

Contact:
Alex Panas
Communications Manager
Wheeling Heritage
apanas@wheelingheritage.org

Wheeling Heritage Accepting Show of Hands Applications; Plans to Return as In-Person Event

WHEELING, W.Va. – Feb. 1, 2022– If you have an idea for a new business, a business expansion, or a project that will impact Wheeling, you are encouraged to apply for Wheeling Heritage's Show of Hands. The winner will leave the event with more than \$4,000 to put towards his or her idea.

Currently, the event is slated to return as an in-person event scheduled for March 30 at 6 p.m. on the third floor of the Artisan Center, located at 1400 Main Street in Wheeling.

"We're excited to be bringing Show of Hands back as an in-person event, something we know that many people are looking forward to," said Alex Panas, communications manager for Wheeling Heritage. "We are continually monitoring local COVID rates and have plans in place to transition the event back online if necessary."

Applications are due Feb. 18 and can be completed at wheelingheritage.org/show-of-hands. A committee will review applications, and four will be chosen to move on to the presentation round.

At the event, four presenters explain their ideas to community members in attendance. Attendees pay \$5 at the door, which is added to the winner's prize. Attendees then vote on their favorite, and the presenter who receives the most votes receives \$4,000, plus door donations, to put towards the project. To date, Show of Hands has given more than \$89,000 to 25 projects.

The most recent Show of Hands winners include, Midge's Kitchen, who plans to expand her business by purchasing a mobile food trailer, and Making Magic, a flower shop located in Warwood.

Orrick, the program's corporate sponsor, donates \$1,000 for each event. The Friends of Show of Hands, which consists of community members and business owners, also contribute to each event.

About Wheeling Heritage:

<u>Wheeling Heritage</u> 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.