These are just a few of the words of gratitude we received. This would not have been possible without the support of our donors.

Like most people, I am sensitive to economic, social and emotional unrest due to this global pandemic. All opportunities to develop and grow my brand are on hold or cancelled but rent and bills are still due. I have been a freelance creative and artist for over 10 years. During this time, this grant will help me get basic supplies and pay rent. I am sincerely grateful for your support.

~ Ludie Senatus

Receiving my “Congratulations” email felt like a dark cloud was lifted off my spirit. Knowing that next months rent will be paid is a huge relief. My home is where my creative mind likes to dream + plan. My home is also my safe space during this COVID-19 pandemic and staying home is what I can do to support the people who are still out there working to keep us all safe. This grant makes me feel seen and supported. Thank you GCAC!

~ Megan Leigh Barnard
I am practically in tears right now, after being so anxious and stressed about the loss of income, and worrying about how I was going to be able to keep on top of bills, this is a huge help towards keeping myself afloat. I cannot thank the Arts Council enough for supporting me, and my fellow artists, in this difficult and stressful time. It means so much that this city clearly cares about the art community enough to provide support in such uncertain times. Thank you so much.

~ Maggie C.

Professional artists, such as myself, are largely self-employed and most of us make it without essentials like health insurance and we learn to make a little bit go a long way. There are very few options available to professional artists for emergency assistance and The Greater Columbus Arts Council was there for me and other Columbus artists, in a way that even the largest cities were not, for Columbus’ own professional artists. I truly received a lifeline and inspiration to continue thanks to The Greater Columbus Arts Council.

~ Sean Carney

It is a very hard, challenging, and self-disciplined path to be a full-time artist, and a lot of the time it does not feel like the arts community is supported. Art is important to Columbus, Ohio, and thank you for donating and giving to help us thrive and survive during this time. We will get through this hard time, and with your support I am more confident in knowing myself and other artists will make it!

~ Briden Cole Schueren

Being a full time musician was a life goal that I reached in 2019. Before that, every single source of my income was music related though. I felt good knowing that through Live Nation, AEG and PromoWest I could always work at the arenas and music venues in town if I did ever need some work. It felt good knowing that I could compose original music for my growing cliental and continue to expand that business. It felt good knowing that this April began the promotional tour for a film that I composed the score for. I was set, but the rug got pulled out from under me. This grant will help me maintain for the time being. This grant will feed my stepson. This grant will bring a sense of normalcy for the time being.

~ Robert Dawson
I will forever appreciate the support in Ohio for artists. It is truly a blessing to live in such an artistically rich city. These funds will help me continue to support my dream as a full time working artists in these struggling times of social distancing. Thank you so much!

~ Samantha Little

Receiving this emergency grant has been one of the most saving circumstances. It is not everyday you receive a portion of funding that helps you in such a dire time for us all. For me, this grant will help support my housing and studio, while I am able to figure out everything else. I was nearing the absolute of moving out, just so that I could continue projects that were due. But this grant will help stabilize and secure everything as we move into the unknown.

~ Lea Gray

A bleak moment indeed. In a matter of days every stream of income I had ran dry, performances and teaching sessions being cancelled left me in quite the predicament. I thank GCAC for assisting me in this time of turmoil as well as anyone who donated. The contributions are helping those that want to express themselves creatively in a society that needs it.

~ Kashis Kayz

If there is a silver lining, it’s that even in the wake of this global pandemic, arts and technology have proven to be curative. It has helped to reinforce the idea of being innovative and adaptable (think of all the DJs spinning music around the world), provide spaces of self-reflection for mental/physical wellness (with online yoga and workout classes) and bring us closer together (via video conferencing apps), even with the mandates on social distancing. I am encouraged that we will get through this, and I can’t wait to see what other ideas are created out of this moment in time by other artists in the city and around the world.

~ Kenneth Eaddy

Words can’t express how much this means, not only to me, but all the artists and musicians who have received your help through this grant. I am beyond thankful to be living in Columbus right now- this truly shows how strong and supportive our community is during times like this, and I’m honored to call Columbus home.

~ Angela Perley
This GCAC relief grant is a tremendous help in negotiating these wild times, and continuing to create. I feel humbled by the support. I’m eager to get back to performing and sharing what I love. We’ll get through this.

~ Zac Little

I am extremely grateful to be a recipient of the GCAC COVID-19 Emergency Relief Grant for artists! I lost my entire income overnight due to this crisis and with the grant, I am able to breathe an enormous sigh of relief. I won’t have to feel stressed about how I’ll buy groceries or pay bills. Thank you GCAC!

~ Aaron “Doc” Haye

I am new to this community and I am so very grateful and humbled to being from Columbus, Ohio to be part of a community of people who really care about artists and that their crafts. My inspiration comes through and from many different things and during these stressful times we have to lean on faith to get us through. It is wonderful to have a community that wants to continue to inspire and motivate us to create and not lose hope. Again, I am grateful. There is a saying that states that it takes a village, and that is so very true. Thank you so much GCAC for all that you do and for being that village for us.

~ Tracy Powell

I am completely humble by all of you at GCAC. You guys are amazing! I can’t thank you enough for your continuous support and especially for this grant! Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

~ Jurate Phillips

As the sole provider for my family, I cannot thank the Greater Columbus Arts Council enough! At a time of such need, with so many unknowns, it is very humbling to know that the Columbus arts community is doing what it can to take care of each other, and I am proud to be a part of that community. Your generosity is appreciated, and I will be paying it forward, as soon as this outbreak is over and I am able.

~ Anonymous