



For Immediate Release
12/16/2020
The Boardman Arts Park
Contact: Roxanne Amidon
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**Boardman Arts Park Receives “A Community Thrives” Grant
From USA TODAY NETWORK and The Gannett Foundation**

The Boardman Arts Park is excited to share that they have received a \$5,000 grant toward The Imagination Project.

In October 2020, the Boardman Arts Park launched The Imagination Project Campaign, with the vision of converting the Park’s aging basketball courts into a lush green space with fun, interactive and whimsical art pieces throughout. “A Community Thrives”, a nationwide grant making and crowdsourcing initiative through the USA TODAY network, awarded The Boardman Arts Park a special opportunity to compete for merit grants totaling over \$125,000. In order for the Park to be considered, they had to fundraise through the crowdfunding campaign, A Community Thrives Challenge, and raise a minimum of \$3,000. The Boardman Arts Park was overwhelmed with support from the larger Delaware and Columbus communities; the crowdsourced fundraiser resulted in \$10,450.00 in donations, with \$3,000 coming from the Delaware Fraternal Order of Eagles.

\$5,000 was awarded to the Boardman Arts Park by the A Community Thrives Program. This grant will help fund the vision that is The Imagination Project. This new space in the Park will feature raised flowerbeds with seating walls, trees, lighting, a water feature, benches, and a unique children’s play area.

Roxanne Amidon, Director of the Boardman Arts Park, speaks on behalf of the Park and their gratitude for the community’s support: “Everyone’s response has been beyond all expectations. We never thought that this little park would be so meaningful to so many. Our community has really come together to launch the first phase of this dream and provide a significant step to bring the full project to fruition. With these initial contributions we are now able to kick off the Imagination Project in the spring of 2021.”

A Community Thrives supports non-profit organizations with projects focused on community building and has helped to contribute more than \$12 million since 2017. This year, *A Community Thrives* engaged participants in 45 states.

“We are proud of the work the Boardman Arts Park has done to enhance Delaware. At Gannett, we take pride in supporting the organizations that make a positive impact in their communities. Through *A Community Thrives*, we lend financial support to that purpose as well as rally the whole community to champion a good and meaningful cause,” said CEO and Chairman Mike Reed.



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To learn more about The Imagination Park and stay updated on the campaign's progress, visit www.theboardmanartspark.org and follow them on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/boardmanartspark> and Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/boardmanartspark>.

The Boardman Arts Park is located at 154 W William St, Delaware, OH 43015.

About A Community Thrives

A Community Thrives is a grantmaking and crowd-funding program from the USA TODAY NETWORK and is part of the Gannett Foundation. A Community Thrives supports non-profit organizations with projects focused on community building and has helped to contribute more than \$12 million since 2017.

About USA TODAY NETWORK

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