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January 13, 2021

Mayor Terry Hartwick  
City Hall – 300 Main Street  
PO Box 5757  
North Little Rock, AR 72119-5757

RE: 2020 Annual Funding Performance Report

Dear Mayor Hartwick,

Students in North Little Rock and across Arkansas have benefited in many ways because of the City of North Little Rock's generosity in continuing to support the Arts in Arkansas through the Thea Foundation. We are proud of our support of numerous North Little Rock businesses as well as Thea's support of the North Little Rock School District.

One of our top priorities continues to be good corporate citizens of the City of North Little Rock, as well as to represent North Little Rock across the State of Arkansas and even across the country.

**2020 was a year of amazing changes for Thea Foundation navigating through COVID-19.**

In 2019/2020, our longest-standing program, Thea's Scholarships, awarded 36 Arkansas high school seniors scholarships in six different arts categories, which translates to an increase in awards to \$97,400 and 36 scholarships!

- Thea Scholarships to North Little Rock High School Seniors: \$16,000.00
- Total Matching Scholarship Amount Awarded: \$9,500.00 (Matched by various colleges and universities)
- **Total Awarded to NLRSD: \$25,500.00**

During the 2019/20 school year, Arts Reconstruction impacted 2,764 students across three Arkansas school districts. More than 70 students participated in the strings portion of Arts Reconstruction and the visual arts teacher professional development training aspect directly influenced 1,025 students. Arts Reconstruction provides this much needed professional development training, in partnership with UA Little Rock,



for visual arts teachers. Thea Foundation includes a large stipend for materials in support of the new mediums they learn in the customized development classes.

- Arts Reconstruction in materials to North Little Rock School District: \$18,345.00
- Arts Reconstruction in General Operating Costs for North Little Rock School District: \$20,090.00
- ***Total Arts Reconstruction to NLRSD: \$38,435.00***

Thea's Art Closet continues to grow. During the 2019/2020 school year, we granted 117 projects across the State of Arkansas for a total of \$118,919.00 in support of creative teaching in our schools. Even with the doubling of funding during the last school year, we foresee this amount to be depleted early spring 2021 due to need in our state and virtual learning needs.

- Thea's Art Closet to North Little Rock Schools: \$5,737.00
- Total Matching Thea's Art Closet Amount Awarded: \$4,987.00
- ***Total Arts Closet Grants to NLRSD: \$10,724.00***

### **Thea Foundation's Support of North Little Rock Business Community**

As noted, Thea Foundation supports a wide variety of North Little Rock retail and professional businesses. Thea Foundation's payroll and healthcare costs of over \$300,000 supports all staff members, and the accounting is accomplished by CFO and EGP completes our 990 and Audit for over \$35,000 per year.

- ***Total Support to the North Little Rock Economy: \$322,250.74***

### **Thea Foundation's Support of North Little Rock School District**

Thea Foundation's mission is to advocate for the importance of the Arts in the development of our youth. Our programs include: Scholarships, Thea's Art Closet, and Arts Reconstruction. As previously stated, we are proud of amount of awards to students in North Little Rock.

- ***Total Support to the North Little Rock School District: \$74,659.00***

Thank you for your continued support of the Thea Foundation. We truly appreciate the support of the North Little Rock City Council and the Mayor's Office. We take your support of \$48,000 very seriously and work hard to multiply that value, and we appeal for your continued support. The monies awarded were applied to General Operating Support in order for staff to implement the Scholarship Program, Thea's Art Closet, and Arts Reconstruction in the City of North Little Rock.

We are proud of our 19 years growth, and we will continue to do so all while maintaining our voice for the arts, the arts in education, and the City of North Little Rock. Thank you for your time and your consideration. Again, we appreciate you and your support.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Owens Buie  
Director of Development

FILED 9:10 A.M.                  P.M.  
BY Julie Taha, Admin  
DATE 1/25/2021  
Diane Whitbey, City Clerk and Collector  
North Little Rock, Arkansas  
RECEIVED by [Signature]