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Mural Arts Philadelphia to Receive \$100,000 Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts as part of the American Rescue Plan

January 27, 2022 (Philadelphia) — Mural Arts Philadelphia is pleased to announce they have been approved to receive an American Rescue Plan grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to help the arts and cultural sector recover from the pandemic. Mural Arts is recommended to receive \$100,000 and may use this funding to save jobs and to fund operations and facilities, health and safety supplies, and marketing and promotional efforts to encourage attendance and participation. In total, the NEA will award grants totaling \$57,750,000 to 567 arts organizations in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Washington, DC.

"Our nation's arts sector has been among the hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. The National Endowment for the Arts' American Rescue Plan funding will help arts organizations, such as Mural Arts Philadelphia, rebuild and reopen," said Dr. Maria Rosario Jackson, chair of the NEA. "The arts are crucial in helping America's communities heal, unite, and inspire, as well as essential to our nation's economic recovery."

"We're thrilled that the National Endowment for the Arts has approved Mural Arts for a grant of \$100,000. With this support from NEA, Mural Arts will continue to use art to ignite change, and specifically use this funding towards youth afterschool programming throughout the City of Philadelphia," said Jane Golden, executive director of Mural Arts Philadelphia. "Art can connect and enrich our communities, so it's so important to help students across the city unlock their creative capacities."

Mural Arts plans to use this funding to assist with its <u>Art Education</u> program, which inspires students through art-based programming. Art Education students have opportunities to work with locally, nationally, and internationally known artists; contribute to major public art projects; develop creative portfolios and showcase artwork at exhibitions; and apply to scholarships, internships, and jobs in the creative sector.

The American Rescue Plan was signed into law in March 2021 when the NEA was provided \$135 million for the arts sector. The funding for organizations is the third installment providing more than \$57.7 million for arts organizations. In April 2021, the NEA <u>announced</u> \$52 million (40 percent) in ARP funding would be allocated to 62 state, jurisdictional, and regional arts organizations for regranting through their respective programs. The second installment in November 2021 <u>allocated</u> \$20.2 million to 66 local arts agencies for subgranting to local artists and art organizations.

For more information on the NEA's American Rescue Plan grants, including the full list of arts organizations funded in this announcement, visit www.arts.gov/COVID-19/the-american-rescue-plan.

About Mural Arts Philadelphia:

Mural Arts Philadelphia is the nation's largest public art program, dedicated to the belief that art ignites change. For more than 35 years, Mural Arts has united artists and communities through a collaborative and equitable process, creating over 4,000 artworks that have transformed public spaces and individual lives. Mural Arts aims to empower people, stimulate dialogue, and build bridges to understanding with projects that attract artists from Philadelphia and around the world and programs that focus on youth education, restorative justice, mental health and wellness, and public art and its preservation. Popular mural tours offer a firsthand glimpse into the inspiring stories behind Mural Arts' iconic and unparalleled collection, which has earned Philadelphia worldwide recognition as the "City of Murals." For more information, call 215-685-0750 or visit muralarts.org. Follow along on social media: @muralarts on Twitter and Instagram, @MuralArtsPhiladelphia on Facebook, and phillymuralarts on YouTube.