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Centene Corporation, Duke Energy, Moore & Van Allen, and PwC help push FFTC private-sector campaign for local arts to $12.7 million with combined $1.9 million commitment

Latest gifts take campaign to 70 percent of $18 million goal

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Foundation For The Carolinas’ campaign to raise $18 million in support of local arts organizations moved closer to its goal thanks to new commitments from Centene Corporation, Duke Energy, Moore & Van Allen, and PwC. The combined $1.9 million in commitments pushes the campaign to $12.7 million or 70 percent of goal. The $18 million FFTC is raising for local arts organizations will match $18 million in City of Charlotte funding for a total of $36 million over three years.

Duke Energy pledged $1 million over three years, while The Centene Charitable Foundation, Moore & Van Allen, and PwC each pledged $300,000 over three years. They join earlier commitments of $1.8 million each from Bank of America, National Gypsum/C.D. Spangler Foundation and Trane Technologies, and $900,000 each from Atrium Health, Barings, JELD-WEN, Inc., Novant Health, Red Ventures and Truist.

“Our purpose at Duke Energy is to power the lives of our customers and the vitality of our communities, and supporting local arts organizations goes to the heart of that,” said Lynn Good, Chair, President and CEO of Duke Energy. “A vibrant arts community that provides equal access for all Charlotte residents contributes to the success of the city. We’re pleased to partner with others to make this a reality.”

“We are pleased to support Foundation For The Carolinas and believe arts and cultural programs help build vibrant and healthy communities,” said Michael Neidorff, Chairman, President and CEO of Centene. “As we complete our new East Coast headquarters in Charlotte, we look forward to growing our presence in the community and to continuing our long-standing commitment to addressing the unique needs of individuals and families.”

The fund will support numerous cultural nonprofit organizations that, combined, have an audience participation of citizens and visitors of more than 2 million per year. Charlotte’s cultural sector employs thousands of full-time workers and generates an annual economic impact of $360 million, while its education programs for children and youth are nationally recognized.

“Moore & Van Allen is honored to participate in this public/private partnership to support our local arts organizations,” said the chair of the firm, Tom Mitchell. “We fully embrace our responsibility to contribute to the cultural growth of our city, and we are committed to helping sustain our arts organizations alongside our community partners. We are grateful for the access to the arts these organizations provide to our community.”

"As we emerge and rebuild from the pandemic, helping those most impacted remains core to PwC's purpose of building trust in society and solving important problems,” said Crawford Pounds, PwC’s Southeast Market Managing Partner. “We are pleased to join with leaders across our city to support our wonderful arts and culture sector, which plays such a vital role
in serving so many in our city, growing our economy, and ensuring Charlotte remains a place for all in our community to thrive now and in the years to come."

Once the $18 million private sector goal is reached, the City plans to double its current level of public funding for arts, science and history organizations. Together, an annual grants pool of $12 million in public/private dollars will help revive and sustain local cultural organizations devastated by $50 million in lost revenues suffered during the pandemic. To distribute these resources, a citizen-led grantmaking board will be created with a split of City of Charlotte and private-sector appointees.

FFTC agreed to lead the campaign after it was recruited by the City to serve as the third-party administrator for the multi-year arts funding plan.

“When we started this process, the goal of raising $18 million in such a short time was extremely daunting,” said FFTC President and CEO Michael Marsicano. “But thanks to the generosity of our private sector, we have moved even closer to that goal. It is evident our corporate and philanthropic communities support the role the arts play in the lives of our residents, students and visitors, and we are thankful for that support.”

About Foundation For The Carolinas

Founded in 1958, Foundation For The Carolinas is the sixth-largest nonprofit community foundation in the country, serving donors and a broad range of charitable purposes in North and South Carolina. With assets of nearly $3 billion, FFTC’s mission is to inspire philanthropy and empower individuals to create a better community. Visit www.fftc.org.

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