LEGENDS & LEGACIES

HONORING ANN & RON PIZZUTI

OCTOBER 7, 2021 | THE LINCOLN THEATRE

THE KING ARTS COMPLEX
Where Dreams Come Alive...

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We're big fans of people who look out for people.

Congratulations to Ann and Ron Pizzuti on becoming the 2021 Legends and Legacies honorees. Hard work doesn't always get the recognition it deserves, so when it makes a community better, we take notice. We appreciate all your efforts, and keep making us stronger.

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Congratulations

Ann & Ron Pizzuti

Thank you for your vision, leadership and commitment to community.

Bath&BodyWorks

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Thank you, and congratulations, Ann and Ron Pizzuti.

It's our honor to join the King Arts Complex, and others who are passionate about building up our communities, as we unite to celebrate your significant accomplishments in service to our community. Your leadership, vision and impact are inspiring to many.

Congratulations from all the associates of Park National Bank.

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14th Annual

LEGENDS & LEGACIES

Award Ceremony

Honoring Ann and Ron Pizzuti

PROGRAM

PRE-EVENT SEATING PIANIST
Otis Davenport

WELCOME & OCCASION, MASTER OF CEREMONIES
Yolanda Harris

GREETINGS, KING ARTS COMPLEX BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHAIR
Alycia Broz

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT, OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Andrew J. Ginther

VIDEO PRESENTATION

A "FIRESIDE CHAT" WITH ANN AND RON PIZZUTI, MODERATED BY COLUMBUS MUSEUM OF ART DIRECTOR
Deidre Hamlar

PRESENTATION OF AWARD, EVENT CO-CHAIRS
Monica and Doug Kridler
Elaine and Curtis Moody

ACCEPTANCE SPEECH
Ann and Ron Pizzuti

CONGRATULATIONS, U. S. CONGRESSWOMAN, 3RD DISTRICT OF OHIO
Joyce Beatty

VIDEO PRESENTATION

CLOSING REMARKS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Demetries J. Neely

VIP RECEPTION TO FOLLOW IN LINCOLN THEATER BALLROOM
Otis Davenport Trio

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14th Annual

LEGENDS & LEGACIES

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Elaine and Curt Moody*

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Welcome from our CO-CHAIRS

Dear Friends,

It is with tremendous enthusiasm that we recognize Ann and Ron Pizzuti at The King Arts Complex's 14th Annual Legends & Legacies Award Ceremony and Reception.

Tonight affords us the special opportunity to get to know Ann and Ron as they participate in a "fireside chat" moderated by Deidre Hamlar. We hope that you come to know them as we do – passionate art collectors; visionary developers who began the renaissance of downtown Columbus's revitalization; devoted parents and grandparents; and wonderful friends.

With over 2,000 works in their personal collection of contemporary art, and one of the nation's largest collections of black art, Ann and Ron are recognized around the world for their passion and knowledge of contemporary art. They are also generous with sharing their works through international museum loan programs. They aim to "foster cultural understanding and educational exchange by championing a diversity of voices from around the globe."

Ann and Ron also find time to pay it forward in the community, and have supported many local artists, and art institutions, including The Pizzuti Collection, The Columbus Museum of Art, and the Wexner Center for the Arts. They are also generous supporters of The King Arts Complex.

The exceptional achievements and generosity of tonight's honorees remind us that we indeed make a living by what we get but make a life by what we give. Ann and Ron will leave a lasting legacy in Columbus and beyond reflecting their shared passion for civic engagement and the arts.

Thank you for joining us and the members of the host committee in celebrating our friends, Ann and Ron Pizzuti.

Sincerely,

Elaine and Curtis Moody
Co-Chairs

Monica and Doug Kridler
Co-Chairs

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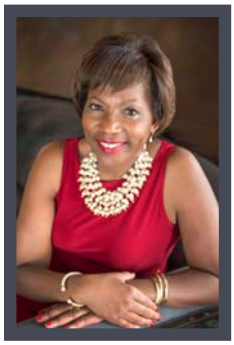
THE KING ARTS COMPLEX EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Demetries Neely



Dear Friends,

Tonight's honorees hold a special place in my heart. Over the past decade, each time I have reached out to Ann and Ron Pizzuti to support an initiative at The King Arts Complex, I have been met with an enthusiastic "yes!" It is so clear to me that Ann and Ron have a passion for the arts and are dedicated to arts education.

The Pizzuti's collection of over 2000 works of contemporary art is recognized worldwide. But what many people do not know is that a part of their collection contains significant works by African, African American, and Afro-Cuban artists. In fact, Ann and Ron have welcomed friends from Columbus to travel with them to Cuba to visit artists and their studios.

The Pizzutis have collected works from more than 111 Black artists. Their collection includes art by two of my favorites - Kehinde Wiley and Titus Kaphar. Ann and Ron collected Kehinde early on in his career and they have spent time with Titus getting to know his story. Ann and Ron are well known for visiting artists in their studios and getting to know them as well as their art.

The Pizzutis get it! They know when one purchases art produced by Black artists it doesn't just provide support for the artists; it provides inspiration to the artists to forge ahead with their work. I cannot thank them enough for their support of these incredible artists!

I hope you enjoy the "fireside chat" moderated by Deidre Hamlar. I also hope you gain inspiration from the Pizzuti's story, and perhaps even embark on starting your own personal collection.

Thank you for supporting Legends & Legacies 2021, and the many young people we serve at the King Arts Complex where dreams come alive!

Sincerely,

Demetries Neely
Executive Director

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MASTER of CEREMONIES

Yolanda Harris

Yolanda Harris co-anchors the 5, 6 and 11 pm newscasts at WBNS 10TV with Andrew Kinsey. Before joining the team at 10TV, Harris was the early and late evening anchor at WSYX-6 and WTTE-Fox 28. She has more than 23 years of broadcasting experience in Central Ohio.

Harris began her career as a host of the Fox28 Kids Club and reporter for the community news program "This Week." She then hosted and reported for the show "Take 1," which featured stories for and about young people in the Central Ohio area. Harris received an Emmy for her work on "Pepsi's Gimme the Mike Columbus," a local talent show inspired by American Idol.

Harris is a Columbus native and has been featured in "Who's Who in Black Columbus," "Columbus Monthly" magazine, and several other publications. She has frequently been voted "Favorite News Personality," and "Best Female Anchor," in Columbus.

