

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Shell Invests in New Regional Arts Center**

**BATON ROUGE, LA –** Shell has invested $300,000 in the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge’s new Cary Saurage Community Arts Center. These funds will support the Shell Gallery, an art exhibition and meeting space open to individuals, schools and organizations throughout the Capital Region and beyond.

“Shell understands the vital role that arts and culture play in creating an appealing place to live and work,” said Renee Chatelain, Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge President and CEO. “They are industry leaders in investing in the quality of life for the Louisiana community, and we are excited about the many positive ways that this arts/business partnership will impact the community.”

The building, located at 233 St. Ferdinand Street, is being renovated and transformed into the Cary Saurage Community Arts Center, which will serve artists throughout the Southeast Region of Louisiana. The venue will be an accessible, multi-story artist workspace featuring collaborative artist studios, a black box theater, sound recording studio, multi-use gathering spaces, and the Shell Gallery. This venue will also serve as the new home for the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge and will complement the surrounding performance venues like the River Center and Shaw Center for the Arts.

“This partnership reinforces Shell’s long-standing commitment to the arts in Louisiana,” said Rhoman Hardy, Shell Vice President U.S. Gulf Coast. “The Cary Saurage Community Arts Center will offer a broad range of resources for both artists and art patrons in the region. Shell is pleased to be able play a role in moving this facility from concept to reality.”

The opening of the Cary Saurage Community Arts Center and Shell Gallery is planned for summer 2021.

For more information about the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge, visit [www.artsbr.org](http://www.artsbr.org) or contact info@artsbr.org. To learn more about Shell in Louisiana, visit [www.shell.us/about-us/projects-and-locations/creative-energy-the-rhythm-of-louisiana.html](http://www.shell.us/about-us/projects-and-locations/creative-energy-the-rhythm-of-louisiana.html).

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**Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge:** Established in 1973, the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge endeavors to promote cultural growth, economic development, and educational enhancement through the arts in the 11-parish region that it serves. As the official arts agency for the City Parish of East Baton Rouge, the organization serves as a hub for information and resources organizations and residents across the state. For more information, visit [www.artsbr.org](http://www.artsbr.org)

**Shell:** Shell Oil Company is an affiliate of the Royal Dutch Shell plc, a global group of energy and petrochemical companies with operations in more than 70 countries. In the U.S., Shell operates in 50 states and employs more than 20,000 people. Shell Oil Company is a leading oil and gas producer in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico, a recognized pioneer in oil and gas exploration and production technology and one of America’s leading oil and natural gas producers, gasoline and natural gas marketers and petrochemical manufacturers.