Dear Friends,

It is probably no coincidence that the Kennedy Mansion began its life in 1875 as a home—the home of neighborhood founder Lewis Kennedy.

Today, Kennedy Heights Arts Center is still creating a home. Although it no longer houses a single family, the center is a home for community activity; a home for meaningful conversations and creative expression; a home for everyone.

And like any house, the Arts Center was built by many hands. We continue to grow and thrive because of YOU, the hundreds of donors, volunteers, artists, and community members who generously share their talents and gifts.

Thanks to you, nearly 5,000 youth and adults are able to participate in more than 125 arts and cultural experiences at little or no cost every year.

In this report, you'll learn more about the impact KHAC is having on people’s lives and the life of our community, as we share our accomplishments and stories from 2018.

With your help, Kennedy Heights Arts Center is bringing people together and creating a more vibrant, inclusive community for all of us.

After all, there is no place like home.

With deepest gratitude,

Ellen Muse-Lindeman
Executive Director

William Lennard
Board President
OUR IMPACT

17 OUTREACH PROGRAMS
served at-risk youth in public schools, libraries and social service agencies

28 SUMMER CAMPS
included visuals arts, dance, music and theatre

8 ART EXHIBITIONS
explored themes from gender identity to racial justice

12 COMMUNITY EVENTS
presented jazz concerts to festivals

70 CLASSES/WORKSHOPS
enriched youth and adults

4,836 LIVES IMPACTED

155 VOLUNTEERS
contributed time and talents
Orbie Harris expressed a deep desire to build upon his art skills and meet others who share his same passion.

So when Orbie and Katie Anderson, his community building partner with Starfire Council, started working together two years ago, they searched for a place where he could pursue his passion. Their journey led them to Kennedy Heights Art Center.

“The Arts Center is a natural fit for any person, from any walk of life, at any point in his or her artistic journey,” remarked Katie.

Orbie joined the Kennedy Artist Collective and met local artist and KHAC art instructor William Linthicum. The two discovered they both like to make drawings, and William offered to work as a mentor to Orbie.

They meet weekly in William’s studio in KHAC’s Lindner Annex to learn and make art together. This spring, Orbie will exhibit his artwork in a gallery for the first time.

“For Orbie, this means his gift will not be lost, and he is able to connect with another artist as well as his community,” said Katie. “We cannot be more grateful for these gifts of time and talent offered in a way that is inclusive of all community members.”
As Elijah, a 6th grader at Woodford Paideia Academy, stepped onto stage he became legendary poet Langston Hughes.

Working with professional actor/director Derek Snow, he and his peers learned about the artistic and literary contributions of African Americans in the Harlem Renaissance by making a play.

Every Friday afternoon at this Cincinnati Public School, all students in grades 3-6 have the opportunity to work with artists-in-residence in visual art, theatre, dance and music. It is part of visionary new program for the school where 99% of the students qualify for free lunch.

Three years ago, Woodford embarked upon a transformational process to become an Arts and Culture Academy through CPS’ Vision 2020 initiative. As its lead partner, Kennedy Heights Arts Center coordinates a range of programs that use the expressive power of the arts to promote creativity, confidence and academic excellence. This includes visiting artists, fine art field studies, and professional development training for teachers in arts integration.

The 2017-2018 school year culminated in a student arts showcase in which students recreated the Cotton Club with acting, singing and dance performances, as well as a student art exhibit of hero sculptures from the era.

When Elijah delivered a key line, the audience erupted in applause.

The experience allowed Elijah to shine and receive positive recognition in ways he never had before. He said afterwards: “It was inspiring. I was inspiring!”

80% of Woodford teachers reported that arts integration increased students’ engagement while 60% reported that it increased students’ mastery of the academic content.

It was inspiring.
I was inspiring!
92% OF PEOPLE SURVEYED said KHAC improved the quality of life in the neighborhood.
Kennedy award for leadership
From baking pies to serving on the board of directors, Jeff Dey has been a devoted supporter of the Arts Center for many years.

