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[Photos and b-roll](#)

Aviation-themed mural debuts at CVG Airport with support from GE Aerospace

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Erlanger, Ky. [March 5, 2026] Colorful new artwork now greets travelers at the Welcome Point level of Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG). The *Making Connections* mural, designed by Northern Kentucky artist Maria Nacu and brought to life by 16 ArtWorks youth apprentices and the ArtWorks team, transforms a corridor near the Welcome Point escalators with colorful scenes inspired by aviation, teamwork, and the interplay of people and ideas.

The mural was commissioned by GE Aerospace and CVG.

“When you fly, there’s a strong chance you’re riding on a GE Aerospace engine, and we take that responsibility with great seriousness. This artwork honors the workforce whose dedication keeps millions of passengers safely in the air every day,” said Mike Kaufman, Head of Technology & Operations, Industrial Transformation at GE Aerospace.

Spanning both sides of the hallway, the mural surrounds travelers with illustrations of luggage in motion, ground crews at work, soaring aircraft, and whimsical touches including winged suitcases and flying pigs.

The theme underscores the significant economic impact of air travel in our region and the many people who make it possible. CVG ranks as North America’s seventh largest cargo hub. With a robust and reliable supply chain and access to a skilled workforce, the region has become a magnet for aerospace suppliers, manufacturing three times more aerospace products and parts than the national average.

CVG Airport CEO Larry Krauter highlighted the significance of dedicating the mural in a transportation hub that serves as an economic driver for the region.

“CVG’s mission is to connect this region to the world, and this mural captures that purpose in a way that is both creative and authentic. It beautifully reflects the people and roles that make air travel possible every single day,” Krauter said.

More than 50 people attended the opening celebration, including many of the ArtWorks youth apprentices who spent their summer working on the mural’s panels, drawing the outlines and filling in color.

“Seeing it installed for the first time was exciting because we had only ever viewed it in sections, and now it feels real and huge,” said August Kendall, one of the apprentices.



ArtWorks CEO and Artistic Director Colleen Houston praised the young artists as well as ArtsWave, which helps fund the arts as well as make connections among people across the arts community. She thanked the thousands of people who donate to ArtsWave ongoing annual campaign.

“ArtWorks thrives because of the generosity and vision of our partners and supporters. This project is a testament to how the arts enrich our region and strengthen its civic pride,” Houston said.

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About CVG Airport

CVG welcomed 9.2 million travelers in 2024. The airport offers more than 55 nonstop destinations with 14 airlines/tour operators. It is proud to serve two nonstop transatlantic flights to London via British Airways, as well as Paris-CDG through Delta Air Lines. CVG is home to two global air hubs that continue to drive growth: Amazon Air’s Hub and DHL Express’ Global Superhub for the Americas. With an annual impact of \$10.5 billion on the local economy, the airport drives regional growth and remains a leader in aviation innovation. Learn more at CVGairport.com.

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About GE Aerospace

GE Aerospace is a global aerospace propulsion, services, and systems leader with an installed base of approximately 50,000 commercial and 30,000 military aircraft engines. With a global team of approximately 57,000 employees building on more than a century of innovation and learning, GE Aerospace is committed to inventing the future of flight, lifting people up, and bringing them home safely. Learn more about how GE Aerospace and its partners are defining flight for today, tomorrow, and the future at www.geaerospace.com.

About ArtWorks

Since 1996, ArtWorks has collaborated with community organizations and residents, businesses, governments, foundations, and nonprofits to build creative works of art that support the Greater Cincinnati region’s global reputation as an arts destination. ArtWorks has employed and trained over 3,500 professional artists and 4,000 youth, ages 14–24. We invest in our creative economy by creating jobs that support local talent, pairing professional artists to inspire and mentor diverse teams of youth, and helping them build 21st-century career-readiness skills. Over the past 29 years, this collaborative approach has created a citywide gallery with more than 14,000 public and private art projects, including more than 350 permanent outdoor murals. ArtWorks receives ongoing support from the City of Cincinnati, the Ohio Arts Council, ArtsWave, and individual donors.

About ArtsWave

ArtsWave fuels the Cincinnati region’s arts, supporting 150+ organizations, projects and artists each year. Since 1927, it has been the primary way the region funds the arts, raising millions annually from tens of thousands of individuals, businesses and foundations to drive a more vibrant economy and connected community. Through the Blueprint for Collective Action, ArtsWave strategically makes investments that maximize the arts’ impact across the region. To learn more and give to the 2026 community campaign, visit artswave.org.