



Monroe County Legislature

ERNEST FLAGLER-MITCHELL

Black and Asian Democratic Caucus Leader – District 29

VINCENT R. FELDER

Minority Leader – District 22

FRANK KEOPHETLASY

Legislator – District 28

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County Legislators Announce Emergency Grant to Support Arts Organizations in Monroe County

ROCHESTER, NY – Today Monroe County Legislators Ernest Flagler-Mitchell, Vincent R. Felder, and Frank Keophetlasy held a press conference to introduce legislation that will provide financial relief to not-for-profit fine arts organizations that have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. At the press conference, they described the importance of these organizations and where the money will be going.

"I am proud to submit this legislation that will begin to address the longstanding inadequacy and inequity in funding for the arts community in Monroe County and look forward to working collaboratively to find a long-term solution to this problem," said Minority Leader **Vince Felder**.

"We will continue to work on behalf of our districts to ensure that they have access to County dollars and services," said Black and Asian Democratic Caucus Leader **Ernest Flagler-Mitchell**.

"It's a really good sign that a grassroots Black-led organization like the Avenue Blackbox is being recognized for support by these three Legislators as the region pushes forward to get back on our feet," said **Reenah Golden**, Founder and managing Artistic Director of the Avenue Blackbox Theatre. *"We're small but we're strong and our impact has been felt deeply throughout our city and county with socially-impactful programming from plays to live music performances featuring creatives and content traditionally marginalized. We're grateful that is being recognized!"*

The President of the Legislature has deemed it a Matter of Urgency and it will be considered at tomorrow night's meeting of the Full Legislature at 6pm in the Legislative Chambers.

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