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Triangle Community Foundation Commits \$360,000 to 21 Local Arts Organizations

Research Triangle Park, NC: Triangle Community Foundation is pleased to announce the 2021 grantees in its Cultural Arts impact area. This group of grantees collectively were awarded \$360,000 in multi-year general operating support, in response to a continued need for reliable flexible funding, as arts organizations continue to face unique challenges due to COVID-19.

"Arts organizations in the Triangle continue to be negatively impacted by the effects of COVID-19. Revenues are still down as arts organizations figure out how to gather people to experience art together safely in person again," said Sarah Guidi, Senior Program Officer for Arts and Sustainable Communities Initiatives. "But arts organizations have been providing valuable support to communities throughout the pandemic, often for free. Now more than ever it is vital for the community to provide support, and we are so pleased to be able to offer sustainable funding over multiple years to help arts organizations continue their important work."

Cultural Arts is one of four impact areas at the Foundation, and was created in recognition of the positive effect that engagement in the arts can have on social emotional learning, physical and mental health, and on influencing social change. The main objectives of the current grant program are:

- 1. To increase culturally representative arts programming that reflects the diversity of the Triangle
- 2. To increase the arts in public and community spaces

Additionally, the Foundation seeks to catalyze a culture of philanthropy in support of cultural arts, particularly grassroots organizations and those with annual budgets under \$250,000, which make up more than half of all arts organizations registered in the Triangle area.

"Funders and donors need to invest more deeply and consistently in organizations that are doing meaningful and necessary work, particularly organizations like ours that are led by and serving people of color. This is one intentional action that can begin to rectify the otherwise historically disproportionate allocation of funding to us and our communities," said Nicholé Morgan, Co-Founder and CEO of TheGifted Arts, a 2021 grantee. "We firmly believe that Triangle Community Foundation is aiming to serve the local nonprofit community with a social-equitable lens, which is why we proudly are a part of the TCF grantee family and network."

2021 Cultural Arts grantees are:

- Art Therapy Institute of NC
- Arts Access Inc.
- Chatham Arts Council
- ComMotion Community in Motion
- Community Music School
- Diamante Arts & Cultural Center

- Durham Symphony Orchestra
- Gaspard&Dancers
- <u>Hidden Voices</u>
- <u>InWave</u>
- MOJOAA Performing Arts Company
- National Women's Theatre Festival
- Shakori Hills Community Arts Center
- <u>SLIPPAGE: Performance Culture Technology</u>
- St. Joseph's Historic Foundation (Hayti Heritage Center)
- The African American Cultural Festival of Raleigh and Wake County
- The ArtsCenter
- TheGifted Arts, Inc.
- Visual Art Exchange
- Wake Forest Community Youth Orchestra
- Walltown Children's Theatre

About Triangle Community Foundation | Founded in 1983, Triangle Community Foundation works to build a brighter future for everyone in the Triangle region of North Carolina. By working with dedicated donors and strong nonprofits, the Foundation is able to guide gifts in strategic ways to fill in gaps, reduce inequities, and solve the region's most pressing challenges. Learn more at <u>trianglecf.org</u>.