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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **THREE GREATER CLEVELAND ARTS ORGANIZATIONS TO PROVIDE MORE THAN \$250,000 TO LOCAL ARTISTS IN 2021**

Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center, Karamu House, and SPACES recently awarded funding by Cuyahoga Arts & Culture to support local artists with competitive grant programs.

*(Cleveland, Ohio)*—Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center, Karamu House, and SPACES have recently been awarded a total of \$260,000 by Cuyahoga Arts & Culture (CAC)—one of the largest local public funders for arts and culture in the country—to directly support Cuyahoga County resident artists.

“Cuyahoga Arts & Culture is very pleased to invest in the work that Karamu House, Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center and SPACES is doing to support artists, particularly to support Black, Indigenous, and other artists of color,” says Jill M. Paulsen, executive director of CAC. “It is our aim that a vast majority of these funds go directly to communities who have been overlooked in the past.”

Interested artists that reside in Cuyahoga County can currently apply for a one-time \$5,000 grant from any one of these three arts organizations. Individual criteria and award timelines vary by program.

Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center, a Latinx cultural arts organization located in Cleveland’s Brooklyn Centre neighborhood, is accepting applications on a rolling basis for its “Unidos por el Arte” artist residency. The stipend and three-month residency at the Center will prioritize awards to Latinx artists and other artists of color, inclusive of all art disciplines.

SPACES, a resource and public forum for artists in Cleveland’s Ohio City neighborhood, is also accepting applications on a rolling basis for its “Urgent Art Fund,” which provides funding for projects that are politically, culturally and/or socially responsive. Three local artists serve as jurors for the 2021 program: photographer and mixed media artist Asia Armour; artist, healer and musician LaToya Kent; and, diasporic indigenous Chamorro artist Gisela McDaniel.

Karamu House, located in Cleveland’s Fairfax neighborhood and the country’s oldest African American producing theatre, will begin to accept applications for its “Room in the House” artist residency in April 2021. This competitive program awards eight-week residencies and stipends to artists in the visual and performing arts.

Additional program details and applications are available on each organization's website.

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### **About Julia de Burgos Cultural Center**

Julia De Burgos Cultural Arts Center was founded in 1989 by Daisy Rivera and the combined efforts of the Cultural Educational Institute for Boricua Advancement (CEIBA) and the Hispanic Parents Union. These organizations united to realize a long-time dream of establishing a family-oriented center to serve the Latino youth and their families through programs and activities designed to foster cultural pride and art appreciation. For more information, visit [www.juliadeburgos.org](http://www.juliadeburgos.org).

### **About SPACES**

SPACES commissions artists from around the world—at all stages of their careers—to make new work that is responsive to timely issues. We use these projects as a jumping off point to create educational initiatives that help develop a more informed citizenry. We also distribute grants to artists outside of our residency and exhibition programs. For more information, visit [www.spacescle.org](http://www.spacescle.org).

### **About Karamu House**

Recognized as the oldest African American performing arts institute in the nation, Karamu House (meaning “place of joyful gathering” in Swahili) is listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places and featured in the Smithsonian's African American Museum. Today, Karamu's mission is to produce professional theatre, provide arts education, and present programs for all people while honoring the African American experience. For more information, visit [www.karamuhouse.org](http://www.karamuhouse.org).

### **About Cuyahoga Arts & Culture**

Cuyahoga Arts & Culture (CAC) is one of the largest local public funders for arts and culture in the nation, helping hundreds of organizations in Cuyahoga County connect millions of people to cultural experiences each year. Since 2007, CAC has invested more than \$207 million in 436 organizations both large and small, making our community a more vibrant place to live, work and play. For more information, visit [cacgrants.org](http://cacgrants.org).