

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contacts: Dolores Orman, Gateways Music Festival, 585-271-5185, dolores.orman@gmail.com  
Jessica Kaufman, Eastman School of Music, 585-274-1057, jkaufman@esm.rochester.edu

## Gateways Music Festival to Receive \$150,000 Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts

Rochester, NY – [Gateways Music Festival](#) in association with Eastman School of Music is pleased to announce approval to receive an American Rescue Plan (ARP) grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to help the arts and cultural sector recover from the pandemic. Gateways is recommended to receive \$150,000 and may use this funding for jobs, operations and facilities, health and safety supplies, and marketing and promotional efforts to encourage attendance and participation. In total, the NEA will award grants totaling \$57,750,000 to 567 arts organizations in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Washington, DC.

This grant is in addition to a \$20,000 Grants for Arts Projects award announced in January to support 2022 Gateways Music Festival, including the Gateways Orchestra's New York City and Carnegie Hall debut. The 2022 Gateways Music Festival is among 1,248 projects across America totaling \$28,840,000 that were selected to receive this first round of fiscal year 2022 funding in the Grants for Arts Projects category.

"Our nation's arts sector has been among the hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. The National Endowment for the Arts' American Rescue Plan funding will help arts organizations, such as Gateways Music Festival, rebuild and reopen," said Dr. Maria Rosario Jackson, chair of the NEA. "The arts are crucial in helping America's communities heal, unite, and inspire, as well as essential to our nation's economic recovery."

"Gateways Music Festival is grateful for and thrilled to receive this vote of confidence and vital support from the National Endowment for the Arts for our efforts to enrich our nation's cultural landscape and to showcase the historical and ongoing contributions of classical musicians of African descent," said Lee Koonce, Gateways' president and artistic.

The upcoming dual-city festival is Gateways' most ambitious in its 28-year history and will take place from April 18 through April 24, 2022, in Rochester, NY, and New York City. The Orchestra's program at Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, includes Brahms's Variations on a Theme by Haydn, Florence Price's Third Symphony and Sinfonia No. 3 by George Walker, the first African-American laureate of the Pulitzer Prize for Music, whose centennial falls this year. The concert concludes with James V. Cockerham's Fantasia on "Lift Every Voice and Sing," a signature piece for the ensemble, whose distinguished members hail from the foremost orchestras and conservatory teaching faculties nationwide.

For its Carnegie Hall debut, the orchestra's program showcases these works along with the world premiere of a new Gateways commission from 2021-22 Carnegie Hall "Perspectives" artist Jon Batiste, the Oscar-winning, Grammy-nominated music director of The Late Show with Stephen Colbert. The Batiste commission is funded, in part, by the Howard Hanson Institute for American Music at the Eastman School of Music in celebration of the School's 100th anniversary and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

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Rochester's WXXI Public Media and New York City's WQXR will serve as media sponsors for the seven-day festival. The full schedule appears below and further details are available at <https://www.gatewaysmusicfestival.org>.

The American Rescue Plan was signed into law in March 2021 when the NEA was provided \$135 million for the arts sector. The funding for organizations is the third installment providing more than \$57.7 million for arts organizations. In April 2021, the NEA [announced](#) \$52 million (40 percent) in ARP funding would be allocated to 62 state, jurisdictional, and regional arts organizations for regranting through their respective programs. The second installment in November 2021 [allocated](#) \$20.2 million to 66 local arts agencies for subgranting to local artists and art organizations.

For more information on the NEA's American Rescue Plan grants, including the full list of arts organizations funded in this announcement, visit [www.arts.gov/COVID-19/the-american-rescue-plan](http://www.arts.gov/COVID-19/the-american-rescue-plan).

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## GATEWAYS MUSIC FESTIVAL 2022: ROCHESTER, NY AND NEW YORK CITY EVENTS

### ROCHESTER, NY (ALL EVENTS HELD AT EASTMAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC)

**Mon, April 18 at 7:30pm**

**Hatch Recital Hall at Eastman School of Music**

*Gateways Pianists* featuring Mikhael Darmanie, Tabitha Johnson, Artina McCain, Nnenna Ogwo and Joe Williams

**Tue, April 19 at 6:30pm**

**Hatch Recital Hall at Eastman School of Music**

Film screening: *The Caged Bird – The Life and Music of Florence B. Price*

**Tue, April 19 at 7:30pm**

**Hatch Recital Hall at Eastman School of Music**

Paul J. Burgett Lecture: Cory Hunter, PhD: "Black Idioms in the Music of Florence B. Price"

**Wed, April 20 at 7:30pm**

**Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre**

Gateways Music Festival Orchestra

Anthony Parnter, *conductor*

Johannes BRAHMS: *Variations on a Theme by Haydn*

George WALKER: Sinfonia No. 3

Florence PRICE: Symphony No. 3 in C minor

James COCKERHAM: *Fantasia on Lift Every Voice and Sing*

### NEW YORK, NY

**Thurs, April 21 at 7:30pm**

**Abyssinian Baptist Church**

Guest artist concert: Imani Winds

**Fri, April 22 at 3:30pm**

**New York Public Library for the Performing Arts (Bruno Walter Auditorium)**

Panel discussion: Gateways musicians with host Terrance McKnight of WQXR

**Fri, April 22 at 7:30pm (except where noted)**

**Gateways “Around the Town” Chamber Music Series**

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 5:30pm:	Gateways Brass Collective
92nd Street Y:	Guest Artist Recital: Marian Anderson String Quartet
Morgan Library and Museum:	Gateways Piano Quartet
Steinway Hall:	Gateways Pianists
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture:	Guest Artist Recital: Harlem Chamber Players

**Fri, April 22 at 10:30pm**

**Location TBA**

Gateways “After Hours” Jam Session

**Sat, April 23 at 9am**

**Carnegie Hall (Resnick Education Wing)**

Workshop and masterclasses with music educators and students

In partnership with Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute

(By invitation only)

**Sat, April 23 at 5pm**

**The Cooper Union (Rose Auditorium)**

Film screening: *The Caged Bird – The Life and Music of Florence B. Price*

**Sat, April 23 at 6pm**

**The Cooper Union (Rose Auditorium)**

Paul J. Burgett Lecture:

Cory Hunter, PhD: “Black Idioms in the Music of Florence B. Price”

**Sat, April 23 at 7:30pm**

**The Cooper Union (Rose Auditorium)**

Chamber Music Concert

**Sun, April 24 at 3pm**

**Carnegie Hall, Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage (debut)**

Gateways Music Festival Orchestra

Anthony Parnter, *conductor*

Jon Batiste, *piano*

Johannes BRAHMS: *Variations on a Theme by Haydn*

George WALKER: Sinfonia No. 3

Jon BATISTE: new work (with Jon Batiste, piano; world premiere of new Gateways commission)

Florence PRICE: Symphony No. 3 in C minor

James COCKERHAM: *Fantasia on Lift Every Voice and Sing*

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