Dancer Eric Stith is interviewed for Charlotte Ballet in front of the Terpsichore mural by PichiAvo. Photo courtesy of Charlotte Ballet.

Arts & Culture in the Spotlight:
New Fund Raises $23 Million for Sustainability

Read more on page 2

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the vision the sector had for itself,” said FFTC President and CEO Michael Marsicano. David Taylor appreciates the donors who gave to the Infusion Fund because of what it means for his organization’s impact. “With this investment, it will ensure our work in artist activism and our initiative for equity and innovation will continue to grow and help build a more equitable Charlotte,” said Taylor, president and CEO of the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts and Culture, which received a grant from the Infusion Fund.

In its first round of grants, the fund awarded more than $6 million to 38 local arts and culture organizations to support their operating budgets (see sidebar, top right). “On a practical level, a vibrant and diverse arts scene brings jobs and attracts businesses seeking relocation,” said Sally Gambrill Bridgedford, president of The Gambrill Foundation, which granted $450,000 to the Infusion Fund. “But on a human level, artists have the potential to shape the world, and our future. This grant will enable the expression of important unheard voices.”

For more information: fftc.org/Arts

New Public-Private Partnership Sustains Arts and Culture Nonprofits

When the pandemic hit, museums, performance venues, theatre companies, and other arts and culture groups were forced to close, cancel their seasons, refund tickets and re-envision fundraising activities. Coupled with a national, decades-long decline in workplace giving programs that support the arts, a sustainable solution was needed to ensure a vibrant arts and culture community.

The Infusion Fund – a new public-private partnership in support of arts and culture – aims to provide this sustainability to our diverse cultural community. With local institutions facing losses of more than $50 million, and the cultural sector accounting for thousands of workers and an annual economic impact of $380 million, the City of Charlotte asked FFTC to help raise $18 million in support of arts and culture – and offered to match that $18 million.

The response from the private sector exceeded expectations. In just two months, the campaign surpassed its goal with $23 million in donations from companies, foundations and individuals. Combined with the City’s match of the original $18 million goal, $41 million was raised to support local cultural organizations. The fund will provide grants to local arts and culture nonprofits over the next three years, and a long-term cultural plan will be developed simultaneously.

“The Foundation’s vision for the generosity of our private sector during the arts fundraising campaign was exceeded by the vision the sector had for itself,” said FFTC President and CEO Michael Marsicano. David Taylor appreciates the donors who gave to the Infusion Fund because of what it means for his organization’s impact. “With this investment, it will ensure our work in artist activism and our initiative for equity and innovation will continue to grow and help build a more equitable Charlotte,” said Taylor, president and CEO of the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts and Culture, which received a grant from the Infusion Fund.

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For more information: fftc.org/Arts

Infusion Fund Grants

Recent awards from the Infusion Fund supported operations for 38 local nonprofit arts and culture organizations. For a complete list of grants: fftc.org/Arts.

Contributors to the fund include:

- Multimillion Dollar Commitment
  - City of Charlotte
  - $1.5 million and above
  - Bank of America
  - C.D. Spangler Foundation / National Gypsum Company
  - John S. and James L. Knight Foundation
  - Trane Technologies
  - $600,000 - $1 million
  - Albemarle Foundation
  - Atrium Health
  - Baskings
  - Duke Energy
  - Honeywell
  - JELD-WEN Inc.
  - LendingTree Foundation
  - Lowe’s Companies Inc.
  - Novant Health
  - Red Ventures
  - Trust
  - $300,000-$600,000
  - Ally Financial
  - The Centene Charitable Foundation
  - Childress Klein Properties
  - Coca-Cola Consolidated
  - Dansalt
  - EY
  - The Gambrill Foundation
  - Moored & Van Allen P.C.
  - Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson, PA.
  - Rodgers Builders
  - Wells Fargo
  - Up to $300,000
  - Fifth Third Bank
  - Foundation For The Carolinas
  - Bezier & Clay Grubb
  - Leslie and Michael Marsicano
  - Jane and Hugh McColl
  - Nucor Corporation
  - PNC Bank
  - Premier, Inc.
  - Jane and Nelson Schwab

