

## **THRIVE Campaign Distributes Second Round of Grants** *More than \$3.5 million in grants to be distributed to 10 local arts organizations*

**June 28, 2016** – The THRIVE Fund, administered by Foundation For The Carolinas, has announced the results of its latest grant cycle. THRIVE will distribute more than \$3.5 million in grants, some over multiple years, to 10 local arts organizations.

2016 THRIVE grants will be distributed to the following organizations:

- Bechtler Museum of Modern Art – \$200,000 (two-year grant)
- Charlotte Symphony Orchestra – \$2,000,000
- Charlotte Ballet – \$55,000
- Children’s Theatre of Charlotte – \$100,000
- Discovery Place – \$200,000 (two-year grant)
- Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture – \$175,000 (two-year grant)
- Levine Museum of the New South – \$120,000 (two-year grant)
- McColl Center for Art + Innovation – \$70,000
- The Mint Museum – \$145,000 (two-year grant)
- Opera Carolina – \$450,000 (three-year grant)

Under the leadership of Hugh McColl, former Bank of America chairman and CEO, the THRIVE Fund was established in 2013 to provide financial stability for Charlotte’s cultural sector. Initially launched with the goal of supporting the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, the campaign broadened to include more arts and cultural groups.

“As a long-term supporter of the arts, I’ve always believed that a healthy culture sector is essential to having a great city,” said Hugh McColl. “I am pleased with the significant support we’ve received from our community and enthusiastic about THRIVE’s impact on the long-term sustainability of our cultural organizations.”

Major donors to the THRIVE Fund include corporate and professional firms, as well as private foundations and individual philanthropists, who comprise the fund’s Board of Investors. Nearly \$40 million has been raised for the effort and the board has awarded more than \$6.6 million in grants.

“For this round of funding, we wanted to invest in the infrastructure of these organizations, with a particular focus on the development side, to ensure long-term sustainability,” said Charles Bowman, North Carolina and Charlotte president for Bank of America. “We recognize the important role our world-class arts and cultural institutions continue to play in driving our local economy and building Charlotte’s unique identity.”

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### About Foundation For The Carolinas

Foundation For The Carolinas is a nonprofit community foundation serving donors and a broad range of charitable purposes in North and South Carolina. With assets of \$1.7 billion, the Foundation encourages and makes possible philanthropic giving by individuals of all means to benefit their communities. Visit [www.ffc.org](http://www.ffc.org).

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