



REVIVING TREE OF LIFE

Leadership for the Tree of Life Congregation, which experienced a mass shooting in 2018 that killed 11 people, memorialized in the photograph to the left, has hired the Pittsburgh architectural firm Rothschild Doyno Collaborative to develop a plan for rebuilding the Tree of Life structure. The congregation also has tapped Lipton Strategies of Los Angeles to guide the capital campaign to cover the costs. Grants from the Endowments, the Hillman Foundation and an anonymous national foundation funded the hiring of the consultants.

Decisions on how the building will be used in the future have yet to be finalized, though the vision includes honoring Tree of Life's history and its role in Pittsburgh's Jewish Community. Chatham University and the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh have expressed interest in using space in the building for educational programming, exhibits and other activities, viewing it as a community asset.



Joshua Francos

ROUNDHOUSE REDESIGN

During a tour in October of the 133-year-old railroad roundhouse at Hazelwood Green, shown above, developers described how the facility that once serviced trains transporting steel and steelmaking materials from Pittsburgh to the rest of the world is being transformed into a major technology hub known as the OneValley Innovation Center. It will be another component in the development of Hazelwood Green, the 178-acre former steel mill site owned by the Endowments and the Richard King Mellon and Benedum foundations.

OneValley, a Silicon Valley company that helps technology startups grow, has what it calls innovation centers in San Mateo, California, and Boston, and chose Pittsburgh as its next center location. The Hazelwood Green facility will offer educational programs, workshops and other events to support small businesses. It also will have garden areas and an outdoor space that can be used by Hazelwood residents. The architecture firm GBBN is redesigning the building.

CULTURAL COLLABORATION

The Heinz Endowments has received \$5 million from the New York-based Ford Foundation as part the \$156 million national "America's Cultural Treasures" initiative, which seeks to provide assistance to arts and culture organizations that have been historically marginalized, underfunded and under-represented in the U.S.

The Ford Foundation is distributing a total of \$35 million to 10 regional foundations across the country to help groups, such as the New York City-based Ballet Hispánico, below, that have experienced severe financial distress during the pandemic. The Endowments is matching the \$5 million from Ford with its own \$5 million to make grants to diverse arts organizations in the Pittsburgh region, beginning with Black-led arts and culture organizations. The Endowments also plans to seek support for the initiative from other foundations in the Pittsburgh region to extend the work.



Paula Lobo/Ballet Hispánico

VETERAN FELLOWSHIP

BMe Community, a Black-led network of community leaders that promotes asset-framed investments in local communities, has selected 14 Pittsburgh-area veterans as 2020 Vanguard

Fellows. The fellowship, which is sponsored by the Endowments, is an elite leadership program aimed at shifting the narrative about Black people and pushing for concrete changes in society. The program also is part of BMe's Black L.O.V.E. strategy to go beyond battling injustices to building up Black America based on four emphases:

- **Live** Prioritizing the value of Black lives; heritage; and mental, physical and spiritual health
- **Own** Increasing financial literacy, asset ownership, and creation of generational wealth
- **Vote** Removing barriers to voting, ending corrupt policing, and turning out the Black vote and census participation
- **Excel** Amplifying narratives that make it impossible to ignore Black excellence

The Pittsburgh Vanguard fellows are: Kevin Alton, Monte Banks, Rashad Byrdson, JaQuay Carter, Darnell Clark, Douglas Connor, LaQuala Hammonds, Kelvin Isom II, Sheena Hancock, Saloam Knox, Gordon Manker, Blair Mickles, Terri Williams and Bart Womack.



ARTISTS' CORNER

Arts and Crafts Home

In September, Contemporary Craft opened its new headquarters in a 13,000-square-foot renovated building, right, that formerly was a trophy manufacturing facility in Pittsburgh's Lawrenceville neighborhood. The arts center's new home was designed for LEED — Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design — Silver equivalency and features 2,500 square feet of gallery space; 1,800 square feet for studios that provide flexible areas for classes, workshops, lectures and artist community gatherings; and 1,100 square feet dedicated to a retail shop featuring works by both established and emerging artists. Contemporary Craft relocated from the city's Strip District, which is undergoing redevelopment, and reopened in its new location after a \$5.5 million capital campaign that received early support from The Heinz Endowments and the Eden Hall Foundation.