COVID-19 Fund Closes With Final Round of Nonprofit Grants

While life returns to normal for some, many continue to struggle from the pandemic’s lasting societal impact. Recent grants from the COVID-19 Response Fund include $10,000 to Shelter Health Services for rapid testing kits and $15,000 to Supportive Housing Communities for PPE and tents for unhoused homeless residents – a reminder that local nonprofits continue to assist those most affected by the pandemic.

Those grants were two of dozens recently awarded in the final round of grantmaking from the COVID-19 Response Fund, launched in 2020 by FFTC and United Way of Central Carolinas to help those most affected by the pandemic. In this round, $1.6 million was awarded to dozens of local nonprofits that provide safety net services such as shelter and groceries, as well as providing laptops, books and other resources for students. In total – through seven rounds of grants from the COVID-19 Response Fund – more than $25.5 million was granted to 240 local nonprofits.

“We wish these final grant awards, we extend our deepest thanks to the funders and volunteers whose support has made the COVID-19 Fund possible,” said FFTC Executive Vice President Brian Collier. “We also recognize the extraordinary and ongoing work by the grantees and wide range of nonprofits who continue to address the pandemic-related needs of our community.”

Learn more about the nonprofits and projects supported by this fund: fftc.org/COVID19Grants

E4E Relief Update

After an unprecedented year in 2020 due to the pandemic, FFTC’s subsidiary E4E Relief is continuing to provide rapid relief to employees across the globe who are experiencing unexpected financial hardships. E4E Relief manages employee disaster and hardship relief programs for companies throughout the country, serving more than five million employees across the globe. As of August 1, E4E Relief has already awarded more than $36 million in grants to employees affected by the pandemic, personal hardships and natural disasters, including the devastating flooding in Western Europe this summer.

To put this number in perspective, E4E Relief’s previous highest grantmaking year, prior to 2020, was $23.8 million distributed in 2018.

“As we continue to recover from the pandemic, it’s important to remember there are still people who need assistance,” said Holly Welch Stubbing, who was recently named president and CEO of E4E Relief and also serves as executive vice president at FFTC. “We are thankful to work with generous companies that are proactive in supporting their employees and providing the assistance they need.”

Learn more: E4ERelief.org
Around Our Region
Foundation For The Carolinas has 13 regional affiliates across the Carolinas, whose advisory boards thoughtfully award grants to local nonprofits. A number of county affiliates recently announced grants that will address local needs.

Stanly Supports Summer Camps
Summer camp is a rite of passage for many children, but this quintessential youth experience can be cost-prohibitive. A grant from the Stanly County Community Foundation brought the summer camp experience to local children whose families might not otherwise have been able to afford it.

The $5,000 grant to the Stanly County Family YMCA grant supported the YMCA’s Open Door Scholarships program for YMCA summer camps. “This was an excellent example of Stanly County Community Foundation’s support of youth development and education, they have enabled hundreds of children to experience the Y camps that never would have been able,” said George Crocketer, CEO of Stanly County Family YMCA.

The Stanly County Community Foundation recently awarded 20 grants totaling more than $50,000 to local nonprofits.

Iredell Awards Nearly $140,000 in Grants
The Iredell County Community Foundation recently awarded $138,700 in grants to 16 local nonprofits. Grants will support projects and programs that address community recovery efforts from the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as literacy for children ages 5-18, veterans’ affairs and workforce development.

Among recent grants: $16,000 to Boys & Girls Club of the Piedmont to support afterschool and summer programs for local youth, and $12,000 to I-CARE, Inc., to provide workforce development opportunities for local adults.

Cherokee Funds Housing and Food Programs
The Cherokee County Community Foundation recently announced $30,000 in grants to 10 local nonprofits. These grants support projects and programs that address education, health, housing, human services and social capital.

