



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### **Aquesta Bank Announces \$250,000 Commitment to the Campaign for Cain Center for the Arts.**

**Aquesta's groundbreaking gift will be a challenge to local and regional businesses, matching their contributions dollar for dollar up to \$250,000.**

**February 12, 2020 (Cornelius, NC)**— The home of community banking in the Lake Norman region has become a foundational partner to the region's new home for arts, entertainment and community. Aquesta continues to show its leadership and commitment to the community by making the largest business investment the Cain Center for the Arts has received to date, and by challenging other businesses to support the project as well.

To honor this generous investment by Aquesta Bank, Cain Center for the Arts will name the center's reception area and box office in Aquesta Bank's honor.

*The Aquesta Challenge* will formally launch on March 1, and pledges of \$2,500 - \$10,000 from local or regional businesses made after that date will be matched dollar for dollar up to the full \$250,000. This is a wonderful opportunity for local businesses to effectively double the impact of their contributions.

When asked about *The Aquesta Challenge*, Jim Engel simply said, "I want to challenge all local business owners...help support this important project to add to the vibrancy and energy of our community. With your pledge during *The Aquesta Challenge*, you will be doubling your impact at no extra cost to you. Let's get this done!"

Aquesta will host a campaign kick-off event at their Cornelius headquarters on Thursday, March 5th beginning at 5:30 pm. The public is invited to attend.

Aquesta Bank was formed in 2006 in response to a need for a strong community bank. Aquesta has responded to the needs of the small and medium sized businesses that surround the Lake Norman Community for over 13 years. Aquesta's commitment to the community runs deep and beyond providing financial services. From the beginning, Aquesta has supported everything from the Ada Jenkins Center to local sports teams to Hospice and everything in between.

The nonprofit Cain Center for the Arts was established in 2017 and is in the midst of a \$25 million capital campaign to fund construction of the center, which will be built on Catawba Avenue, across from Cornelius Town Hall.

“We’re incredibly excited about this partnership with Aquesta Bank,” said Justin Dionne, Executive Director of Cain Center for the Arts. “We are so honored to have such a widely respected institution endorse this important project, and we’re especially thankful for Jim Engel’s leadership. Aquesta is doing so much to take the lead and kick off the business portion of our campaign, and we look forward to welcoming many more local businesses through the Aquesta Challenge.”

### **More About Cain Center for the Arts**

Cain Center for the Arts will be a home for creativity, learning, entertainment and community for the Lake Norman region. The center will include a 400-seat theater, gallery space, an outdoor venue, and classrooms. In addition to providing a home for national and regional shows and performances, it will also be a venue for community, private, and civic events. A \$4 million bond project for redeveloping the arts district in the historic downtown Cornelius, combined with a foundational gift of \$5 million from Bill and Ericka Cain has put the center well on its way towards its \$25 million fundraising goal.

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