



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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cARTie Champions IDEA and Receives CT Cultural Fund Operating Support Grant from CT Humanities

Shelton, CT (December 27, 2022) — cARTie was recently awarded a \$7,100 CT Cultural Fund Operating Support Grant from CT Humanities (CTH). CT Cultural Fund Operating Support Grants assist organizations as they recover from the pandemic and maintain and grow their ability to serve their community and the public.

Better serving Connecticut's youngest learners and leaders is always top-of-mind for cARTie. Coming out of a year dedicated to deep dives into cultural equity and organization-wide DEI trainings with DEI expert and NAEA President-Elect, Dr. Wanda Knight, cARTie is poised to go even further ensuring the landscape of the arts in education across Connecticut is inclusive, diverse, equitable, and accessible. This 2023, supported by CT Humanities, cARTie will take explicit steps to diversify staff, Board members, and audience members, not to mention expand an internal Accessibility Task Force, invest in ongoing IDEA training, conduct accessibility audits, and implement necessary changes to the organization's mobile museum space and programming.

"We are choosing to not just to talk about IDEA but enact improvements in socially-just and acutely-aware ways. It has always been within our mission to leverage the cARTie art museum bus to reflect our communities and celebrate Connecticut's diversity. This grant from CT Humanities allows us to focus on our IDEA commitments and propels us forward in further realizing our mission and making a difference in and with our communities," reflects cARTie's Co-Founder and Executive Director, Clare Murray.

cARTie was one of 725 organizations in Connecticut receiving a CT Cultural Fund Operating Support Grant. Totaling more than \$8.5M, these grants are part of a two-year, \$30.7M investment in arts, humanities, and cultural nonprofits by the CT General Assembly and approved by Governor Ned Lamont.

This CT Cultural Fund Operating Support Grant is provided to cARTie from CT Humanities, with funding from the Connecticut State Department of Economic and Community Development/Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) from the Connecticut State Legislature.

About cARTie

cARTie is Connecticut's first and only nonprofit mobile art museum bus committed to bridging inequities in education and arts access across the state through its mobile art museum bus with a focus on young children, emerging student-artists, and under-resourced communities. To learn more about cARTie, please visit www.cartie.org. Follow cARTie on Facebook and Instagram @CTcARTie!

About Connecticut Humanities

CT Humanities (CTH) is an independent, nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. CTH connects people to the humanities through grants, partnerships, and collaborative programs. CTH projects, administration, and program development are supported by state and federal matching funds, community foundations, and gifts from private sources. Learn more by visiting cthumanities.org.

About Connecticut Office of the Arts

The Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) is the state agency charged with fostering the health of Connecticut's creative economy. Part of the state's Department of Economic and Community Development, the COA is funded by the State of Connecticut and the National Endowment for the Arts.