

IT'S A WRAP

The Heinz Endowments' podcast, "We Can Be," completed its second season with host and Heinz Endowments President Grant Oliphant engaging local and national authors, activists and thought leaders in lively discussions about advancing social change. Kicking off the final half of the season was a two-part conversation with celebrated academic Dr. Cornel West and journalist and political analyst Bakari Kitwana.

That episode was followed by interviews with local community leaders such as Emmy-winning composer and hip-hop mentoring organization founder Emmi Alaquiva, and war correspondent and Postindustrial Media co-founder Carmen Gentile. Other nationally recognized podcast guests included Phil Buchanan, founder and president of The Center for Effective Philanthropy, and civil rights activist and community organizer DeRay Mckesson.

The podcast can be found at www.heinz.org/podcast or by visiting iTunes, Podbean, Google Play, Stitcher or other major podcast sites.



STAFF KUDOS

Endowments Equity and Social Justice Director Carmen Anderson was honored this fall at the Mount Ararat Community Activity Center's 21st Annual Community Recognition Celebration as one of this year's Women Creating Change. Ms. Anderson and four other women were commended for their contributions to helping to improve the lives of families in the Pittsburgh region.



Ricardo Iamuuri Robinson

A VETERAN ARTIST

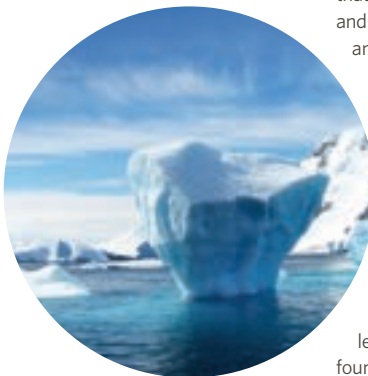
Ricardo Iamuuri Robinson has been chosen as the artist in residence with The Heinz Endowments-supported RethinkVets coalition, a network of organizations that serve veterans in southwestern Pennsylvania. Pittsburgh's Office of Public Art and RethinkVets selected Mr. Robinson as part of a two-year initiative in which he and members of the post-9/11 veteran community will collaborate to develop a creative project that challenges misconceptions about veterans. Mr. Robinson is a composer, sound recordist, and audiovisual artist whose work explores the ancestry of sound emerging from objects and space.

CONFERENCE, CALLS

The Heinz Endowments sponsored two significant gatherings this fall that had compelling implications for residents of the Pittsburgh region and attracted national leaders in their fields. On Oct. 30, the Endowments and the nonprofit Sustainable Pittsburgh co-sponsored the Climate Action Summit at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. The invitation-only conference drew more than 450 people, including scientists, activists, and community and business leaders.

Several speakers challenged the audience to seriously consider the effects and implications of climate change and to take action in helping to stem the deterioration of the planet.

The Endowments joined the FISA Foundation to co-host the forum "Disability Inclusion & Access: Moving Forward," which was held at the Senator John Heinz History Center on Nov. 21. The event provided an opportunity for foundation grantees, community leaders and other funders to explore the variety of ways in which foundations and nonprofits can be more inclusive of people with disabilities. Among the regional and national leaders who participated was Darren Walker, president of the Ford Foundation, which is working extensively on disability issues in both its grantmaking and its organizational practice.



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CHILD SUPPORT

A 26-member working group tasked with designing the operation of a possible children's fund in Allegheny County has recommended the creation of a new county department dedicated to children and an annual investment of up to \$20 million to support high-quality learning and out-of-school-time programs in the region. Co-chaired by Heinz Endowments Learning Vice President Michelle Figlar and Trisha Gadson, CEO of the nonprofit Macedonia FACE, the committee held a series of public meetings and focus groups and conducted a public survey. Among the findings were the existence of significant gaps in equitable access to programs and a need for livable salaries for early learning teachers. Funding for the committee's recommendations remains a question, especially since a proposed Children's Fund that would have relied on a property tax increase was rejected last year by Allegheny County voters.