She loves to volunteer and support local charities and organizations that work to improve the lives of Central Ohioans, especially young people. She especially enjoys working with DSACO and the Columbus Buddy Walk, the American Heart Association's "Go Red for Women" campaign and she has also served as an honorary board member for Buckeye Ranch.

Harris graduated from Gahanna-Lincoln High School. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Broadcast Journalism from nearby Bowling Green State University. She is a member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

Harris spends her free time with her husband, Jon, and their two dogs.

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MODERATOR

Deidre Hamlar

Deidre Hamlar is a lawyer, arts administrator, artist's representative, and independent curator. Hamlar earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from UCLA in 1983 and was awarded a Juris Doctorate degree from Howard University Law School in 1986. Following law practice with the National Labor Relations Board and Legal Services Corporation, her passion to merge arts with social justice, equity, inclusion, and community development led her to positions in arts administration with the Columbus Museum of Art and The Walker Art Center in Minneapolis.

Following her seven years as the first Director of Diversity at The Columbus Academy from 2005-2012, Hamlar has facilitated community development and engagement initiatives for various schools, nonprofits and small businesses in the Columbus metropolitan area, including the Partnership for Achieving Community Transformation, The Ohio State University Department of African American and African Studies Community Extension Center, The Poindexter Legacy Project, Urban Strings Columbus, and volunteers currently as Chair of the Governance Committee for the Jefferson Avenue Center Board.

Hamlar has consulted with the Columbus Museum of Art since 2018 to help sort and archive items Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson left in her estate to the Museum. In 2019, Hamlar co-curated with Carole Genshaft, its Raggin' On: The Art of Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson's House and Journals exhibition, November 2020-October 2021, and contributed to the catalogue of the same name. In addition, Hamlar worked with the Museum to renovate Aminah Robinson's home studio and worked alongside the Greater Columbus Arts Council to develop a residency and fellowship program for African American artists and writers to take place therein. In July 2021, Hamlar was appointed Director of the Museum's Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson Legacy Project, to perpetuate the current initiatives and manifest a wider impact of Aminah's phenomenal life and work.

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LEGENDS & LEGACIES

Legends and Legacies pays tribute to local, regional, and national individuals who have shown a commitment to freedom through social justice, human rights, cultural democracy, artistic excellence, and service. Their actions have influenced and impacted their local and global communities through philanthropy, commitment to community, policy development, service, leadership, preservation, creativity, and vision.

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The Columbus Blue Jackets
congratulate Ron and Ann Pizzuti
for this well-deserved recognition
and for enhancing the arts
in our community.

SQUIRE PATTON BOGGS

We are proud to congratulate Ann and Ron Pizzuti as the 2021 King Arts Complex Legends and Legacies honorees.

We celebrate Ann and Ron's countless accomplishments and honor their unwavering commitment to social justice, equity and inclusion, and community. Through their art collection and service, they are steadfast champions of diversity in Central Ohio and beyond.

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Ann and Ron in front of Rumors of War by Kehinde Wiley

Celebrating Ann and Ron Pizzuti

ANN AND RON PIZZUTI are among the nation's foremost collectors of black art with works by over 111 African, Afro-Cuban and African American artists in their private collection. Among others, they own works by: Kara Walker, Kehinde Wiley, Mark Bradford, Titus Kaphar, Hank Willis Thomas, Wangechi Mutu, Lyle Ashton Harris, Kerry James Marshall, Leonardo Drew, Carrie Mae Weems, Derrick Adams and Julie Mehretu.

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The Pizzutis are ranked by ART News among "The World's Top 200 Collectors" and have amassed a truly legendary contemporary art collection. In donating The Pizzuti Collection to the Columbus Museum of Art, they have created a legacy that will endure for decades to come.

As a young man born and raised in Kent, Ohio, Ron Pizzuti had the opportunity to travel to Paris, France for his job at The Limited. There, he walked into an art gallery in Montmartre and caught a glimpse of a Frank Stella painting. "It was my first exposure to contemporary art," he said. Upon returning to New York, Ron went to the New York Public Library to study Stella.

Forty years later, Ron and Frank Stella enjoy a friendship. A larger version of the painting Ron first saw in Paris hangs over the fireplace in their library, and the Pizzutis own a significant number of other works by Stella.

Ron and his wife, Ann, began collecting art with a piece they purchased at the auxiliary Pace

▲ *The Pizzuti Family*

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Gallery on East Broad Street in Columbus. It was a work by Dutch artist Karen Appel, entitled Circus People, for which they paid $900; $100 down and $100 a month. They still own that piece today as it launched what became a collection of over 2000 works of contemporary art from around the world.

Ann and Ron have a deliberate process in acquiring art, and very much enjoy meeting artists and visiting them in their studios. Frank Stella, Jean Dubuffet, Alexander Calder, Agnes Martin, David Hammons, John Chamberlain, and Willem de Kooning are among artists they collected early; today their attention has shifted to younger artists and artists of color. Notably, the Pizzutis own several works by Kehinde Wiley, Titus Kaphar and El Anatsui, among many others.

In 2018, the Pizzutis donated The Pizzuti Collection, a beautiful public gallery which opened in 2013, and over 50 pieces of their contemporary art, to the Columbus Museum of Art. Nanette Maciejunes, Executive Director of CMA said, “Ron and Ann’s importance as collectors is widely recognized. Their decades-long passion for supporting global contemporary art, including art from Africa and the African diaspora has enriched our community and advanced the vital conversation about Black creative expression.”

▲ *The Pizzuti grandchildren.*

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▲ *Dara, Stella, Anna, and Richard*

The Pizzutis passion for collecting art was made possible by Ron's success in the development business. He founded the Pizzuti Companies in 1976 after a career in executive positions at Federated Department Stores and The Limited. Today the Pizzuti Companies develop institutional-quality office, residential, hotel, industrial and mixed-use projects throughout the Midwest and Southeast.

The company has developed over $2 billion in real estate projects. The Pizzuti Companies stress quality, leadership, innovation, and attention to aesthetics in every one of their projects.

They are headquartered in Columbus with offices in Chicago and Nashville. Ron serves as Chairman Emeritus, and his son, Joel serves as President and CEO. One of its signature projects, Miranova Condominiums, a luxury 27-story tower located along the Scioto River, is where Ann and Ron call home.

