



For Immediate Release

6/20/2024

Contact: Roxanne Amidon

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Boardman Arts Park: \$1M Awarded from the State of Ohio!
Boardman Arts Park, Where Community and Creativity Meet

Boardman Arts Park has BIG news to share: the Park is thrilled to announce they have been awarded \$1,000,000 from the State of Ohio!

In a press release dated June 12, 2024, State Senator Andrew Brenner (R-Delaware) “announced the investment of millions of dollars from the One-Time Strategic Community Investment Fund (OTSCIF) to fund meaningful projects that will benefit our local communities and residents for years to come.”

Boardman Arts Park was awarded \$1,000,000 to create the “Whimsy Venue”. “The funding for these projects came from the unique, one-time fund established under the state's current operating budget, House Bill 33, passed by the Ohio General Assembly in June of 2023,” the press release stated.

Boardman Arts Park has held big aspirations to make the Whimsy Venue a reality, and the state's \$1M funding is a major first step to making this dream come true! These funds will go towards completing Phase 1 of the venue, which includes an iconic art-forward large stage designed by Tony Ball with Tork Collaborative Arts, enhanced grounds (including wrought iron fence), and mosaic entrance off William Street.

This award would not have been possible without all Boardman Arts Park’s supporters who wrote letters and advocated for the Park to make this first large step a reality: Senator Andrew Brenner, House Representative Brian Lorenz, County Commissioners, City Manager, City Parks & Recreation, Central Ohio Symphony, Convention & Visitors Bureau, Delaware Area Chamber of Commerce, Ohio Wesleyan University, Arena Fair Theatre, and local band Vinntage.



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Boardman Arts Park is continuing to fundraise to close the gap on Phase 1 of the Whimsy Venue -they are 93% of the way there! Businesses and individuals interested in helping with the funding efforts can fill out a Support Inquiry at BoardmanArtsPark.org. All are encouraged to visit Boardman Arts Park's website for additional details on the Whimsy Venue and this remarkable award from the State of Ohio!

The Arts Park began in 2017 as a volunteer organized effort to reclaim an unused green space and now has transformed into an outdoor art exhibit and event venue bringing the arts, community and new visitors into the City of Delaware. The 2.2 acre green space is filled with unique art pieces, walking paths, and benches. Annual events are held including the Delaware County Beer & Wine Festival, CREATE! Event and Ghost Walk; as well as art and yoga classes, concerts and socials. The Park is a 501c3 non profit organization.