

WINNERS ANNOUNCED IN 2020 JERSEYARTS.COM PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS**Cultural organizations from throughout state honored in 12th annual awards**

BURLINGTON, N.J. (March 11, 2020) – The ArtPride New Jersey Foundation, in partnership with the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, is happy to announce the winners of the 2020 JerseyArts.com People's Choice Awards. The 12th annual contest celebrates the extraordinary work of New Jersey's vital and thriving arts community. This year, art lovers cast nearly 11,000 ballots for their favorite local groups and arts districts. From 118 nominees, 21 groups were honored at ArtPride's headquarters this morning.

"New Jersey loves the arts! That's clear from the extraordinary support that the cultural groups in the JerseyArts.com People's Choice Awards receive — and it's well earned," said Adam Perle, President & CEO of ArtPride New Jersey, during today's ceremony. "Today's winners and nominees represent an incredible array of creativity from every part of the state and in every genre. These awards highlight the public's favorites and honor the incredible economic and community impact of the arts."

The 2020 JerseyArts.com People's Choice Awards honorees are:

- Favorite Large Performing Arts Center: New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Newark
- Favorite Small Performing Arts Center: South Orange Performing Arts Center, South Orange
- Favorite Large Theatre to See a Musical: Paper Mill Playhouse, Millburn
- Favorite Large Theatre to See a Play: McCarter Theatre Center, Princeton
- Favorite Small Theatre: Luna Stage Company, West Orange
- Favorite Art Museum: Grounds For Sculpture, Hamilton
- Favorite Art Gallery: Paul Robeson Galleries, Newark
- Favorite Symphony/Orchestra: New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, Newark
- Favorite Choral Group: Paper Mill Playhouse Broadway Show Choir, Millburn
- Favorite Ballet Company: New Jersey Ballet, Florham Park
- Favorite Modern/Cultural Dance Company: New Jersey Tap Ensemble, Bloomfield
- Favorite Opera Company: Princeton Festival Opera, Princeton
- Favorite Music Festival: Montclair Jazz Festival, Montclair
- Favorite Film Festival: Montclair Film Festival, Montclair
- Favorite Visual Arts Festival: Newark Arts Festival, Newark
- Favorite Adult Art Class: Newark School of the Arts, Newark
- Favorite Visual Arts Camp: Montclair Art Museum's SummerART Camp, Montclair
- Favorite Performing Arts Camp: NJPAC Summer Program, Newark
- Favorite Downtown Arts District: Montclair

Honorable Mentions:

- Favorite South Jersey Art Gallery: WheatonArts Gallery of Fine Craft, Millville
- Favorite Central Jersey Visual Arts Festival: Art All Night, Trenton
- Favorite Jersey Shore Film Festival: Garden State Film Festival, Asbury Park
- Favorite Jersey Shore Music Festival: Cape May Music Festival, Cape May

“Every year, thousands of New Jerseyans cast their vote in support of the diverse and world-class arts organizations and artists that call New Jersey home,” said Allison Tratner, Executive Director of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. “The Arts Council is proud to celebrate this year’s winners, and to shine a light on the role of the arts in making New Jersey a distinctive place to live, work and visit.”

For detailed results and more information, visit www.JerseyArts.com/PeoplesChoice. Photos from today’s presentation are available at www.JerseyArts.com/PCA-2020-Photos.

The JerseyArts.com People’s Choice Awards are coordinated through the Discover Jersey Arts program, a cosponsored project of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and the ArtPride New Jersey Foundation aimed at increasing the awareness of and participation in the arts.

About the New Jersey State Council on the Arts

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts, created in 1966, is a division of the NJ Department of State. The Council was established to encourage and foster public interest in the arts; enlarge public and private resources devoted to the arts; promote freedom of expression in the arts; and facilitate the inclusion of art in every public building in New Jersey. The Council receives direct appropriations from the State of New Jersey through a dedicated, renewable Hotel/Motel Occupancy fee, as well as competitive grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. To learn more about the Council, please visit www.artscouncil.nj.gov.

About the ArtPride New Jersey Foundation

The ArtPride New Jersey Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) organization that promotes the value of the arts to New Jersey’s quality of life, education and economic vitality through research and a variety of programs and services. For more information about ArtPride, visit www.ArtPrideNJ.org.

###