The Pizzuti Companies recently entered the hospitality business by establishing the first art-oriented hotel, Le Meridien Columbus, The Joseph. A second Luxury Collection art hotel opened in 2020 in Nashville, Tennessee.

Ron is the past Chair of the Kent State University Board of Trustees. He is past President of the Columbus Academy Board and a former trustee of Kenyon College, The Columbus College of Art and Design and Ohio Dominican University.

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▲ *Coco and Bella*

▲ *Ann and Ron*

He has served as Chairman of the Ohio Cultural Facilities Commission and is a trustee of the Wexner Center Foundation. He is a past Chair of the Columbus Museum of Art and the Columbus Symphony Orchestra and is now a Trustee for Life of both. He has also served on the board of the Buckeye Ranch, Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus Downtown Development Corporation, Capital South Corporation, and the Center of Science and Industry.

Ron also played an active role in bringing professional sports to Columbus, including the MLS's Columbus Crew and NHL's Columbus Blue Jackets.

For his extraordinary contributions to education and the community, Ron has received honors including an Honorary Doctorate from Columbus College of Art and Design; the Central Ohio Entrepreneur of the Year – Real Estate Award; the Jewish National Fund Tree of Life Award for Exemplary Leadership and Humanitarian Service, and the Building Industry Association "Citizen of the Year."

Ron received the Kent State University Distinguished Alumnus Award for Professional Achievements and Service to the University, and the top honor – The Columbus Award – from the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce. Ron and his wife, Ann, were recognized by the Central Ohio Red Cross as "Humanitarians of the Year."

Ron is a past trustee of SITE, Santa Fe. He currently serves on the Drawing Committee of the Whitney Museum of American Art, as well as the board of the Gund Gallery at Kenyon College. Ron is a member of the Madison Square Park Conservancy Board of Directors in New York and chairs its Art Program Committee.

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Ann's community service has truly been remarkable as well, spanning over 50 years. In the 1970s, Ann served as Secretary, Treasurer and then President of TWIG: Together with Important Goals in support of Nationwide Children's Hospital. She also served on the Board of Trustees for the Central Ohio Heart Association.

In the 1980s Ann served on the Board of Trustees of the Greater Columbus Arts Council, and was involved with the Channel 6 TV Secret Santa Program. She also served as President for the Alpha Phi Sorority and Rush Advisor for Ohio State, and was named its "Outstanding Alumni" in 1980.

For nine years Ann served on the Board of Trustees of Marburn Academy, including terms as Marketing Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and President of the Board. She also spent eight years in similar positions with Action for Children and Columbus Junior Theatre.

In the 1990s Ann dedicated her efforts to leadership with Hospice Riverside Methodist Hospital, serving as President from 1995-97;

▲ *The Pizzuti Family*

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the Y.W.C.A, serving as Secretary and Board Member; Columbus School for Girls, serving as President and Ohio Dominican University.

For her efforts Ann was recognized with the "Outstanding Volunteer Award" by Columbus Junior Theatre and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Education from Ohio Dominican.

From 1996-2006, Ann served on the Board of The Columbus Foundation, and Capital South Development Board. She also turned her attention to United Way of Central Ohio, serving as President, Chair of its Education Vision Council, Convening Chair of Start Smart Initiative and was instrumental in its ground breaking work in early childhood education.

From 2001-2008 Ann served on the Board of Directors, and as Chair of National Hospice Foundation and as a Founding Board Member of Women's Fund of Central Ohio.

While raising a family of three children – Ellen, Dara and Joel, and now enjoying ten grandchildren - building a very successful business, serving in leadership roles across the community, and being recognized for their service and philanthropy, Ann and Ron have also inspired many who know them to make modest investments in art.

▲ *Nathan, Daniel, Frances, Virginia, Ellen, Casey, and Liam*

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▲ *Joel and Jessie with their daughters Francesca, Coco, and Bella*

The Pizzutis are often asked by friends about the process of collecting. Ron's advice: "Visit as many fairs, galleries and museums as possible. You'll eventually figure out what you like and want to collect, because you can't know that up front." "Follow your Heart, not a Hedge Fund." These are words to the wise from a couple who have done just that, and our community is the benefactor.

"Our community is blessed with Ann and Ron Pizzuti, who not only appreciate African, Afro-Cuban and African American art, but collect it, thereby supporting black artists who make a living through creation of art," said Demetries Neely, Executive Director of The King Arts Complex. "When a young black artist's work is identified and then acquired by the Pizzutis, people in the art world take notice. This is a tremendous lift to each artist they collect."

"The Pizzutis have long been KAC supporters, as well, and I could not be more pleased we are honoring them in this very special way. They are so deserving of our Legends & Legacies recognition," Neely said.

