



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 25, 2021

## LINCOLN THEATRE ANNOUNCES “EXPAND YOUR HORIZON” ARTIST INCUBATION PROGRAM CLASS OF 2021

The Lincoln Theatre today announced the 16 local artists accepted into the Lincoln Theatre’s 2021 “Expand Your Horizon” Artist Incubation Program. Through support from the Greater Columbus Arts Council, the program began in 2014 as part of the Lincoln’s core mission to assist emerging artists. The free, 10-month course gives participants the tools to become business savvy in their artistic endeavors and empower them to make smart choices in pursuing a career in the performing and visual arts.

Participants are required to attend monthly sessions at the Lincoln Theatre in which they will establish their personal, artistic goals and then attend sessions on a variety of business topics to support those goals. Topics can include production value, taxes, finance, insurance, legal contracts, grant writing, and managing an online presence, among others.

In addition, participants must assist with the planning and execution of a Lincoln event, attend any additional community seminars, webinars, or online Arts Council workshops deemed beneficial, partake in Lincoln or community volunteer opportunities, and complete the two goals established at the beginning of the year.

The 2021 participants are as follows:

Emily Bailey, theatre  
Latausha Bonner, dancer  
Julie Brice, writer  
Da'Rece Byrd, dancer  
Sterling Carter, media/filmmaker  
Sydnee Crews, filmmaker  
Karen Hewitt, writer/poet  
Imari Mitchell, photographer  
Najjiyah Muqtasid, dancer/theatre  
Brianna Rhodes, dancer  
Eric Rollin, musician/vocalist  
Jordan Sandrige, musician/vocalist  
Kevin Seals, musician

Daniel Sinclair, multimedia  
Jermaine Smith, musician/songwriter  
Tylur Starks, singer/songwriter

At the final session in December, each participant that has successfully completed the program requirements will officially graduate and participate in a graduation ceremony.

To date, the “Expand Your Horizon” Artist Incubation Program has successfully produced more than 85 graduates. Several have gone on to perform or participate in the Lincoln Theatre’s “Backstage at the Lincoln” concert series, a unique concert-going experience that seats the audience on stage with the featured local artist.

[www.lincolntheatrecolumbus.com](http://www.lincolntheatrecolumbus.com)

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Support for the Lincoln Theatre’s 2020-21 season is provided in part by the Greater Columbus Arts Council, the City of Columbus, AEP Foundation, Nationwide, the Eileen M. and Josiah Brooks Heckert Fund of The Columbus Foundation, and the Ohio Arts Council to encourage economic growth, educational excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans.

**About the Lincoln Theatre**

First opened in 1928, the Lincoln Theatre is a landmark in African-American and jazz history. After undergoing a \$13.5 million renovation funded by a partnership of public and private support, the Lincoln reopened in May 2009 as a multi-use, state-of-the-art performing arts and education center serving the diversity of the central Ohio community. The Lincoln is a bustling hub of activity 365 days a year hosting performances, rehearsals, and classes in the performing arts, as well as a wide variety of community events such as film festivals, meetings, and receptions.

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