



AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS TO PRESENT LEADERSHIP AWARD TO WILLIAM MARINO OF 40 WEST ARTS

Presentation Set for June 16 at Americans for the Arts' National Convention in Denver

LAKEWOOD, CO—May 24, 2018—Americans for the Arts announced today that William Marino, Board Chair of 40 West Arts and Executive Director of the Lakewood-W. Colfax Business Improvement District, will be honored with The Michael Newton Award for Leadership at Americans for the Arts upcoming Annual Convention in Denver, Colorado. As part of the annual Leadership Award series, these awards recognize the achievements of individuals and organizations committed to enriching their communities through the arts.

“This is a tribute to all who have worked to champion the renaissance of the West Colfax community,” said Marino. “The award recognizes the cohesiveness of our community and the countless volunteers and community partners who have worked together to embrace and support the arts as a catalyst for transformation.”

“Our Leadership Award honorees have distinguished themselves as passionate advocates and leaders in innovation, education, management, and advocacy for the arts in communities across the country,” said Robert L. Lynch, president and CEO of Americans for the Arts. “These leaders are driven by a deep belief in the power of the arts to transform individual lives and communities, and their unwavering commitment to local, state, and national support for the arts is deserving of this recognition.”

The awards will be presented at Americans for the Arts' [Annual Convention](#) in Denver, Colorado, on Saturday, June 16, 2018, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

The full slate of national award recipients are:

- Quance G. Floyd (Washington DC.) – American Express Emerging Leaders Award
- William Marino (Lakewood, CO) – Michael Newton Award for Leadership
- Kristina Newman-Scott (Hartford, CT) – Selina Roberts Ottum Award
- Renee Piechocki (Pittsburgh, PA) – Public Art Network Award
- Paul Sznewajs (Chicago, IL) – Arts Education Award
- Sarah Gonzales Triplett (Lansing, MI) – Alene Valkanas State Arts Advocacy Award

Americans for the Arts' Annual Convention brings together arts and community leaders to network and discuss strategies for building stronger towns, counties, and cities through the arts. What started as a small group of 45 people in 1955 has now grown to more than 1,100 each year, and continues to grow 10-15 percent annually.

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***Americans for the Arts** is the leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education in America. With offices in Washington, D.C. and New York City, it has a record of more than 55 years of service. Americans for the Arts is dedicated to representing and serving local communities and creating opportunities for every American to participate in and appreciate all forms of the arts. Additional information is available at www.AmericansForTheArts.org.*

***40 West Arts** is a Colorado certified creative district along Lakewood's historic West Colfax Avenue. As a 501(c)3 nonprofit, 40 West Arts is working to champion the renaissance of West Colfax (US 40) by fostering corridor engagement through community arts spaces and events, delivering hands-on arts-related education and experiences, and promoting economic vibrancy throughout the district. More information is available at www.40WestArts.org.*