March 7, 2018

John Bracey, Executive Director
Michigan Council for Art and Cultural Affairs
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

Dear Mr. Bracey,

I am writing this letter in support of the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer (CAGL) in its quest to secure an Operational Support Grant for Fiscal Year 2019. The CAGL has played a major role in the redevelopment of Downtown Lapeer, and serves as a magnet for several events and diverse groups.

Classified as an underserved arts and cultural community by the National Endowment for the Arts, the efforts of the CAGL has afforded the city of Lapeer to have national award-winning performers at the historic PIX Theatre at reduced ticket rates, expanded educational offerings in art and theater, and the opportunity of offering scholarships to disadvantaged youth to participate in specific classes. Clearly, the CAGL has successfully worked hard at making the Greater Lapeer area a Center of Art and Culture.

Thank you for your consideration of my support for the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer. Please feel free to call me with any questions you may have.

Gary Howell
State Representative
82nd District – Lapeer County
517-373-1800
April 10, 2017

JOHN BRACEY, Executive Director
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

Dear Mr. Bracey,

I was so glad to be contacted about the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer's grant with the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs. Having served on many local boards for various organizations, as well as being a citizen of Lapeer County for many years, I truly appreciate the value of the Arts.

Our Gallery 194 showcases many wonderful artists, as well as members of our community and our various schools. It is a valuable part of our educational system as well. The Pix Theater provides a wide array of entertainment otherwise unavailable to most of our children and citizens, at affordable prices. These are both necessary and cherished by our community.

I just wanted to take a moment to express my support for these wonderful institutions. If I can be of any further assistance, please feel free to contact me here at Circuit Court (810) 245-4816.

Very truly yours,

Honorable Nick O. Holowka
Chief Circuit Judge for Lapeer County
William J. Sprague
Mayor City of Lapeer
Lapeer Mi. 48446
Date: May 2, 2017

John Bracey, Executive Director
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N Washington Square
Lansing, Mi. 48913

Mr. Bracey,

I am writing this letter in support of the Center for the Arts in Lapeer. The CFA is a vital part of our downtown redevelopment. The center serves as a magnet for many events and diverse groups.

The CFA has brought together the schools, Community Mental Health, seniors, services groups and the public in general. It has offered numerous program designed to educate, entertain, and even provide therapy.

We are extremely proud of the CFA and a cornerstone of the community. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

William Sprague
Mayor City of Lapeer
Kasey Deschler
3664 Reamer Road
Lapeer Michigan 48446

Dear Mr. Bracey-

I would like to support the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer in receiving a Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs Operational Support Grant. I am 14 years old, and the Center for the Arts has already influenced my life so much. Starting when I was young, I devoted a lot of my time to taking acting classes at the Pix. That was when my love of acting and arts was born. I continued those classes, and was in a couple of plays, like School House Rock! I still remember the practices, the dress rehearsals, and the final performance. My still best friend, Rachel, was in the play with me, and we really had gotten closer than we were before with the months of practicing. There is a tradition in which we go behind the stage where there is an old fashioned dresser. The oldest writes the name of the play and their name, and the others follow, until we all added our names to the sea of names and doodles on the old dresser, and the walls surrounding it. I went back there just a couple months ago after our performances of an acting class I was taking, and saw all the names still intact, and a wave of nostalgia passed over me. Those were some of the most fun times of my childhood, and I want other kids to do the same thing. Later, during presentations for school, it was always a breeze for me because I already had public speaking experience. There were also many talent shows that I participated in. Although I never
placed, it was still an amazing experience because nowhere else in Lapeer hosted these kind of things. This also gets incoming high schoolers ready for their school play. It can prepare them to beat out upperclassmen in main roles, and so they can get the roles that are more desirable. No one wants to be stuck playing the tree. But all jokes aside, The Center for the Arts is a really memorable place and holds a special place in my heart.

Thank you!

Kasey Deschler
March 27, 2017

John Bracey, Executive Director  
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs  
Michigan Economic Development Corporation  
300 N. Washington Square  
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Mr. Bracey:

This letter will confirm our support for the City of Lapeer’s Center for the Arts application to the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs Operational Support Grant.

The City has encouraged our Art Center to continue to develop and enrich our community by offering group classes and many diverse events that will help the community have learning experiences based specifically in the arts and various cultural disciplines.

The City of Lapeer has appreciated the cooperative partnership we have had with the Center for the Arts and we look forward to working together, investing in this entity and developing a culturally arts based community.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Dale Kerbyson  
City Manager

DKfts
April 10, 2017

John Bracey, Executive Director  
Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs  
Michigan Economic Development Corporation  
300 N. Washington Square  
Lansing, MI  48913

Dear Mr. Bracey,

I am writing to support the grant application of the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer. The Center for the Arts plays a critical role in our community through the Gallery 194 and the PIX Theater. Both of these contribute to the quality of life for the citizens of Lapeer County. The educational, cultural and entertainment programming provided through the Center of the Arts creates an environment that can help us continue economic development in Lapeer County.

Gallery 194 provides opportunities for local artists and students to come together to display their work. Citizens of all ages can take advantage of educational opportunities. The PIX Theater provides programming for school children, families and adults including drama, comedy, and music.

The MCACA grant is critical to the continued success of the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer. I urge your support of the MCACA grant. It will help create an environment that will attract growth and promote the arts.