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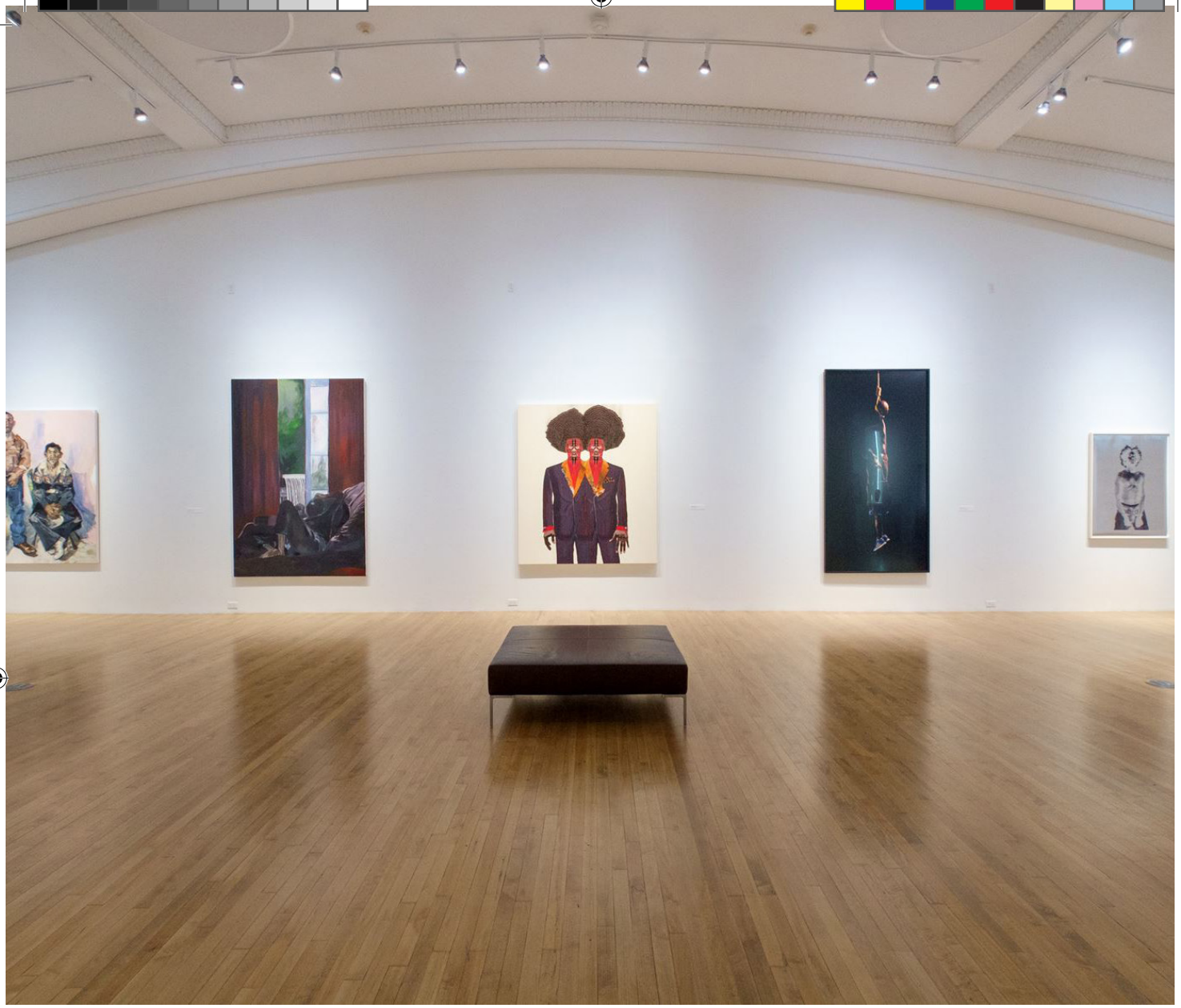
