

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 17, 2021  
Contact: Kristen Chesak, Executive Director | (269) 342-5059  
359 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 203 | Kalamazoo, MI 49007  
[www.kalamazooarts.org](http://www.kalamazooarts.org)



## Nominations Open for ACGK Community Arts Awards

**KALAMAZOO, Mich.**— Nominations for the 2021 Community Arts Awards are being accepted by the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo (ACGK) now through Sept. 17. 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 on Oct. 15, 2021, and honorees will be celebrated at a presentation on Dec. 7, 2021, at 5:30 pm at the Arts Council's Annual Meeting. The location of the presentation is yet to be decided.

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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### **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.*