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YOUTH ART FUNDING TO MAC

Berkeley Springs, WV—The Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation Youth Grants program has awarded the Morgan Arts Council (MAC) a \$5,000 grant for MAC’s Adopt-a-School and Arts Integration/STEAM program.

Youth art programming has been a major segment of MAC’s activities since its inception in 1978 when MAC began a program to put artists into Morgan County schools. The program has continued every year since, and MAC has spent nearly \$350,000 bringing nearly 1,050 artists to local students in all Morgan County schools, serving more than 40,000 students during the 40-year period.

Specifically, Adopt-a-School brings artists into all Morgan County schools for short-term residencies and assembly programs that meet core curriculum objectives, reaching an average of 2,000 students each year. In the Arts Integration program, MAC collaborates with the Morgan County Schools to enhance core academic curriculum subjects including mathematics and science, using visual art, film, dance, theater and music.

“Recent state and school board funding cuts make it a challenge for MAC to continue its longtime commitment to youth arts programming,” said Thom Rubel, MAC’s Executive Director. “The decline in government funding makes the generous support of the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation even more significant. We greatly appreciate their assistance in our programs that enhance the lives of so many Morgan County youth, and we are particularly pleased that the grant comes from the Tom and Virginia Seely Morgan County Children’s Fund.”

The Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation establishes permanently endowed funds that are distributed as grants to organizations and individuals that make a difference in the community.