

JOHN J. TECKLENBURG MAYOR SCOTT WATSON DIRECTOR

## OFFICE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

For Immediate Release June 20, 2017

\$20,000 Art Works Grant awarded to City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs

**Charleston, S.C.** – The City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs recently received a \$20,000 Art Works award from the National Endowment for the Arts in the NEA's second major funding announcement for fiscal year 2017. The grant will assist in planning and implementing a year-long arts marketing and advocacy campaign.

Key elements of the funded campaign for the City of Charleston will include a comprehensive platform of digital tools including a centralized arts calendar/mobile app, mapping technology, social media channels, and streaming and downloadable content. These online resources will be supplemented with audience engagement efforts at major arts events and public gatherings, online audience survey and feedback tools, and the release of findings related to the impact of arts and culture on the local economy.

Established by Congress in 1965, the NEA is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the NEA supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America. For more information on projects included in the NEA grant announcement, go to arts.gov.

Established in 1977, the **City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs** (OCA) is committed to promoting and fostering excellence through artistic expression, thereby enhancing the quality of life for all of Charleston's citizens regardless of social, economic, or physical considerations. The OCA strives to provide access to the arts for all citizens and plays an important role in producing and/or supporting programs that educate, inform, and inspire through a wide variety of cultural activities that celebrate creativity and diversity, contribute to the area's economic development, and underscore Charleston's reputation as an international cultural destination. For more information about the projects and programs of the OCA, visit charlestonarts.org.

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Kelly Walker, Public Relations Coordinator

Phone: (843) 724-3705

Email: walkerk@charleston-sc.gov