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### **ArtsWave Cancels Events While Helping Arts Organizations through Challenging Time**

CINCINNATI (March 12, 2020) – Due to Governor DeWine's announcement to limit public events to curb the spread of the coronavirus and in consultation with local government and health officials, ArtsWave is canceling OTR Arts Day, presented by Macy's (previously scheduled for March 14) and postponing CincyJams, presented by Accenture (originally planned for March 19).

In response to the Governor's message, ArtsWave President & CEO Alecia Kintner indicated, "The health of our community is everyone's first priority, including ArtsWave's. We support the need for social distancing and all individual efforts to slow down the spread of Covid-19."

Cancellations of hundreds of shows and performances will have direct effects on artists, arts organizations and their staffs in the Cincinnati region through loss of ticket revenue and attendance drops, outside of their control. [Revenue from ticket sales and other sources of earned income](#), including gift shops, concessions and service contracts typically covers about half of the cost of producing artistic experiences.

Kintner adds, "One thing that is within our control, however, is keeping support for the arts strong as part of protecting our community's overall health and vibrancy." The ArtsWave Community Campaign is the largest single source of annual funding for the Cincinnati region's arts organizations. The 2020 campaign kicked off on January 30<sup>th</sup> and is currently at fifty percent of its \$12.4 million goal.

To support organizations that face near-term financial challenges as a result of unforeseen drops in revenue, ArtsWave has a bridge loan fund in place that arts organizations can apply to access. ArtsWave will be closely monitoring the impacts of the health crisis on the region's arts sector.

ArtsWave has modified its calendar, [ArtsWave Guide](#), the region's most comprehensive listing of arts events, with information on cancellations and postponements due to the

coronavirus. You can find this by going to [artswave.org/corona](https://artswave.org/corona). To give to the ArtsWave Campaign, visit [artswave.org/give](https://artswave.org/give).

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### **About ArtsWave:**

ArtsWave, a nonprofit 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.

Strong funding for the arts has allowed Cincinnati's arts and culture scene to become a national draw and regional asset, creating a wave of economic and community benefits. Each year, ArtsWave supports the work of over 100 arts organizations, school outreach programs, festivals, community centers, neighborhoods and various collaborations through impact-based grants. In 2019, ArtsWave raised over \$12 million, marking its sixth year in a row surpassing this milestone. ArtsWave remains the largest community campaign for the arts throughout the country, both in total contributions and number of donors. The 2020 ArtsWave Campaign runs from January 30 through April 30, 2020.