

June 8, 2021

**New commitments from Deloitte, Nucor, Premier, Inc.,
Wells Fargo and others take private-sector campaign to \$16 million**
New \$1.2 million in commitments push private-sector fund to nearly 90 percent of goal

**Foundation For
The Carolinas**

220 North Tryon Street
Charlotte, NC 28202

Phone: 704.973.4500
Toll Free: 800.973.7244
Fax: 704.973.4599

www.fftc.org

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Foundation For The Carolinas inched closer to its goal to raise \$18 million from the private sector in support of local arts organizations, thanks to new commitments from Deloitte, Nucor, Premier, Inc., Wells Fargo and individual contributors. The \$1.2 million in combined commitments take the campaign to \$16 million, or nearly 90 percent of goal.

The \$18 million FFTC is raising for local arts organizations will match \$18 million in City of Charlotte funding for a total of \$36 million over three years.

New commitments to the fund include \$300,000 from Wells Fargo and \$100,000 from Premier, Inc. Additionally, Deloitte, Nucor and a number of individual contributors gave to the fund. They join earlier commitments from the Albemarle Foundation; Ally Financial; Atrium Health; Bank of America; Barings; The Centene Charitable Foundation; Childress Klein; Coca-Cola Consolidated; Duke Energy; JELD-WEN, Inc.; Moore & Van Allen; National Gypsum/C.D. Spangler Foundation; Novant Health; PwC; Red Ventures; Rodgers Builders; Trane Technologies; and Truist.

“Wells Fargo is pleased to continue our support for Foundation For The Carolinas and their efforts to maintain a healthy, vibrant arts scene in Charlotte,” said Mary Mack, CEO of Consumer and Small Business Banking for Wells Fargo. “We take a great deal of pride in supporting our local communities, including the cultural sector. Our goal is to help build strong and vibrant communities, improve the quality of life, and make a positive difference.”

“Deloitte is proud to support this campaign and Charlotte’s cultural sector,” said John Giannuzzi, Carolinas Managing Partner, Deloitte. “The arts and sciences are vital to our community and our children, and we are pleased to support a diverse, inclusive and vibrant cultural sector as our region continues to recover from the pandemic.”

The fund will support numerous cultural nonprofit organizations that, combined, have an audience participation of residents and visitors of more than 2 million per year. Charlotte’s cultural sector employs thousands of full-time workers and generates an annual economic impact of \$360 million, while its education programs for children and youth are nationally recognized.

“We are proud to join other companies in the Charlotte business community to support local arts and cultural organizations,” said Leon Topalian, President and Chief Executive Officer of Nucor Corporation. “A vibrant cultural sector is important for the quality of life and economic health of the Charlotte region. Arts organizations were hit hard by the pandemic, making the financial support of the business community and the city of Charlotte vital to their continued success.”

NEWS RELEASE

Once the \$18 million private sector goal is reached, the City plans to double its current level of public funding for arts, science and history organizations. Together, an annual grants pool of \$12 million in public/private dollars will help revive and sustain local cultural organizations devastated by \$50 million in lost revenues suffered during the pandemic. **To distribute these resources, a citizen-led grantmaking board will be created with a split of City of Charlotte and private-sector appointees.**

“The pandemic affected every aspect of our communities, including the arts,” said Mike Alkire, President and CEO of Premier. “Premier is committed to helping ensure a healthy recovery in Charlotte, and we are pleased to support a vibrant and diverse culture that supports artistic expression.”

FFTC agreed to lead the campaign after it was recruited by the City to serve as the third-party administrator for the multi-year arts funding plan.

About Foundation For The Carolinas

Founded in 1958, Foundation For The Carolinas is the sixth-largest nonprofit community foundation in the country, serving donors and a broad range of charitable purposes in North and South Carolina. With assets of nearly \$3 billion, FFTC's mission is to inspire philanthropy and empower individuals to create a better community. Visit www.ffc.org.

Media Contact:

Timothy Hager, 704.973.4587 or thager@ffc.org