

Joey Hendrickson

I've supported the arts for more than 10 years. I founded the non-profits "Columbus Songwriters Association" in 2012 and "Columbus Music Commission" in 2015, which have benefitted more than 500 artists in Central, Ohio. I've hosted house concerts with friends in my Columbus home, which have led to deeper friendships and raised critical support for musicians. In 2021, after an undercover police investigation of a benefit concert I put on Facebook, police searched my home, put some cans of beer from my refrigerator into a cardboard box, and issued me 4 class A misdemeanor charges. I had to defend myself from an Ohio prosecutor and "Keeper of a Place" law for 9 months. I paid more than \$5,000 in attorney fees and criminal fines. I'm currently under 3 years of probation to not hand a beer to a friend in my home. I'm in support of HB 574, which aligned to the normal culture of home gatherings. I hope that HB 574 is passed, so Ohio friends can gather in our homes to benefit artists, politicians, and causes we believe in, without undercover police investigations and criminal charges against us.