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**Hermitage Artist Retreat Receives Over \$220,000
in Regional and National Grants
Toward Artist Programs and Community Initiatives**

Lead gifts from the Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation, Community Foundation of Sarasota County, Gulf Coast Community Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts will support the organization's core programs and initiatives, with additional funds to support special program enhancement.

(September 13, 2022) **The Hermitage Artist Retreat** (Sarasota County, Florida) has recently received seven significant grants totaling over \$220,000 that will support a variety of programs and initiatives, including the impact of Hermitage Fellows in the region, program accessibility, and organizational communications. Grants were received from the Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation, Gulf Coast Community Foundation, Community Foundation of Sarasota County, Frank E. Duckwall Foundation, The Exchange, Florida Humanities, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Hermitage received \$100,000 from the **Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation** in general operating funds to support community programming and artist impact. "We are incredibly grateful to the Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation for believing in our mission and celebrating the work we are doing to both support artists and make an impact in our community," notes Hermitage Artistic Director and CEO Andy Sandberg. "This gift is a powerful vote of confidence in our programming and community outreach – and this grant has already inspired others to support our efforts."

The Hermitage was recently awarded a \$50,000 Strategic Partnership Grant from the **Community Foundation of Sarasota County** (CFSC) to support the Hermitage's core artist

residency program and to once again serve as the Lead Community Sponsor for the Hermitage Greenfield Prize Weekend. This is the sixth year of CFSC's support of this annual celebration, scheduled for April 14-16, 2023. CFSC previously awarded the Hermitage a \$4,500 Capacity Building Grant in the spring to support organizational communications software and database infrastructure.

The Venice Endowment and Zoe Anderson Charitable Funds at **Gulf Coast Community Foundation** (GCCF) provided a \$40,000 Arts Appreciation Grant in support of the Hermitage's mission: to inspire and foster the most influential and culturally consequential art and artists of our time. The Hermitage became one of Gulf Coast's "Arts Appreciation" grantees in 2021, following multiple years of ongoing support and partnership.

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) renewed its support for the Hermitage with a \$10,000 grant. These funds are intended to support the Hermitage's nationally renowned artist residency program.

Additional community program support came from **The Exchange**, which awarded \$5,000 to support "Hermitage North" programming through programs such as "Hermitage @ The Bay." **Florida Humanities**, with funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities, awarded the Hermitage a \$4,850 Community Project Grant in support of its virtual programming series: "Artists and Thinkers: A Creative Conversation."

Though Hermitage programs are hosted at venues throughout the Gulf Coast region, many of the Hermitage's artist programs are held on the Hermitage Beach, and a \$9,400 grant from the **Frank E. Duckwall Foundation** will be used to improve beach accessibility for members of the public.

The Hermitage is widely recognized for its national artist residency program and its rapidly expanding community programming, introducing area audiences to some of the world's leading artists across all disciplines. "As our programs and collaborations continue to evolve and expand throughout our region, we are excited to build bridges to new audiences," says Sandberg. "We are deeply appreciative for these generous grants from both new and longtime supporters, all of which will allow us to provide more support and resources to the diverse and accomplished Hermitage artists who are making a meaningful and lasting impact in our community."

The Hermitage hosts artists on its Gulf Coast Manasota Key campus for multi-week residencies, where diverse and accomplished artists from around the world and across multiple disciplines create and develop new works of theater, music, visual art, literature, dance, and more. As part of their residencies, Hermitage Fellows participate in free community programs, offering audiences in the region a unique opportunity to engage with some of the world's leading artists and to get an authentic "sneak peek" into extraordinary projects and artistic minds before their works go on to major theaters, galleries, concert halls, and museums around the world. These free and innovative programs include performances, lectures, readings, interactive experiences, open studios, school programs, teacher workshops, and more, serving thousands in our community each year. The Hermitage is the only major arts organization in Florida's Gulf Coast region exclusively committed to supporting the development and creation of new work across all artistic disciplines.

For more information about the Hermitage and upcoming programs, visit

HermitageArtistRetreat.org.

The Hermitage Artist Retreat

Sarasota County, Florida

Artistic Director and CEO: Andy Sandberg

The Hermitage is a non-profit artist retreat located on Manasota Key, Florida, inviting accomplished artists across multiple disciplines for residencies on its beachfront campus, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. Hermitage artists are invited to interact with the local community, reaching thousands of Gulf Coast residents and visitors each year with unique and inspiring programs. Hermitage Fellows have included 15 Pulitzer Prize winners, Poets Laureate, MacArthur 'Genius' Fellows, and multiple Tony, Emmy, Grammy, Oscar winners and nominees. Works created at this beachside campus by a diverse group of Hermitage alumni have gone on to renowned theaters, concert halls, and galleries throughout the world. Each year, the Hermitage awards the \$30,000 Hermitage Greenfield Prize for a new work of art, the newly announced \$35,000 Hermitage Major Theater Award for an original theater commission, and the Aspen Music Festival's Hermitage Prize in Composition.

For more information, visit HermitageArtistRetreat.org.

The Hermitage is supported by:

In addition to the grant-giving institutions listed above, Hermitage programs are also supported, in part, by Sarasota County Tourist Development Tax Revenues and by The State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture (Section 286.25 Florida Statutes), as well as the Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation.

HermitageArtistRetreat.org