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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sept. 1, 2020

## Nominations Open for ACGK Community Arts Awards

**KALAMAZOO, Mich.**—The Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo (ACGK) has announced that the nomination period for the 2020 Community Arts Awards opens on Sept. 1. The deadline is Sept. 30. Nominations can be submitted online through the ACGK website at <https://www.kalamazooarts.org>.

Award categories include: Community Medal of Arts, Theodore C. Cooper Award for Distinguished Volunteer Service, Adam F. Carter Young Artist Award, Business Arts Award, Patron Award, Epic Award, and Gayle Hoogstraten Arts Leadership Award.

The Community Arts Awards will be announced in November 2020, and honorees will be celebrated at a presentation on Dec. 1, 2020, at 5:30 pm in the Jolliffe Theatre at the Arts Council's annual meeting.

The ACGK has honored local artists, arts organizations, and supporters through the Community Arts Awards since 1985.

### About the Awards

#### Community Medal of Arts

The CMA recognizes an artist who is a leader in their field, has a significant body of creative activity, who has received local and/or national acclaim, and has impacted on our community through art. This award encompasses all art forms, including, but not limited to visual, musical, theatrical, literary, performing, multi-media, architecture or design.

#### Theodore C. Cooper Award for Distinguished Volunteer Service

The recipient is to be a person, persons or group whose lives exemplify a broad range of service to the arts community that is not related to his/her professional occupation. The distinguished volunteer award may be given to any person or married couple.

#### Adam F. Carter Young Artist Award

The Adam F. Carter Young Artist Award is designed to recognize and encourage the next generation of artists in our community. The winner is a student who has had an impact both in their field of study and in our community and is nominated by their arts teacher, director, or a community member. This award is generously supported by the Mary and Brooks Godfrey Family.

#### Patron Award

This award acknowledges an individual or couple who have significantly contributed to the arts as patrons. Through their patronage, they have made a sustained and/or transformational impact in this community through their support of the arts.

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#### 2019–2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Business Arts Award**

The Business Arts Award is presented to honor businesses in Kalamazoo County for their leadership commitment and vision in developing exemplary alliances with the arts and arts organizations. The award recognizes a business for creating outstanding initiatives with the arts and arts organization, furthering the educational development of youth, enhancing the economic vitality of the community, and enriching the quality of life in our community.

**Epic Award**

The Epic Award recognizes a nonprofit organization or program within Kalamazoo County that is of high artistic quality and serves to enhance life in our community through the arts. The award pays special attention to both long-standing programs and organizations that have played a consistent role in the community and new organizations and programs that meet a previously unmet community need or focus area.

**Gayle Hoogstraten Arts Leadership Awards**

The Arts Leader is an arts educator or arts administrator. The nominee is a recognized leader in the arts and/or the education community with an impact beyond his/her job description, a strong impact on the community through art, and positive and productive relationships in the community outside of his/her institution.

For more information about the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo and its annual Community Arts Awards, please visit [www.kalamazooarts.org](http://www.kalamazooarts.org) or call (269) 342-5059.

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*Editor's Note: The Community Arts Awards logo is attached for your use.*