



## **The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida Celebrates Thirty Years of Art Ventures**

*More than \$1.3 million invested in the Northeast Florida arts community since 1990*

JACKSONVILLE, Florida – March 6, 2020 Art Ventures, an initiative of The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, has been making grants to encourage individual artists and strengthen small arts organizations since 1990. In that time, more than \$1.3 million has been invested in nearly 200 local artists and 125 small arts organizations. To celebrate three decades of arts grantmaking, The Community Foundation will make a total of 30 grants to individual artists and small arts organizations in 2020—approximately double the number of grants given in a typical year. There will be 18 grants for individual artists and 12 grants for small arts organizations.

“As we reflect on the quiet power of the Art Ventures Fund to nurture our individual artists and small arts organizations over the past thirty years, it’s clear that this has been a remarkable investment,” noted Martha Frye Baker, chair of The Community Foundation Board of Trustees. “By expanding the number of grants in this anniversary year, we hope to draw attention to the significance of having a vibrant arts community and its role in making Northeast Florida a better place for all its citizens.”

Art Ventures grants for individual artists will fund up to \$3,500 per artist so recipients can explore or refine the next level of their craft. Applications are open now for the 18 Art Ventures individual artist grants to be awarded in 2020; the deadline is **March 12, 2020** at 5 p.m. For more information: <https://www.jaxcf.org/receive/individual-artists>.

To celebrate the work of the talented artists who have received Art Ventures grants over the years, there will be an exhibit of selected Art Venture recipients at the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens from June 3-June 28, 2020.

For small arts organizations, The Community Foundation has already provided organizational assessments grants in 2020 through the Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida to three area nonprofits: The 5 and Dime Theater Company in Jacksonville, and tag! Children’s Museum and Limelight Theatre in St. Augustine. Three more small arts organizations will be selected for organizational assessments this fall.

Furthermore, in conjunction with the celebration of the 30th anniversary of Art Ventures, The Community Foundation is announcing six general operating grants of \$5,000 each to small arts organizations which have successfully completed a capacity building grant in the past five years.

- Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival, Inc.  
Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival works to present premier musical artists, offer music education, and promote local businesses and tourism through its programming. (Nassau)
- Clamour Theatre Company, Inc.  
Clamour Theatre Company works to inspire the love of theatre, present professional productions, and contribute to the cultural and economic growth of Clay County. (Clay)
- Don’t Miss A Beat, Inc.



Don't Miss A Beat provides artistic and academic enrichment to inspire and educate students of the Riverside and Brooklyn communities. (Duval)

- Florida Chamber Music Project, Inc.  
Florida Chamber Music Project works to increase the presentation and education, and awareness of classical chamber music for children and adults. (St. Johns)
- Hope at Hand  
Hope at Hand provides art and poetry sessions to vulnerable and at-risk youth populations to facilitate healing and personal growth. (Duval)
- Jacksonville Dance Theatre  
Jacksonville Dance Theater is a contemporary modern dance company committed to creating and promoting excellence in the field of professional dance. (Duval)

### **About the Art Ventures Fund**

In 1989, The Community Foundation accepted a challenge from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to create a fund to support individual artists and small, emerging arts organizations. The NEA invested \$50,000 a year for four years, and the Foundation was required to raise at least \$100,000 per year in matching funds. Many donors came forward and the campaign was a success, with grantmaking beginning in 1990. Local funding for Art Ventures Individual Artist grants comes from the Art Ventures Endowment, the J. Shepard, Jr. & Mary Ann Bryan Arts Endowment, the Anne and Sallyn Pajcic Art Ventures Endowment, the Independent Life Minority Arts Fund, the Alynne Sharp Art Fund and the Baker Family Advised Fund.

### **About The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida**

The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida ([www.jaxcf.org](http://www.jaxcf.org)), Florida's oldest and largest community foundation, works to stimulate philanthropy to build a better community. The Foundation helps donors invest their philanthropic gifts wisely, helps nonprofits serve the region effectively, and helps people come together to make the community a better place. Created in 1964, the Foundation has assets of \$482 million and has made approximately \$550 million in grants since inception.

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