

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Precious Blake: Arts Every Day

Phone: 410-685-1172

Email: precious@artseveryday.org

Website URL: www.artseveryday.org



ARTS EVERY DAY AWARDS \$22,000 TO BALTIMORE CITY SCHOOLS FOR COMMUNITY ART

March 5, 2018 (Baltimore, MD) – Arts Every Day (AED) awards \$22,000 to five Baltimore City Public Schools to implement large scale arts projects that will have a long-term impact on their students and surrounding community. Projects include exterior building murals at Western High School and Vivien T. Thomas Medical Academy, outdoor learning space mural at Morrel Park Elementary, mosaic sculpture at Mergenthaler Vocational Technical High School, and a mosaic garden at Gwynns Falls Elementary School.

Arts Every Day is proud to be a driving force in building and sustaining a Baltimore City public school system that embraces creativity, art, and culture as a fundamental requirement for a quality education. Impact Fund is an extension of this work by affording students and teachers the opportunity to collaborate with local artists and community members. All Baltimore City Public Schools were invited to apply and the final five recipients were chosen by a committee of local art and design leaders in December 2017. At each project’s completion, the schools will host community days or dedication ceremonies in June 2018. The Impact Fund is the only grant exclusively for Baltimore City Public Schools to create large scale arts projects. One of the 2018 awardees, Morrell Park Elementary Middle School, reflects on how the Impact Fund is important to their community:

“The Morrell Park Community has been struggling with an increase in crime and violence and we see this mural as an opportunity for the community to come together and create and create something extraordinary for our kids to enjoy. The mural will be designed from input from students, teachers, school staff and the community members; it will truly be a project that builds a positive bridge between the school and the community.” Danielle Bagonis

In 2014 with support from Point Breeze Credit Union, AED launched Impact Fund to support large scale permanently installed projects that connect individual schools to local artists and their surrounding community. The initiative has grown from supporting one to two projects per year to a competitive funding opportunity open to all Baltimore City Public Schools. Thanks to the new support from the Dock Street Foundation, M&T Bank, and a growing family of individual supporters, the Arts Every Day Impact Fund will support five projects in 2018.

Impact Fund Projects for School Year 2018

2018 Impact Fund Projects (community event days TBA)

Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy: *"Arts" In Medical Arts Mural*

Awarded \$5,000

Students in grades 10-12th enrolled in Drawing and Painting will paint a mural that showcases the mission and vision of Vivien T Thomas Medical Arts Academy. Students will work together to create symbols that represent "The Viva" and their passion to heal our world with artists Megan Lewis in a group designed mural.

Morrell Park Elementary School: *Outdoor Learning Space Mural*

Awarded \$5,000

Morrell Park Elementary Middle School will partner with Access Art, a local after school arts program, to create an accompanying mural to their outdoor learning space. The theme of the mural will be around empathy and cooperation.

Mergenthaler Vocational Technical High School: *Inclusion Mosaic*

Awarded \$5,000

Sue Stockman in collaboration with the students of MERVO will create a small welcoming space where the extended community can sit and contemplate, finding their inner calm as they observe and meditate on color and form of the sculptural mosaic designs.

Western High School: *The Dove Project*

Awarded \$3,000

The students will create mosaic doves that will fly across the facade of Western High school. Two art classes of students will be taught how to conduct workshops in creating the mosaic doves by the artist partner, Toby Rivkin, so they can then conduct workshops with teachers, parents, alumnae and students.

Gwynns Falls Elementary School: *Mosaic Pathways*

Awarded \$3,000

This event will involve 3rd grade students, artist Carien Quiroga, and parents of the community. Pathway/stepping stones designed by students will be an addition to the outside meditation garden.

About Arts Every Day

Arts Every Day (AED) is proud to be a driving force in building and sustaining a Baltimore City that values public education through creativity, art, and culture. A 501(c) 3 founded in 2006 as one in only eight organizations originally funded by the Ford Foundation, AED works to ensure all Baltimore City Public Schools students have access to the arts every day through arts education, arts programming, and arts-integrated instruction. Arts Every Day works toward this goal through the forging of partnerships with schools and the arts and cultural community over the long-term to inspire lasting change. For more information visit www.artseveryday.com

About Dock Street Foundation

Dock Street Foundation supports nonprofit organizations on the Eastern Shore of Maryland that support healthy families, kids, education, mental health, the arts and our environment.

About M&T Bank

For more than 160 years, M&T Bank Corporation has helped people and businesses manage their money and make sound financial decisions, so they can live better today and realize their goals for tomorrow. M&T Bank Corporation is a regional financial services company with more than \$120 billion in assets. We provide banking, insurance, investments, mortgage and commercial financial services through more than 775 branches, 1600 ATMs, and a variety of online and mobile services.

Founded in 1856 in Buffalo, New York, we're a community-focused bank that serves customers in New York, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Connecticut, Virginia, West Virginia and Washington, DC.