

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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Contact: Greta Johnson
Assistant Chief of Staff
Office of Executive Shapiro
ExecutivePress@summitoh.net
330-643-2656

Nicole Mullet
Executive Director
ArtsNow
Nicole@ArtsNow.org
330-203-1606

Summit County, ArtsNow celebrate National Arts and Humanities Month

SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO—Summit County Executive Shapiro and Executive Director of ArtsNow Nicole Mullet are celebrating National Arts and Humanities Month for the month of October.

For the third year in a row, Executive Shapiro will host “Artistic Excellence” at the State of the County Address on Wednesday, October 2, 2024, featuring incredibly talented artists who live, work, and create art here in Summit County. The exhibit is coordinated by ArtsNow and highlights the partners including the Akron Black Artist Guild, Collide: Cuyahoga Falls, Cuyahoga Valley Art Center, Door2Art, Peninsula Art Academy, Summit Artspace, Stow Arts Commission, and Summit DD. Residents will be able to scan a QR code at the event or visit the website hosted by Peninsula Art Academy at tinyurl.com/bdxf5ue. Four pieces are attached as a preview.

“It is hard to overstate the importance of being able to express your true self,” said Executive Shapiro. “It is through art that so many people find connection, courage, and hope—essential components of a high-quality of life. We are so fortunate to have a thriving arts and culture scene supported by local organizations that benefit local artists of all mediums.”

According to the National Endowment for the Arts, the arts economy accounted for 4.31% of GDP or over \$1.1 trillion and employed 5.2 million workers earning over \$509.2 billion in total compensation in the United States. In the Akron Metropolitan Statistical Area, the arts and culture sector is an economic driver, generating \$1.4 billion for our local economy. Summit County continues to see local artists, musicians, entertainers, historians, writers, poets, designers, and more build up the community and economy.

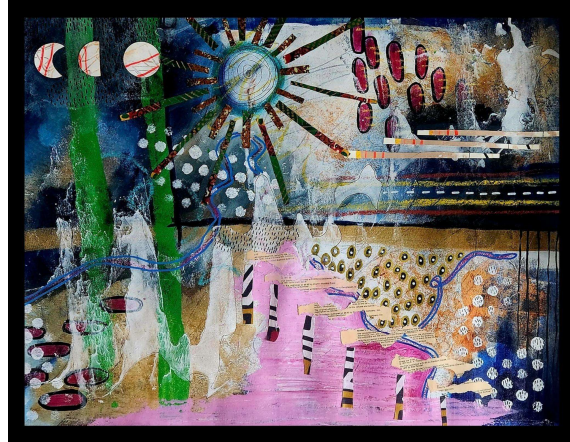
“In Summit County, the arts are woven into the fabric of our identity, enriching our lives and driving meaningful progress,” says Mullet. “As we celebrate National Arts and Humanities Month, we proudly spotlight the dynamic arts, cultural, and environmental sectors that fuel both innovation and economic vitality. Together, we’re fostering a creative ecosystem that not only inspires but strengthens the very foundation of our community’s future success.”

Executive Shapiro also encourages residents to attend the [State of the Arts](#) on Wednesday, October 23. This annual event brings together artists, performers, and community leaders for an unforgettable evening of inspiration and creativity. The event will also honor Olivia Demas and Christine Amer Mayer for their ongoing support of arts and culture in Summit County.

For more information on Arts and Humanities Month, the exhibit “Artistic Excellence,” or ArtsNow, see artsnow.org.



Diane Johnson
Believe
Akron Black Artist Guild



Stephanie Stewart
A Long Way Home
Summit Artspace



Nick Lee
Metamorphosis
Summit Artspace



Ron White
Stress
Summit Artspace

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