



## **LOUISVILLE ARTISTS and ART ADVOCATES RECEIVE RENT GRANT FROM FUND FOR THE ARTS AFTER CREATING NEW COLLECTIVE FOR CREATIVES OF COLOR**

As of October 1st, a new arts initiative, The Creatives of Color Collective will launch in Downtown Louisville! C3 is an arts incubator where BIPOC unite through the diversity of their disciplines including, Literary, Performing, Visual and Culinary Arts. C3 is committed to being a safe space and inclusive community offering enrichment and holistic development through master classes, pre-professional training courses, art exhibitions/installations and career development opportunities for local and national artists. Daily, weekly and monthly memberships will be offered at low costs.

Local artists Rheonna Nicole and Alonzo Ramont conceived the idea and went to veteran visual artist Ashley Cathey of ACathey Art who'd been looking to create similar organization and theatre artist Morgan Younge to establish a founding team with over 60 years of experience between them. The team began developing the concept at the start of 2020 after having conversations with local artists about their needs. Some of the most pressing needs amongst BIPOC artists in Louisville were a lack of affordable work/performance spaces, immersive educational opportunities and support in becoming self sustaining creatives. Rheonna's Lipstick Wars Poetry and Alonzo's Redline Performing Arts will also share the space. The four artists will lead the organization and seek to bridge the gap between novice and distinguished artists, creating a safe space for creatives of every background and experience level. Spaces will be available for artists to work, create and perform.

C3 is grateful to receive the rent grant from Fund for the Arts after speaking at an event hosted by The Global Economic Diversity Development Initiative (GEDDI). The new organization will open its doors at 323 W. Broadway in Louisville at ArtSpace as a temporary home (as a sale of the building is pending). The Collective will continue the search for a permanent home. *Of the partnership, Kat Abner, the Fund's Vice President of Community Impact said, "The Fund for the Arts has a longtime, strategic commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and recently launched the Arts & Race Equity Task Force to help guide us in advancing that commitment and work. Last month, the Task Force, led by Victoria Russell and Hannah Drake, held listening sessions with Black artists to learn about their needs, experiences, and ideas for building a more equitable and inclusive arts sector. We heard from many Black artists that one of their greatest needs is space – to convene, to create, to share their work. We are proud to partner with C3 and provide them with space at ArtSpace where they can hold meetings, educational programs, and exhibits and performances. We are inspired by Alonzo, Rheonna, Ashley, and Morgan's work and leadership and are excited to see what they and their fellow artists create. JP Davis, Senior Vice President said "I'm inspired by the artistic leadership in the Creatives of Color Collective. Their leadership & network can be felt throughout Louisville and I'm excited The Fund for the Arts can support their impactful work."*

The Creatives of Color Collective is currently seeking funding, sponsorships for programs and donations of technology, including computers, cameras, art supplies and furniture for it's new home!

A collective For Artists By Artists.

For more information including programs and services or to donate, contact:  
[info@creativesofcolorcollective.org](mailto:info@creativesofcolorcollective.org)