Jeff has lived in Kennedy Heights since 1999 with his husband, Mike Maloney. Jeff’s neighbor enlisted his help with one of KHAC’s first fundraisers more than 10 years ago, and he’s been actively involved ever since.

As the chair of our development committee, Jeff led our collective efforts to build support for the center. Under his leadership, charitable giving significantly increased, allowing the organization to thrive.

Jeff is delighted to see how the center has brought more activity to the neighborhood. He said, “Art is a great way to build the community, and that makes Kennedy Heights Arts Center a key asset.”

Volunteer of the year
BJ Gardner knows how to make people feel at home.

Living within walking distance of the center, BJ has been a loyal, tireless volunteer since the beginning. Making and serving food at events and even helping to restore the historic mansion have all been ways she has supported the organization.

One of BJ’s favorite memories is volunteering at the first Winterfest. She saw how the community event brought people of all backgrounds together through holiday cheer.

BJ has taken away many things from her involvement at KHAC, but the biggest would be the people she’s met. “The Arts Center has been a big part of my life because of the friends I’ve made and because of the gift it’s been for the community,” she remarked.

At its annual Founders Day celebration, Kennedy Heights Arts Center honored volunteers who have made extraordinary contributions to our mission.
93% of youth participants gained important life skills such as self-confidence, cooperation and communication skills
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

OPERATING REVENUE AND SUPPORT:

$58,100
RENTALS/Sales (NET)

$112,208
GRANTS

$70,780
CONTRIBUTIONS

$119,432
PROGRAM REVENUE

OPERATING EXPENSES:

$28,733
ADMINISTRATION

$23,333
FUNDRAISING

$245,956
PROGRAM

Total Income: $360,520
Total Expense: $298,021
Net Income: $62,499

THANK YOU

OUR PARTNERS

FOUNDATIONS AND GRANTS
The Greater Cincinnati Foundation
George and Margaret McLane Foundation
John A. Schroth Family Charitable Trust,
PNC Bank, Trustee
Thomas J. Emery Memorial
FotoFocus
Ruth and Robert Conway Foundation
Scripps Howard Foundation
Clyde N. Day Foundation Inc.
Jazz Alive

BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY SPONSORS
Kennedy Heights Community Council
Pleasant Ridge Community Council
Pleasant Ridge Business Association
Donovan’s Auto and Tire Center
Dr. Dana Bateman, DDS
Triad Communications

Please visit kennedyarts.org for a listing of all of our generous donors.
IN THE NEWS

We are the Other, a retrospective of Minnesota-based street photographer Wing Young Huie, examines the cultural complexities of American society, providing “a mirror for understanding ourselves.”

“Seeing the ‘Other’ and Ourselves in FotoFocus Exhibits,” CityBeat, October, 17, 2018

Diverse artists explore gender identity and expression, and the judgements we make, through art and apparel in Second Glances.


“Kennedy Heights Art Exhibit Sheds Old Ideas About Gender Identity and Apparel,” CityBeat, May 1, 2018

Rodney Veal interviews Kennedy Heights Arts Center executive director Ellen Muse-Lindeman on WCET’s “The Art Show.”

“Kennedy Heights Arts Center,” The Art Show, WCET, April 30, 2018

GET INVOLVED

DONATE FINANCIALLY
When you give to Kennedy Heights Arts Center, you help create a more vibrant and connected community. Your support ensures that our programs are open to everyone no matter their circumstance. Give today at kennedyarts.org.

DONATE GOODS
Materials and equipment are always needed to keep our programs running. View our wishlist at kennedyarts.org/support

VOLUNTEER
There are many opportunities to contribute your time and talents: assisting with youth programs, special events, the gift shop, building renovation projects, landscaping, and more. Contact Ellen at ellen@kennedyarts.org to learn more.

PARTICIPATE
Our community is made richer by your presence. From taking an art class to attending a concert or event, there is truly something for everyone. Join our mailing list at kennedyarts.org to get notice of our calendar of activities.