Dear Friends,

Groundbreaking research in neuroscience reveals that our need to connect with other people is even more fundamental than our need for food and shelter. Social connection is a super power that makes individuals smarter, happier and more productive.*

At Kennedy Heights Arts Center, we have seen how arts and culture connect us—to start conversations we might not otherwise have, to celebrate our commonalities, to overcome differences.

Teens collaborate with professional artists and each other to create projects about issues they care about—and make a difference in their community.

Diverse artists of all practices and skill levels come together in a supportive, nurturing space. They create much more than artwork—they create community.

Residents view artwork by Lebanese artists and experience Arab culture, bringing to light social, cultural and political issues in the Middle East—bridging cultural divides.

Students create art installations, play in jazz ensembles, perform plays, dance, and sing in a chorus—soaring beyond their expectations.

In 2019, Kennedy Heights Arts Center provided free and low-cost arts experiences for more than 5,000 people, including art education classes for youth and adults, summer camps, artist residencies in the community, programs in public schools, art exhibitions, public art projects, and cultural events.

And because of contributions from people like you, 100% of these experiences were accessible to everyone regardless of income.

Thank you for being a Super Hero. Your support of Kennedy Heights Arts Center creates social connections and builds vibrant, inclusive communities for all of us.

With gratitude,
Ellen

CREATIVE COLLABORATION

Artists-in-residence Nancy Gamon (Cincinnati) and poet Wendy McVicker (Athens, OH) led residents in a 4-week community art project *Common Threads*, combining text and textiles.

"(The exhibit) illustrates the power of art as a voice for a better world." - CURATOR SAAD GHOSN.

SPARKING CONVERSATION

Presented 9 solo and group exhibitions that inspired social change through art. You are My Sister celebrated diversity and solidarity of women of different races, cultures, religions, and socioeconomic levels in contemporary quilts.

66% of participants said they felt more connected to their community.

"I found myself deeply invested ... the experience was more personally meaningful than I had expected." - PARTICIPANT

BUILDING COMMUNITY

12 community events like 15th annual Winterfest, Jazz in the Heights and Play in the Park brought together more than 2,500 diverse residents.

"The experience was more personally meaningful than I had expected." - PARTICIPANT

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

**Operating Revenue & Support:**

- $21,052 Rents (Net)
- $6,579 Fiscal Sponsor Admin Fee
- $155,827 Program Revenue
- $313,572 Program Revenue

**Operating Expenses:**

- $34,324 Administration
- $24,542 Fundraising
- $107,780 Contributions
- $145,288 Grants

Total Revenue: $436,556
Total Expense: $372,438

Thank you!
THANK YOU!

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*Includes all contributions of $100 and above given between January 1 – December 31, 2019. We apologize for any omissions.