Grants include $5,000 to Cherokee County Meals on Wheels to provide meals for those in need, and $5,000 to The Jerusalem Project to help local homeowners make necessary house repairs.

For more information: ftc.org/RegionalAffiliates

The Plus Collective is passionate about making a difference. Philanthropy Board of Advisors, Terik Tidwell

The former Charlotte Lesbian and Gay Fund recently announced a name change to The Plus Collective, as well as $134,000 in grant awards to eight local nonprofits.

Former Board Chair Devlin McNeil said the name change better suits the local lesbian, gay, biennial, transgender and queer community – for now and in the future. “There are many letters in the LGBTQ+ alphabet, and while the intent is to be inclusive, the letters can be limiting,” said McNeil. “With this in mind, the board and a committee of stakeholders sought a name that could evolve and remain inclusive in coming years.”

The Plus Collective is a collective giving program and endowment at FFFC. Since it was founded in 2004, The Plus Collective has raised and granted more than $1.6 million to local nonprofits. The most recent round of operating support grants included:

- $13,500 to the Charlotte Pride Band
- $5,000 to the Charlotte Royals Rugby Football Club
- $12,500 to the Gay Men’s Chorus of Charlotte
- $18,000 to One Voice Chorus
- $25,000 to PFLAG Charlotte
- $25,000 to Time Out Youth
- $25,000 to Transcend Charlotte
- $10,000 to Twin to the World Foundation

For more information: ThePlusCollective.org

Meet the FFBP Board Chair
As the chair of the Foundation For Black Philanthropy Board of Advisors, Terik Tidwell is passionate about making a difference. “I’m eager to work with FFBP’s partners, board members and donors to enhance our ability to better support communities and nonprofits by increasing assets, engagement and giving,” said Terik.

Currently the executive director of the Smith Tech-Innovation Center at Johnson C. Smith University, Terik has more than 15 years of experience in the nonprofit, education and private sectors.

Scholarships Empower Local Students
To say the past school year was unlike any other is, perhaps, an understatement. Some students learned remotely, while others returned to the classroom with face coverings and new protocols. Despite these challenges, local students remained focused on their academic future, thanks in part to scholarships managed by Foundation For The Carolinas.

FFTC manages more than 150 scholarship funds on behalf of donors. This year, scholarships totaling nearly $2 million were awarded to 652 students. Established by generous families and organizations, these scholarships provide support for students ranging from kindergarten to graduate school.

One such program is Greater Steps Scholars, which provided 93 new and renewed scholarships to students who live in Charlotte’s public housing communities. Since inception in 1983, this program has provided 965 scholarships totaling more than $4 million.

Two of this year’s new recipients are:

- Harding University High School graduate Makya Hamilton, who is headed to Clark Atlanta University this fall to major in sociology and minor in early education.
- Zonte “Malique” Davis, who graduated from David W. Butler High School in June and will attend East Carolina University to pursue his goal of becoming a physical therapist.

Support a student’s educational journey by opening an FFTC Scholarship Fund.

Learn more: Qiana Austin at qaustin@fftc.org

A New Focus on Philanthropy
We invite you to explore FOCUS, FFTC’s new storytelling website that highlights local people, nonprofits and partners working to improve our communities. The site also features giving tips and insights for how you can make an even greater impact.

Visit PhilanthropyFocus.org

Support Local LGBTQ+ Community
The Plus Collective Grants $134,000 to Support Local LGBTIQ+ Community

The Plus Collective, as well as $134,000 in grant awards to eight local nonprofits.

For more information: ThePlusCollective.org

The Plus Collective gave Transgender Youth has been a safe haven for LGBTIQ+ youth for years. Find out more: ThePlusCollective.org/TOY

PhilanthropyFocus.org/TOY

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Addressing Ongoing Civic Needs

Work continues on a number of RCCL initiatives. A few highlights include:

- **Leading on Opportunity**: Now in its fourth year, Leading on Opportunity is tackling economic mobility at a systemic level. Executive Director Sherri Chiasholm recently partnered with stakeholders across the region to develop a new three-year strategy to foster college and career readiness, a key determinant for upward mobility as identified in the task force report.

