

ARTISTS' ACHIEVEMENTS

The 2024 Carol R. Brown Creative Achievement Award recipients are fiber artist Tina Williams and director, playwright and performer Adil Mansoor. Each is receiving \$50,000 in unrestricted funds in recognition of their exemplary artistic achievements and the promise of their future creative work. Ms. Williams has been named as this year's Established Artist, and Mr. Mansoor has been selected as Emerging Artist. The two annual awards honor former Pittsburgh Cultural Trust president and CEO — and retired Endowments board member — Carol R. Brown and her tireless dedication to the region's creative scene. The awards are presented through a partnership between the Endowments and The Pittsburgh Foundation. Go to heinz.org to watch celebratory videos for each of this year's awardees.



Emmat Alaquiva



Joshua Franzos



SUPPORTING LOCAL YOUTH

Brandi Fisher, CEO of Rise Up 365, speaks at the J. Miles Youth Engagement Center, which Rise Up operates in Downtown Pittsburgh. The center, which celebrated its grand opening in February, provides resources and recreational activities to youth and young adults ages 15 to 25. It offers a wide range of support, including a free store with clothes and hygiene products, a recording studio, homework area and a social worker. The Heinz Endowments is among the funders.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

This year marks milestone anniversaries for three Heinz Endowments grantees. Two organizations — Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future, also known as PennFuture, and Riverlife — are celebrating 25 years of groundbreaking work. PennFuture is committed to legislative advocacy that protects the environment and supports Pennsylvania residents in addressing environmental issues through legal, policy, education and communications strategies. Riverlife has been working with community leaders and residents to enhance and redevelop Pittsburgh's riverfronts. For 10 years, BOOM Concepts has provided spaces and opportunities for artists and creative entrepreneurs representing marginalized communities to express themselves and promote their work.



RECOGNITION TIME

Spring was media awards season, and freelance writers for h magazine took home top honors. Cristina Rouvalis won first place in the education magazine writing category of the Press Club of Western Pennsylvania's 60th annual Golden Quills journalism competition for her 2023 h article "Voices Against Hate." The story examined how the Eradicate Hate Global Summit, established after the 2018 Tree of Life synagogue mass shooting in Pittsburgh, inspired a group of suburban Pittsburgh teens to create an anti-hate club at their high school and how the club, in turn, inspired summit organizers to add youth programming to their conference. Golden Quill awards recognize exceptional professional and student work in written, photographic, design, broadcast, audio, video and digital journalism in Western Pennsylvania and nearby counties in Ohio and West Virginia.



Rob Taylor's 2023 h magazine story "Path to the Top" earned first place for business, consumer and technology writing in the Pittsburgh Black Media Federation's 35th Robert L. Vann Media Awards Competition. The article explained how the Pittsburgh-based Executive Leadership Academy's program helps Black professionals gain executive corporate positions and has expanded into a national initiative. The awards contest honors the commitment of the late Robert L. Vann, legendary publisher of the Pittsburgh Courier, to journalism and to creating a voice for the Black community. Proceeds from the Vann Media Awards help fund college scholarships, professional development programs, international reporting fellowships and other initiatives.



WELCOMED GIFTS

Several Heinz Endowments grantees were among the more than 360 nonprofits to receive major contributions from billionaire philanthropist MacKenzie Scott as part of the \$640 million she donated in March. The Hazelwood Initiative received \$2 million from Ms. Scott in recognition of its work to provide affordable housing, revitalize the business district, achieve environmental goals and increase community engagement in the Pittsburgh neighborhood. Also receiving \$2 million was the Hugh Lane Wellness Foundation, which promotes health and wellness among LGBTQ+ and HIV communities. Catapult Greater Pittsburgh, a nonprofit that assists and advocates for disenfranchised communities to help them achieve economic justice and an equitable quality of life, was awarded \$1 million. Ms. Scott donated \$1 million to the Education Law Center-PA, which has offices in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.

"WE CAN BE" NEW PODCAST SEASON

Beginning this summer, The Heinz Endowments' "We Can Be" podcast, hosted by Endowments President Chris DeCardy, welcomes fascinating, personable and informed guests for the first half of its fifth season. Jennifer Flanagan, right, founder and executive director for Community Kitchen Pittsburgh, dives into how her organization's thoughtful workforce development programs use food as a foundation to change lives and strengthen communities, while climate justice organizer and Heinz Award for the Environment honoree Colette Pichon Battle shares her work to advance human rights for Black and Indigenous communities on the front line of the struggle against climate change. Other new episodes give voice to experts in the fields of maternal and infant health, art representation, food equity and environmental science. Use search term "Heinz We Can Be" to find new episodes on all major podcasting and music platforms.



Joshua Franzos

CIVIC LEADER RECOGNITION

Carmen Anderson, the Endowments' vice president of Equity & Learning, was awarded the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh's Civic Leader Award earlier this year. She was among four honorees recognized at the annual Ronald H. Brown Leadership Awards Gala. The event celebrates individuals, organizations or corporations in the Pittsburgh region who are deemed as



leaders in improving the quality of life for African Americans. Mr. Brown was the first African American to serve as the U.S. secretary of commerce and as chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

NEW ADDITION

Earlier this year, Jasmin DeForrest was named managing director of The Heinz Endowments' Creativity Strategic Area. She previously served as senior director for Arts and Culture at the Detroit-based Gilbert Family Foundation, where she had worked for eight-and-a-half years.



At the Gilbert Family Foundation, Ms. DeForrest led a strategy that increased access to arts and culture programming, with a particular focus on equity, diversity and innovation. She also served as community sponsorships director for the Rocket Community Fund, the sister organization to the Gilbert Family Foundation, and special events director at The Parade Company, which presents and promotes America's Thanksgiving Parade in Detroit.

Endowments President Chris DeCardy said in a statement that Ms. DeForrest's skills and experience are an excellent fit for leading the role the Endowments seeks to play in addressing opportunities and challenges before the region's visual and performing arts community today.



A LEADERSHIP LOSS

Jared Cohon, Heinz Endowments board member and former president of Carnegie Mellon University, passed away on March 16. Dr. Cohon was an academic and civic leader known in Pittsburgh and beyond for his brilliance, humility and integrity.

As president of Carnegie Mellon University, he initiated policy and program advances that led to major growth of the tech sector regionally and the expansion of the university's degree programs internationally. During his tenure, from 1997 to 2013, Carnegie Mellon grew from a single campus in the city's Oakland neighborhood to a university with campuses in Silicon Valley and Qatar and 16 degree programs in 14 countries. Carnegie Mellon changed its technology transfer policy to make it easier for faculty members

to create companies. In addition, the university built the Robert Mehrabian Collaborative Innovation Center, where major tech companies such as Google and Apple housed offices until they expanded to other parts of the city.

Dr. Cohon also was an expert on environmental issues, particularly water resource systems and nuclear waste management. He was involved with national energy organizations and with local arts and civic groups, and he had a passion for innovation and leadership education.

In 2013, the year of his retirement, Dr. Cohon joined the Endowments board. His many contributions to the board included serving as chair of the

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crucial finance committee. In a statement following news of Dr. Cohon's passing, Endowments Chairman André Heinz said, "His focus on improving the lives of residents in the community and his wealth of knowledge on a range of issues were vital to the direction our board has taken on foundation programs and initiatives.

"We will miss his thoughtful analyses and the selfless, generous spirit that benefited us all."