

CONSPIRARE SELECTED AS A GRANTEE OF BLOOMBERG PHILANTHROPIES' ARTS INNOVATION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Conspirare will participate in \$43 million program

AUSTIN, TX | August 30, 2018 | Conspirare today announced that it is a grantee recipient of Bloomberg Philanthropies' Arts Innovation and Management (AIM) program. The invitation-only program seeks to strengthen the organizational capacity and programming of small and mid-size cultural organizations within Atlanta, Austin, Baltimore, Denver, New Orleans, Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C. Through the \$43 million multi-year initiative, Bloomberg Philanthropies will provide unrestricted general operating support as well as arts management training in areas that include fundraising, strategic planning, marketing and board development.

Conspirare Board Chair Nancy Lesch stated "Conspirare is thrilled to be selected to participate in the Arts Innovation and Management (AIM) program. We look forward to aligning this two-year endeavor with the unfolding of our 25th anniversary season, and the implementation of our 2018-2021 strategic plan. The AIM program allows us to draw from and honor our 25-year history, while giving us "roots and wings" to go deeper into the mastery of our artistry and operations. Conspirare's Board of Directors is grateful for this opportunity and excited for the road ahead." Managing Director Ann McNair said, "We are so grateful to the Conspirare community of artists, listeners, board, staff, donors and advisors whose long-term participation and support positioned Conspirare to seize this opportunity. We would not be celebrating this award without the contributions each and every one of them."

AIM targets arts non-profits because of the vital role that they play in building communities, driving local economies and supporting artists. "The arts inspire people, provide jobs, and strengthen communities," said Michael R. Bloomberg, founder of Bloomberg Philanthropies. "This program is aimed at helping some of the country's most exciting cultural organizations reach new audiences and expand their impact."

Bloomberg Philanthropies will develop curricula and conduct seminars for the program in partnership with leading experts, including the DeVos Institute of Arts Management at the University of Maryland, led by Institute Chairman Michael M. Kaiser and President Brett Egan. AIM organizations will engage in activities that strengthen their long-term health and goals, and will receive one-on-one consultations and implementation support for organization leaders and their boards.

All organizations invited to participate in the 2018 expansion of the AIM program are nonprofits that have been in existence for at least two years. Participating organizations will be required to secure 20% of their AIM grant in matching dollars; reach 100% board participation in fundraising; and maintain up-to-date information in DataArts, an online management tool that assists arts organizations across the country in collecting, learning from, and using data effectively. The grants will be unrestricted to allow recipients to utilize the funds to address their greatest needs.

Since 2011, AIM has helped more than 500 small and mid-sized organizations in all creative disciplines, including theater, visual arts, music, film, literature and dance. Participating organizations reported significant improvements in board development, fundraising and overall income over the two-year program. Watch this video for an overview of the Arts Innovation and Management program:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4KJy8DgjRDg&feature=youtu.be>.

About Conspirare

Conspirare is a choral ensemble that creates exceptional concert experiences and world-class recordings under the incomparable direction of Craig Hella Johnson. The company is composed of three ensembles. The Grammy-Award winning Conspirare is the flagship ensemble of the organization. Johnson and Conspirare were awarded the 2014 Best Choral Performance Grammy® for *The Sacred Spirit of Russia* – one of eleven recordings released on [PIAS] harmonia mundi. The Conspirare Symphonic Choir is an auditioned chorus of both professional and volunteer singers who reside in the Austin, Texas area. Conspirare Youth Choirs (CYC) was formed as an outreach program to seek and train young musicians who share a love and commitment for creating music at a high level of excellence. CYC singers perform in three ensembles: Prelude, Kantorei, and Allegro.

[Conspirare press kit page \(images for download, info pdf\)](#)

About Bloomberg Philanthropies

Bloomberg Philanthropies works in over 480 cities in more than 120 countries around the world to ensure better, longer lives for the greatest number of people. The organization focuses on five key areas for creating lasting change: Arts, Education, Environment, Government Innovation, and Public Health. Bloomberg Philanthropies encompasses all of Michael R. Bloomberg's charitable activities, including his foundation and his personal giving. In 2017, Bloomberg Philanthropies distributed \$702 million. For more information, please visit www.bloomberg.org or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Snapchat](#), and [Twitter](#).

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