

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Media Contact: Lori Carbonneau / Dabney Cortina

(703) 790-1953 / [lcarbonneau@mpaart.org](mailto:lcarbonneau@mpaart.org)

(703) 626-1786 / [dabneycortina@gmail.com](mailto:dabneycortina@gmail.com)

## **McLean Project for the Arts Receives Dominion ArtStars Grant to Support Arts Education**

*Presented by the Dominion Foundation, this award celebrates arts organizations working to advance the synergy between arts and education for the benefit of students*

**McLean, VA:** The McLean Project for the Arts (MPA) recently received a Shining Star ArtStars Award of \$10,000 from the Dominion Foundation. The award recognized MPA's ArtReach program, which offers underserved students a field trip to experience contemporary art exhibitions and hands-on art projects exploring STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) topics.

"ArtStars is about recognizing arts and cultural organizations that are making communities and schools more vibrant through theater, art, music, and other artistic forms," said Hunter A.

Applewhite, president of the Dominion Foundation, the charitable arm of Dominion Resources.

"Dominion is proud to support these five winners as they continue their efforts to enrich students' education through the arts."



*MPA Executive Director Lori Carbonneau (far right) accepted the Dominion ArtStar Award on behalf of MPA*

Led by veteran artist-educator Sharon Fishel, ArtReach is a standards-based, two-part lesson that combines a field trip to MPA's exhibition gallery with a related classroom session featuring hands-on art projects that explore STEAM and other concepts through an arts perspective. In 2016 alone, the program conducted more than 90 ArtReach tours.

"MPA is honored and excited to receive this recognition of our ArtReach program," said Lori Carbonneau, Executive Director of MPA. "The ArtStars grant encourages and supports MPA in our work creating and delivering our SOL-based arts and cultural literacy partnership with Fairfax County Public Schools, and expanding visual arts education throughout our community."

Presented at the 2017 Art Works for Virginia Conference in Richmond, the Dominion ArtStars Awards celebrate arts organizations in Virginia that best demonstrate the ability to advance the synergy between arts and education for the benefit of students and their communities.

### **McLean Project for the Arts.**

**MPA@MCC:** 1234 Ingleside Avenue ■ McLean, Virginia 22101 ■ 703.790.1953 ■ [www.mpaart.org](http://www.mpaart.org)

**MPA@ChainBridge:** 1446 Chain Bridge Road ■ McLean, Virginia 22101 ■ 703.790.1953 ■ [www.mpaart.org](http://www.mpaart.org)

Additional winners included Light House Studio, The HARPS Foundation of Richmond, The Pro-Art Association, and The Williamsburg Symphony Orchestra.

# # #

### **About MPA**

#### **MPA Exhibits, Educates and Inspires**

McLean Project for the Arts (MPA) is one of the mid-Atlantic region's most respected contemporary visual arts organizations. MPA provides high-quality art exhibitions showcasing the work of established and emerging artists, educational programs, art classes, MPAartfest, summer STEAM camp, and ArtReach, an award-winning program serving students in grades K – 12, seniors, and individuals with special needs. For more information, visit [www.mpaart.org](http://www.mpaart.org).

#### **McLean Project for the Arts.**

**MPA@MCC:** 1234 Ingleside Avenue ■ McLean, Virginia 22101 ■ 703.790.1953 ■ [www.mpaart.org](http://www.mpaart.org)  
**MPA@ChainBridge:** 1446 Chain Bridge Road ■ McLean, Virginia 22101 ■ 703.790.1953 ■ [www.mpaart.org](http://www.mpaart.org)