



KENNEDY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
 P.O. BOX 36318
 CINCINNATI, OH 45236

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NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

NEWS BY, FROM, AND FOR THE KENNEDY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY

JAN/FEB 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS

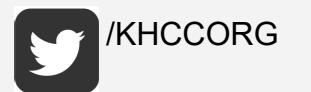
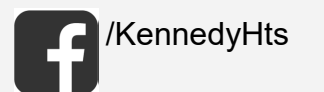
Saturday, January 9
SOS Retrospective Exhibit
 at KH Arts Center
 Timed entry tickets required
www.kennedyarts.org
 Continues through Feb 27

Tuesday, January 19
KH Community Council
 Virtual meeting via GSuites
meet.google.com/amo-fjbm-bgq
 6:30 p.m. Board discussion
 7:30 p.m. Public meeting

Wednesday, January 27
 on Zoom
 Winter Art Classes
www.kennedyarts.org
 Continues through Mar 20

Tuesday, February 16
KH Community Council
 Virtual meeting via GSuites
meet.google.com/amo-fjbm-bgq
 6:30 p.m. Board discussion
 7:30 p.m. Public meeting

Stay up-to-date by signing up for our emails at kennedyheights.org or following us on social media



Mar/Apr newsletter content due
 Feb 1: kelliott@kennedyheights.org

KENNEDY HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN

Thank you to everyone who completed the Neighborhood Plan Survey! The survey is now closed, and we appreciate all the honest feedback about what you see in the future of our neighborhood.

We are tallying the results of the survey. If you indicated that you were willing to volunteer for a working group, we will be contacting you soon. We will also present results and ask for further input.

The next step in the process will be getting together with the Steering Committee and our designated City Planner Samantha McLean. There will be a Steering Committee Meeting the first week of January. If you are interested in being a part of the Steering

Committee, reach out quickly!

Additionally, although the survey is closed, you are welcome to send any concerns or ideas that may occur to you. Remember: the Neighborhood Plan will cover a variety of opportunities in the area, including the old Shroder

We hope you're not tired of hearing about the Neighborhood Plan yet!

school property, plans to revitalize parks, walkability, traffic and safety, community events, and more. **If there is anything at all that you wish Kennedy Heights had, or wish that it**

would improve, the Neighborhood Plan process is the time to make it happen!

All Neighborhood Plan concerns, questions, interests, etc. can be sent to mary@kennedyheights.org

KENNEDY HEIGHTS IN THE FOUNDERS FOREST



We hope you had a chance to enjoy the Founders Forest in Over-the-Rhine. This public art walk featured decorated trees from each of Cincinnati's 52 unique neighborhoods. We are grateful to everyone who contributed phrases and wishes for Kennedy Heights to be written on the paper chain, and to the volunteers who put together the lovely decorations.

We hope your holidays gave you a reason to celebrate.

2021 KENNEDY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY COUNCIL BOARD MEMBERS

CO-PRESIDENTS:
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CONNECT WITH THE KHCC ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER!



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENTS

A new year is filled with new hope, and none more so than this year. With the promise of a vaccine and what may be the end of this pandemic somewhere on the horizon, we hope to see more of each other in the coming year. But for now, we encourage everyone to continue practicing COVID safety.

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to our end-of-year Friends of Kennedy Heights campaign. The final numbers are still being tallied, but we passed our goal! We received more than \$2,800 in online donations and mailed checks, and Bob Kemp has been making his rounds as safely as he can, bringing in more than \$1,000! We know this year has been hard on so many, so we are deeply grateful for those who found any amount to give towards their neighborhood. These funds will be vital as we craft our Neighborhood Plan and discovery opportunities for investment that are agreed upon by the community.

We hope that you are able to enjoy the neighborhood in these winter months, whether it is a virtual art class, volunteering at The Caring Place, participating in one of our virtual meetings, taking in an art exhibit, or just bundling up and going for a walk. Be well, and be neighborly.

Kate Elliott and Sharifah Tafari
Co-Presidents



FRIENDS OF KENNEDY HEIGHTS: AUG 1, 2020 - SEPT 30, 2020

Thanks for all who have supported the Community Council this past year. We appreciate you and look forward to serving you in 2021. Gifts from the following neighbors were received in October and November. If we inadvertently omitted your name, please let us know.

Friends of Kennedy Heights

Anonymous
Marilyn Anderson
Barbara Ann Belcher
Regan Brinker
John & Peg Bruggeman
Ernestine Bryant
Martin Culver
Jim & Karen Draut
Tome Schutte & Arlena Edmonds
Dax Farmer
Jonnie Gault
Joe Feldhaus & Marcheta Gillam

Fred & Carol Foote
Gemini Productions
Mark & Patti Clock Hanlon
Alice Harkins
Gwendolyn Harris
Robert & Marilyn Herring
Sister Carren Herring
Peter Hilligoss
Maureen Howard
Adam Kirwen
Kelly & Joe Leanza
Patrick Macveigh & Kate Kern
Joshua McKay
Lorene Miller

Bill & Sheila Obermeyer
David & Lois Patterson
Jane & Charles Patty
Judith Peelman
Sonja Rethy
Gwendolyn Rodgers
Christine Schumacher and Hal Hess
David & Victoria Smith
Kenneth Thompson
Edith Thrower
Rosa & Tony Williams
Kenneth Woods

Become a Friend of Kennedy Heights! Your tax-deductible donation supports the bi-monthly newsletter and the events in and around the community.

