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### Cathedral Arts Project announces Stephanie and Tim Cost as 2020 Guardians of the Arts

The Cathedral Arts Project is pleased to announce Stephanie and Tim Cost as the 2020 Guardians of the Arts for their efforts to safeguard and advance the arts along the First Coast. The Costs will be recognized at the 16<sup>th</sup> annual *Spring for the Arts* on Friday, April 17, 2020 at The River Club. *Spring for the Arts* is the signature fundraising event for the Cathedral Arts Project and is the most visible event supporting arts education for children in Duval County.

Stephanie and Tim came to Jacksonville in 2013 when Tim became Jacksonville University's 12<sup>th</sup> president. Though they have lived in Jacksonville for a short time, the Costs have made a tremendous impact on the arts in our community, specifically through their work at Jacksonville University. In only seven years, they have worked together with faculty, staff and administration to grow the University's fine arts program by:

- Renovating Terry Concert Hall in 2016, making it one of the finest facilities of its size in Jacksonville;
- Creating a new position, Head of STEAM Initiatives, to infuse the arts into technical programs across campus;
- Securing a multi-year, multi-million-dollar gift to name the Linda Berry Stein College of Fine Arts, one of the largest investments in the university's 84-year history;
- Launching a low-residency Master of Fine Arts in Visual Arts;
- Establishing a fine arts reception series, inviting donors and community members to join the President & First Lady at fine arts performances and exhibitions throughout the year;
- Securing international artist Shan Shan Sheng to create a large-scale art installation in a new roundabout planned for the University's entrance at Merrill Road;
- Refurbishing the Phillips Fine Arts Building, home to a recital hall, recording studio and digital piano/computer laboratory, as well as the Alexander Brest Museum and Gallery;
- Commissioning the University's iconic campus dolphin statues, created by Art in Public Spaces students, which are now the preferred photo backdrop for student and family pictures at matriculation, graduation and most student campus photos;
- Establishing the Cost scholars program, through the ASPIRE campaign, which provides opportunities for scholars to create meaningful relationships with their

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donors during their college experience, including undergraduate students in the Linda Berry Stein College of Fine Arts;

- Funding *Creative Current*, a 2,500-piece glass work displayed in the entrance of Terry Concert Hall, that was a collaboration of student, faculty and community talent resulting in a 56-foot-long masterpiece; and
- Commissioning student art in glass, ceramics, photography and the performing arts to showcase their talent and educate them on the process of creating art for a living.

“Tim and Stephanie are a dynamic duo and have become such a valued asset to our community in the short time they have been here,” said Linda Berry Stein, Jacksonville University alumna and previous Guardian of the Arts Award Winner. “Tim’s expert leadership as the President of Jacksonville University has energized our campus and elevated the University to great heights. Both Tim and Stephanie work tirelessly through their involvement in such important organizations such as CAP. They are laser focused on how they can better our community. We are indeed fortunate to have in our community such passionate, giving and caring people.”

Before joining Jacksonville University, Tim served as executive vice president of global corporate affairs for PepsiCo Inc. and chairman of global health care and executive vice president of APCO Worldwide Inc. He also held senior-level positions at Kodak, Wyeth, Aramark, Pharmacia, Bristol-Myers Squibb and Centocor/Johnson & Johnson.

Both Tim and Stephanie are active members of the Jacksonville community, currently and formerly serving on boards and committees across the city, including the Jacksonville Civic Council, JAXUSA Partnership, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Education Advisory Board of the Northeast Florida STEAM – Hub Initiative, GuideWell/Florida Blue, Web.com, Stein Mart, Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, WJCT Public Broadcasting, Ronald McDonald House, Women’s Giving Alliance and the Cathedral Arts Project.

Their love of and appreciation of the arts runs deep. Stephanie played both the piano and bassoon growing up. In 2014, she participated in Jacksonville’s Dancing with Stars to raise money for the Jacksonville Children’s Chorus. Tim and Stephanie are also donors and patrons of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, and regularly attend as many Jacksonville University fine arts events as they can.

“The Costs join a long line of Guardian of the Arts award recipients over the years – individuals whose names are synonymous with arts and culture along the First Coast,” said CAP President & CEO Rev. Kimberly L. Hyatt. “As an organization devoted to educating students in the arts, CAP is honored to have such strong partners at the helm of Jacksonville University who share our mission to enhance the quality of life in Northeast Florida by making our community a better place to live, learn and work.”



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In October, Tim presented a keynote address at the Art Schools Network Conference held in Jacksonville. As a champion of the arts, he spoke about the landscape of the present and future of art in higher education. In addition, the nearly 300 conference attendees spent an entire day at Jacksonville University exploring the arts and leadership through panel discussions and workshops hosted by the University's fine arts faculty.

"At Jacksonville University, we take seriously our responsibility and privilege to be a catalyst for exploration, experimentation, conversation and positive action," said Tim Cost. "Nowhere is that more evident than in the classrooms and performance halls of the Linda Berry Stein College of Fine Arts. Our faculty, students and alumni are world-class. They are working tirelessly on campus, in their communities and around the globe using art to foster inclusion and civil discourse, and to highlight the things that bring us together rather than those that drive us apart."

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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](http://capkids.org).*



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