

Dear Cultural Supporter:

Wow. I am in awe of the generosity and philanthropic spirit of our community in the face of COVID-19. The *Collaborative Campaign for the Arts* ended on April 30, raising nearly \$3.2 million in support of the region's 15 cornerstone arts, science and history organizations. Your gifts to the campaign provided vital cash flow for our arts community while they were dark during the pandemic and helped achieve a collective fundraising goal of \$2.7 million, raising 18 percent over goal and unlocking an unprecedented \$500,000 Challenge Grant provided by Orange County.



MACBETH STUDIO

The *Collaborative Campaign* is an enormous effort and I would be remiss if I did not thank each of our campaign partners for their enthusiasm for and dedication to the campaign. Each year they come together to raise dollars and awareness for not only themselves, but also for each other. While the first round of applause is always for our donors, the second must go to the staff and leadership of our arts community

for their commitment to the collective success of the campaign and our arts community.

Arts and culture are a vital part of what makes Central Florida unique. Not a day went by during the stay-at-home order when I did not engage in a cultural offering brought to me due to the ingenuity of our cultural partners. When I couldn't get to them, our cultural organizations found a way to come to me. Whether live streaming performances from living rooms to teaching ballet classes to eager students from kitchens and bedrooms, the arts will find a way, and we will be the better for it — in no small part because of the diversity of our community as a whole. All of this contributes to that uniqueness, and to our success.

I cannot thank you enough for your generosity and support. Central Florida's vibrant arts community would not be possible without you.

Sincerely,

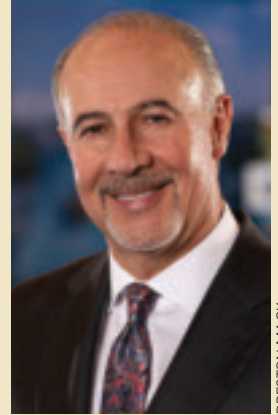


S. Brendan Lynch
Board of Directors, Chair
United Arts of Central Florida

A MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLISHER

A Virtual Success

As co-chair of the Orange County Economic Recovery Task Force, I have been fortunate to work together with 50 participating organizations that represent a diverse cross-section of our community and seen firsthand how our region is navigating this challenging time.



PRESTON MACK

Our businesses have been thoughtful and measured in their commitment to safety, yet still stayed creatively connected to our residents. Many of Central Florida's arts and culture organizations have adapted their offerings to keep our community engaged, even as their own doors have been shuttered, and also repurposed their talent and facilities to help those on the frontlines.

There is no doubt the arts play a critical role in "normal" times, and now they have emerged as a strong community partner during times of adversity as well. They have launched virtual programming to entertain, educate and inspire those who could not venture out of their homes, and they have used their talents to supply healthcare workers with protective equipment. In this issue, I hope you'll enjoy reading about some of these heart-warming efforts.

We all eagerly anticipate the reopening of our theaters, museums and event venues so we can, once again, enjoy arts and cultural programming live and in person. In the meantime, I know that the many Central Floridians who have participated in these virtual offerings are grateful for the brief respite these artists have given us as they help lift our spirits and unite us in new ways during this challenging time. I know I am. **OAM**

Continue to be safe and healthy,



George Aguel
President & CEO, Visit Orlando
Publisher, *Orlando Arts Magazine*