Donation: Please check amount.
Cash or check is accepted.

- \$15.00
\$25.00
\$50.00
\$100.00
Other amount: \$

Name:
Address:
City/State/ZIP:
Email:

Include my name (only) in the newsletter as a Friend of the Community: Yes No

Please mail this completed form and payment to: P.O. Box 36318, Cincinnati, OH 45236. Other one-time or recurring payment options—including credit card payments—are available at www.kennedyheights.org using PayPal. Kennedy Heights Community Council is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization.

A RESOLUTION TO GIVE BACK

If your New Year's Resolution included finding more time to volunteer, The Caring Place has a use for you!

The Caring Place consistently receives donations from the Freestore Foodbank and other resources. Extra hands are always welcome to unload the boxes and stock shelves.

These shifts most often occur from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Groups of four people are most efficient, and

volunteers should be able to lift 30-40 lbs.

If you are interested in volunteering, call 513-841-1499.

To stay up to date on volunteer needs and items most needed for donations, be sure to follow their Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/thecaringplacekh

PLEASANT RIDGE LIBRARY

The Pleasant Ridge Branch of the Cincinnati and Hamilton County Public Library will be open Monday through Saturday from 10AM-6PM. Available services include curbside service, browsing, limited computer access, and assistance with faxing, scanning, copying, and printing. Visitors will be asked to limit their visits to 2 hours or less and building capacity is reduced. Storytime and other programs and events may be offered on a very limited basis. Programs may be virtual or held outside or as a Take and Make. Available services and/or hours may change. Call us at 513-369-4488 with any questions and check www.cincinnati.org to access all our eBranch offerings and for the most current information on the services and possible programs offered at all of the branches.

AGE FRIENDLY CINCINNATI ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Kennedy Heights Aging in Community Team joined the Age Friendly Cincinnati Advisory Committee

In 2018, the City of Cincinnati embarked on a multi-year process to join the AARP network of Age-Friendly Communities. This network recognizes that people of all ages benefit from the adoption of policies and programs that make neighborhoods walkable, feature transportation options, enable access to key services, provide opportunities to participate in community activities, and support housing that's affordable and adaptable.

The next step in the journey to membership is to develop an Age Friendly Advisory Council. When local leaders work together to commit to improve the quality of life for the very young, the very old, and everyone in between we achieve a more livable community.

For your reference, AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities commit to an assessment process and cycle of continuous improvement, the steps typically require the member community to:

1. Conduct a community needs assessment

2. Develop an action and evaluation plan based on the assessment results
3. Submit the plan for review by AARP
4. Implement and work toward the goals of the plan
5. Assess the plan's impact and submit progress reports
6. Repeat!

At this time, The City of Cincinnati has nearly completed its community needs assessment. Your voice, as part of our Advisory Council, will be a valuable contribution to our planning and implementation steps (2-6). Well-designed, age-friendly communities foster economic growth and make for happier, healthier residents of all ages; in Cincinnati, this begins with you.

The organizing meeting of this Advisory Committee was held on November 19, 2020.

If you have comments you would like to share with the Advisory Committee, you can reach out to Steven Grieser, KHCC Board of Directors and Aging in Community Representative. His email is steve@kennedyheights.org

KENNEDY HEIGHTS ARTS CENTER



Winter 2021 Art Classes

8 week session: January 27 – March 20

Expand your creativity and explore new ways to create community! Winter class offerings for teens and adults include: Quilting, Clay Hand Building, Photography, Soft Pastels, Portrait Drawing, and Video Game Design. Classes are hosted via Zoom to ensure a safe learning environment for students & teachers alike. www.kennedyarts.org



Young at Art, a new community for young artists facilitated by the Kennedy Heights Arts Center

Young at Art is a community for youth artists, ages 5-12, looking for ways to nurture their creativity and ingenuity, while building relationships with others. Different from a class, this club promotes creative community, artistic discoveries, and sensorial connections. Members learn about artists and build skills to discuss and express artful ideas. Materials included in program fee.

Young at Art meets remotely via Zoom

Wednesdays, 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm
January 27 – March 17

Saturdays, 10:30 am – 11:30am
January 30 – March 20

SOS ART Retrospective (1996 - 2020)

6546 Montgomery Road
Cincinnati, OH 45213

January 9 - February 27, 2021

This Retrospective exhibit consists of a selection of artworks on the themes of peace and justice by 90 artists who had participated in previous annual SOS ART shows between 2016 and 2020. Co-Curators Vaishnavi Ramanathan and Saad Ghosn selected the works based on their merit of quality and messages for a better world.