- **A Way Home**: The new $25 million housing endowment continues to impact families experiencing homelessness. Since its inception, A Way Home has helped more than 300 families – nearly 1,000 people – achieve housing stability.

- **Read Charlotte**: At the start of the pandemic, this community-wide initiative to improve children’s literacy pivoted to provide the Reading CheckUp, a free tool that helps families work with their children at home. From April 2020 through June 2021, nearly 3,600 children completed Reading CheckUps (PK-3rd grade), and 10,602 books were distributed to local children, thanks to community partners working with Read Charlotte and Promising Pages.

- **Finally**, we recently launched the Infusion Fund, a new fundraising and grantmaking effort in partnership with the City of Charlotte to sustain our vibrant arts and culture community, which was devastated by the shutdowns brought upon by the pandemic. Read more about the effort and its initial grants on page 2.

As always, this work is made possible by generous donors to the Robinson Center for Civic Leadership, as well as the continued support of FFTC fundholders and partners. Thank you for making possible this transformative work in our community.

For more information: ftc.org/Our_Initiatives

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### Affordable Housing Made Possible Thanks to Community Coalition

“Prior to moving here, I was living in a hotel,” said Charlotte-resident Aisha J. of the journey that led her to Lake Mist Apartments in south Charlotte. “The feeling I had when I first moved into Lake Mist, it was amazing. It was a feeling I hadn’t felt in a long time – being able to have my own place again.”

She is one of thousands being helped by local affordable housing efforts led by Local Initiatives Support Corporation, a national nonprofit that works with communities to make civic investments. Lake Mist is a recent success story.

Acquired last December by Ascent Real Estate Capital, all units at Lake Mist are priced at affordable rates for households earning no more than 80% of the area median income, with a third income-restricted for those at 30% AMI or below.

The purchase was made possible thanks to funding provided by the Charlotte Housing Opportunity Investment Fund, the product of FFTC’s 2018 affordable housing fundraising campaign.

After the City of Charlotte agreed to a bond referendum to more than triple its Housing Trust Fund to $50 million – and with Charlotte facing an affordable-housing deficit ranging from 22,000-34,000 units – Foundation For The Carolinas launched a private-sector fundraising campaign three years ago. When it concluded, the campaign had raised $53 million in support of affordable housing.

For more information: ftc.org/CHOF

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### Robinson Center 2021: Continuing Our Work on Key Community Issues

As our community continues its recovery from the pandemic, the Robinson Center for Civic Leadership is focused on some of the most pressing issues and needs such as mental health, housing and homelessness, racial equity and economic mobility.

- **Mental Health Conversations**: In recognition of Mental Health Awareness month in May, FFTC hosted two virtual panel discussions on the mental health of our youth.

- **Are Our Kids OK: Checking in on the Mental Health of Youth**, which featured local behavioral health and community program experts.

- **Youth Voice: A Discussion on Mental Health**, provided insights from local youth leaders on the impact of COVID-19 on their mental health.

Building on these conversations, in August RCCL kicked off a new virtual community conversation series. In alignment with Black Philanthropy Month, the first, Challenges and Opportunities for Boys of Color, featured national and local leaders who shared insights and research on factors that specifically impact boys of color, as well as opportunities to facilitate positive outcomes.

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### UPCOMING WEBINARS

- **Sept. 16**: The Importance and Impact of Social Capital
- **Oct. 12**: Food Security: Innovation and Opportunity
- **Nov. 16**: Impacting Homelessness: Unique Strategies and Solutions
- **Dec. 7**: Career Pathways and Economic Mobility

For more info or to register: ftc.org/UpcomingEvents

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**LEARN MORE**

- The A Way Home housing endowment has impacted hundreds of families. Watch the video: philanthropyfocus.org/A-Way-Home

- Read Charlotte is a community-wide children’s reading initiative to improve literacy from birth through third grade. For more information: ReadCharlotte.org

- Lake Mist Apartments, a local affordable housing success story, was helped by funding from the Charlotte Housing Opportunity Investment Fund, an initiative of FFTC.

