

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Historic Investment in Warren County Arts

WARREN COUNTY, OH March 2025 – In a groundbreaking achievement for the Warren County arts community and Warren County businesses, the partnership of the Cunningham Institute for Growth, ArtsWave, and the Warren County Foundation successfully raised \$21,000 from Warren County business leaders and CEOs in 2024. Thanks to ArtsWave obtaining a National Endowment for the Arts matching grant, a total of \$25,790 has been awarded to arts organizations in Warren County—**marking the first time that all funds raised locally have stayed in the county to benefit local arts organizations.** These grants are "**new found money**" in Warren County, not previously available to local arts groups.

The 2025 Warren County grant recipients include:

- **Royal Theatre Company – Royal Education Series \$2,790**
- **Springboro Wind Symphony – Summer Youth Camp and Fall Clinics \$8,000**
- **Warren County Arts Council – ArtScape Lebanon Pottery Studio \$10,000**
- **Warren County Historical Society – Lebanon Festival of the Arts \$5,000**

This funding directly supports the growth of arts programs, enhancing community vibrancy and improving the quality of life for Warren County residents. A thriving arts scene also strengthens the local economy by helping businesses attract and retain top talent.

Daniel B. Cunningham is excited about this growth, saying, "For the first time, funds raised by ArtsWave are staying 100% in Warren County. Business leaders understand the positive impact and value of having a vibrant art community on Warren County business's ability to retain good employees. Thanks to the help from the Cunningham Institute for Growth, the Warren County Foundation, and ArtsWave, we're making strides to continue that growth right here in Warren County."

Tom Seddon, Warren County Foundation President & CEO, adds, "Increasing the positive impact of the arts in Warren County is in alignment with our Mission of improving the quality of life in Warren County. We are honored to be part of making these grants possible."

Looking ahead, efforts are already underway to expand funding for 2025. Business leaders Daniel B. Cunningham, CEO of The Cunningham Institute of Growth, and Michael T. Schueler, Chairman & CEO of The Schueler Group, are teaming up to rally more Warren County business executives and CEOs as Kickstarters for the 2026 campaign, ensuring even greater support for local arts organizations in the future.

If you know of business executives and CEOs in Warren County who would like to contribute to improving Warren County's arts impact, community vibrancy, and business climate, please reach out to Dan Cunningham or Mike Schueler. Together, we can build on this Warren County success.



**Margaret G.
Cunningham**

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ARTSWAVE AWARDS 56 CATALYZING IMPACT GRANTS TO ENERGIZE CINCINNATI'S ARTS SCENE

CINCINNATI March 2025 - ArtsWave, the engine for the arts in the Greater Cincinnati region, has awarded \$316,916 through 56 Catalyzing Impact grants to support a diverse array of arts and cultural projects. These grants, part of ArtsWave's annual funding initiatives, will fuel creative endeavors across the region, from innovative performances to community-driven art installations. ArtsWave's Board of Directors approved the grants following a competitive review process. The Catalyzing Impact grant program, ArtsWave's most accessible funding opportunity, is open to all nonprofits proposing arts projects that align with the organization's Blueprint for Collective Action.

'These grants represent ArtsWave's commitment to fostering a vibrant, inclusive arts community that reflects the diversity of our region," said Alecia Kintner, President & CEO of ArtsWave. "By supporting projects that range from youth education to senior engagement, we're ensuring that the arts continue to play a vital role in connecting our community and driving economic growth."

Among the 56 funded projects, five are based in Warren County, supported by funds raised within the community, part of ArtsWave's pilot campaign strategy to "meet donors where they are." This strategy enables residents and businesses, particularly in Northern Kentucky and the Northern Suburbs to support projects that will directly impact where they live:

- **Royal Education Series by Royal Theatre Company | \$ 2,790** offering theater education courses covering performance, technical skills and creative development.

About ArtsWave ArtsWave fuels the Cincinnati region's arts, supporting 150+ organizations, projects and artists each year. Since 1927, it has been the primary way the region funds the arts, raising millions annually from tens of thousands of individuals, businesses and foundations to drive a more vibrant economy and connected community. Through the Blueprint for Collective Action, ArtsWave strategically makes investments that maximize the arts' impact across the region. To learn more and give to the 2025 community campaign, visit

artswave.org.

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- **Summer Youth Camp and Fall Clinics by Springboro Wind Symphony** a youth music camp that will establish the inaugural Springboro Youth Wind Symphony | **\$8,000**
- **ArtScape Lebanon Pottery Studio by Warren County Arts Council** bringing pottery classes and cultural education to an underserved area | **\$10,000**
- **Lebanon Festival of the Arts by Warren County Historical Society** a collaborative community festival showcasing visual and performing arts across the region | **\$5,000**

"The arts don't just entertain—they shape the identity and vitality of a community," said Daniel Cunningham, CEO of the Cunningham Institute for Growth. "These projects will bring new energy to Warren County, attracting visitors, supporting local businesses and making our communities even better places to live and work."

The Catalyzing Impact grant program is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts and is primarily funded through the annual ArtsWave Community Campaign. This year's campaign aims to raise over \$12.5 million to support the arts sector's recovery and growth.

"Every dollar contributed to the ArtsWave Campaign translates into experiences that enrich our community," Kintner added. "These grants are just one example of how public support for the arts creates a ripple effect of creativity and connection throughout our region."

The Cincinnati region's reputation as an arts destination is largely due to the community's longstanding support of the ArtsWave Campaign. To contribute to the 2025 ArtsWave Community Campaign and help fuel more innovative arts projects, visit artswave.org/give.

For the full list of projects supported by these Catalyzing Impact grants, visit artswave.org/catalyzing.

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