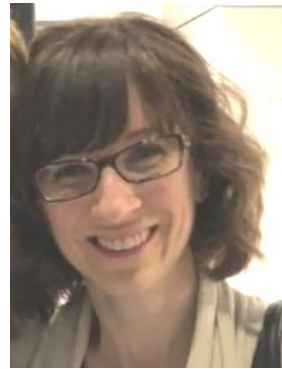
The show includes works shown indoors and works enlarged and printed on large panels displayed outdoors, and a video of the artworks with mini interviews of the artists.

A color book documenting the show and including a section for children's related art activities is available free to visitors. Children's activities are also planned.

FREE Timed Entry Tickets available at www.kennedyarts.org or 531-631-4278. Masks required. Practice social distancing.



MEET YOUR 2021 EXECUTIVE BOARD



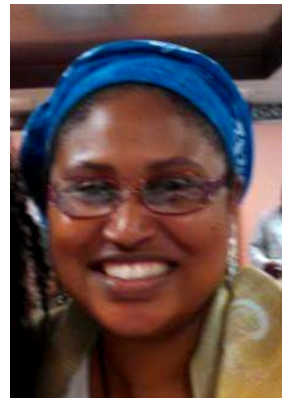
**Kate Elliott
(Co-President)**

Kate and her spouse moved into Kennedy Heights in 2013 where they have welcomed two daughters. Kate works in marketing and participates in Cincinnati's vibrant theatre scene. This is Kate's second term as Co-President and she has been editing the newsletter for three years.



**Eric Armstrong
(VP of Administration)**

Eric was born in Columbia, Tennessee and moved to Cincinnati in time for high school. He worked at GE for 15 years, then began a career with Local 12 TV. He retired after 26 years in 2018. He and his wife Barbara have 3 grown children and 4 grandchildren. They have been residents of Kennedy Heights for 27 years and love the diversity. The street they live on feels like a big family.



**Sharifah Tafari
(Co-President)**

Sharifah is one of the most active residents in the neighborhood! She is the Director of The Caring Place, has been a member of the Community Council for many years, is a leader with the schools and Youth Council, and more. This is her second term as Co-President.



**Peggy Brown
(Secretary)**

Peggy is a lifelong Cincinnati, growing up in the downtown area, then later living in several other neighborhoods before finally landing in Kennedy Heights. Peggy has worked as a Registered Nurse (RN) at Jewish Hospital for 43 years.



**Mary Ray
(VP of Planning)**

Mary Ray grew up in East Tennessee and worked for Gannett/USA Today in Washington, DC for 15 years before moving to Cincinnati in 1995. She has lived in Kennedy Heights for 25 years with her husband, Chris. She is a Realtor at Coldwell Banker. She has served on the Boards of the Kennedy Heights Arts Center, Development Corp, and Community Council.



**Romona Mayo
(Treasurer)**

Romona and her family have been living in lovely Kennedy Height for over 28 years. She is a realtor with Sibcy Cline, and looks forward to working with KHCC and giving her best for the community.

MEET YOUR 2021 EXECUTIVE BOARD (cont)



**Jean Bange
(Member-At-Large)**

Jean has lived in Kennedy Heights for 32 years, raising children with her husband, John. She has served on the Board for several years now, including in the capacity as the Neighborhood Support representative. She looks forward to seeing more community participation from all neighbors.



**Steve Grieser
(Member-At-Large)**

Steve and Lin Grieser have lived in KH for 35 years. Steve joined the KHDC in 2013 and serves as the Chair of their Housing Committee. He was cofounder of the Aging in Community and continues to represent Aging in Community concerns. He also serves on the Community Planning Committee.



**Cassandra Jones
(Member-At-Large)**

Cassandra lives in Kennedy Heights with her husband. She is the Director of Disability Services at Xavier University in their Office of Disability Services. This will be her second year on the Executive Board.



**Anita Hisle
(Member-At-Large)**

Anita was born & raised in Cincinnati and has been a Kennedy Heights resident for five years. She has four kids, seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. She enjoys sewing & gardening, and works part-time at the new Kennedy Heights Guardian Savings Bank.

BRIDGE UPDATE

Kennedy Avenue has been closed at Woodford Road since mid-April, when crews demolished the old bridge and began reconstruction. The concrete span will feature 8-foot wide sidewalks, new lights and decorative railings. The project is now projected to reopen mid-January.

There were utility-related delays back in the summer. Fortunately, the contractor completed the new blacktop before the asphalt plant closed down for the winter. The contractor is

now working to complete the last major components—the concrete railing, fencing, and lighting. The \$2.9 million project is funded by a federal grant.