HAZELWOOD GREEN UPDATE

More pieces are falling into place in the evolution of Hazelwood Green, the 178-acre former steel mill site that is being transformed into a sustainable riverfront development. Mill 19, one of the site's most prominent structures, had its grand opening in September. The multipurpose facility is housed within the skeletal remains of a steel mill building, and its first two floors are completed and occupied.

Mill 19 is home to Advanced Robotics for Manufacturing, or ARM, which also celebrated the formal opening of its new headquarters in the building in September. Joining ARM in the completed portion of the facility is Carnegie Mellon University's Manufacturing Futures Initiative.

Also moving forward is development of the \$5.7 million Plaza at Hazelwood Green. Construction of the site's first outdoor public space is underway, with the first phase including the Lower Lawn. As part of the second phase, the Central Plaza, Upper Lawns, and a water feature are expected to be completed in mid-2020. The Plaza occupies a rectangular two-acre space south of the Mill 19 building. Hazelwood Green is owned by the Endowments and the Richard King Mellon and Claude Worthington Benedum foundations.



Joshua Franzos

BILLBOARD ARTISTS

Eleven art innovators selected for the Artwork-in-Residence program based on words from the debated community billboard message "There Are Black People in the Future" presented their projects in October. The initiative provided \$1,200 awards to participants who used the text in performances, classroom experiences or other creative ways. Supported by the city's Office of Public Art and funded by The Heinz Endowments, the residencies ranged from music projects to storytelling to self-care initiatives, and are described in more detail at www.thereareblackpeopleinthefuture.com/participants.

As the impetus for the project, the billboard designed last year by artist Alisha Wormsley, above, had the words in white block lettering against a black background. The landlord of the building in Pittsburgh's East Liberty neighborhood where the message had been posted ordered the words to be removed, citing complaints from the community, but other residents objected and made accusations of censorship and racism. The dispute became news locally and nationally, and the landlord later said the message could return. Ms. Wormsley and Jon Rubin, the artist who invited her to display the text as part of his series *The Last Billboard*, chose not to reinstate it. They later proposed the Artwork-in-Residence program.

AND THE AWARD GOES TO...

The final quarter of the year was awards season for The Heinz Endowments. Distribution of honors began with **Advancing Black Arts in Pittsburgh**, which is co-sponsored by the Endowments and The Pittsburgh Foundation. The program awarded this year's second round of grants, totaling \$388,000, to more than two dozen artists and arts organizations.

Also co-sponsored by the Endowments and The Pittsburgh Foundation are the **Carol R. Brown Creative Achievement Awards**, which annually recognize the work and achievements of one Established Artist and one Emerging Artist and come with a \$15,000 grant for each. This year's winners were two Pittsburgh-based writers: Adriana Ramirez, an acclaimed Mexican-Colombian literary artist with a national reputation for slam poetry and nonfiction writing, and Cameron Barnett, an African American poet and educator whose work explores the lives of black people in North America. The awards are named for Carol R. Brown, a Heinz Endowments board member and former president of the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust.

The Endowments provides in-kind support to the **Heinz Awards**, which are sponsored by the Heinz Family Foundation. These honors annually recognize individuals for their achievement in finding solutions to critical issues in five areas that were important to the late Sen. John Heinz: the arts and humanities; the environment; the human condition; public policy; and technology, the economy, and employment. Each honoree receives an unrestricted cash prize of \$250,000.

This year's recipients are Kevin Jerome Everson, an independent filmmaker and visual artist whose films portray the lives and experiences of working-class African Americans; Rue Mapp, founder of Outdoor Afro, a nonprofit that inspires African Americans to connect with the outdoors and to become leaders in conservation advocacy; Sarah Szanton, a nurse researcher and leader of Community Aging in Place — Advancing Better Living for Elders, which provides household services along with nursing and occupational therapy services to improve quality of life and reduce costs for seniors; Amanda Nguyen, founder of the advocacy organization Rise, whose work on behalf of survivors of sexual assault led to passage of the Survivors' Bill of Rights Act of 2016; and Brandon Dennison, founder of Coalfield Development Corp., a group of West Virginia social enterprises that work together to provide on-the-job training, paid college and technical certifications, and life-skills support to local residents while also incubating green new businesses.