

Central Indiana festival announces \$20k prize for JCC Indianapolis program

Spirit & Place Festival's 20th anniversary year celebrates theme of DREAM Nov. 6-15, 2015

INDIANAPOLIS (May 18, 2015) – Spirit & Place Festival is pleased to announce a \$20,000 prize will be awarded to JCC Indianapolis for its 2015 festival program “The Choreography of Dreams.” The festival will run from Nov. 6-15, 2015 at venues throughout central Indiana, with programs celebrating this year’s theme of “DREAM.”

The \$20,000 prize is funded and sponsored by the Central Indiana Senior Fund, an affiliate of the Central Indiana Community Foundation. Established in 2003, the Central Indiana Senior Fund is dedicated to the well-being of seniors who want to age with dignity and realize new dreams. The theme of this year’s prize was “Dreaming a new Age: Living into the Choices and Decisions of Aging.”

“Spirit & Place builds stronger and more vibrant communities by connecting people, places and ideas,” said Spirit & Place Festival Director Pam Blevins Hinkle. “We are tremendously grateful to the Central Indiana Senior Fund for creating this one-of-kind opportunity for community organizations to step outside of the box with unique programming.”

“The Choreography of Dreams” will feature five unique video stories of community elders, which dancers from Dance Kaleidoscope will then interpret through dance. The program has been designed to challenge participants to new possibilities, shed light on what it’s like to age in today’s world and dispel stereotypes about growing old. By sharing ideas, listening and moving together, the program will leave audiences viewing their own lives and those of seniors in a different light than when they entered.

“We’re excited about ‘The Choreography of Dreams’ because it promises to challenge and move participants to new possibilities for seniors,” said Senior Fund board member Anne Emison Wishard. “We’re hopeful this kind of positive programming about and for older adults will invite fresh perspectives and create lasting impacts.”

Lev Rothenberg, director of arts and education at JCC Indianapolis, called the program “a labor of love.”

“We are truly encouraged with a \$20,000 prize that will allow us to make our program an example of dreaming big and share that program with a wide audience who can grow from the experience,” said Rothenberg.

Organizations have benefited from more than \$4.5 million in grants from the Central Indiana Senior Fund, distributed to provide opportunities and meet the basic needs for countless seniors.

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About Spirit & Place Festival

Spirit & Place Festival catalyzes civic engagement and enduring change through creative collaborations among the arts, religion and humanities. Spirit & Place is a collaborative community project managed by The Polis Center, part of IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI. Major financial contributors include Lilly Endowment Inc., Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation Inc., Bohlsen Group, The Indianapolis Foundation, IUPUI, IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI, University of Indianapolis as well as more than 200 other community partners and donors. The 2015 Spirit & Place Festival takes place from Nov. 6-15, 2015, marking its 20th anniversary year.

For more information, call The Polis Center at 317-274-2455 or visit <http://spiritandplace.org>.

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