousands of jobs. According to June 2020 Ohio Labor Market statistics, the state's highest unemployment rates are within the Arts and Entertainment industry, at 47%. These unemployed workers are highly talented professional artists, actors, dancers, musicians, curators, educators, crew members, administrators and staff. The rate of unemployment in Ohio's Arts and Entertainment industry is nearly 20 percentage points higher than the next highest impacted industry, Leisure and Hospitality, at 30%.

The arts were among the first businesses to close and the last to be allowed to re-open. Furloughs, layoffs, lost gigs, reduced contracts, diminished cash reserves and other signs of economic instability are compounding, despite prudent cost-cutting decisions and a generous community. Private donations can't make up the difference in lost revenue from nightly ticket sales and sponsorships.

This week, theaters and concert halls received welcome guidance for resuming live performances in the form of new industry orders from Governor DeWine. However, the restrictions on audience size make a return to the arts all but impossible. The economics of the performing arts simply do not work when only 15% of seats can be sold or audiences are limited to 300 people, whichever is less. Imagine 300 people at the Aronoff Center or just 27 in the audience at Ensemble Theatre in Over-the-Rhine.

The arts are largely dependent on shared, congregated experiences – risky in the time of COVID. We share a commitment to our region's and Ohio's health. But no business can be expected to survive without aid or subsidies after being required to stay closed for six months, a year, or more – indeed, all indications suggest that a complete return will not occur until well into 2021.

There is no good answer, but there is a great need: we must ensure that our region's arts organizations survive until it is possible to reopen at full capacity. Government investment in the arts is necessary now, in the same way it is necessary for other industries, so that the arts are in a position to restart when it is safe to do so.

The arts in Ohio are a \$41 billion industry. In Cincinnati, arts organizations generate an economic impact of \$300 million annually, support 10,000+ jobs, and play a key role in attracting and retaining top talent to our businesses. They supplement school curricula by providing nearly 300,000 experiences for youth each year. They make our neighborhoods distinctive and lively, with more than 1,000 free events outside the concert hall, theater or gallery. They bring customers to the neighborhoods in which they are located. According to Americans for the Arts, for every arts ticket purchased, arts patrons spend an additional \$31 on restaurants, bars, retail, hotels and parking.

One of the ironies of 2020 is that an industry with the potential to heal, uplift, reconcile, inspire and boost our economy and build our reputation, is largely quieted by the pandemic. The stakes are high. ArtsWave and its partner arts organizations call on city, county, state and federal elected officials to make the nonprofit arts an immediate priority for meaningful financial relief.

You can join in by signing your name to support arts relief by going to artswave.org/relief.

Sincerely,

Alecia Kinfner

Alecia Kinfner
President & CEO

arts wave
Funding Arts. Fueling Community.

Public relief for the arts is supported by the following local organizations: Kimberlee Flamm, Executive Director, ArtsConnect; Cameron Kitchin, Director, Cincinnati Art Museum; Steve Lottin, President, Cincinnati Arts Association; Scott Altman, President and CEO, Cincinnati Ballet; Katie MacDonald, Executive Director, Cincinnati Boychoir; Tim Perino, Executive Director, Cincinnati Landmark Productions; Steven Sunderman, Executive Director, Cincinnati May Festival and Vocal Arts Ensemble; Elizabeth Pierce, CEO, Cincinnati Museum Center; Chris Milligan, General Director & CEO, Cincinnati Opera; Buzz Ward, Managing Director and Blake Robinson, Artistic Director, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park; Rich Elwell, President, General Manager & CEO, Cincinnati Public Radio; Brian Isaac Phillips, Producing Artistic Director, Cincinnati Shakespeare Company; Jonathan Martin, President, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra; Lauren Hess, Executive Director, Cincinnati Youth Choir; Leslie Mosher, Executive Director, Clifton Cultural Arts Center; Stanley Romanishin, Dean, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music; Radoslaw Plakow, Director and Chief Curator, Contemporary Arts Center; Jefferson James, Founder, Artistic & Executive Director, Contemporary Dance Theater; Tom Kent and Abdulrah Powell, Co-Directors, Elements; D. Lynn Meyers, Producing Artistic Director, Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati; Ian MacIsaac-Thurley, Executive Director, Riton Center for Creative Arts; Ellen Muse-Underman, Executive Director, Kennedy Heights Arts Center; Andrew Hungerford, Producing Artistic Director, Know Theatre of Cincinnati; Kathy Wada, Co-founder and CEO, Learning Through Art, Inc.; Jason Franz, Executive Director and Co-Founder, Montfest Creative Research Gallery and Drawing Center; Selma Hussain, Executive Director, Melodic Connections; Jean St. John, Executive Director, My Nose Turns Red Youth Circus; Woodrow Keown, Jr., President & COO, National Underground Railroad Freedom Center; Kim Papa, Co-Founder/Director, Pines; Sean FitzGibbons, Executive Director, Pyramid Hill Sculpture Park; Deborah Scott, President and CEO, Taft Museum of Art; Kim Best, Executive Director, The Carnegie Sarah Waks, CEO, Nancy & David Wolf Holocaust & Humanity Center; Kim Kern, Managing Director & CEO, The Children's Theatre of Cincinnati; Julie Collinsworth, Executive Director, Wyoming Free Arts Center; Kitty Lenneman, President & CEO, CBT/MTW; Scotty McElroy, Executive Director, Young Professionals Choral Collective.

