



E Q T C O R P O R A T I O N

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October 12, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased and honored to provide a letter of support for the Rural Arts Collaborative program. As a current funder of the program in West Virginia and Ohio, I have witnessed, first-hand, the profound impact participation in the project can have on a student and a community.

Through our corporate foundation, EQT has underwritten three projects, with another to take place once regulations in school districts are loosened due to the pandemic. In all cases, the artists who were placed in the schools really brought out a creative edge to their students and gave them a new way to express themselves otherwise not seen in the traditional classroom. During the full year of project-based learning, the students were able to start with an idea and work to create something that communicated their feelings and life through the medium of art. And when the students were able to showcase their work and experience to the school and/or larger community – the rising confidence levels are almost visably palpable.

It is under the leadership of Carmelle Nickens and the team of amazing teaching artists she has, and continues to, assemble that I believe the voices of rural students will continue to be strong throughout Appalachia for years to come. I look forward to continuing to grow the reach of the Rural Arts Collaborative into other areas where EQT Corporation has operations in Pennsylvania within the next year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ellen Rossi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ellen Rossi
President, EQT Foundation