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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kalamazoo-Portage Named Among Top 40 Arts-Vibrant Communities of 2022

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—The Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo is celebrating the Kalamazoo-Portage community’s inclusion in the Top 40 Arts-Vibrant Communities of 2022 list.

SMU DataArts, also known as the National Center for Arts Research, compiles the annual list as part of its Arts Vibrancy Index Report. It identifies the 40 most art-vibrant areas in the United States based on data-informed indices. Divided into three sections to account for city size, the report featured the Kalamazoo-Portage region as one of the top 10 communities for medium-sized cities.

The metrics used for assembling the report include the amount of arts providers, arts dollars, and government support localized within the community. Kalamazoo outranked Ann Arbor, the only other Michigan region listed, in both arts providers and dollars.

The Arts Vibrancy Index Report is encouraged, among other purposes, to be used to “celebrate and remind ourselves of the arts’ enduring importance, resiliency, and vibrancy” according to the SMU DataArts website.

The Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo serves similar purposes, specifically addressing the local arts community in hopes that it will feel seen, supported, and uplifted knowing that its contributions are culturally enriching our society.

To view the SMU DataArts Arts Vibrancy Index Report, visit www.culturaldata.org/what-we-do/arts-vibrancy-index.

For more information about the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo and its role in the Kalamazoo-Portage arts community, visit <https://www.kalamazooarts.org/>.

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About the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo:

The Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo exists to infuse arts and culture into the commercial, educational, and creative economies of our region. The ACGK provides access to a broad range of artistic and cultural opportunities through grants, promotion, advocacy, and free programming to the seven-county region which it serves. For more information visit the ACGK website at www.kalamazooarts.org.

Editor’s Note: An infographic provided by SMU DataArts summarizing the Kalamazoo-Portage region’s score is attached for your use.

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