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Cathedral Arts Project to receive \$100,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts

National Endowment for the Arts Chairman Jane Chu has approved more than \$80 million in grants as part of the NEA's second major funding announcement for fiscal year 2018. Included in this announcement is an Art Works grant of \$100,000 to the Cathedral Arts Project to administer and publish a survey, analysis and report about arts education in our region. CAP will execute this project through Any Given Child Jacksonville, the advocacy arm of the organization.

The Art Works category is the NEA's largest funding category and supports projects that focus on the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence, public engagement with diverse and excellent art, lifelong learning in the arts, and/or the strengthening of communities through the arts.

"The variety and quality of these projects speaks to the wealth of creativity and diversity in our country," said NEA Chairman Jane Chu. "Through the work of organizations such as the Cathedral Arts Project in Jacksonville, NEA funding invests in local communities, helping people celebrate the arts wherever they are."

Without accessible, reliable data published on arts education in schools—especially in large districts—it is difficult for communities to understand arts learning opportunities, the equity of their distribution across schools and what standards should be used to help every child have a quality education in the arts.

Supported by the NEA, CAP and AGC Jacksonville will administer and publish an extensive survey, analysis and report about arts education in our region alongside data on school partnerships with arts organizations. CAP has partnered with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Chicago-based Ingenuity, AGC cities across the country and several regional partners to launch this project locally and nationally.

"Our community has made incredible strides toward access, equity and quality arts education," said CAP Chief Program Officer and AGC Jacksonville Executive Director Allison Galloway-Gonzalez. "As participation in the arts has exponentially increased, Duval County students are subsequently doing better in school, ranking top in the nation for math and reading, competing and winning nationally in the arts, and graduating at record-high rates. Despite this overwhelming evidence of success, the next budget cycle likely means detrimental cuts to the arts, and it is our hope that we can help prevent some of that loss by publicly prioritizing support for the arts. We need to continue to show that the arts add up for our community."

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The Cathedral Arts Project is the leading nonprofit provider of quality, comprehensive and ongoing instruction in the visual and performing arts for elementary and middle school students in Duval



County. The driving force behind all CAP programs is the belief that the arts matter – they provide essential skills, like creative thinking, perseverance, teamwork and self-discipline, that benefit all people in all areas of their lives.

Too often, certain populations of students do not have access to an arts-rich education because of limited access and resources in their schools, communities or homes. Yet these are the students for which the arts can have the strongest and longest-lasting impacts. CAP needs your support to accomplish its vision for every child in Northeast Florida to have access to a well-rounded, arts-rich education that endows his or her spirit with the imagination, self-confidence and strength of character that inspires great leadership and a will to succeed. Learn more at capkids.org.

Any Given Child Jacksonville is uniting diverse stakeholders that include Duval County Public Schools personnel and students, arts organizations, artists, and business and community leaders. We have worked ceaselessly to raise awareness and build capacity to ensure every K-8 student in Duval County receives access to a high-quality arts education. Learn more at capkids.org/agcjax.