



Contact:

Alex Weld

Wheeling Heritage

304.232.3087

aweld@wheelingheritage.org

### **Wheeling Heritage Announces Emergency Grant for Artists, Entertainers, Small Business Owners**

WHEELING, W.Va. – March 24, 2020 – Wheeling Heritage today announced that it is accepting applications for its COVID-19 Emergency Grant. The grant is open to professional working artists and entertainers, as well as small business owners, who have had a loss of income due to COVID-19. Professional working artists or entertainers or small business owners are those who devote a significant portion of their time to their craft or business and depend on this income for their livelihood.

“For decades, Wheeling Heritage has provided small grants to various community organizations and events that help to recognize, communicate and preserve Wheeling’s heritage,” said Alex Weld, incoming executive director of Wheeling Heritage. “We are temporarily pausing that grant and diverting some funds to artists, entertainers and small business owners – individuals whose work is important to our mission.”

She also noted that because they are self-employed, many artists, entertainers and small business owners are not eligible for unemployment benefits.

Applications can be filled out and submitted at [wheelingheritage.org/grants](http://wheelingheritage.org/grants). To apply, the person or small business must be in the Wheeling Heritage Area (the Wheeling city limits). Applicants may apply for up to \$1,000 with priority given to those with immediate needs of shelter, food, and other essentials. Grant applications will be reviewed and awarded on a weekly basis until funds are exhausted. Based on the demand and available funds, you may receive a partial award. One application for each individual or business will be reviewed and only one grant will be awarded.

### **About Wheeling Heritage**

[Wheeling Heritage](http://WheelingHeritage.org) is a catalyst for the revitalization of Wheeling. Through historic preservation, community development, and the arts, we help to tell Wheeling’s story and shape its future. We seek to improve the quality of life in Wheeling by preserving and investing in our city, collaborating with others, and engaging the citizens of Wheeling in our work.