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ARTS ORANGE COUNTY PARTNERS WITH LOCAL FUNDERS TO LAUNCH OC ARTS AND CULTURE RESILIENCE FUND

ArtsOC Survey Revealed Local Arts Organizations Have Lost Roughly \$16M in Revenue During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Irvine Calif. (June 22, 2020) – Orange County’s nonprofit arts council, Arts Orange County (ArtsOC), has partnered with Charitable Ventures and the Orange County Community Foundation (OCCF) to launch the OC Arts and Culture Resilience Fund. The Fund will support **creative artists and local nonprofit arts and culture organizations that offer essential community enrichment and education – and are facing significant challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

A recent ArtsOC survey found that local arts organizations have lost an estimated \$16M in revenue and donations since stay-at-home orders began in March. 62% of arts organizations view the financial impact of the pandemic as severe or extremely severe, while 52% report that they are depleting cash reserves to meet their obligations.

“This is a collective, purposeful action to support the Orange County arts community, which has experienced the most severe job losses of any segment of the economy in California,” said Richard Stein, president and CEO of ArtsOC. “Our creative sector directly employs more than 50,000 musicians, actors, dancers, filmmakers and teaching artists, and countless others who support them behind the scenes. Their ingenuity and spirit give us comfort, enlightenment and joy in the best of times; now it’s our turn to bring much-needed support to these selfless artists,” Stein continued.

The OC Arts and Culture Resilience Fund was launched with seed funding of \$150,000 towards a goal of \$500,000. The Fund will provide two types of response:

- Bridge grants to arts organizations so that they can retain essential staff and offer online programming and instruction.
- Financial assistance to individual creative artists.

“We are proud to advocate for the critical importance of the arts in our community,” said Shelley Hoss, president and CEO, OCCF. “Now, more than ever, we need the artists and nonprofit arts and culture organizations that enrich and educate our community. They are essential to the resilience and long-term health and economic well-being of Orange County.”

Creative artists and nonprofit arts organizations are invited to apply for bridge loans and grants, and community members are encouraged to donate at <https://charitableventuresoc.org/resilience-fund-arts/>

About Arts Orange County

Arts Orange County’s mission is to be the leader in building appreciation of, participation in and support for the arts and arts education in Orange County, California. A nonprofit organization incorporated in 1995, it is designated by the Board of Supervisors as the official local arts agency and State-Local Partner for the County of Orange. It is the community’s principal advocate for the arts and arts education, providing direct programs, services and consulting to the public, artists, arts organizations, education and local government. To learn more, visit ArtsOC.org

About Charitable Ventures

Charitable Ventures was launched in 2007 to encourage the growth of innovative regional nonprofits and to build

the capacity of the nonprofit sector. As a regional incubator, Charitable Ventures has fiscally sponsored more than 60 community projects and regional initiatives since inception. In 2020, Charitable Ventures anticipates sponsoring more than 35 active projects on track to raise between \$14 and \$16 million, and is the region's Administrative Community Based Organization for the 2020 Census. Visit charitableventuresoc.org for more information.

About Orange County Community Foundation

Founded in 1989, the Orange County Community Foundation (OCCF) works with donors, strengthens the local nonprofit sector and works to find solutions to community needs. Since its inception, OCCF has awarded \$690 million in grants and scholarships and ranks in the top one percent in grantmaking activity among more than 780 U.S. community foundations. For more information, visit oc-cf.org or call 949-553-4202. Be a part of our conversation on [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#). View OCCF's 2019 annual report [here](#).

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