

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2024-272

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3 SPONSOR Executive Shapiro, Council as a Whole

4

5 DATE September 23, 2024 COMMITTEE Finance

6

7 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a grant agreement with ArtsNow to**  
8 **provide funds for the ArtsForward Program, over a two-year period, in an amount not to**  
9 **exceed \$200,000.00 with matching funds committed from the Knight Foundation, for the**  
10 **Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

11

12 WHEREAS, in 2023, ArtsNow launched *ArtsForward*, its first grant program dedicated  
13 to advancing and implementing the Akron/Summit Cultural Plan, with initial support from  
14 philanthropic partners such as the Akron Community Foundation, Burton D. Morgan  
15 Foundation, GAR Foundation, the Knight Foundation, and private donors; and

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17 WHEREAS, in 2023, ArtsNow awarded \$450,000.00 to 25 local arts and culture projects  
18 in Summit County, and in 2024, ArtsNow awarded more than \$402,000.00 to 29 local arts and  
19 culture projects in Summit County; and

20

21 WHEREAS, the *ArtsForward* program supports the 10 public priorities of the  
22 Akron/Summit Cultural Plan: equity, access, education, talent, engagement, resources,  
23 connections, placemaking, economic impact, and public art; and

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25 WHEREAS, the Knight Foundation committed to matching 100% of donations up to  
26 \$1,000,000.00 in support of the *ArtsForward* Program; and

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28 WHEREAS, the Executive wishes to provide a grant to ArtsNow to provide funds to the  
29 *ArtsForward* Program, over a two-year period, in the amount of \$200,000.00 with matching  
30 funds committed from the Knight Foundation; and

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32 WHEREAS, the funds provided by the County of Summit will be used to fund projects  
33 located in multiple communities throughout Summit County; and

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35 WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information,  
36 that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County of Summit to authorize the Executive to  
37 execute a grant agreement with ArtsNow:

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39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Summit, State  
40 of Ohio, that:

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42 SECTION 1

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44 The Executive is hereby authorized to execute a grant agreement and any other necessary  
45 related documents with ArtsNow to provide funds for the *ArtsForward* Program, over a two-year  
46 period, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 with matching funds committed from the Knight  
47 Foundation.

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1 RESOLUTION NO. 2024-272

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4 SECTION 2

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6 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety, and  
7 welfare of the residents of the County of Summit, and for the further reason to immediately  
8 approve the aforementioned grant agreement.

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10 SECTION 3

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12 Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight members, it shall take  
13 effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Executive; otherwise, it shall take  
14 effect and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.

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16 SECTION 4

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18 It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating  
19 to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all  
20 deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action,  
21 were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section  
22 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

23

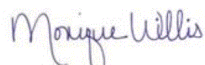
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25 INTRODUCED September 23, 2024

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27 ADOPTED October 7, 2024

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29 DocuSigned by:  
30   
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32 CLERK OF COUNCIL  
33 5560BE400F3451...

34 DocuSigned by:  
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36 \_\_\_\_\_  
37 PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL  
38 132AA5B9D2843...

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34 APPROVED by: October 7, 2024

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36   
37 \_\_\_\_\_  
38 EXECUTIVE  
39 CBD33E46D287473...

Voice Vote – YES: 11 – 0: Darrow, Dickinson,  
Donofrio, Ford, Kacyon, McKenney, Rodgers,  
Schmidt, Wiedie Higham, Walters, Wilhite

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38 ENACTED EFFECTIVE October 8, 2024