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KFW Celebrates 30 Years: A Legacy of Change, A Future of Opportunity

The Kentucky Foundation for Women celebrates 30 years of feminist art for social change throughout 2015. KFW's 30th Anniversary celebrations are intended to increase connection and broaden community impact. The Foundation will be embracing and honoring its history while moving KFW's vision forward through a special grant program, a residency and community writing workshop, an updated graphic identity and a redesigned website developed to further empower feminist social change artists.

"The feminist artists that comprise the KFW community have been change makers - creating their legacy and leaving their imprint on the world. They are grounded in power, self-defined, self-determined, and assured in the impact of their creativity. The Foundation is celebrating these artists by offering more ways to develop their work, connect and make a difference in the lives of women and girls in Kentucky," said Sharon LaRue, KFW Executive Director.

In addition to our regular grantmaking and retreat programs, the 30th Anniversary celebration will comprise a series of initiatives to be convened throughout the year. These include:

- A one-time grant for previous grantees to propose activities that honor the history of feminist art for social change in Kentucky, cultivate connections, and/or inspire dialogue about the power of art to affect social change in the lives of women and girls. Grants up to \$3,000 will be given for activities including networking events, the creation of art that reflects on and celebrates feminist art for social change, and organizing art sharing events. These grants will provide opportunities to celebrate throughout the year and across the state to honor our entire diverse community. Application deadline: April 3.
- "Living the Ink" community workshop, a three-hour workshop for all levels and genres that explores the power of writing about the land and woman-centered issues using guided exercises, supportive feedback, and writing tips. The workshop, led by Writer-in-Residence Crystal Wilkinson on June 20th, is the culmination of a week-long residency that focuses on writing craft, community building and professional development. Registration: April 1 to June 5.
- A poster that includes a timeline of KFW's history, quotes from KFW community members, and a short written narrative that will elaborate on the progression of the organization and the impact of feminist social change artists. The narrative

and timeline will be available on the redesigned website and the timeline poster will be available at KFW events funded through the special grant program.

- The Digital Storytelling Project will begin with the oral history of KFW founder, Sallie Bingham, and then use video and audio to tell the stories of board members, staff, grantees and organizational allies who have worked to advance feminist art for social change throughout the state. The stories will be archived and shared with the public through video segments and podcasts.
- A redesigned website, online in April, offering resources and points of connection that will eventually include online registration for workshops, grants, retreat/residency; a new contact database for networking and peer mentoring; profiles of grantees, links to feminist and social change organizations around the country, and a new graphic identity.
- A new KFW graphic identity that plays on tradition by offering a colorful, dynamic representation of the ginkgo leaf, a symbol of longevity, resilience, and hope. It symbolizes bridging the past and present to gain clarity and direction for the future. It continues our radical commitment to the power of art to create change for women and girls in Kentucky.

“We live in an innovative time when generations of feminists can join together to explore and expand the powerful influence that artists command. People are calling for deeper, authentic connections that lead to confidence in taking action that transforms our world. We need MORE - more visionaries, more truth telling, more entry points, more vibrancy, and more art making. We are working to create more space in the circle to nurture each other’s unfolding,” said LaRue.

The Kentucky Foundation for Women is a private foundation formed in 1985 by Louisville writer Sallie Bingham. Its mission is to promote positive social change by supporting varied feminist expression in the arts.

KFW Executive Director Sharon LaRue and selected grant recipients are available for interviews/appearances. Contact her for further information and to schedule interviews.