



For Immediate Release

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National Endowment for the Arts Supports Rochester Organizations

Flower City Arts Center and others receive federal funding for art programs

(ROCHESTER, NY – March 19, 2019) The Flower City Arts Center, Visual Studies Workshop, and Open Letter Books are three organizations that have received funding from the National Endowment for the Arts for fiscal year 2019.

In February, National Endowment for the Arts Acting Chairman Mary Anne Carter approved more than \$27 million in grants as part of the Arts Endowment's first major funding announcement for fiscal year 2019. Included in this announcement is Art Works grants of \$10,000 to Flower City Arts Center to support their artist in residence program; \$20,000 to Visual Studies Workshop for film screenings and their community curator program; and \$35,000 to Open Letter Books in support of the publication of six books by women writers.

Art Works is the Arts Endowment's principal grantmaking program. The agency received 1,605 Art Works applications for this round of grantmaking, and will award 972 grants in this category.

"The arts enhance our communities and our lives, and we look forward to seeing these projects take place throughout the country, giving Americans opportunities to learn, to create, to heal, and to celebrate," said Mary Anne Carter, acting chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts.

"We look forward to the infusion of new creative energy in Rochester through the participation of resident artists in the coming year," says Janice Gouldthorpe, executive director of the Flower City Arts Center.

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and cultural production contributes more than \$763 billion to the nation's economy, or roughly 4.2% of GDP. In 2017, Rochester ranked 19th out of 20 in Large Communities for arts vibrancy. This ranking included analysis of state and federal support, where Rochester ranked 27th of 937 communities.

For more information on this National Endowment for the Arts grant announcement, visit arts.gov/news.

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 Arts Endowment supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America'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 the Flower City Arts Center

Flower City Arts Center is a community-based not-for-profit that educates, encourages and inspires all people to create and enjoy the visual arts. As a member of the National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts, the organization is committed to making high-quality arts education available to all.

Flower City Arts Center has been operating since 1970. Flower City Arts Center is a darkroom and photography facility, a ceramics studio, and a printmaking and book arts center. Support of Flower City Arts Center benefits youth outreach programs and programs for the community. All of the money raised stays in Rochester and directly benefits members of the Rochester community. The Center uses its resources to provide youth programs in schools, offers over 240 classes to the general public, and rents space to artists and others interested in the visual arts. Internships, facilities for advanced area arts students and resource facilities for anyone interested in book arts, photography and pottery are also available. Three galleries in the building serve as exhibit space for local, regional and national artists.

For more information, contact the Flower City Arts Center Administrative Office at 585-244-1730, or visit our website at www.rochesterarts.org.