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**Rail Trail Lights Returns to South End
with Six Public Light Art Installations**Celebration of local artists, presented by U.S. Bank, runs for 17 days in February

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

**When:** February 3-19, 2023. Artwork is illuminated at dusk nightly. Feb 3 and 4 features roving street entertainers. Live music by local musicians at the Atherton installation 6pm – 8pm on Feb 3-4, 9-11, and 16-18.

**Where:** Along the Rail Trail in South End, with exhibitions at: The Pavilion (222 E Bland St.), Flower Child (1537 Camden Rd.), Wedge Patio (1537 Camden Rd.), Kingston Connection (118 E. Kingston Ave.), Design Center Plaza (1920 Camden Rd.), Atherton Mill Plaza (2102 South Blvd.)

CHARLOTTE (Jan. 12, 2023) – The Charlotte Rail Trail will be illuminated for the fourth year as Rail Trail Lights, presented by U.S. Bank, returns to South End with six never-before-seen, locally created public art installations on display from February 3-19.

The festival is free, family-friendly, and open to the public. Artwork will be lit at dusk each night to create a unique interactive experience in one of Charlotte’s most vibrant neighborhoods. Friday and Saturday evenings, select locations will host family-friendly programming including live music. The following artists, all from the Carolinas, were selected through a competitive process to display work at the event:

* Cheeks McGee the Collector of Techniques at (The Pavilion)
* Studio Cultivate (Wedge Patio)
* Studio Dickey (Flower Child)
* G. Scott Queen (Kingston Connection)
* Sir Will (Design Center Plaza)
* Matthew Steele (Atherton Mill Plaza)

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

Discover magic around every corner while in South End during Rail Trail Lights. Visitors can enjoy one-of-a-kind art, grab a bite to eat or drink, and do it all again the next day. Rail Trail Lights is perfect for those looking for a family-friendly outing, the perfect Insta-pic, a fun and free date night, or just something a little extra special on a regular Rail Trail walk.

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 [charlottecentercity.org](https://www.charlottecentercity.org/).