

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 7, 2019 Contact: Kelly McCaughern, Assistant Director of Communications <u>Email: kmccaughern@art-reach.org</u> <u>Phone: (267) 515-6726</u>

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Art-Reach Announces 2019 Cultural Access Award Winners

HMS School for Children with Cerebral Palsy, Theatre Horizon, Philadelphia Orchestra, and Michael Anderson to receive Cultural Access Awards this spring.

Art-Reach is excited to announce the Cultural Access Award recipients for 2019. Every year, Art-Reach honors a Member Agency, Arts Organization, and an individual with one of their Cultural Access Awards. In addition, Art-Reach recognizes an outstanding accessible event with the Kimmel Award for Accessible Experience. The honorees will receive their awards during Art-Reach's 2019 Spring Brunch on April 6, 2019 at World Café Live.

This year, Art-Reach will present the **Member Agency Award to HMS School for Children with Cerebral Palsy** for their commitment to ensuring that their students have an active and participatory experience with the arts. **Theatre Horizon will be presented the Arts Partner Award** for their commitment to making theater accessible to everyone and in recognition of their Saturday Autism Drama program. The **Individual Impact Award will be presented to Michael Anderson** of the Arc of Philadelphia, for his commitment to ensuring that people with disabilities who require a personal care attendant (PCA) can attend museums throughout the city without the financial burden of paying for their PCA. Finally, the **Kimmel Award for Accessible Experience will be presented to the Philadelphia Orchestra** for their mainstage, sensory friendly orchestra performance in 2018. The performance included immersive experiences before the performance, including an instrument 'petting zoo' where people could try out instruments and a percussion circle.

In addition to the awards, Art-Reach's Spring Brunch will feature spoken word performances by artists who identify as having disabilities along with an original, world premiere ballet performance from Center for Creative Works and the Second Company of the Pennsylvania Ballet, choreographed by Jessica Kilpatrick.

About Art-Reach

Founded in 1986, Art-Reach creates advocates for and expands accessible opportunities in the arts so that the full spectrum of society is served. Art-Reach is solely devoted to increasing cultural participation among traditionally underserved audiences in both the disability and low-income sectors of the Philadelphia Region. In 2018, Art-Reach empowered over 185,000 people to experience arts and culture who otherwise would not have the opportunity. Art-Reach is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization. For more information about Art-Reach, visit art-reach.org

About the Spring Brunch and Cultural Access Awards

The Spring Brunch is Art-Reach's only annual event that recognizes the work people and places in the city take on to make Philadelphia more accessible. Through the Cultural Access Awards, Art-Reach identifies organizations and individuals who exemplify cultural accessibility. In 2019 The Spring Brunch and Cultural Access Awards will take place on April 6, 2019 from 12:00p – 3:00p at World Café Live.

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