Donated space provided by: Cincinnati.com | The Enquirer

Public advocacy led by ArtsWave in social media: 2,514 signatures gathered for full-page letter in Cincinnati Enquirer

1:1 advocacy with City Council members- ArtsWave + struggling artists + philanthropic allies

Multiple public testimonies in front of Cincinnati City Council and Hamilton County Commissioners making the case for arts relief

Truth & Reconciliation Grants for Black & Brown Artists - City of Cincinnati & ArtsWave joint program

City of Cincinnati CARES Act funding allocated to ArtsWave

Hamilton County CARES Act funding managed by ArtsWave

City of Cincinnati ARP funds to be administered by ArtsWave

Hamilton County ARP funds recommended for administration by ArtsWave

Summer/Fall 2020

Winter 2020

Spring 2021

\$270K in grants to 27 local artists of color

\$200K for 100 independent artist relief

\$3.5M in relief for 61 arts organizations

\$8M allocated for arts org relief and restart

\$2M allocated for arts restart & creative workforce

City ARP

Mayor's Initial Arts Proposal:

- \$6M Performing Arts Relief
- \$4M various other arts projects
- \$1M Free Public Performances

Origin:

Arts proposal was Mayor's **first announced** plan for ARPA– he saw it as noncontroversial and a clear need (advocacy works!)

HOURS of public hearings and DAYS of testimony followed before City Council voted.



Motion 88 (ArtsWave Plan)

Ultimately not successful but discussed for future budgets

10% for Arts: Cincinnati Arts Recovery and Stimulus

ARPA request: \$15M in 2021 and \$14M in 2022 – each grants program runs twice

1. **\$8.5M ARTS ORGANIZATIONS:** grants to 60-70 arts and culture organizations located in the city of Cincinnati, based on standardized tiers related to pre-pandemic budget and FY20 losses...
2. **\$500K INDEPENDENT ARTISTS:** competitive grants based on lost earnings...
3. **\$1M ACCELERATE BIPOC ARTS Grants**– competitive grants and fellowships for BIPOC artists, BIPOC cultural leaders and BIPOC-led arts organizations...
4. **\$1.5M NEIGHBORHOOD ARTS Grants** - competitive grants determined with volunteer panels in two categories:
 - a. arts project grants proposed by neighborhood organizations, that help the neighborhood resume vibrancy and bring people together
 - b. recovery or capacity-building grants for neighborhood arts centers that function as community hubs, nurture youth, and employ local artists
5. **\$2M CINCY CULTURAL BOOM Grants (+ Umbrella Marketing Campaign)** -competitive grants for arts organizations that make possible exciting NEW projects and/or FREE outdoor arts experiences, that draw residents and tourists to Cincinnati's restarted, dynamic arts scene...
6. **\$1M YOUTH EMPLOYMENT**– apprenticeships and internships...

Hamilton County ARP

Origin/Process:

- Input sessions organized by County Administrator with nonprofit leaders
- specified High Priority areas not attended to by City, including rebuilding the arts workforce with funded apprenticeships and interns



~\$14M - Cincinnati arts relief and stimulus

- \$3.7M CARES Act
 - \$3.5M arts organization relief (county)
 - \$200K artist relief (city)
- \$8M ARP approved (city)
 - \$6M performing arts relief
 - \$1M museum relief
 - \$1M restart projects (competitive process)
- \$2M ARP pending recommendation (county)
 - Workforce/apprenticeship initiative likely