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**Three years ago, the Foundation launched its affordable housing fundraising campaign. Watch a video to learn more about why it launched and how it’s helping at PhilanthropyFocus.org.**
Local Impact Investment Helps Address Inequality in Greater Charlotte Area

Did you know that donor advised funds can create measurable – and meaningful – returns through program-related investments (PRIs) and other impact investments?

Impact investments have the goal of generating measurable social or environmental impacts alongside a positive financial return. These investments typically take the form of either loans with below-market interest rates or equity investments with more favorable terms than might otherwise be found in the market.

Over the past two years, FFTC has administered several local PRIs that benefit the greater Charlotte area. A recent example includes a low-interest loan to Bright Hope Capital LLC, a local investment firm co-founded by Steven Young’s Charlotte managing partner Malcolm Coley, former Bank of America CEO Hugh McColl and former Duke Energy executive vice-president Lloyd Yates. Bank of America’s partnership helped support this investment.

This new firm is focused on creating more wealth and opportunities for Black- and Hispanic-owned businesses, while ensuring that companies pay a “living wage” of at least $15 per hour and offer health insurance and retirement benefits.

Bright Hope Capital made its first acquisition when it purchased R.J. Leeper Construction, one of Charlotte’s few minority-owned construction companies. Two months later, the firm announced its second acquisition – Gastonia-based and minority-owned Big Prime Hauling. Thanks to the investment, the dump truck hauling and transportation provider is expanding its fleet, adding state-of-the-art technology and hiring more than 30 employees.

Impact investments are complex and generally are only available for investments of at least $1 million. Learn more about impact investing: Doug Benson at dbenson@fftc.org

Investing Well, Doing Good

Having grown up in modest surroundings and serving in the Navy, Ross Annable says philanthropy was the last thing on his mind as a junior officer trying to make ends meet. But having no children, Ross and his wife, Michele, knew philanthropy would play an important role in their estate planning. They began seriously considering their charitable goals and legacy after being introduced to FFTC by his estate planning attorney.

Ross, a longtime capital markets executive, invested more than two decades ago in a local tech startup called AxioXchange. He also served on the advisory board of the company, which has grown into a leader in accounts payable and invoice management systems and is valued at more than $2 billion.

Ross later contributed two gifts of private stock in AxioXchange to FFTC, with proceeds directed to his and Michele’s FFTC Donor Advised Fund. By gifting these assets prior to sale, they maximized the charitable impact while reducing taxes.

Using their donor advised fund, the Annables established a scholarship at NC State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine, supported the Carolina Raptor Center’s capital campaign and provided a major gift to Khan Academy.

Ross and Michele will continue investing in the causes they value after their lifetimes. As part of their estate plan, the couple will leave gifts to create a scholarship program at FFTC, and to support a FFTC Community Impact Fund, which addresses evolving and unexpected local needs.

Learn more: Rtc.org/BusinesSInterests

Q: What value does your partnership with FFTC bring to your clients?

Having worked with FFTC in numerous capacities, I have relationships with many of the staff members. This allows me to select the right person to introduce my clients to, based on that particular client’s situation. I trust that the FFTC staff will take good care of my clients and will bring valuable ideas and insights to the discussion.

Q: How do you encourage clients to consider giving as part of their estate plans?

There are many reasons for charitable giving. For some clients, there may be a strong tax incentive to make charitable gifts. For others, they want to encourage their children to continue their charitable giving legacy. And many times, clients simply have causes they hold dear and want to continue to see those funded after their deaths.

Q: How do you help your clients engage the next generation?

