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ART EXPRESSION, INC. RECEIVES NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS GRANT

Pittsburgh, PA - The National Endowment for the Arts is awarding Art Expression, Inc. a \$10,000 grant to support after-school arts enrichment programming in the Trinity Area School District, Charleroi Area School District, and Central Greene School Districts during the 2018-2019 school year.

Matching funds for this NEA grant will be provided by the Community Foundation of Greene County and UBS Global Wealth Management. The support of \$2,500 from the Community Foundation of Greene County was made possible by grants from the Peters Family Memorial Fund and the Rotary Club of Waynesburg Charitable Fund. UBS Global Wealth Management also provided \$2,500. To date, these organizations have contributed a total of \$5,000 in matching funds.

The National Endowment for the Arts is committed to ensuring all Americans have access to the arts, whether they are in a small or large, rural or urban area.” said NEA Acting Chairman Mary Anne Carter. “We are proud to support organizations such as Art Expression Inc. that are providing opportunities for more people to experience and engage in the arts in their communities.

“We are proud and grateful to receive this prestigious grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.” says Angela Lowden, founder and executive director of Art Expression Inc. “Our organization is dedicated and committed to supporting youth through the arts. We are appreciative that the NEA and the matching contributors will enable us to conduct programming for underserved populations in Southwestern Pennsylvania’s Washington and Greene Counties.”

Art Expression provides non-judgmental, inclusive, free of charge programming that bridges social-emotional learning with other academics, arts, cultural and STEAM concepts.

Each school district served by this NEA grant will have the opportunity to choose from among Art Expression's specialty programs. Options include Art Expression's flagship program, Creative pARTners, as well as themed variations that offer instruction in a variety of topics. These specialty programs include STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) programming such as EcoSmART, StART Growing, ARTchitecture: Building Bridges, ARTmostphere: Weather, ARTletic, ARTistic Dreamers and the ARTvenues in History series. All the classes explore metaphors that relate to the students' lives as expressed through their art projects.

About the Art Expression, Inc

Art Expression, Inc. Is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that was founded by James and Angela Lowden in 2001 as an expression of their passion for alleviating the social inequalities that exist among children of different abilities and backgrounds. It is a fully inclusive after-school program, offered free of charge to students, that focuses on developing social and emotional learning through the arts in the Pittsburgh area. Art and music therapy are not performed during the sessions, but some components of both are used to develop positive outcomes for students. The organization's mission is to provide social and emotional learning through the arts and provide academic enrichment in an inclusive setting. Its programming fosters creativity and imagination and enhances self-esteem for children in schools, homeless shelters and community organizations. Art Expression is a two-time finalist (2013 and 2017) for the National Arts and the Humanities Youth Program Awards, distinguishing the organization as one of the top 50 arts and humanities-based programs in the U.S. Art Expression has also received certificates of excellence from the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. Art Expression was designated as a "Model Art Therapy Program" by the American Association of School Administrators and the American Art Therapy Association in 2011. Since its founding the organization has served over 10,000 children in Allegheny, Fayette, Greene, Washington and Westmoreland Counties.

About the National Endowment for the Arts

Established by Congress in 1965, the National Endowment for the Arts is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the NEA supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates American's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its

work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America. Visit arts.gov to learn more about NEA.

About the Community Foundation of Greene County

The Community Foundation of Greene County (CFGC), a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization founded in 2000, is the central philanthropic vehicle in Greene County for donations of various types and sizes. It builds community capital by professionally managing permanent donor endowment funds and strategically making grants that meet the current and emerging needs of the community. CFGC currently manages \$5 million in assets through more than 80 different funds.

About UBS Global Wealth Management

UBS is the world's largest wealth manager with a presence in 23 countries. Their advisors provide expert advice, innovative solutions and execution to corporate, institutional and wealth management clients as well as comprehensive access to the world's capital markets.