

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 15, 2023
Contact: Kristen Chesak, Executive Director | (269) 342-5059
359 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 203 | Kalamazoo, MI 49007
www.kalamazooarts.org



Nominations Open for Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo Community Arts Awards

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Nominations for the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo (ACGK)'s 2023 Community Arts Awards are being accepted now through October 10, 2023. 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, Epic Award, and Gayle Hoogstraten Arts Leadership Award.

The Community Arts Awards will be announced on Oct. 31, 2023, and honorees will be celebrated on Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2023, at 7:00 pm at the Gull Lake Center for Fine Arts.

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 Community Medal of Arts recognizes an artist who has a significant body of creative activity, is a leader in their field, has received local and/or national acclaim, and has impacted our community through art. This award is given out to an artist only once in an artist's career.

Theodore C. Cooper Award for Distinguished Volunteer Service

The recipient is to be a person or group whose lives exemplify a broad range of service to the arts community that is not related to their professional occupation.

Adam F. Carter Young Artist Award

This award recognizes and encourages the next generation of artists in our community. Named after a young artist whose life was cut short, but whose contribution to the arts community of Kalamazoo provided an example that age doesn't matter when making a difference in the arts. This recipient should be a rising high school senior (although rising juniors and college freshmen may also be considered), who has had an impact in both their artistic field of study and in our community. The recipient of this award will receive a monetary scholarship to be used to further their artistic study.

Business Arts Award

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

Epic Award

This award recognizes an organization or program in our community 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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 15, 2023
Contact: Kristen Chesak, Executive Director | (269) 342-5059
359 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 203 | Kalamazoo, MI 49007
www.kalamazooarts.org



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

Named after the first full-time Executive Director of the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo, this award recognizes leaders in our community in two categories: Arts Education and Arts Administration. The recipients of this award will have shown a proven track record of strong impact on the community and participants in art far beyond their job description. The recipients will also have established positive and productive relationships in the community outside of their institution.

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

###

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