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FEBRUARY 2023

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Foundation for Tulsa Schools to Host Inaugural Gala

ARTrageous to support Foundation for Tulsa Schools and Tulsa Public Schools Fine Arts programs

Tulsa, Okla. (February 2023) - The Foundation for Tulsa Schools will host its inaugural fine arts gala, ARTrageous, on April 1 at OKPOP Museum. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Tulsa Public Schools Fine Arts Department and the Foundation for Tulsa Schools to support fine arts education and ongoing programs, including Explore Oklahoma, Grants for Great Ideas, and the STEM fund.

ARTrageous honors the creativity of Tulsa Public Schools students and will provide them the opportunity to showcase their talents throughout the gala. The event will feature a gallery of student art, live performances, and a silent auction.

"I am proud of the talent and excellence of our students and educators at each of our school sites," said Moises Echeverria, president and CEO of the Foundation for Tulsa Schools. "We welcome the community to join us in this celebration and support our efforts to build a stronger community through the support of Tulsa Public Schools."

The fine arts are vitally important in schools, reaching students not normally reached and leading to better student attendance and lower dropout rates. Fine arts education is also shown to positively impact the learning of students of lower socioeconomic status as much or more than those of a higher socioeconomic status. According to a 2019 study by the Brookings Institution, the study of the fine arts has a remarkably positive impact on students' academic, social and emotional outcomes, with evidence to suggest that arts education can improve school climate, empower students and enhance mutual respect for their teachers and peers.

"The fine arts play a pivotal role in students' development, providing a creative outlet for self-expression and a sense of belonging for our students," said Aleks Kitchens, fine arts content manager at Tulsa Public Schools and ARTrageous event chair. "Our hope is that by sharing our students' passions and talents with our generous community, the fine arts programs within Tulsa Public Schools will be celebrated and strengthened, providing students with more opportunities to learn, create and express themselves through the arts."

Tulsa Public Schools currently provides 133 Fine Arts programs to over 28,244 students, with a majority participating in community arts programs and approximately 500 attending summer arts programs.

Tickets can be purchased online at foundationfortulsaschools.org/artrageous.

Special thanks to the generous ARTrageous sponsors, George Kaiser Family Foundation, TTCU Federal Credit Union, the Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation, QuikTrip, Bama Companies, Chandler Hospitality Group, Cox Communications, ONE Gas, Charles & Lynn Schusterman Family Philanthropies, the Sherry Family, Devon Energy, the Echeverria Ashworth Family, Flintco, GableGotwals, Hille Foundation, Hilti, KKT Architects, LLC, Nahbolz Construction Corporation, ONEOK, OSU in Tulsa, Paycom, Public Service Company of Oklahoma, Resolute PR and Trust Company of Oklahoma.

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About The Foundation for Tulsa Schools

Founded in 2001, the Foundation for Tulsa Schools was established to build a better community through the support of Tulsa Public Schools. The Foundation believes that every child should have access to a quality education, the resources they need to learn, and a supportive environment in which to learn.

The Foundation for Tulsa Schools is honored to be a champion for TPS students, teachers, and staff. We serve as a bridge between those who are passionate about public education and those who learn in, teach at, and support our schools.

For more information on how you can support Tulsa Public Schools visit:

www.foundationfortulsaschools.org