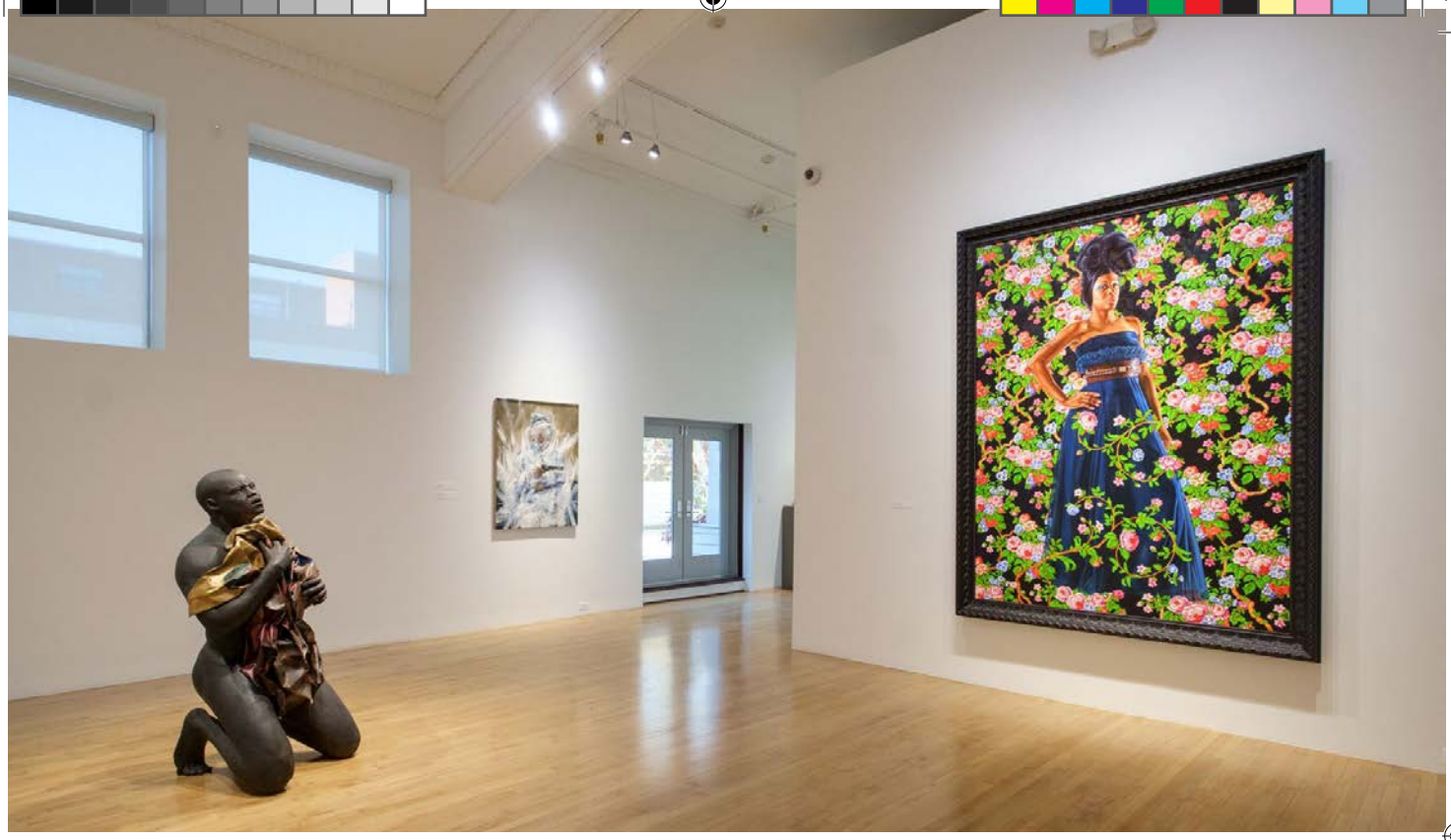
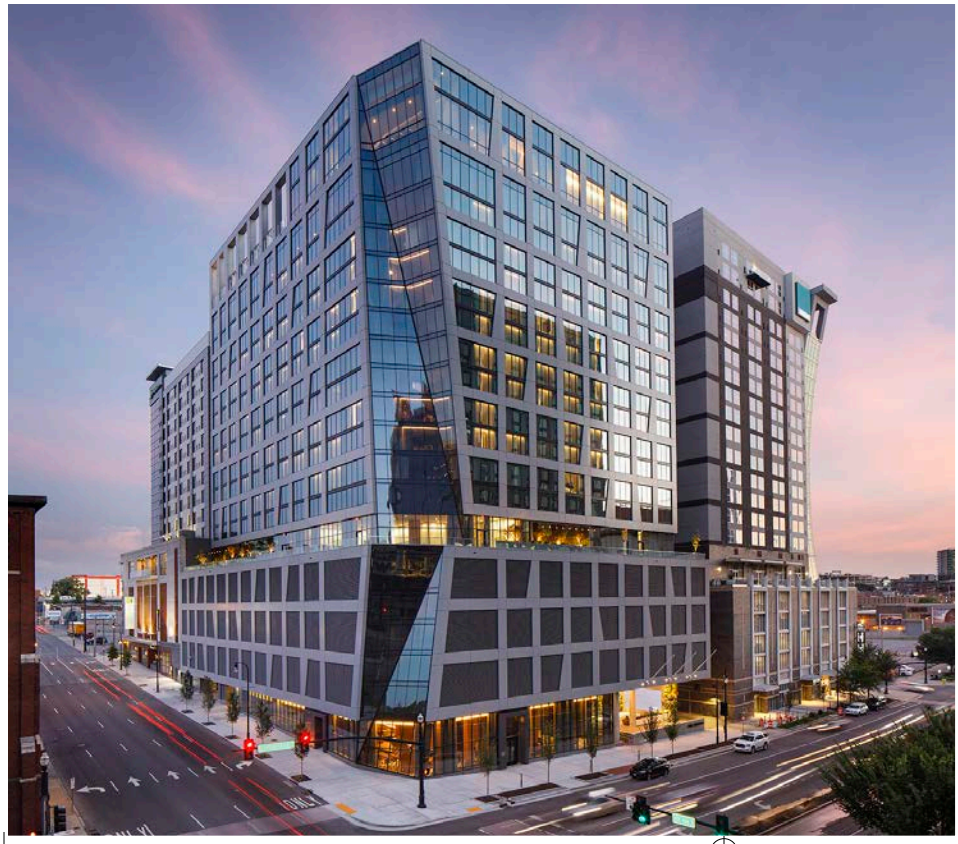


