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## **Poverty and the Arts' Gold Key Gala Showcases Homeless Artists**

*NASHVILLE, Tennessee, Jan. 31, 2019* -- Poverty and the Arts, aka POVA, will be hosting the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Gold Key Gala on Saturday, February 23, 2019 from 6:00-9:00 pm at The Bridge Building in Downtown Nashville. This festive evening will include hors d'oeuvres, craft beer and specialty cocktails, a silent auction, live jazz, and artwork on display for purchase. Raising awareness for this event is essential to its success as the gala is a chance to feature, support and celebrate POVA's Artist Collective which is comprised entirely of **artists impacted by homelessness**.

Participation in POVA's Artist Collective provides artists access to studio space, art supplies and professional development workshops. Through this program, the artists exhibit and sell their original art and merchandise while **earning 60% of the sale of original art and 25% of print and merchandise sales**. All proceeds from the Gold Key Gala will support program expansion, operational funding, and studio maintenance. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <http://goldkeygala.org>.

*"The rejection you have to deal with when you're homeless—people don't want to look at you, they don't want to see you, they don't want to hear you, they don't want to talk to you."*

*—Kateri, member of the POVA Artist Collective*

POVA is a creative community transforming homelessness by empowering individuals as artists and giving them valuable tools needed to make sustainable change in their lives. Being a successful artist requires entrepreneurial and innovative thinking as well as problem solving and interpersonal skills all while promoting self-sustaining independence. Our artists are provided with encouragement and opportunities to develop these skills for personal and professional growth.

Key sponsors of the 2019 Gold Key Gala include: ESa Architects, Dell, Nashville Scene, Bradley Law, and Waller Law.

### About Poverty and the Arts

Located on Dickerson Pike in East Nashville, Poverty and the Arts is a social enterprise 501c3 nonprofit and a creative community transforming homelessness. POVA provides opportunities for artists impacted by homelessness to foster their creativity and form meaningful relationships. The Artist Collective program is a place for artists to utilize the POVA studio space to create artwork in partnership with mentors from the local art community. Finished works are displayed and sold in the gallery of the studio space as well as in businesses and personal collections across the city. Program participants receive 60% commission of original artwork and 25% of prints and merchandise sold with their designs. Not only are artists able to generate income and gain valuable entrepreneurial and professional development skills through the Artist Collective program, but they find a place that nourishes the soul, builds their confidence, and reignites their dreams. For more information, contact [Nicole@PovertyandtheArts.org](mailto:Nicole@PovertyandtheArts.org).

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