MORE “WE CAN BE”

The Heinz Endowments’ recent, “We Can Be,” continues to address important issues of the day with some of the most accomplished and caring individuals in the social-change arena. Hosted by Endowments President Grant Oliphant, the first half of the second season included 10 short discussions covering topics such as environmental justice, arts activism, the dangers of loan sharking, and the mass shootings at Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh and Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. In addition to local leaders and activists, guests included Parkland students Adam Halsey and Alyssa Fitchett, and Yafine Fulito, the mother of Trayvon Martin, who was shot to death in 2012 by a neighborhood watch coordinator in Sanford, Florida.

Season 2 of “We Can Be” will resume in September with new compelling guests and conversations. The podcast can be found at www.heine. org/visual or by visiting iTunes, Podbean, Google Play, Stitcher or other major podcast sites.

JOINT ARTS AWARDS

Two regional arts programs, jointly sponsored by the Endowments and The Pittsburgh Foundation, have distributed awards that together amounted to more than half a million dollars in arts grantmaking during the first half of this year. Advancing Black Arts in Pittsburgh gave grants totaling over $475,000 to support 51 individual and institutional projects and to help nine organizations with operating costs this year. Since the program’s inception in 2010, it has awarded $5.2 million to support “excellence in performing and producing artistic work in the black experience.”

As part of the Investing in Professional Artists initiative, 15 local artists and organizations received grants totaling $161,000. Since 2011, 133 artists and organizations have received about $2 million through the program, which is designed to support creative development for professional artists, create career advancement and recognition opportunities for artists, encourage creative partnerships among artists and local organizations, and increase the visibility of working artists.

FEATURE: IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS

The final installment of our magazine neighborhood series looks at Hazelwood. Similar to the other Pittsburgh communities in our series, Hazelwood is undergoing revitalization that includes residents, artists, entrepreneurs and foundations, including The Heinz Endowments. Unique to Hazelwood is the 178-acre, foundation-owned brownfield that has the potential to be a model for sustainable economic development. But part of the work involves connecting the site carefully and intentionally to the rest of the neighborhood to make sure residents share in its benefits.

The Heinz Endowments was formed from the Hazelwood Endowment, established in 1945, and the 1947 Heinz Endowment, established in 1946. It is a product of a deep family commitment to community and the common good that began with H. J. Heinz, and that continues to this day.

The Endowments is based in Pittsburgh, where we see our region as a laboratory for the development of solutions to challenges that are national in scope. Although the majority of our giving is concentrated in southwestern Pennsylvania, we work wherever necessary, including statewide and nationally, to fulfill our mission.

The mission is to help our region become a just and equitable community in which all its citizens thrive economically, educationally, nutritionally, socially and culturally. We also seek to advance knowledge and practice in the field of philanthropy through strategies that focus on our priorities of Creativity, learning and Sustainability.

In life, we believe that H. J. Heinz had high expectations for the philanthropists. Today, the Endowments is committed more than the same. Our charge is to be diligent, thoughtful and creative, and ethically driven, to set new standards of philanthropic excellence. Recognizing that some of our work will provide a platform for others to build on, we are also committed to preserving and enhancing the Endowments’ assets through prudent investment management.

In magazine, a publication of the Heinz Endowments, all Endowments are committed to promoting learning in philanthropy and in the specific fields represented by our grantmaking programs. As an expression of that commitment, this publication is intended to share information about significant lessons and insights we are deriving from our work.

Editorial team: Andrea Brown, John Okafor, Donna Evans Sebastian, Cameron Lee, Grant Oliphant, Sarah Holler, Courtney Silver, Design: Ladeling Design.

About the cover: Revitalization in Hazelwood includes a number of people and organizations that participate in different aspects of the work. Sean Cuffe Hill and the Meadow Street Neighborhood Association are part of the Grounded Strategies team that helped to build “Green Play,” a playground gathering area on property formerly housing the Allegheny Baptist Church in Hazelwood. Grounded Strategies is a community-improvement nonprofit that focuses on greener projects. Photo by Dan Macloz.
BRIDGING THE GAP
Revitalization efforts in Hazelwood are reshaping remnants of the neighborhood’s industrial past by bringing together residents, foundations and other groups to build a more sustainable future.

THE HOUSING QUESTION(S)
As Hazelwood redevelopment advances, foundations and other investors are trying to ease the concerns of those wondering if current residents will be priced out of their homes.

MISSION MINDED
The Mission Continues offers veterans the opportunity to channel their commitment to service into communities like Hazelwood that could use their support while offering the vets new purpose.

ERASING DIVIDING LINES
With new development springing up in Hazelwood, especially on an expansive former steel mill site, efforts also are underway to preserve and enhance community unity.

ART & SOUL
More than just improving Hazelwood’s appearance, art and artistic design projects are helping to boost the neighborhood’s growth and its residents’ community pride.

MINI GRANTS, BIG RESULTS
As part of a Heinz Endowments mini-grant program in Hazelwood, small investments are going a long way in having an impact on the neighborhood.

HEALTHY FUTURES
Community development in Hazelwood includes addressing environmental issues to help make the neighborhood and the residents themselves healthier.

MAKING THE GRADE
Propel Hazelwood Charter School fills a void left by the closing of three schools in the community over the past two decades, but it must overcome challenges on the road to success.

HELPLINE TO HEALING
#MeTooPA launched this year as both a hotline and a lifeline to survivors of sexual assault and harassment.

HERE & THERE