Pizzuti Collection *(top left and right)*

Founded by Ron and Ann Pizzuti in 2011, the Pizzuti Collection was a nonprofit space in the Short North that operated as a museum. Through this venue, the community-minded, arts-loving couple was able to share their decades of collecting with the public. In 2018 the space and a selection of artworks were generously donated by the Pizzutis to the Columbus Museum of Art. Ron and Ann have continued to collect art and loan artworks to museums around the world.

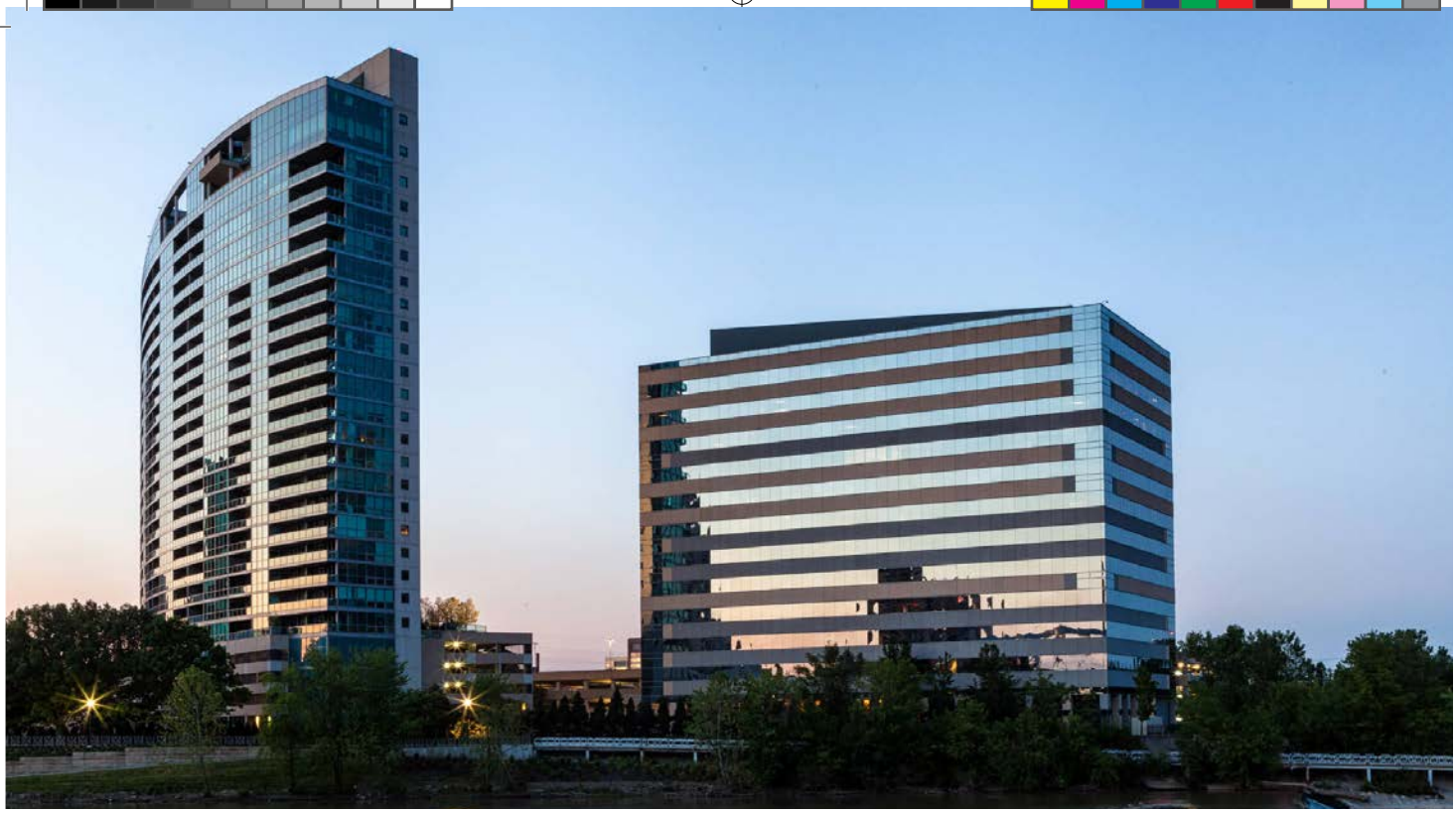
Pictured: *Us Is Them* exhibition, 2015

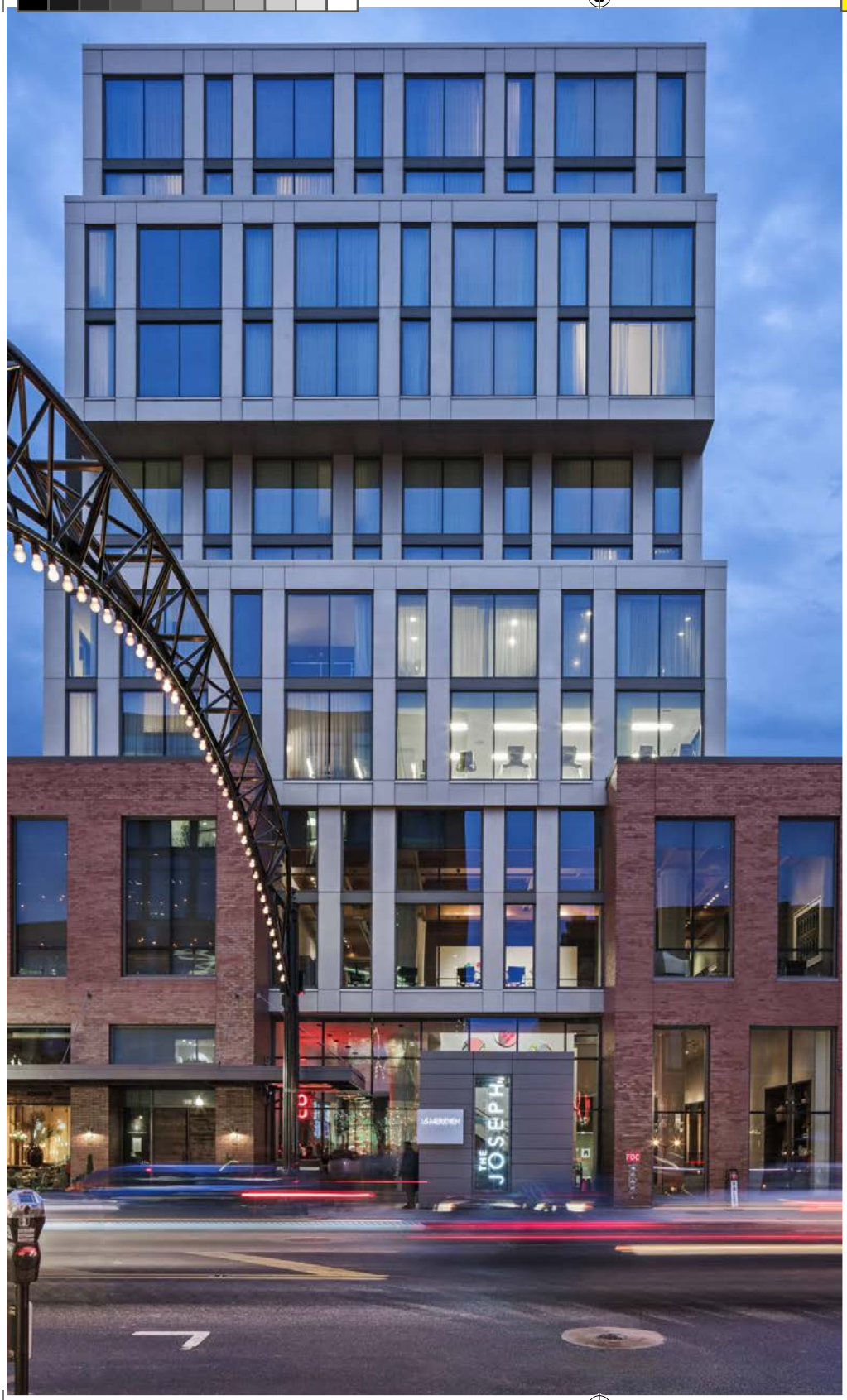




The Joseph Nashville, 2020

The Joseph, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Nashville is a 297-room luxury hotel located in the heart of the SoBro neighborhood in downtown Nashville. Inviting guests to “live with art”, The Joseph Nashville features more than 1,000 works of art from the Pizzuti family’s private art collection as well as works specifically commission by artists with a unique connection to the state.





Miranova Place *(top left)*

Miranova Condominiums (left) is a luxury, 27-story condominium tower located just south of downtown Columbus along the Scioto River. Miranova Corporate Office (right) is a 240,000-square-foot, high-rise, Class A office building.

Franklin County Courthouse, 2010 *(bottom left)*

Officials in Franklin County, Ohio were seeking a way to replace an aging courthouse to serve as an anchor for the surrounding neighborhood. Pizzuti recognized an opportunity to use the new courthouse complex as a catalyst to key the redevelopment of the southern edges of Downtown Columbus.

Le Méridien Columbus, The Joseph, 2015 *(right)*

Le Méridien Columbus, The Joseph is a 135-room boutique hotel in the Short North Arts District in downtown Columbus, Ohio. Emphasizing the idea of living with art, The Joseph is an art-themed hotel featuring artwork from the Pizzuti family's private collection in the public spaces, and exclusive features from the Ohio Portfolio throughout the guest rooms.

