

CHANGING ENDOWMENTS LEADERSHIP

CREATIVITY HEAD STEPPING DOWN

In November, Heinz Endowments Creativity Vice President Janet Sarbaugh, the foundation's longest-serving employee, announced she will step down from her position in the late spring of 2022. During her nearly 40-year tenure at the Endowments, Ms. Sarbaugh has been a stalwart of arts and culture expansion and innovation in the Pittsburgh region. After relinquishing her full-time position, Ms. Sarbaugh will remain with the Endowments for a period as a consultant, with direct responsibility for the Creative Development Awards recognizing individual artists. The Endowments will conduct a national executive search for her successor with the goal of identifying her successor by the second quarter of 2022.



STAFF UPDATES

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine has reappointed Endowments Senior Program Director for Environment & Health Philip Johnson to serve on the Environmental Health Matters Initiative Committee for a second term. In August, the National Academies also appointed Dr. Johnson to serve on the planning committee for Communities, Climate Change, and Health Equity. This committee is charged with designing and implementing a series of workshops to explore the current state of knowledge about climate-related health disparities and the specific actions to take when working with communities to improve climate-related health outcomes and invest in health equity.

Creative Learning Program Officer Mac Howison is the incoming co-chair of the Grantmakers for Education Arts Education Impact Group along with Jessica Mele of the Hewlett Foundation. Mr. Howison will serve a two-year term leading this national peer learning and leadership group.

Equity & Research Vice President Carmen Anderson was among the nine honorees at the first Excellence in Community Engagement Awards ceremony sponsored by the Pittsburgh-Mon Valley Black Women's Roundtable. The Pittsburgh group is a local branch of the national Black Women's Roundtable, an empowerment program of the nonprofit National Coalition on Black Civic Participation. Pittsburgh-Mon Valley Black Women's Roundtable is also part of Sisters Saving Ourselves Now, a regional organization dedicated to addressing issues facing women of color, with a specific focus on underserved women. Ms. Anderson and the other award recipients were recognized for their work on racial and social justice.

Joshua Franzos



PRESIDENT DEPARTING

In December, Heinz Endowments President Grant Oliphant announced that he is leaving the foundation at the end of February to assume a new role as chief executive officer of the San Diego-based Conrad Prebys Foundation, effective March 2022.

For three decades, Mr. Oliphant has been dedicated to philanthropic and public service stewardship in Pittsburgh, including eight years as head of the Endowments. He served as president and CEO of The Pittsburgh Foundation from 2008 to 2014. Before that, he held a variety of senior management posts at the Endowments, including communications director and later vice president of programs. His other previous positions have included communications director for Teresa Heinz, the Endowments' Chair Emeritus, and the Heinz family's extensive philanthropic activities, and press secretary for the late U.S. Sen. John Heinz from 1988 until the senator's tragic death in 1991.

As Endowments president, Mr. Oliphant reshaped the foundation's grantmaking around the core ethos of building a more just community through a focus on three strategic grantmaking areas—Sustainability, Creativity, and Learning. Under his leadership, the foundation became known nationally for its courageous use of its voice and the excellence of its grantmaking on behalf of better environmental policies, more sustainable and equitable economic practices, stronger supports and policies for military veterans, a rejuvenated commitment to the arts, and the advancement of a truly inclusive society.

During Mr. Oliphant's tenure, the Endowments also played a leading role, alongside its key philanthropic partners, in helping the Pittsburgh region to respond to the pandemic by meeting its emergency needs while setting the stage for later recovery. A national search will begin soon for the Endowments' next leader.

CAREER AND ADULTHOOD PREP

The Pittsburgh Readiness Institute's well-attended summer program kickoff, shown below, was among the indications that it is settling in as a regional educational institution thanks to funding of \$1.6 million over two years from the Endowments. The foundation created the youth career preparation initiative before the pandemic in partnership with the Consortium for Public Education and designed it to be a new and innovative education model that helps youth and young adults meet the employment and civic demands of a constantly changing society.

