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Media Contact • Jill E. Dunne • Director of Marketing and Communications
513-639-2954 • media@cincyart.org
953 Eden Park Drive | Cincinnati, Ohio | 45202 | cincinnatiartmuseum.org

IMLS: Brittany Vanderpool, bvanderpool@vancomm.com, 202-248-5487

***Images Available Upon Request**

Cincinnati Art Museum Named Finalist for 2021 IMLS National Medal for Museum and Library Service

CINCINNATI— The Institute of Museum and Library Services announced today that the Cincinnati Art Museum is among 30 finalists for the 2021 National Medal for Museum and Library Service. Cincinnati Art Museum is one of three institutions in Ohio to be selected as a finalist for this award.

“At a time when healing and wellness are integral to every community’s civic agenda, museums are more essential than ever,” said Cameron Kitchin, Cincinnati Art Museum’s Louis and Louise Dieterle Nippert Director. “We are pleased to learn that our art museum’s collaborations, partnerships and innovations have been recognized as central to Cincinnati’s resilience and recovery. The power of art and artists brings much-needed inspiration and connection when we need it most.”

The National Medal is the nation’s highest honor given to museums and libraries that demonstrate significant impact in their communities. For more than 25 years, the award has honored institutions that demonstrate excellence in service to their communities.

“The revival and reinstitution of the National Medals by IMLS is another signal of recovery and renewal in the nation’s very challenging—but very hopeful—times,” said IMLS Director Crosby Kemper. “We are celebrating not only the ongoing excellence of the best of our museums and libraries, but their extraordinary efforts through the pandemic, the recession, the racial justice protests, and national divisions to serve, heal, and bring together our communities. Congratulations to all 30 finalists.”

To celebrate this honor, IMLS is encouraging Cincinnati Art Museum’s community members to share stories, memories, pictures, and videos on social media as part of the Share Your Story campaign, using the #IMLSmedals hashtag, and engage with IMLS on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/IMLS) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/IMLS). For more information, please visit the [IMLS website](https://www.ims.gov).

National Medal winners will be announced in late spring. Representatives from winning institutions will be honored for their extraordinary contributions during a virtual National Medal Ceremony this summer.

To see the full list of finalists and learn more about the National Medal, visit the [IMLS website](https://www.ims.gov).

About the Institute of Museum and Library Services

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's libraries and museums. We advance, support, and empower America’s museums, libraries, and related organizations through grantmaking, research, and policy development. Our vision is a nation where museums and libraries work together to transform the lives of individuals and communities. To learn more, visit www.ims.gov and follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/IMLS) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/IMLS).

About the Cincinnati Art Museum

The Cincinnati Art Museum is supported by the generosity of individuals and businesses that give annually to ArtsWave. The Ohio Arts Council helps fund the Cincinnati Art Museum with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. The Cincinnati Art Museum gratefully acknowledges operating support from the City of Cincinnati, as well as our members. Free general admission to the Cincinnati Art Museum is made possible by a gift from the Rosenthal Family Foundation. Special exhibition pricing may vary. Parking at the Cincinnati Art Museum is free. Visit cincinnatiartmuseum.org for more information.

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