Sincerely,

Patricia Lucas, CEcD  
Executive Director
John Bracey, Executive Director  
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs  
Michigan Economic Development Corporation  
300 N. Washington Square  
Lansing, MI 48913  

April 4, 2017  

Dear Mr. Bracey,  

The Lapeer Main Street Downtown Development Authority (DDA) would like to express our support for The Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer, Inc.  

The arts play an important role in the development of our downtown and The Center for the Arts is a cornerstone in that development. By being able to offer a variety of programming that appeal to all ages and interests the Center for the Arts is taking a leadership role in improving the livability and economic vitality of our community. Live performances by local and national acts alongside exhibits that feature student artists, state, and national artists engage the community and expose them to new cultural experiences that enhance our quality of life. In addition it great programing the Center for the Arts is able to offer a variety of classes in both the visual and performing arts. These programs serve to not only strengthen our downtown, but also the surrounding areas. It’s a positive impact that reaches all of Lapeer County and beyond.  

The Lapeer Main Street DDA is proud to be able to support the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer Inc. The arts play an important role in our community, enhancing our lives in many ways. We are fortunate to have a venue like the Center for the Arts in Lapeer that serves our downtown, city, and county.  

Sincerely,  

[Signature]  

James Alt  
Executive Director  
Lapeer Main Street DDA
John Bracey, Executive Director  
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs  
Michigan Economic Development Corporation  
300 N. Washington Square  
Lansing, MI 48913

March 27, 2017

Kara Deschler  
3664 Reamer Road  
Lapeer, MI 48446

Dear Mr. Bracey,
I am writing this letter in support of the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer. They would be an excellent candidate to receive the Operational Support Grant.

I have two high school children. They began going to the Pix Theater as preschoolers, as part of a school days program to see Strega Nona, put on by the Wild Swan Theater from Ann Arbor. I still remember this because they talked about it for days afterwards. Following that experience, we were regular visitors to the Family Fun Saturday series. This is a regular part of the Pix’s offerings, with shows appropriate for young children including magicians, musicians, puppeteers and short plays. Because the Pix is local, we were able to attend more of the offerings than we might have if we had to travel to Ann Arbor or Detroit.

This early experience has built an appreciation for live theater and music. We enjoy going to shows and concerts as a family, and the Pix is where it all started.

My daughter has taken advantage of other opportunities, taking acting classes, participating in talent shows, and participating in plays. She has also volunteered at the Center for the Arts.

The Center is an important hub in our community. There are many ways it impacts people in our community, and we are fortunate to have it. I would certainly encourage you to support them as well. Thank you for your time.

Yours Sincerely,

Kara Deschler
April 17, 2017

Mr. John Bracey, Executive Director
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

RE: Letter of Support for Grant Funding

Dear Mr. Bracey:

It is my come to my attention that the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer will be submitting grant applications to provide important funding for the various programs and activities of the Center for the Arts.

I wish to express my full support in their efforts for new grant funding opportunities. The Center for the Arts provide both educational and entertainment programs that are very valuable to the citizens of Lapeer County, such as:

- **The PIX Theater** provides a variety of programming, including comedy, musical and dramatic presentations which appeal to all age groups and are well attended;
- **Gallery 194** offers exhibits, workshops, and events like “Art on Nepessing Street” focusing on the visual arts, as well as exhibit space for local artists; Various Live Entertainment; and last summer they hosted a Smithsonian exhibit entitled “Home Town Sports,” which featured items from the Smithsonian along with local exhibits and stories that focused on the role and impact of sports on small communities.

I feel that the Center of the Arts for Greater Lapeer plays an important role in the growth and development of Lapeer County, which is why I highly support their endeavors to seek additional grant funding.

If you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

John Bisce
Lapeer County Controller/Administrator

JB/dsc
To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing you today to express my support for the Center of the Arts here in downtown Lapeer. The Center is such a vital part of the culture of our community and a sign of the progress the area has made in embracing the arts. The excitement and inspiration they instill in kids (and even some older folk!) is just awesome to see. The diversity of entertainment the Center brings to Lapeer is an integral part of the community and the downtown's renaissance.

Please join myself and my business, Woodchips BBQ, in offering any support you can to this amazing organization.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Patrick Hingst
Owner/Founder
Woodchips BBQ/M.C.'WICHES Sandwiches/PB&J Hospitality Consulting
248-496-0128
patrick@woodchipsbbq.com
March 28, 2017

John Bracey, Executive Director  
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs  
Michigan Economic Development Corporation  
300 N. Washington Square  
Lansing, MI 48913

Dear Executive Director Bracey,

This letter is to request that you please continue to provide grant money to the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer. As a resident of Lapeer and President of the local Optimist International Chapter, I feel that the programs offered at the Center for the Arts are very valuable to the youth.

Our Optimist Chapter has provided many years of support for the youth programs offered at the Center. In order for the Center to maintain programs for all ages, the MCACA grant is critical. Programs offered provide cultural experiences for all ages.

Opportunities for cultural experiences are fairly limited in this area, but with continued programs offered by the Center for the Arts, people of all ages benefit. It is with your continued support that the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer will continue to thrive and provide opportunities for enrichment in the lives of many within our community.

Thank you,

Mike Colpetzer