ARKANSANS FOR THE ARTS EDUCATE | INFORM | ADVANCE

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Arts Advocacy Day 2020

The Board & Staff of Arkansans for the Arts

Little Rock, AR | October 6th, 2020: Arkansans for the Arts is hosting 2020 Arkansas Arts Advocacy Day, virtually on October 13, 2020. This year's event boasts three live events as well as pre-recorded content from across Arkansas to be released throughout the day. Arts Advocacy Day will culminate in live interviews with Congressman French Hill and Senator Joyce Elliott about the importance of the arts in Arkansas, via zoom platform at 4:30 and 5:00 pm.

Congressman Hill is a current member of the Congressional Arts Caucus and AR Senator Joyce Elliott is the founder of the Arkansas Legislative Arts Caucus. The legislators will be interviewed by Victoria Mays and Madison Conklin, two up and coming young arts professionals and former student interns with Arkansans for the Arts. Questions will center around the theme of "ARts Means Business," the creative economy, quality of life, creative talent retention, and the importance of the arts across the state will be discussed.

The Arkansas Arts Council is partnering with Arkansans for the Arts for a midday Arts Advocacy Roundtable at 11:30, also via Zoom. Members of the Arkansas Legislative Arts Caucus and Arkansas Arts Council grant recipient organizations are invited to participate in an open conversation about the impact of the arts in Arkansas. The importance of pro-arts policy in regard to education, economic development, employment opportunities, and creative placemaking will be covered. The roundtable is co-moderated by Patrick Ralston, Director of the Arkansas Arts Council, and Erin Holliday, Executive Director of Arkansans for the Arts.

Participants can tune in at 9:00 am for opening remarks and to hear more about the agenda for the day.

Arkansans for the Arts has solicited video content from artists, arts organizations, educators, legislators, and supporters from around the state. Videos will be released via YouTube every hour in thematic blocks and include highlights from Arkansas arts classrooms; informational webinars on arts education, wellness, and creativity; creative economy spotlights; and "ARts Means...." testimonials.

Arkansans for the Arts' mission is to advance the arts, arts education, and the creative economy in Arkansas. They serve the people of Arkansas as an independent statewide organization providing leadership focused on the promotion and advancement of the creative economy, on transforming policy in arts education, and uniting the state into one voice with a call to action by policy makers to increase investment in the arts.

2020 Arkansas Arts Advocacy Day is made possible in partnership with the Arkansas Arts Council, Mid-America Arts Alliance, CACHE, Thoma Thoma, & dozens of content contributors.

For more information and to register please visit <u>www.ArkansansForTheArts.org</u> or contact Erin Holliday, Executive Director of Arkansans for the Arts at <u>eholliday@arkansansforthearts.org</u> or 501-655-0836.