

P&L 7-7-2021



North Carolina General Assembly
House of Representatives

REPRESENTATIVE CECIL BROCKMAN
60TH DISTRICT

June 29, 2021

To the Mayor and City Council of High Point:

I write in support of Phyllis Bridges and her effort to establish an African American art and cultural center in High Point. While it may not receive the same attention as other cities across our state, High Point is one of North Carolina's vibrant centers of culture and commerce. A cultural project will further enrich this reputation and solidify High Point's status as a desirable North Carolina destination.

With a focus on African American art and culture, this project will become a destination for both residents and tourists alike. It will engage our community and visitors to our great city by fostering an environment of growth and learning, one that will lead to the next generation of leaders and creators. Additionally, a center that teaches about multicultural achievement will have a place in achieving equality and increasing inclusion during a time when those values are of high priority.

Not only will a cultural center project have an impact culturally, it will also benefit our city economically. It will be a cornerstone of the revitalization of the Washington Street area—a particular point of pride for High Point. It will also create job and internship opportunities for our local citizens while providing a place for youth mentorship.

Further, I believe in this project due to the steady leadership of Phyllis Bridges. In the time I have known her, she has proven to be a hard-working and dedicated member of the High Point community. After spending nearly a decade on this project, I know that her passion is with establishing a cultural center and that she will do everything in her power to help improve High Point through this work.

For my part, I will advocate for this project at the state level. In my budget requests for this year, I have included a provision for \$2 million in matching funds from the state to support this project. I have always made securing funding for High Point-specific projects a priority of mine. I will continue to do that as the state budget process progresses. I hope you will give this project your full consideration as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "C. Brockman".

Rep. Cecil Brockman

THE EARL AND KATHRYN CONGDON FAMILY FOUNDATION

City of High Point
211 S. Hamilton
High Point, NC 27261

RE: Yalik's African American Art & Cultural Movement

To Whom It May Concern:

The Earl and Kathryn Congdon Family Foundation will review a grant application from Yalik's African American Art and Cultural Center which will request \$1,000,000 for capital funding for construction of the facility proposed to be located on property currently owned by the City of High Point and the High Point Housing Authority. Our upcoming grants review meeting will be held in September or October of 2021 in which this grant request will be reviewed. If accepted, either in full or partially, the funding may be distributed as early as January of 2022.

The Earl and Kathryn Congdon Family Foundation is a High Point based private foundation that invests in organizations within the greater High Point area and beyond that promotes improved quality of life by reducing barriers to opportunity. Our work is focused in three primary areas in which we hope to make a deep and lasting impact:

1. increasing access to and the quality of education,
2. addressing critical community needs, and
3. supporting economic development for revitalization and stabilization.

The program and facilities plan currently proposed by Yalik's African American Art & Cultural Movement aligns with our foundation's mission and areas of focus and we look forward to reviewing their application for a grant to support this work.

Sincerely,

Megan E. Oglesby

Megan Oglesby
Executive Director
The Earl and Kathryn Congdon Family Foundation
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