Darryl Chappell Foundation Partners with UChicago’s Arts + Public Life to Distribute $10,000 in Grants of $1000 Emergency Cash Payments to Ten Active Artists of African Descent

Arts + Public Life (APL), an initiative of UChicago Arts, is honored to be the latest grant partner of the Darryl Chappell Foundation, which has issued $10,000 to support the immediate needs of 10 Chicago self-identified artists of African descent as a result of the current COVID-19 pandemic and resulting financial economic crisis. The process for identifying the APL collaborating artists to receive the one-time $1,000 cash grant for their immediate use has been in development since the partnership between APL and the Washington, DC headquartered private nonprofit was announced in September.

The Darryl Chappell Foundation, a private nonprofit focused on enabling aspiring artists of African descent to achieve their highest potential, partners with other nonprofits globally to provide eligible artists with cash grants of up to $1,000 each—simply requiring that partner-identified artists submit an application, then the partnering organizations assess the applications and approved artists are funded right away. Darryl Chappell, UChicago MBA ‘96, believes the $10,000 grant to Afrodescendent artists in Chicago is the start of a greater relationship with APL. The Foundation was particularly attracted to APL’s focus and results achieved as it relates to the arts, entrepreneurship, and deep engagement in the local South Side community.

Arts + Public Life is using the grants to support active, collaborating artists, including alumni from its Artist-in-Residence (AIRs) program—a 10-month paid residency program now in its 10th year—presented in partnership with UChicago’s Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture (CSRPC). The Chicago artists identified to receive the Dorothy A. Chappell Emergency Response one-time grant of $1000 are Afrodescendant artists whose works examine themes relevant to South Side communities, have a visual arts-centered practice with a demonstrated history of community engagement, and contribute to the local creative ecosystem.

“We are extremely grateful for the emergency funding that allows us to support both past participants of the Artist in Residence program and APL collaborating artists in managing the financial challenges that the pandemic has caused,” said APL Deputy Director Alfredo Nieves-Moreno. “Our partnership model understands
every relationship as a long-term commitment, and we are looking forward to presenting future artist relief opportunities with the Darryl Chappell Foundation.”

Meet the Dorothy A. Chappell Emergency Response recipients:

Greg Bray (2015-16 APL/CSRPC Artist-in-Residence)
Brandon Breaux (2018-19 APL/CSRPC Artist-in-Residence)
Delano Dunn (2019-20 APL/CSRPC Artist-in-Residence)
Stephen Flemister (2016-17 APL/CSRPC Artist-in-Residence)
Krista Franklin (2013-14 APL/CSRPC Artist-in-Residence)
Cecil McDonald Jr. (2012-13 APL/CSRPC Artist-in-Residence)
Faheem Majeed (2011-12 APL/CSRPC Artist-in-Residence)
Nathan Miller (APL Youth Arts Education Instructor, Exhibitions and Programs Collaborating Artist)
Eliza Myrie (2011-12 APL/CSRPC Artist-in-Residence)
Brittney Leeanne Williams (2017-18 APL/CSRPC Artist-in-Residence)

Arts + Public Life (APL) is a dynamic hub of exploration, expression, and exchange that centers people of color and fosters neighborhood vibrancy through the arts on the South Side of Chicago. As a neighborhood platform for arts and culture in Washington Park, APL provides residencies for Black and Brown artists and creative entrepreneurs, arts education for youth, and artist-led programming and exhibitions. Learn more at arts.uchicago.edu/artsandpubliclife.

The Darryl Chappell Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization focused on enabling aspiring artists of African descent to achieve their highest potential. The Foundation offers four core programs for artists - artist-in-residence; Artists Talk series; Unrestricted cash grants to practicing artists; and curates an Artists Marketplace. Read more about our work with artists at darrylchappellfoundation.org. Our mission is global with a local impact.

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