I encourage my clients to speak to their children about philanthropy and their desire for their children to continue the family legacy of giving. Sometimes, this means their children would take over the management of their donor advised funds, or it may mean setting up separate funds for each child. It is equally important to recognize that if a child does not have an interest in continuing the family’s legacy of giving, alternate planning may be necessary.

Learn more about how FFTC partners with local advisors: Ftc.org/Advisor_Resources

Amplify Your Impact by Gifting Before Sale

By gifting closely held business interests or real property before sale, you can maximize the philanthropic impact while reaping tax savings. FFTC makes this process easy – and has accepted more than $250 million in similar gifts over the last five years.

How it works:

1. Gifts of complex assets are held by FFTC in a subsidiary designed specifically for such transactions. The donor can deduct the fair market value of the asset.

2. FFTC works with you and your advisors on flexible liquidation options and timelines.

3. After liquidation, proceeds are transferred to a new or established FFTC giving fund.

You can give:

• Pre-IPO shares
• LLC and partnership interests
• Commercial real estate
• Other real estate

• Restricted shares
• Carried interest
• Hedge funds
• Other privately held assets
Hope Vibes Co-Founder Wins Nish Jamgotch Jr. Humanitarian Award

When Adrienne Threatt learned she won the 2021 Nish Jamgotch Jr. Humanitarian Award for her work leading Hope Vibes in assisting people without housing, her first reaction was, “Are you sure? I’m just a regular person.”

“That response reinforced that we made the right decision,” said Brian Collier, FFTC Executive Vice President and member of the award committee. “It is her humility that makes her such an important and compassionate voice for a population that, too often, does not have a voice of its own.”

The Nish Jamgotch Jr. Humanitarian Award – facilitated by FFTC, which also holds the fund that supports the award – is presented annually to an individual or group whose achievements “devote quality of life and enhance the survival, dignity and well-being of humankind in Charlotte-Mecklenburg.” The award was created by former UNCC professor Dr. Nish Jamgotch Jr., who passed away in August.

During the pandemic – when shelters reached capacity and the need for services to assist the homeless population spiked – Hope Vibes distributed essential supplies such as hygiene packs, tents and tarps. The nonprofit also launched the Hope Tank, a box truck converted into a mobile shower center and laundromat serving the homeless community.

“We are living proof that ordinary people can produce extraordinary results,” said Adrienne about Hope Vibes, which she co-founded alongside her husband, Emmanuel. Previous Nish Jamgotch Jr. Humanitarian winners include Lucille Puette Giles, Executive Director of ourBRIDGE for KIDS, among others.

Read more: PhilanthropyFocus.org/Hope-Vibes

Foundation Team News

Elizabeth Trotman joined FFTC as senior vice president, Civic Leadership Programs and Initiatives. As part of her role, Elizabeth will help oversee the work of the Robinson Center for Civic Leadership, FFTC’s flagship program.

Blair Stanford joined FFTC as executive director of the Charlotte Executive Leadership Council. CELC coordinates the Charlotte business sector’s efforts to address major community needs.

Holly Welch Stubbing was named president and CEO of B4E Relief in January 2021 after leading in an interim role. A subsidiary of B4E Relief provides employee disaster and hardship relief programs for companies nationwide. Holly also continues to serve as executive vice president at FFTC.

CCAP Members Commit to Sustainability

Corporate philanthropy is vital to our region, with many generous companies investing in critical issues and opportunities facing our communities. Thanks to Charlotte Community Affairs Professionals, an affinity group managed by FFTC, the professionals who lead these corporate giving programs have a forum to share information, network and learn about local issues.

Recently, CCAP members Bank of America, Lowe’s, TiAA, Trans Technologies, Wells Fargo and Duke Energy participated in EarthShare NC’s Corporate Earth Day Event, working with environmental-focused nonprofits on virtual and in-person projects. In recognition of their impact, Duke Energy received the Virtual Virtuoso award.

