



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EXPLORE GWINNETT AWARDS FIRST GWINNETT CREATIVITY FUND GRANTS

Inaugural arts grant program awards operations funding to local non-profits

(Gwinnett County, GA) Explore Gwinnett is pleased to award a total of \$51,000 in grants to 10 Gwinnett County non-profit arts organizations through the Gwinnett Creativity Fund. These awards will assist organizations in pursuit of their arts-focused mission and help continue operations after experiencing event cancellations and venue closures during the stay-at-home order.

“Explore Gwinnett is honored to administer the Gwinnett Creativity Fund and we are thrilled to say we were able to fully fund all eligible organizations who applied,” says Lisa Anders, Explore Gwinnett executive director.

Organizations receiving grants from the Gwinnett Creativity Fund Operations Grant include:

1. **Aurora Theatre** (\$10,000) – Founded in 1996, Aurora Theatre houses 2 performance spaces, boasts 5,000 season ticket holders, produces over 850 events annually and entertains 80,000 visitors. More information about Aurora Theatre can be found [here](#).
2. **Atlanta Harmony Celebration!** (\$2,500) – Atlanta Harmony Celebration (AHC!), formed in 2003, is a women's a cappella chorus, singing in the barbershop style. More information about Atlanta Harmony Celebration! can be found [here](#).
3. **Broad St. Concert Band at Sugar Hill, Inc.** (\$1,500) – Formed in 2016, The Broad Street Concert Band of Sugar Hill is a community band for adults that plays a wide variety of musical styles providing an educational opportunity for growing musicians in our community. More information about Broad St. Band can be found [here](#).
4. **Gwinnett Ballet Theatre** (\$5,000) – Gwinnett Ballet Theatre was founded in 1977 and is one of the oldest non-profit arts organizations in Gwinnett County. More information about Gwinnett Ballet Theatre can be found [here](#).
5. **Live Arts Theatre Inc.** (\$2,500) – Founded in 1993, Live Arts Theatre is a teaching theatre, where professional and amateur artists join to further develop the skills necessary to be successful in the field of professional theatre. More information about Live Arts Theatre can be found [here](#).
6. **North Gwinnett Arts Association** (\$5,000) – NGAA was established in 2010 with the purpose of bringing artists and art lovers to promote the appreciation of local art through arts education, exhibition, festivals, and art events. More information about NGAA can be found [here](#).
7. **Stone Mountain Chorus** (\$2,000) – The Stone Mountain Chorus, founded in 1981, is a show and competition chorus and is a member chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. More information about Stone Mountain Chorus can be found [here](#).

8. **Southeastern Railway Museum** (\$7,500) – Southeastern Railway Museum’s 35-acre museum in Duluth has been in operation since 1970 to provide an educational atmosphere which brings to life the cultural, technological, and historical importance of transportation to our region. More information about Southeastern Railway Museum can be found [here](#).
9. **Suwanee Performing Arts** (\$5,000) – Founded in 2007, SPA is a nonprofit community arts organization providing quality performance opportunities to, and by, the citizens of Gwinnett County. More information about Suwanee Performing Arts can be found [here](#).
10. **The Hudgens Center for Art & Learning** (\$10,000) – The Jacqueline Casey Hudgens Center for Art and Learning, founded in 1981, brings art lovers, leaders, and learners together through quality programs and exhibitions. More information about The Hudgens Center for Art & Learning can be found [here](#).

Gwinnett Creativity Fund is now accepting applications for Project Grants through July 15, which offers funding for project based arts initiatives in Gwinnett County such as festivals, exhibits, performances or public art. Organizations can view eligibility requirements and apply for the Project Grant [here](#).

More details can be found at GwinnettCreativityFund.com.

Photography of grant awardees can be found [here](#).

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ABOUT EXPLORE GWINNETT

Explore Gwinnett, the marketing brand for the Gwinnett Convention and Visitors Bureau (GCVB), is Gwinnett County's official tourism organization and is dedicated to strengthening Gwinnett County's economy by marketing the county as a destination for conventions, sporting events, meetings and leisure travel through sales, marketing and promotion. Explore Gwinnett also houses the Gwinnett Sports Commission, and oversees and administers the Gwinnett Creativity Fund.

ABOUT GWINNETT CREATIVITY FUND

Gwinnett Creativity Fund is a pilot program for arts grants in Gwinnett County. Gwinnett County recognizes the inherent value of the arts to a community’s success and seeks to increase the County’s profile as a cultural, inclusive destination where the arts educate, elevate, and inspire. This grant program is funded by Gwinnett County and administered by Explore Gwinnett.