



COMMUNITY IMPACT INITIATIVE

2024 GRANTEE

PROJECT

Etheridge Knight Community Programming



GRANTEE

Indy Arts Council



INVESTMENT

\$2,500

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Etheridge Knight Community Programming aims to energize community engagement with the Bicentennial Legends Etheridge Knight portrait mural, installed in June 2023 on the east wall of 435 Massachusetts Avenue (the building housing the Chatterbox Jazz Club). The MIBOR Economic and Community Development Council previously invested in the mural. Through programming the Indy Arts Council will spotlight an important work of art, demonstrating support for public art and community beautification efforts. The Indy Arts Council's public art program and associated activation events are predicated on the belief that quality of place is a key factor in economic development. Employees are drawn to areas offering a high quality of life, prompting businesses to seek locations that help attract and retain valuable talent. Funding from the MIBOR Community Impact Initiative supported the following community programs:

- Support for an episode of the "Finding Etheridge" series presented as part of the WFYI "Cultural Manifesto" radio program and podcast.
- Support for one themed evening of the community poetry workshop "Sometimes Y," modeled after Etheridge Knight's Free Peoples Poetry Workshops, that takes place on the first Thursday of every month at the Chatterbox (as the Free Peoples Poetry Workshops did). Hosting would occur on October 3, 2024.
- Support for the development and presentation of a new, original Etheridge Knight-themed walking tour of the Mass Avenue neighborhood presented by Through2Eyes.
- Support for a special public reading of Etheridge's poetry in front of the mural with the EKFreePeoplesBe project (Etheridge Knight Legacy Initiative) on September 6, 2024.

IMPACT METRICS:

- Encourages Historic Preservation
- Improves Quality of Life
- Creates Active, Vital Downtown Destinations
- Promotes Cultural Opportunities
- Increases Access to Public Art
- Increases Programming Opportunities
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Promotes Inclusive Activation and Programming
- Increases Tourism Opportunities
- Promotes Unique Visitor Experiences

