



359 South Kalamazoo Mall - Suite 203  
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007  
P 269.342.5059  
F 269.342.6531  
[kalamazooarts.org](http://kalamazooarts.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Erin Bruce, Integrated Membership/Media Specialist | (269) 492-1782  
[ebruce@kalamazooarts.org](mailto:ebruce@kalamazooarts.org) | [www.kalamazooarts.org](http://www.kalamazooarts.org)

Nov. 18, 2020

## ACGK Postpones Community Arts Awards Celebration

**KALAMAZOO, Mich.**— Due to the increasing COVID-19 infection rate, the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo (ACGK) has decided to postpone the Community Arts Awards celebration, which was originally scheduled for Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 5:30 PM at the Wellspring Theater. The event will be postponed until the Governor and CDC have deemed it safe to gather in groups.

Since 1985, the ACGK has honored local artists, arts organizations, and supporters through the Community Arts Awards. The awards were founded to recognize the work and impact of outstanding members of the Kalamazoo arts community. The awards to be presented this year include the Community Medal of Arts, the Adam F. Carter Young Artist Award, the Business Arts Award, the Patron Award, the Epic Award, and the Gayle Hoogstraten Arts Leadership Awards.

The ACGK is committed to providing recipients with an experience that best honors the significance of their contributions to the Kalamazoo community.

“This is not a decision that the Arts Council took lightly, as we want to celebrate these achievements and recognize these accomplishments with our community,” ACGK Executive Director Kristen Chesak said.

“Because our only choice at this moment was to prerecord the event and have recipients send acceptance speeches by video, we are choosing to wait so that we might be able to conduct a hybrid event. Community is so important, and these individuals have made our community such a wonderful place to live. We want to be able to share that joy in person.”

The ACGK anticipates a hybrid in-person and virtual event in the spring of 2021. In the meantime, the organization will gather stories and photos of the recipients and share them in anticipation of the awards ceremony.

For information about the Community Arts Awards and to meet this year’s recipients, visit <https://www.kalamazooarts.org/2020-community-arts-awards/>

###

---

### 2019–2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Laura Latiolais - *President* | Angelita Aguilar - *Vice President* | Eric Johnson - *Treasurer* | Kurt Sherwood - *Secretary*  
Cheryl Dickson | Thomas Hamann | Rebecca Hartzell | Tim Kilmartin | Bob Miller | Tavian Napier