Arts North Carolina is Actively Working for Arts for All Citizens of the State

Raleigh, NC - 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 NC hosts an annual conference, ARTS Day, which gives 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.

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 their state capital to learn, network, celebrate and speak with one voice on behalf of the arts to their state legislators. On day one of ARTS Day, arts lovers of all kinds will convene in Raleigh to hear inspiring speakers, learn about the newest developments in state wide arts funding and network with fellow North Carolina arts advocates. Less experienced advocates will even have an opportunity to 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.

On Day 2, advocates will have an opportunity to tell legislators how the arts impact their community through meetings in groups and as individuals. 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.

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 and to provide arts access and programming in all 100 counties. Currently, the North Carolina legislature has invested $6,290,000 per year in arts grants. This equals only 63¢ per person. By raising this standard to be equal to $1 per person, arts advocates would increase funding of arts grants to $10,000,000 which is a worthy and achievable goal. This is only a 37¢ increase per person but an increase that would impact communities with positive arts opportunities. $1 for the ARTS is the clear vision that advocates will take forward as they speak with their legislators at ARTS Day and throughout the year.

NEW RESOURCE AT THE NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY
In May of 2018, Rep. Becky Carney (D-Mecklenburg), and longtime champion of the arts and arts education, announced the creation of the Joint Caucus for the Arts and Arts Education, which would be Co-Chaired in the NC House by herself and Rep. Jeffrey Elmore (R-Wilkes). This new caucus will be convened by the Co-Chairs to educate its Members about the civic, education, and economic impact of the arts and arts education on the citizens of North Carolina. Boasting 45 Members (30-R, 15-D) in its first year, the Caucus will convene with members of the NC Senate after that Caucus is announced in the Senate Chamber in January 2019 co-chaired by Sen. Deanna Ballard (R-Watauga) and Sen. Mike Woodard (D-Durham). The Joint Caucus for the Arts and Arts Education will be an effective tool to educate NC General Assembly Members and to advance public funding and policy for the arts at ARTS Day 2019 and throughout the year.
To learn more about Arts North Carolina or ARTS Day 2019, please visit the Arts NC website at artsnc.org

ARTS Day 2019
North Carolina’s Annual Conference of Art & Action
Organized by Arts North Carolina
March 26 (10:00am – 4:00pm) Edenton Street United Methodist Church
March 27 (8:00am – 1:30pm) ARTS Day Pavilion on Halifax Mall at the NC Legislative Complex
Raleigh, NC
www.artsnc.org

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