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Bootsy Collins says “Don’t fake the funk – come to Cincy Jams this Thursday”

CINCINNATI (May 17, 2023) — As ArtsWave, the region's engine for the arts, prepares to host its annual fundraising event, CincyJams, Cincinnati's Corporate battle of the bands, King Records singing legend Bootsy Collins makes an appeal to the region to attend the event.

[Bootsy tells Cincinnati](#) not to “fake the funk” and come to the event which is happening this Thursday, May 18 at 7 p.m. at Hard Rock Cafe. CincyJams is designed to engage the community through bringing various companies together for an evening, while raising essential funds for the arts. Eleven bands will participate this year, including employees from the following companies: altafiber, The Christ Hospital, GE Aerospace (two bands), Great American Insurance Group (two bands), Jake Sweeney Automotive, Music Resource Center of the YMCA, P&G, Ron Chambers Group and TriHealth. Radio One's R&B, Hip-Hop and “The People's Champ” DJ Don Juan Fasho will emcee the event. (All band attendees must be 21 or older to enter Hard Rock Cafe).

The ArtsWave Campaign is 85% of its goal of \$11.7 million, which will be announced on June 1. ArtsWave funding is the primary source for local arts organizations throughout the 16 counties that make up the Cincinnati region and the annual ArtsWave Campaign is the largest campaign of its kind in the nation. The next two weeks leading up to the finale are crucial to meeting the goal, and ArtsWave is simultaneously reminding the public of its continued need for donations while thanking donors for the gifts made so far.

New to the competition this year is the “Judges' Pick” award, sponsored by Accenture. Celebrity judges include Patti Collins of the Bootsy Collins Foundation and family, Drew Lachey of 98 Degrees and Vocalist Lauren Eylise. The winner of the “Judges' Pick” will win a paid performance at “The Road to CMF,” happening July 14, a week before the Cincinnati Music Festival Presented by P&G. Leading up to their performance, they will receive professional studio time, compliments of Cincinnati Music Accelerator.

The “People's Choice” award will go to the band with the loudest in-house audience reaction. Last year's sound reached 130 decibels, which is the level of a jet engine. Winners of this prize will receive “Chili for a Year,” compliments of “People Choice Prize Sponsor,” Gold Star Chili and Beer for a Year, presented by Prize Sponsor Sonder Brewing.

The “Fan Funded” award will go to the band that raises the most money for the annual ArtsWave Campaign. Band members winning that prize will receive pairs of tickets to

the 2023 Cincinnati Music Festival presented by P&G, headlined in 2023 by Snoop Dogg and Al Green, compliments of the "Fan Funded Prize Sponsor," Cincinnati Music Festival presented by P&G.

CincyJams is supported by these sponsors: Hard Rock Casino, Cincinnati Enquirer, Gold Star Chili, Cincinnati Music Festival, Sonder Brewing, Cincinnati Music Accelerator, Radio One, Bootsy Collins Foundation and Lachey Arts. Thanks goes to 3CDC as well.

For more information on how to enter, go to artswave.org/cincyjams.

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About ArtsWave

ArtsWave, the local nonprofit arts agency 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. Each year, ArtsWave raises \$11+ million from tens of thousands of donors — corporations, employees, foundations, residents and others — to support more than 150 arts organizations, projects and artists. Donations can be made at artswave.org/give.