



# MARYLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS

August 3, 2020

Re: 2020 Dancing for the Arts Gala Cancellation

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we've all been working to navigate these strange times, our team has been evaluating how we can safely hold our annual Dancing for the Arts Gala. As the state of the Coronavirus seems to change each day with cases now increasing again, we have made the extremely difficult decision to cancel the October 22 gala. Your health, the health of your supporters, volunteers, staff, and our entire community is most important.

While the gala is cancelled, we still want to celebrate your hard work in both fundraising and practicing. We are planning a creative way to honor your support and give awards to the top fundraisers, so stay tuned.

As you know, this event fuels our annual operating budget. Because of this, we hope that your supporters and sponsors keep their commitment to support the important work we do as we get closer to breaking ground on the Maryland Center for the Arts. This support is vital to keep our efforts moving forward. We are developing a plan to recognize everyone's investment in this event.

Because of your generous support over the past several months, we have been able to continue our operations, partnerships to provide arts programming around the region, our Harford Plein Air outdoor painting festival, and our capital project to provide the community with an arts center for performances, art exhibits, and educational programs in the arts.

“While the Coronavirus pandemic has caused the cancellation of such an important and truly entertaining fundraising gala event, the arts continue to be vital to our communities. We need to continue to support the arts through these unprecedented times so that when it is safe we will again join together for dancing, concerts of all kinds, art exhibits, and all other forms of art that can transform communities,” said Gala Honorary Chair, Yumi Hogan, First Lady of Maryland.

Your commitment to our work is more important than ever. We are incredibly grateful for your support. Please let us know if you have any questions and we'll be in touch soon with more details on how we'll be honoring your hard work, awards recognition, and the plans to recognize everyone's investment. We welcome your feedback. If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Pugh, Director of Operations, [apugh@mdcfa.org](mailto:apugh@mdcfa.org) or 443-567-5216.

We're all in this together. Stay safe and healthy!

Sincerely,

Tobias Musser, MCA Board President

Dr. Mary Teddy Wray, Dancing for the Arts Gala Co-Chair and MCA Board Vice-President

Carolyn W. Evans, Esq., Dancing for the Arts Gala Co-Chair and MCA Board Member

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