

# Kentuckians for the Arts NEWSLETTER

April 2023

Kentuckians for the Arts (KFTA) is a statewide organization formed for the purpose of providing advocacy for all arts endeavors across Kentucky. Our vision is to advance a creative Commonwealth and our mission is to promote the value of the arts and arts education for all throughout Kentucky.

KFTA is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization.

Contributions and annual membership dues are tax deductible as permitted by law.

To join click on the link and follow the instructions.

[Join Us Now!](#)



## Support KFTA on KYGives Day!

Kentuckians for the Arts is participating in Kentucky Gives Day. Sponsored by the Kentucky Nonprofit Network and in its 11th year, KY Gives Day is an opportunity for Kentuckians to come together to make donations to Kentucky charities in an effort to raise as much money as possible in 24 hours.

On May 9, from 12 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. ET, supporters of Kentucky nonprofits will go online to [KYGives.org](https://KYGives.org), connect with causes they care about and make tax-deductible donations. You can search for Kentuckians for the Arts or go directly to our [link](#).

We hope you'll help us by making a donation, encouraging others to support KFTA, and sharing information about Kentucky Gives Day on social media. Donations will support KFTA arts advocacy efforts, including our Youth Arts Council, arts value research, and arts advocacy webinars and resources.

*Note: The Kentucky Gives Day site will open for donations from May 1 through May 10. May 9 is the official Kentucky Gives Day, when donations count toward prizes and accrue collectively toward the 24-hour goal.*

## KAC Arts Preparedness Series Launches

"Emergencies, Disasters, and the Arts," a six-part Kentucky Arts Council webinar series, launched in April.

The first session included an update from the Mayfield Graves County Art Guild on its tornado recovery efforts and an introduction to resources available from Performance Arts Readiness (PAR) and the National Coalition for Arts Preparedness and Emergency Response. You can watch the recorded session on [YouTube](#). Just this week, PAR announced readiness planning grants. More info at the PAR website.

The second of the six sessions will be presented at 11 a.m. ET on May 23 and will include information about the Craft Emergency Relief Fund: A Support System for Artists. The series continues through September.

Attendance is free. [Register](#) and find more information at the [Kentucky Arts Council website](#) or contact KAC Executive Staff Advisor Emily B. Moses at [emily.moses@ky.gov](mailto:emily.moses@ky.gov)

A special thank you to our Foundational members:

Ms. Margaret & Mr. Jeffery Jamner

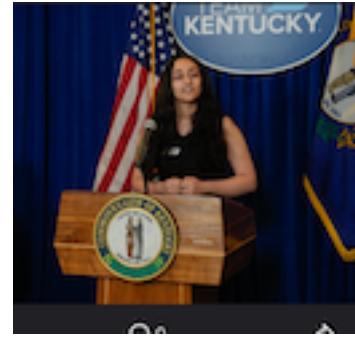
Gretchen & Aldy Milliken

Kentucky Performing Arts

**SUPPORT KFTA THROUGH KROGER**  
Kentuckians for the Arts is part of the Kroger donation program. Through this program, Kroger donates a portion of purchases to nonprofit organizations. If you're a Kroger shopper, please register to support KFTA.

Visit [www.kroger.com](http://www.kroger.com) and log into your Kroger account, then search for Kentuckians for the Arts by name or use the number MR920.

## An Exciting Time for Kentucky Writers!



*Clockwise from topleft: Silas House, Sarah Gamble, Olaoluwakiitan Adedeji, and Ada Limon.*

- **House Named Kentucky Poet Laureate:** Whitley County native Silas House was inducted as Kentucky's 2023-24 Poet Laureate April 24 at the Kentucky Writers' Day. "My hope as poet laureate is to find more ways to unite us," House said. "Art brings us together in the same way that food does, and in Kentucky we appreciate good food and good art, whether it's literature, music, paintings, dance and many other disciplines."
- **Limon's term extended as national Poet Laureate:** Lexington resident Ada Limon has been appointed to serve a two-year second term as U.S. Poet Laureate. This is the first time a national poet laureate has been appointed to a term extension. Limon's upcoming activities include revealing on June 1 a new poem she has written for NASA's Europa Clipper mission. She is also collaborating with the National Park Service and the Poetry Society of America to present poems in national parks across the country.
- **Allen County Student to Represent Kentucky at Poetry Out Loud:** Sarah Gamble, a student at Allen-County Scottsville High School is Kentucky's 2023 Poetry Out Loud champion and will represent Kentucky at the national Poetry Out Loud championship in Washington D.C. Semifinals are on May 9; the national championship is May. 10. [More info.](#)
- **Lexington Names First Youth Poet Laureate:** Olaoluwakiitan (Kiitan) Adedeji, has been named Lexington's first youth poet. She attends the School for the Creative and Performing Arts at Lafayette High School in Lexington.

## CONTACT US:

Kentuckians for the Arts  
(KFTA)  
300 Southpoint Drive  
Lexington, KY 40515  
Phone 859-245-2221

[Email Phil Shepherd](#)

[Website](#) (click here)

[Facebook Page](#) (Advocacy)

[Facebook Bulletin Board](#)  
(Events)



Funding provided in part by a grant from South Arts in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts

## Speed Museum Receives NEH Grant

A re-imagining of the permanent gallery of Kentucky art at the Speed Art Museum in Louisville was one of 258 projects across the national recently awarded grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Speed received \$40,000 for planning.

## Bernheim Forest Names Artists-in-Residence

Congratulations to Berea-based textile artist (and KFTA Board member) Vallorie Henderson, one of four artists named 2023 artists-in-residence at Bernheim Forest. Also named were Colorado-based artist Nicole Banowetz, Chicago-based artist Sam Hensley, and Columbian Art Collective Las Vispera. Read about the artists at the [Bernheim website](#).

## Gateway Arts Center Launches Institute for Rural Arts and Culture

The Gateway Regional Arts Center (GRAC), a cultural institution in Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, has launched the Small Town America Institute for Rural Arts & Culture. Dedicated to art centers in remote and rural areas in the U.S., the institute will produce academic papers, practical how-to guides, and affordable project consultations and workshops for small-to-medium-sized cultural institutions in rural areas, as well as for small communities that wish to initiate cultural programming in their area. More info at the [Gateway website](#).



KFTA Board Chair Lori Meadows was among arts groups representatives attending a Kentucky Nonprofit Network luncheon with Kentucky 6th District congressional representative Andy Barr on April 14. From left to right are Phil Jun-Special Events Coordinator, LexArts; Allison Kaiser- Executive Director, LexPhil; Barr; Meadows; Nathan Zammaron-Community Arts Director, LexArts; and John Wharton-Board Chair, LexPhil Foundation. Barr asked if National Endowment for the Art grants were coming to Kentucky, and said that he would be happy to write letters of support for grant applications.