



GREATER BALTIMORE
cultural alliance

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Fred Bronstein, *President*
Kevin Apperson, *Vice President*
Heidi Daniel, *Treasurer*
Carla Du Prez, *Secretary*
Stacie Sanders Evans,
Governance Committee

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chris Bedford
Randi Benesch
Jaqueline Copeland
Navashu Daya
Donna Drew Sawyers
Chris Ford
John Hendricks
Garey Hyatt
Lee Kappelman
Peter Kjome
Julia Marcari-Alexander
Sheri Parks
Wendel Patrick
Clay Phillip
Sarah Schaffer
Stacie Tobin

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jeannie L. Howe

120 W. North Ave
Suite 305
Baltimore, MD 21201
w 410.230.0200
f 410.685.1174

www.baltimoreculture.org
www.culturefly.org

Date: March 10, 2021

To: The City Council of Baltimore City
Regarding: Baltimore City Council Bill 21 0022-R

Dear Members of the Baltimore City Council,

We write today as the Executive Director and President of the Board of Directors of the Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance (GBCA) to strongly urge you to support Baltimore City Council Bill 21 0022-R. This much-needed Bill would provide \$1 million funding for artists in Baltimore City, in the event that additional COVID relief funding be forthcoming from the Federal government.

The GBCA's recently enacted strategic plan notes that "Artists, and arts, cultural and humanities organizations are essential contributors to the social fabric and human spirit of Baltimore; for their contributions to equitable education, economy, and opportunity; as problem-solving partners to government and business; and for both their inherent worth and their power to create change."

The dignity of a broad, complex spectrum of human creative expression must be recognized and respected—and supported. Baltimore is nationally recognized for the richness of its cultural fabric and as a place where artists thrive. As the city moves into recovery and beyond, artists are a resource—economically, and more. All artists, particularly those of color, need help. Let's keep them in our city. Artists support our children's education, draw visitors, help others to heal, and are otherwise contributing economically by living and working in the community.

Thank you and we look forward to the successful hearing of this Baltimore City Council Bill 21 0022-R.

Sincerely,

Fred Bronstein
Board President

Jeannie L. Howe
Executive Director