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**I Heart Rail Trail: Lights Returns with Dazzling Public Art Installations in South End**

Celebration of local artists, presented by U.S. Bank, runs for 16 days in March

**What**: Interactive light festival featuring five installations by local artists along the Rail Trail

**When**: March 4-20, 2022; artwork is illuminated at dusk nightly

**Where**: Along the Rail Trail in South End, with exhibitions at: 1100 South (1100 South Blvd.), The RailYard (1414 S. Tryon St.), Dilworth Artisan Station (118 E. Kingston Ave.), Atherton Mill Plaza (2102 South Blvd.), and Atherton Mill Lawn (2102 South Blvd.)

CHARLOTTE (Feb. 10, 2022) – The Rail Trail will be lit once again this year as I Heart Rail Trail: Lights, presented by U.S. Bank, returns to South End with five never-before-seen public art installations on display from March 4-20.

The festival is free and open to the public. Artwork will be illuminated at dusk each night to create a magical interactive experience in one of Charlotte’s most vibrant neighborhoods. Artists from the Carolinas were selected to display work at the event:

* Oliver Lewis
* Meredith Dallas
* Kiik Create
* Arko and Luvly Moon
* Kat Sanchez Standfield and Caleb Roenigk

More information about the event and the artists involved is available at: <https://southendclt.org/events/i-heart-rail-trail-lights>

Discovery will be around every corner, as visitors can enjoy one-of-a-kind art, take the perfect photo, grab a bite to eat or drink, and do it all again the next day.

I Heart Rail Trail: Lights is part of the I Heart Rail Trail initiative, a partnership between the Charlotte Rail Trail, Charlotte Center City Partners, and U.S. Bank. The program features events large and small to activate the Rail Trail and enhance the experience of this 3.5-mile linear park. In addition to sponsoring the I Heart Rail Trail initiative, in 2019 U.S. Bank contributed $1 million toward the planned construction of a pedestrian bridge that will connect the South End and Uptown portions of the Rail Trail.

The partnership between U.S. Bank and the Charlotte Rail Trail is part of U.S. Bank’s Community Possible program. U.S. Bank’s unified giving and engagement strategy Community Possible focuses on closing the gaps between people and possibility in the areas of Work, Home, and Play. The bank believes the building blocks of all thriving communities where all things are possible include stable employment opportunities, a home to call your own, and a community connected through culture, arts, recreation, and play. Visit www.usbank.com/community for more information.

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**ABOUT CHARLOTTE CENTER CITY PARTNERS**

Charlotte Center City Partners boldly envisions and activates strategies and actions that will assure Charlotte Center City is a welcoming and equitable, economically vibrant, culturally rich, and beloved place for all. For complete information about Charlotte Center City Partners, visit [www.charlottecentercity.org](http://www.charlottecentercity.org).