

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

One Columbia Announces New Headquarters, Launches New Artist Support Fund, and Prepares for Next Cohort of Garage Studio Artists

COLUMBIA, SC (July 21, 2025) — One Columbia for Arts and Culture is excited to announce a new chapter in its work supporting the creative community of Columbia, SC. With a new location, a new artist grant initiative, and the upcoming launch of the next Garage Studio cohort, the organization continues to deepen its commitment to the city's cultural life.

One Columbia will be officially relocating its headquarters from 1013 Duke Avenue to the historic Ensor Keenan House at 801 Wildwood Avenue. This transition marks a milestone in the organization's long-standing partnership with the City of Columbia and reflects a shared vision for bringing arts and culture into new corners of the city.

"This space has the potential to truly bring art and culture to life in a community-centered way," said Xavier Blake, Executive Director of One Columbia. "We're grateful to the City of Columbia for their support, and we're excited about the possibilities in a place with such rich history and promise."

"This move for One Columbia is more than just a change of address; it's a strategic step forward in our shared vision to foster a dynamic arts scene here in the Capital City," said Mayor Daniel Rickenmann. "The move to the historic Ensor Keenan House signifies a deeper commitment to embedding arts and culture across our city, making creativity more accessible and visible for all residents."

In addition to its new home, One Columbia is also launching a new initiative to support local artists: the Artist Assistance Grant. Thanks to the generosity of a community donor and a matching contributor, this grassroots program has raised \$2,000 to provide unrestricted, general support for artists to sustain their creative work. After careful consideration, we've decided to award two \$1,000 grants, ensuring broader impact within our creative community. This initiative coincides with One Columbia's exciting move to its new home, marking a fresh chapter in our commitment to fostering local artistry.

"General support funding is rare but essential," said Blake. "We want to empower artists to use the funds in the ways that will most meaningfully support their work—whether that's materials, rent, or rest. We're still working out the details, but we're excited to begin building this resource for Columbia's creatives."

Meanwhile, One Columbia is preparing to open applications for the second cohort of The Garage Studio, the organization's artist-in-residence program that offers free studio space and professional development support. The current residents' term will conclude on August 31, and updated application information will be released soon.

To learn more about One Columbia's new space, upcoming programs, and the artist support grant, visit onecolumbiasc.com or follow @onecolumbiasc on social media.

Media Contact:

Xavier Blake

Executive Director, One Columbia

803-254-5008

info@onecolumbiasc.com