

For Immediate Release:

The non-profit organization, **Jazz Arts Project** is proud to have been chosen as an intermediary regranting agency for the **New Jersey Arts & Culture Renewal Fund at the Princeton Area Community Foundation (NJACRF-PACF)** phase III grants for individuals. The fund was created to provide direct relief to sector workers who were most vulnerable to the disruptions and the lingering economic setbacks brought on by the pandemic.

Jazz Arts Project will distribute mini relief grants of up to \$1000 to musicians and teaching artists and will provide a limited number of emergency grants of up to \$5000 to those in most need due to catastrophic or dire circumstances. Applicants must be a resident of the state of New Jersey, at least 21 years of age and must not have been enrolled in a college or university as a student during the years 2021 or 2022. Professional musicians and/or music teaching artists are eligible to receive this grant from Jazz Arts Project. More information and a link to the application is currently available on the Jazz Arts Project web site: www.JazzArtsProject.org/grants. This fund is limited and will only be available for a short period of time. **The deadline to submit contact information and a letter of intent to apply is Monday April 25 .**

Jazz Arts Project is an organization which has been closely associated with musicians and teaching artists for more than 16 years as a presenter of live music, as an employer, as champions of their work, and as supporters in general. We know first hand, the value to our culture and to our communities and we know the struggles encountered especially during the pandemic of the past few years. Jazz Arts Artistic Director Joe Muccioli said *"The arts and culture sector overall, and especially our musicians and teaching artists, have been hit quite hard over the past few years. The pandemic has led to so many catastrophic and life changing challenges for families and all individuals who count on performing and teaching music in order to make a living. Hopefully these awards will bring at least some relief and help us to transition back to normal."* By awarding *Emergency and Relief Funds* directly to musicians and teaching artists who reside in the state of New Jersey, Jazz Arts Project will continue an adjacent and parallel endeavor to its mission as an advocate for the arts in our communities.

The New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund was created by a coalition of public and private funders to ensure the survival and strength of the state's arts and cultural sector facing economic devastation from the COVID-19 pandemic. Grants through the NJACRF aim to catalyze an equitable statewide recovery and build cultural sector resilience with a special focus on smaller more vulnerable nonprofits hardest hit by sector disruptions. NJACRF is committed to an equity-centered grantmaking process to ensure that the funds support the organizations across the entire state, prioritizing those that operate in underserved communities. The fund was established with a lead gift from the Grunin Foundation and is hosted by the Princeton Area Community Foundation. Chaired by representatives from the Grunin Foundation and the Victoria Foundation, coalition leadership includes the Grunin Foundation, Prudential Foundation, Stone Foundation of NJ, EJ Grassmann Trust, Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, NJ State Council on the Arts, NJ Historical Commission, and specialists in statewide cultural philanthropy.

For further information:

www.NJArtsCulture.org

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