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### **Indianapolis Cultural Trail Announces Campaign to Keep Ann Dancing**

*\$262,800 needed by June 29 for Ann Dancing, Indianapolis' most iconic piece of public art.*

INDIANAPOLIS - Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Inc. today announced a campaign to Keep Ann Dancing. *Ann Dancing* by British artist Julian Opie, is over a decade old and is the oldest piece of public art on the Indianapolis Cultural Trail: A Legacy of Gene and Marilyn Glick. The fundraising goal to Keep Ann Dancing is \$262,800 which includes a complete hardware and technology upgrade and a maintenance fund for the electronic piece of art.

"Ann Dancing is a shining example of how accessible and engaging public art can build community, create engaging public spaces and improve quality of life. Art on the Indianapolis Cultural Trail is free and accessible for everyone to enjoy and experience 365 days a year," said Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Inc. Executive Director Kären Haley. "*Ann Dancing* has been dancing with all of us, non-stop, and outside in the elements for more than ten years and she needs significant upgrades to keep dancing for many more. She is a piece of art, but she is also a piece of technology. Imagine if you still had your same mobile phone from ten years ago."

Originally designed to be a temporary installation, *Ann Dancing* has been maintained throughout the years, but the temporary fixes to Keep Ann Dancing are not sustainable. The public fundraising campaign will raise money to purchase and install new display units that are designed with 24 hour operation in a four season climate, as well as long term maintenance needs at the forefront of the design. The upgrades also provide for improved electrical connections, allow for the piece to be updated remotely and integrate fans into the system.

"*Ann Dancing* is one of our city's most iconic pieces of public art," said Mayor Joe Hogsett. "She is free and accessible for everyone to enjoy and entertains residents and visitors alike in the heart of our vibrant city. The Cultural Trail and downtown Indianapolis would not be the same without her, and I challenge everyone to come together and do their part to *Keep Ann Dancing*."

The Keep Ann Dancing campaign is designed to be very public and accessible in nature just as the art piece itself. There are many ways people can Keep Ann Dancing including:

- Make an online donation at [keepann dancing.org](http://keepann dancing.org),
- Text to give: Ann to 243-725

- Buy Keep Ann Dancing merchandise at Silver in the City or [KeepAnnDancing.org/shop](http://KeepAnnDancing.org/shop)
- Attend an event: Happy Hour on Monday, June 4 and Keep Ann Dancing Dance Party on June 29.
- Host an Ann “Friend Raiser” at your office or home.

Since Ann is taking a break from dancing during the four week campaign, she will be out and about traveling around the city and visiting places outside of her normal home on Mass Ave. She will be taking part in events around Indianapolis during the month of June and also visiting corporate partners to thank them for their support.

Everyone is encouraged to share their favorite Ann Dancing memory and images using #KeepAnnDancing as well as follow @KeepAnnDancing on all social media channels.

“*Ann Dancing* is one of us, she’s an Indianapolis resident,” Haley said. “People from all over the world have grown to love her just as we have. No contribution is too small. We want this campaign to be a way for everyone to Keep Ann Dancing, as she puts smiles on all of our faces as we walk by her every day.”

#### **About Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Inc.**

The Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Inc. is the world class leader in urban trails and linear parks and is committed to a sustainable funding model that ensures accessible connections for future generations on the Indianapolis Cultural Trail: A Legacy of Gene and Marilyn Glick.

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