

Cameron Waters, left, and Chandler Bingham perform "Synchronized with Soy Sos with special guest Bust Creates," a production of PearlArts Studios presented at Kelly Strayhorn Theater. PearlArts is one of the first 16 arts organizations to receive a grant through Pittsburgh's Cultural Treasures, an initiative jointly funded by The Heinz Endowments and the Ford Foundation. PearlArts is a dance-focused organization that also provides music and media arts programming.

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The Heinz Endowments' investment in the arts involves more than funding certain projects or programs. The foundation's grantmaking through its Creativity Strategic Area encompasses strategies for addressing community challenges, such as recovery from traumatic events or reduction of social inequities, and for expanding development initiatives to include design elements that are meaningful and sustainable as well as aesthetically pleasing. In the following pages are examples of the types of initiatives the Endowments supports that have significance beyond their artistic value and contribute to the goal of improving the quality of life for all in the Pittsburgh region.



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The performance group slowdanger brought its fusion of sound and movement that incorporates contemporary and postmodern dance and integrative technology to the Kelly Strayhorn Theater in 2020. The Kelly Strayhorn, a nonprofit community performing arts center in Pittsburgh's East Liberty neighborhood, is one of the recipients of a Pittsburgh's Cultural Treasures grant.