The institute launched with an 18-week pilot that began in late October 2020 and included 47 high school juniors from eight economically and racially diverse school districts from across the region who participated in a virtual curriculum. This summer, 45 rising seniors from 22 Allegheny County high schools met in person for six weeks at Penn State Center Pittsburgh, located at the Energy Innovation Center in the Lower Hill District. They participated in programming led by more than 30 adults who served as education, industry and community collaborators, and took part in a variety of off-site events and virtual activities.

Future plans include a speaker series, an after-school program for Pittsburgh high school students, a summit event, and the launch of Readiness Institute workshops on three rural Penn State campuses. The goal is for a total of 400 to 500 students to participate annually in the institute's programs and to have the option to choose different levels of involvement, whether that includes the summer program, school-year workshops, community opportunities for career and citizenship development, or some combination.



The Readiness Institute at Penn State



Eric A. Smith, CREW Productions, LLC



ROUNDHOUSE INCUBATOR UNVEILED

The 19th-century railroad Roundhouse at Hazelwood Green opened its doors in September as a high-tech incubator for startups, marking the completion of a \$13.7 million renovation by GBBN Architects that was funded by the Almono partnership of The Heinz Endowments and the Richard King Mellon and Claude Worthington Benedum foundations.

The 26,000-square-foot Pittsburgh facility is the newest innovation hub of OneValley, a Silicon Valley-based global entrepreneurship organization, and is designed to support entrepreneurs, accelerate startups and promote organizations that foster innovation. The building features a solar-paneled roof, a tall glass-door entrance, large windows, two levels of office and coworking spaces, and a variety of on-site amenities.

The Roundhouse is the second building on the 178-acre Hazelwood Green development site to be repurposed. The other is the massive Mill 19 building next door, which has one of the country's largest solar arrays on its roof and serves as a robotics hub.

CULTURAL TREASURES

Among the major funding opportunities to buttress the region's creative sector is a total of \$5.4 million the Endowments awarded in December to 16 cultural organizations who were the first grant recipients through the Pittsburgh's Cultural Treasures initiative. The Endowments launched the three- to five-year, \$10 million program after being invited to join the America's Cultural Treasures program created by the Ford Foundation to celebrate cultural institutions and organizations led by people of color. As was the case with other regional partners selected for the national initiative, Ford contributed \$5 million in matching funds to the Pittsburgh effort.

Receiving awards ranging from \$150,000 to \$1 million were the Hill Dance Academy Theatre, left, where Associate Artistic Director Michia Carmack helps young dancers like Faith Harris train; 1Hood Media; Afrika Yetu; Afro American Music Institute; August Wilson African American Cultural Center; Balafon West African Dance Ensemble; BOOM Concepts; Kelly Strayhorn Theater; Kente Arts Alliance; Legacy Arts Project; Manchester Bidwell Corporation; New Horizon Theater; PearlArts Studios; Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre Company; Ujamaa Collective; and Women of Visions.

h HONORS

The Press Club of Western Pennsylvania honored h magazine and its writers with four awards as part of the organization's annual Golden Quill competition recognizing excellence in journalism in Western Pennsylvania and nearby counties in Ohio and West Virginia. One of those entries, a four-part "Preserving Our Democracy" package that looked at efforts to prepare residents for the 2020 election and census, also won the Ray Sprigle Memorial Award — or best of show honor across all categories — for Division 7, which included nonprofit and institutional magazines. The award is named after a Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reporter who won the Pulitzer in 1938 for uncovering that Alabama Senator Hugo Black, newly appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court, had been a member of the Ku Klux Klan.

The h magazine winning entries and their categories, titles and writers—all in Division 7—were:

Ray Sprigle Memorial Award

"Preserving Our Democracy"
Jeffery Fraser, Donovan Harrell

Public Affairs/Politics/ Government

"Preserving Our Democracy"
Jeffery Fraser, Donovan Harrell

Business/Technology/Consumer

"Signs of the Times"
Elwin Green

Education

"Living in a Global Pandemic: Education"
Donovan Harrell, TyLisa Johnson