Resolution of Expression

WHEREAS, *Ann and Ron Pizzuti are among the nation's foremost collectors of black art with works by over 111 African, Afro-Cuban and African American artists in their private collection; and*

WHEREAS, *the Pizzutis are ranked by ART News among "The World's Top 200 Collectors" and have amassed a truly legendary contemporary art collection; and*

WHEREAS, *Ann and Ron Pizzuti aim to foster cultural understanding and educational exchange by championing a diversity of voices from around the globe; and*

WHEREAS, *in donating The Pizzuti Collection to the Columbus Museum of Art, they have created a legacy that will endure for decades to come; and*

WHEREAS, *our city is blessed with Ann and Ron Pizzuti, who not only appreciate African, Afro-Cuban and African American art, but collect it, thereby supporting black artists who make a living through creation of art.*

NOW, THEREFORE, *I, Andrew J. Ginther, Mayor of the City of Columbus, Ohio, do hereby issue this Resolution of Expression in honor of:*

Ann and Ron Pizzuti

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the Mayor of the City of Columbus, Ohio, to be hereto affixed this 7th day of October 2021.*

Andrew J. Ginther
Mayor

CALL/RESPONSE

THE GUND GALLERY TURNS 10

AUGUST 26, 2021–APRIL 3, 2022

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Ohio Arts COUNCIL

2021-LL-Program.indd 30 10/4/21 9:02 AM

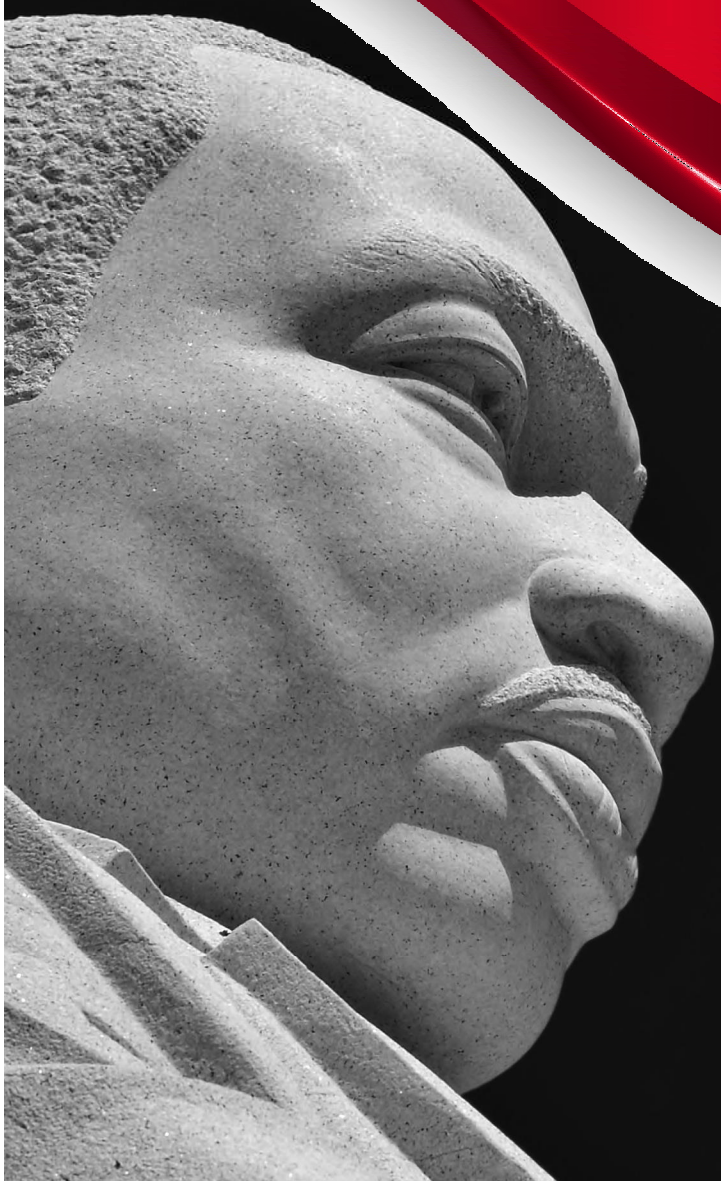
Attend Without Leaving Your Home

37th Annual

Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr. Birthday Breakfast

MLK Day 2022 - 17th of January

a Virtual Event



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Kristina M. Johnson, PhD

16th president of
The Ohio State University

MLK MARTIN LUTHER KING INC.
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Covelli Enterprises is proud to support the 14th Annual Legends and Legacies

Congratulations to honorees Ann and Ron Pizzuti

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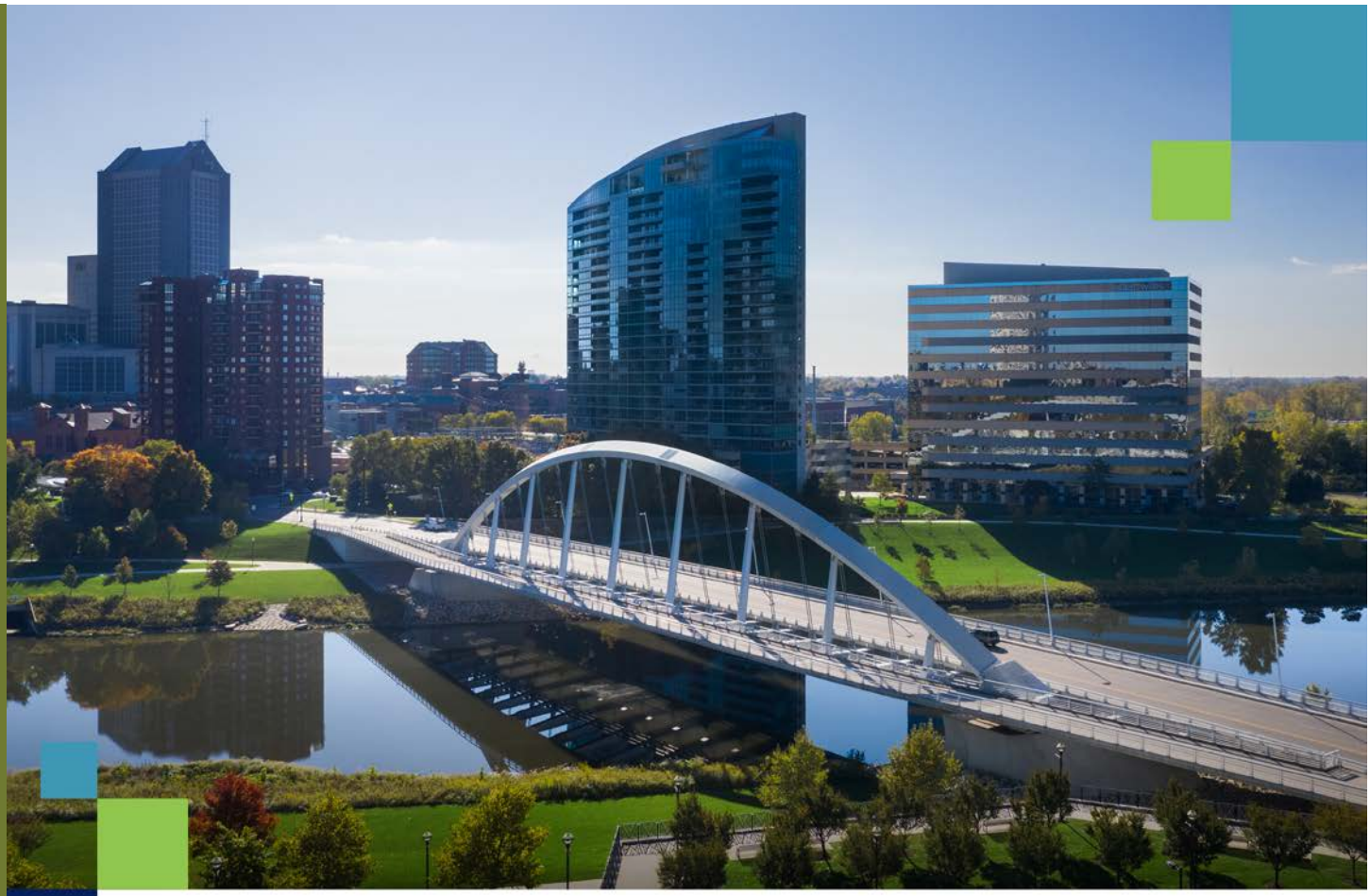

