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The Arts Commission Announces Grants to Local Arts and Culture Organizations and Artists from the American Rescue Plan Act

TOLEDO, OH – The Arts Commission of Greater Toledo, in partnership with the Lucas County Commissioners and the City of Toledo, is pleased to announce the first round of organizational and artist grants from the Toledo-Lucas County Rescue Plan Grant program.

In 2021, as the disproportionately negative economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the the arts ecosystem deepened, The Arts Commission worked with the Toledo Area Cultural Leaders to advocate for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding toward the rescue and recovery of the sector.

In response to this crisis, The Lucas County Board of Commissioners, Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz and Toledo City Council joined together in partnership to approve \$6 million in ARPA funds to support a multi-year grant program for the recovery of nonprofit arts and cultural organizations and artists in Toledo and Lucas County.

“All of us working in the arts are so deeply grateful to our elected officials for including us in this recovery effort.” said Marc Folk, President and CEO of The Arts Commission. “This funding will assist nearly every nonprofit arts and culture organization in Toledo and Lucas County and over 100 local artists. Our region is widely known as an arts and culture destination and this investment will accelerate our ability to rebound. Simply put, our recovery would have taken years longer without this critical support.”

Nonprofit arts organizations and individual artists were eligible to apply to a competitive process based on their demonstrated practice, need and location within Toledo and/or Lucas County. **37 organizations and 101 artists were approved in this first round of funding for a total of \$1,699,000.**

Funded organizations include:

Anthony Wayne Area Arts Commission
Ballet Theatre of Toledo
BelInstrumental Foundation
Believe Center
Children's Theatre Workshop
Clarence Smith Community Chorus
Collingwood Arts Center
Glacity Theatre Collective/Toledo Public Works
National Museum of the Great Lakes
Great Lakes Jazz Society
Imagination Station
Issue Box Theatre
Libbey House Foundation
Lucas County Cemeteries Historical Association
Masterworks Chorale of Toledo
Midstory
Nuestra Gente Community Projects
Scrap4Art
Sofia Quintero Art & Cultural Center
Sylvania Community Arts Commission
The Famed Foundation
The Lakeside Theatre Company
The Public Broadcasting Foundation of Northwest Ohio
The Toledo Choral Society
Toledo Alliance for the Performing Arts
Toledo Area Glass Guild
Toledo Artists' Club
Toledo Cultural Arts Center, Inc., at the Valentine Theatre
Toledo Federation of Art Societies
Toledo Jazz Festival
Toledo Museum of Art
Toledo Opera Association
Toledo Repertoire Company
Toledo School for the Arts
Toledo Zoological Society
University of Toledo, Department of Art + Department of Theatre & Film
Unruly Arts

In addition to organizational funding, 101 individual artists will receive a total of \$119,500 in grant awards.

Since 1959, The Arts Commission has played a vital role in providing resources for artists and cultural organizations in the Greater Toledo area. Throughout this time, the City of Toledo and the Lucas County Board of Commissioners have been critical partners and have stepped up to provide funding and other resources that have ensured the ongoing success of arts and culture initiatives in our region.

Applications for the next round of funding will open in July, 2023.

More details will be available at www.TheArtsCommission.org

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For more information, contact The Arts Commission:

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The Arts Commission is the longest standing arts commission in the state of Ohio, founded in 1959, administering the City of Toledo's One Percent for Art Program since 1977. The Arts Commission is supported in part by the Ohio Arts Council and by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.