May 19 & 20, 2020 Raleigh, NC

Civility, Collaboration and Communication are the Inspiration for ARTS Day 2020 in Raleigh on May 19 & 20

Early Bird Pricing Will Begin in February

Raleigh, NC – On May 19 & 20, arts lovers of all kinds will convene in Raleigh to hear inspiring speakers, learn about the newest developments in state arts funding and policy, and to speak up for the arts in North Carolina with fellow arts advocates.

For over a decade, Arts North Carolina has hosted ARTS Day, the annual two-day conference of art and action. ARTS Day draws hundreds of North Carolinians to the state capital to learn, network, celebrate and speak with one voice on behalf of the arts to their state legislators.

ARTS Day 2020 will focus on Civility, Collaboration, and Communication, as the arts positively impact the lives of all North Carolinians, regardless of political affiliation. One ARTS Day 2020 Conference Day speaker will be Maestro William Henry Curry, Music Director and Conductor or the Durham Symphony, who will speak about the power of collaboration. Award-winning journalist and book author, Steven Petrow, who is well known for his writing on civility and discourse, will also take the stage on Day One. Returning to the ARTS Day stage is John Davis, non-partisan political analyst, to give the audience the most up to date reflection on the political landscape. Rounding out the speakers for conference day, will be Beverly McIver, an influential contemporary American visual artist whose work producing art that examines racial, gender, social and occupational identity has made a significant impact on the arts in North Carolina and throughout the country. Other highlights of the Conference Day, taking place at Edenton United Methodist Church, will be performances and break-out sessions highlighting important issues that those in the arts face in their own communities. During the day, there will be numerous opportunities for networking and collaboration with other arts supporters from around the state. Tickets for ARTS Day 2020 will go on sale with a special Early Bird Price on February 26 and can be purchased at artsnc.org.

On Legislative Day, May 20, the conference attendees move their message to the ARTS Day Pavilion on Halifax Mall at the North Carolina Legislative Campus and into the offices of North Carolina legislators throughout the morning. During the day, the attendees will engage in conversation with their representatives about the positive impacts the arts bring to their districts. When they are not in meetings, the attendees will be entertained by several performances from North Carolina students and statewide performers.

ARTS DAY 2020 CONTENT

Day 1, Conference Day (May 19, 10:00am- 4:00pm) takes place at Edenton Street United Methodist Church in Raleigh and is devoted to networking, advocacy education and inspiration. A line up of dynamic speakers will be interspersed with performances, a breakout session and plentiful networking opportunities.
Advocacy 101 - Even inexperienced advocates will learn how easy and exciting it is to speak up for the arts through this introductory advocacy workshop facilitated by Arts NC Executive Director, Nate McGaha.

Presenters will include:
- **Maestro William Henry Curry** – Music Director and Conductor of the Durham Symphony Orchestra
- **John Davis** - North Carolina political analyst and speaker
- **Nate McGaha** - Executive Director, Arts NC
- **Ken Melton** - Principal / owner of Melton and Associates, a North Carolina lobbying and governmental affairs consulting firm.
- **Steven Petrow** - An award-winning journalist and book author, known for his Washington Post and New York Times essays on civility and manners, aging and cancer.
- Performers will include:
  - **Batala Durham** – A community group focused on exposing people to and educating them about Afro-Brazilian culture by performing traditional samba reggae music.

**Day 2, Legislative Day (May 20, 8:00am - 1:30pm)** an opportunity for advocates to tell legislators how the arts impact their community. Inspired and energized with actionable messages from Day 1, attendees have the opportunity to speak with one voice to their representatives for the benefit of their communities. Speakers, performances, and lunch will be provided on Halifax Mall throughout the day.

**REGISTRATION**
Registration will open on February 26, 2020 and early registration is encouraged. Procrastinators’ fees will apply after April 29, 2020.
- **Full (2-day) Registration:** $225. (Lunch served both days)
- **Legislative Day Only Registration:** $40
- **Student Registration (Legislative Day Only):** $20
All registrations include lunch.

**ARTS Day 2020**
North Carolina’s Annual Conference of Art & Action
Organized by Arts North Carolina
May 19 (10:00am – 4:00pm) Edenton Street United Methodist Church
May 20 (8:00am – 1:30pm) ARTS Day Pavilion on Halifax Mall at the NC Legislative Complex
Raleigh, NC
www.artsnc.org

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**ABOUT ARTS NORTH CAROLINA**
Arts North Carolina is North Carolina’s statewide advocacy organization calling for equity and access for the arts for all North Carolinians and advancing public funding and policy for the arts and arts education. It is an organization that believes every community should have access to public resources and opportunity to build healthy communities through the arts. **ARTS Day** is an extension of that purpose by giving individual North Carolinians the tools to advocate for the arts in their community and to share success stories with other citizens about the power of the arts.

**A CLEAR VISION**
$1 for the ARTS is the goal that Arts NC is rallying behind to unite advocates toward a single, clear and attainable vision. The goal is to increase NC Arts Council grants funding to equal $1 for every citizen of North Carolina. Currently, the North Carolina legislature has invested $6,290,000 per year in arts grants. This equals roughly 63¢ per person. By raising this standard to be equal to $1 per person, state funding for arts grants would increase to $10,000,000 which is an achievable goal that would have significant statewide implications. This is only a 37¢ increase per person, but would impact communities with positive arts opportunities and increase equitable access to the arts from the mountains to the coast. **$1 for the ARTS** is the clear vision that advocates will take forward as they speak with their legislators at **ARTS Day**.

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