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Congratulations!

CRABBE, BROWN & JAMES LLP is proud to honor Anna and Ron Pizzuti at The King Arts Complex's 14th Legends & Legacies celebration.

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Proud to celebrate
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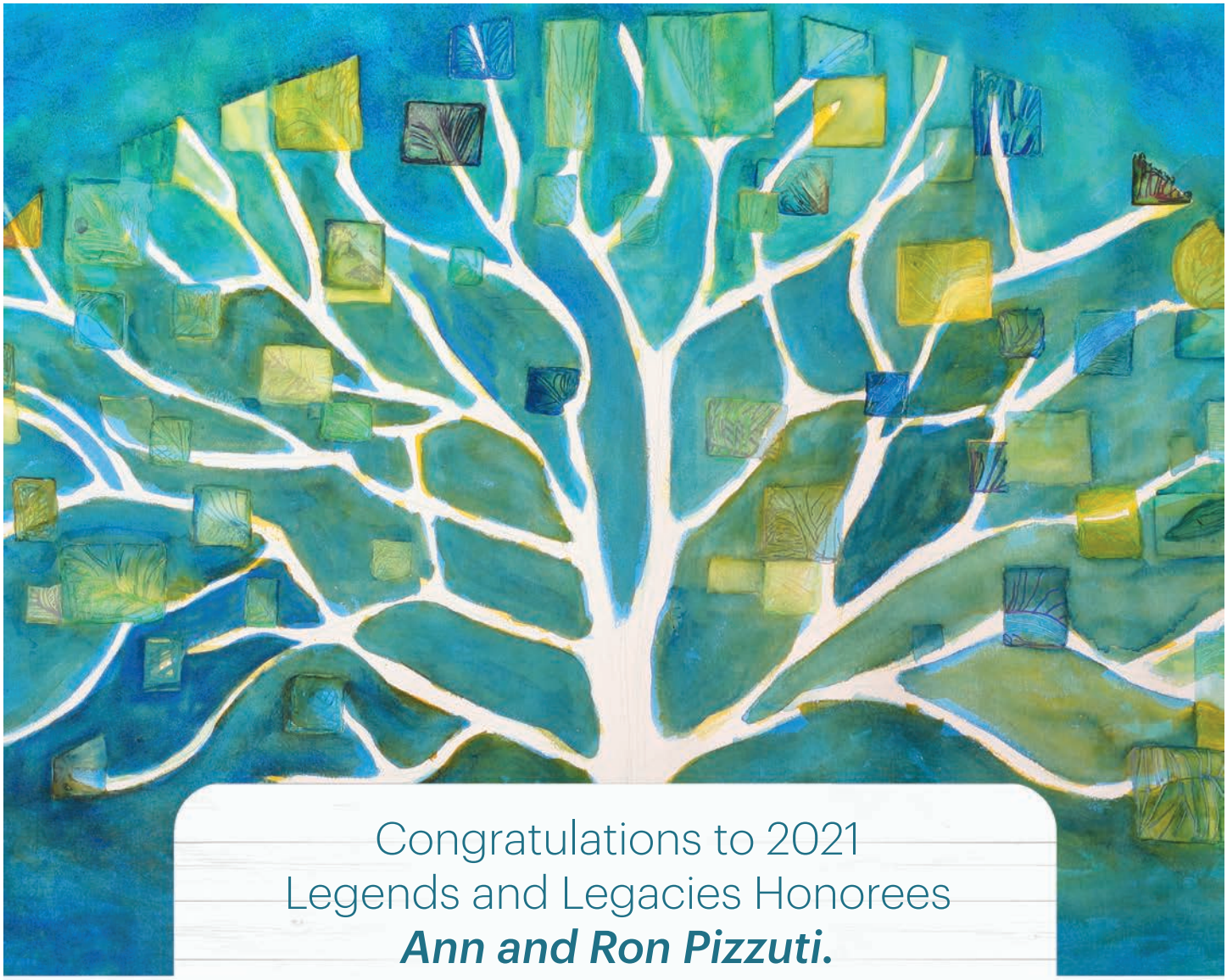

Congratulations to 2021
Legends and Legacies Honorees
Ann and Ron Pizzuti.

Thank you for helping us grow our
Creative Roots

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CONGRATULATIONS, ANN AND RON PIZZUTI!

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Congratulations Ann and Ron Pizzuti!

Thank you for your commitment to social justice, human rights, cultural democracy, artistic excellence, and service.

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Congratulations to **Ron and Ann Pizzuti**
on your well deserved recognition.
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