Artists Awards

This year's Investing in Professional Artists awards, totaling \$170,000, include grants of \$50,000 each to the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council and to the Office of Public Art for special initiatives in response to the coronavirus. The joint grant-making program of The Pittsburgh Foundation, The Heinz Endowments and the Opportunity Fund also is providing support to seven individual artists for their creative projects.

The Arts Council's \$50,000 grant will support its Emergency Fund for Artists, which is giving relief funding of up to \$500 to individual artists on a rolling basis until the money runs out. At least 90 percent of funds will support



Copyright 2020 Ed Messery

artists of color, with 70 percent of that amount going directly to Black artists and 50 percent of those designated funds going to applicants who identify as Black women.

The \$50,000 award to the Office of Public Art is for the Artists in the Public Realm in the Time of COVID-19 program, a new initiative supporting a series of artist commissions and professional development sessions for at least 20 artists in the Pittsburgh region who are working to support their own communities. The program will consist of three project cycles focused on groups most adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including Black, Latinx, Asian American and LGBTQIA+ communities.

The seven individual artists receiving grants of \$10,000 each are literary artist Jari Bradley, visual artist Darnell Chambers, glass artist Jaime Guerrero, dancer/choreographer Pearlann Porter, sculptor Lindsey Scherloum, film and video artist Mariah Torres, and sculptor Rachel Mica Weiss.

Outstanding Achievements

In October, the Heinz Family Foundation announced the winners of the 25th annual Heinz Awards, which recognizes the extraordinary contributions of individuals in the areas of greatest importance to the late Sen. John Heinz. Each of the following winners received an unrestricted cash prize of \$250,000:

- Pianist and composer Gabriela Lena Frank, who weaves Latin American influences into her classical music compositions

- Linda Behnken, executive director of the Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association, which promotes sustainable fishing practices while supporting the rural fishing communities of Alaska that rely on the ocean for their livelihood and way of life
- Molly Baldwin, founder of Roca, a highly effective intervention program that serves young people dealing with traumatic experiences in their communities, including incarceration, poverty and violence
- Katy Kozhimannil, a professor and health services researcher at the University of Minnesota who examines the rising rate of maternal mortality in rural, low-income communities and among women of color, and the impact of structural racism on individual and community health
- Alfa Demmellash and Alexander Forrester, co-founders of Rising Tide Capital, which provides entrepreneurs from low-income and working-class communities with the business training, mentoring and access to funding needed to successfully launch and manage their own small businesses
- David Autor, Ford Professor of Economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and recipient of the 25th Anniversary Special Recognition Award for his research in labor economics that has helped to transform the understanding of how workers and jobs are affected by globalization and changes in technology

MAGAZINE RECOGNITIONS

Last year's special criminal justice issue of *h*, "The Case for Reform," received three awards from the Press Club of Western Pennsylvania as part of its Golden Quill competition. The contest recognizes professional and student excellence in print, broadcast, photography, videography and digital journalism in Western Pennsylvania and nearby counties in Ohio and West Virginia. The publication won the top magazine awards in public affairs, politics and government reporting for "The Face of Force/Policing Relations" by Rob Taylor Jr.; education coverage for "Suspension Bridging" by Bill O'Toole; and enterprise/investigative reporting for the entire "Case for Reform" edition.

The Pittsburgh Black Media Federation (PBMF) awarded two honors to "The Case for Reform" issue as part of its Robert L. Vann Media Contest, which recognizes excellence in journalism and coverage of African American and African diaspora communities, individuals and issues. The competition received entries from Pennsylvania, western and central Ohio, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Virginia and West Virginia. The Endowments' wins in the magazine category included several articles from the special criminal justice issue that were grouped together and given the Public Affairs Award. PBMF also honored the entire "Case for Reform" edition with its Enterprise/Investigative Award for magazines.



WHICH SIDE ARE YOU ON?

BY GRANT FELDMAN

W

© 2020 The Pittsburgh Foundation. All rights reserved. This is a preliminary draft of the report. The final report will be published in the future.