The Heinz Endowments is among the regional foundation partners participating in the Ford Foundation’s America’s Cultural Treasures initiative. The innovative effort in arts funding focuses on providing significant support to arts groups representing historically marginalized populations.

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The Heinz Endowments was formed from the Howard Heinz Endowment, established in 1941, and the Vira I. Heinz Endowment, established in 1986. It is the 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 use 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 within southwestern Pennsylvania, we work wherever necessary, including statewide and nationally, to fulfill our mission.

That mission is to help our region become a just and equitable community in which all of its citizens thrive economically, ecologically, educationally, 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, Howard Heinz and Vira I. Heinz set high expectations for their philanthropy. Today, the Endowments is committed to doing the same. Our charge is to be diligent, thoughtful and creative in continually working to set new standards of philanthropic excellence. Recognizing that none of our work would be possible without a sound financial base, we also are committed to preserving and enhancing the Endowments’ assets through prudent investment management.

h magazine is a publication of The Heinz Endowments. At the Endowments, we 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 Linda Braund, John Ellis, Donna Evans Sebastian, Carmen Lee, Grant Oliphant, Scott Roller, Courtney Tolmer. Design: Landesberg Design

About the cover The violinist illustration on the cover by Kagan McCleod represents the artistic groups who will receive new attention and investment through the Pittsburgh’s Cultural Treasures initiative.
MARKING THIS MOMENT
A new program supports Pittsburgh artists who are developing creative responses to the turbulent year of global health crisis and racial justice protests.

THE FAILURES OF FRACKING
A recent report challenges Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia to take a second look at the promises touting hundreds of thousands of jobs from natural gas fracking that never materialized.

DIVERSIFYING TALENT IN MEDIA
Foundation support for local journalism includes investment in efforts to increase diverse talent and voices.

CHILD CARE INGENUITY
Child care challenges during the pandemic gave birth to child care innovation in the Pittsburgh region.

THE GROWING IMPACT OF NONPROFIT JOURNALISM
Philanthropic support for journalism is on the rise to shore up local news coverage and preserve democracy.