Additionally, CCAP member Baringas, LLC, was recently nominated for Sustain Charlotte’s 10th annual Sustainability Awards, honoring smart growth and sustainability leadership. Baringas is a United Nations Global Compact partner that supports sustainability through company-wide initiatives and LEED-certified properties, including the global headquarters in Charlotte.

Expand Your Impact by Joining CCAP

CCAP membership is available to companies with funding priorities and commitments in the Charlotte region.

For information and to apply: ftcf.org/CCAP

CMCF Awards More Than $500,000 for Projects Serving Children

As the community continues to feel the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Charlotte Mecklenburg Community Foundation believes a top priority should be investing in children and the family members who care for them. That’s why CMCF – a regional affiliate and grantmaking arm of FFTC – recently granted $518,500 to 25 local nonprofits for projects that focus on children, youth and young adults.

“From fostering social capital to providing educational opportunities to preparing youth for future employment – these grants cover a lot of ground,” said Brian Collier, FFTC’s executive vice president. “But what they have in common is expanding opportunities to young people who need them the most.”

Expanding opportunities is why local nonprofit Carolina Youth Coalition applied for a grant. The $25,000 the organization received from CMCF will be used to provide high school students with mentors and college-preparatory resources.

“Carolina Youth Coalition is thrilled to be receiving this $25,000 grant from the Charlotte Mecklenburg Community Foundation,” said Carolina Youth Coalition Co-Founder and Executive Director Aaron Randolph. “This award will help us add an additional 50 high school students to our College Success Program, which provides best-in-class college counseling, ACT prep, mentoring, college tours and more to high-achieving, under-resourced youth in our community. CMCF has played a critical role in helping 59% of our students attend college debt-free.”

Additional grants from this cycle run the gamut, investing in programs that support families and children from preschool to college. Grants include, among others:

- $35,000 to Charlotte Bilingual Preschool to provide programming that will advance equity for Latina children and families.
- $25,000 to Foundation for Girls to provide weekly career training and financial coaching for 300 single homeless mothers.
- $25,000 to Project Scientist to provide a virtual after-school STEM Club for local girls experiencing homelessness.
- $25,000 to Young Black Leadership Alliance to provide college and career advising, awareness and exploration for underserved students and parents in the Charlotte community.

“CMCF has provided essential support to Charlotte Bilingual Preschool over the past decade, ensuring that economically-marginalized children and their families have access to high-quality, dual language, culturally competent programming that leads them to success in school and life,” Charlotte Bilingual Preschool Executive Director Banu Valladeres said in response to receiving the $35,000 grant. “This year, the generous gift will allow us to extend the school day for 50 three-year-olds, increasing accessibility for working families and deepening impact for children.”

CMCF’s grantmaking program was established following a $35 million bequest from Lucille Puette Giles in 1995. To date, the Charlotte Mecklenburg Community Foundation has awarded more than $55 million in grants – more than $20 million beyond the original gift. Because the fund was established as an unrestricted endowment, it provides a permanent source of grantmaking – while preserving the corpus – to address community needs as they evolve over time.

For more information and to see a complete list of grants: www.charmeck-cf.org
An Event to Remember

220 North Tryon at Foundation For The Carolinas hosts weddings, receptions, rehearsal dinners and other celebrations.

With an art gallery, sculpture garden and solarium overlooking expansive city views, 220 North Tryon offers a one-of-a-kind event experience.

Contact us at events@fftc.org to reserve your space.

Revenue generated from our event spaces allows us to offer complimentary meeting space to local nonprofits and to share our gallery with the community.

Carolina Theatre Update

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, construction on our Carolina Theatre project has continued with minimal impacts, with a 2022 re-opening for the classic movie palace on the horizon. In fact, the renovation met another major milestone in late February with the completion of the steel framing and concrete floor slabs on all theatre levels. Visit CarolinaTheatreCLT.org for more information or @carolinatheatreclt on Instagram and Facebook.