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Contact: Jennifer Bangser

Jennifer@culturalalliancefc.org

203-256-2329

Gate Lodge at Mathews Park

301 West Ave., Norwalk, CT 06850

The Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County Receives Continued Support From the Fairfield County Community Foundation, Recognizing Its Solid Leadership and Efforts Enriching Arts and Culture in the Region

NORWALK, CT (January 15, 2014) - The Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County (CAFC) announced that the organization has been awarded a \$15,000 grant by the Fairfield County Community Foundation (FCCF). The grant reinforces the growing importance of the vital services the Cultural Alliance provides over 250 nonprofit arts and cultural organizations, artist members, and the arts and cultural sector of Fairfield County as a whole. This significant contribution of operating support by FCCF allows the Cultural Alliance to manage its current service programs and initiatives including FCBuzz.org.—a regional collaborative marketing website, consisting of an arts and cultural calendar, searchable membership directories, and artist profiles. The grant will also support deepening program engagement and the Cultural Alliance’s growing role in aiding organizations with capacity issues, as well as their role in several cultural leadership initiatives. The funding will also allow the Cultural Alliance to continue its successful media partnerships which provide additional platforms for its members to work together to make arts and cultural events easily accessibility to the public.

The past year was a landmark year for the Cultural Alliance. The organization expanded operations and re-located in Norwalk at the Gate Lodge at Mathews Park. Their new location provides not only a more county central location and more office space for staff, but meeting space to convene members—such as artists attending coaching sessions and member steering committees. With the generous support of FCCF, the Cultural Alliance can continue offering vital services to its members, such as the Executive Directors Network, the Marketing Roundtable and bi-weekly organizational and artist newsletters which keep members informed and engaged.

Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County's Executive Director, Ryan Odinak, stated, "The Fairfield County Community Foundation understands and values our work in the region. We are very fortunate to have them as a partner. The Cultural Alliance is well positioned to continue growing in 2014 and thanks to FCCF, we have the valuable resources we need to continue our work. This funding is also an important endorsement for the Cultural Alliance's work and provides significant leverage for additional support. We are extremely grateful for their help."

The Fairfield County Community Foundation promotes the growth of community and regional philanthropy to improve the quality of life throughout Fairfield County. Individuals, families, corporations and organizations can establish charitable funds or contribute to existing funds focused on specific areas of need or communities in Fairfield County. The Foundation also provides philanthropic advisory services, and develops and leads initiatives to tackle critical community issues. It is in compliance with the Council on Foundations' national standards for community foundations. The Foundation has awarded \$168 million in grants to nonprofits in Fairfield County and beyond. For more information, visit www.fccfoundation.org.

The Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County strengthens the arts and culture sector by providing promotion, services and advocacy. For more information contact Executive Director Ryan Odinak, by calling (203)256-2329, emailing info@CulturalAllianceFC.org, or visiting the website at CulturalAllianceFC.org.

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