

# January 2, 2019 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Women's History Month Festival II: March 1 - 31, 2019

Details and Ticket Information can be found online at www.AlivenArts.org

AlivenArts and St. Francis Seraph Ministries is excited to announce the second annual National Women's History Month Festival that begins on March 1, 2019 and the festival will continue until the 31st – 4 unique and distinct events celebrating the artistry of women and the legacy of pioneering women.

The National Women's History Month Celebration is bringing together women artists from all genres and using unique places and spaces. The Festival is designed with both "inreach and outreach" opportunities for people to come together celebrating the all-embracing power of women. The 2019 Recipient of all proceeds from the festival is THE SARAH CENTER a program of the St. Francis Seraph Ministries.

"Sarah Center and the St. Francis Ministries is very excited to collaborate with AlivenArts in presenting the National Women's History Month Festival II, says Chris Schuermann, executive director of the St. Francis Ministries, "Sarah Center has been a beacon for women in Cincinnati. Our work can continue because of the generosity of those involved in the Festival. What could be better than women supporting other women to enhance their creative skills?"

## **Festival Info**

Friday, March 1: "Art from the Heart" a program designed for young girls to explore the use of the visual arts in expressing emotion - 11:30 AM; by invitation; no cost

Saturday, March 2: "Wine - Women - Watercolors - Work(wo)manship" A late afternoon of fun for women of all ages - learn about the crafts from the experts with hands-on crafting and painting while enjoying fine wines and friends! 3:00 PM; Tickets sold in advance and at the door.

Sunday, March 10: From Women's Voices Choral Concert: The *colorful* voices of Cincinnati Sound Chorus, Queen City Sisters, Raison D'Etre and UC-CCM's Community Women's Choir, will raise the roof at St. Francis Seraph with this vocal and **choral collage concert.** 3:00 PM; Tickets sold in advance and at the door.

Sunday, March 24 and March 31; 4:00 PM: the **LUNAFEST Film Festival** will be presented in collaboration with <u>Cincy World Cinema</u> followed by talk-back discussions after both screenings. Tickets sold in advance and at the door

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#### **Fast Facts:**

### **About Sarah Center**

Our Mission is to nurture and nourish families by offering skills training in jewelry making, sewing, quilting and other forms of art as well as support, so women can build their self-esteem and earn supplemental income for themselves and their families.

During the cold winter of 1984 with temperatures at 24 degrees below zero The Sarah Center was created: a female-centered outreach ministry and safe gathering place for impoverished women in Over the Rhine. The need for more than fellowship and a cup of coffee metamorphosed into a creative center of energy for poor women. Today the Sarah Center specializes in encouraging women, from all walks of life, to be self-reliant, embrace their potential and learn new skills in order to grow – creatively, economically, socially and independently.

The Sarah Center provides empowerment through authentic relationship building, life skills and peer support. It serves those challenged by economic or personal issues who want to make positive changes in their lives. Our approach is unique: we foster members' creativity through our arts curriculum. What starts as a hobby turns into a passion. With passion, dreams are awakened, and lives are reclaimed.

Our arts curriculum in jewelry, sewing, quilting and painting is supplemented by classes in empowerment, health and wellness, and Tai Chi. As skills develop, members are encouraged to sell products through the Sarah Center and its retail partners. Some members have even begun their own craft businesses.

## **About AlivenArts**

AlivenArts' mission is to: Engage and energize the arts community creating relevant and effective dynamic arts educational programs with intentional collaborative design. AlivenArts' vision is to: Enrich Lives.

AlivenArts is dedicated to collaboration, arts participation and education. AlivenArts is not a performing arts organization but rather a modern-day impresario who sees needs and produces solutions - bridging ideas and productions with people and places.

AlivenArts works with pre-college students through the well-elderly and has produced many events and now has the prototype of an APP and Website called "Scene" that will revolutionize the intersection of peoples' participation and the arts. In addition, AlivenArts developed and produced the first National Women's History Month Festival in March 2018. Other programming includes Cincinnati Pipelines and Piano Paintings and work with the Cincinnati Public Schools Fine Arts Gifted Assessment program.