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The Newark Museum of Art Plans Ambitious Fall of Events and Exhibitions *Museum to Debut New Events and Enhanced Programming* *Following Successful Reopening This Summer*

NEWARK, NJ – October 4, 2021 – This fall, The Newark Museum of Art will debut a series of new exhibitions and offer a robust schedule of exciting events for Museum members and visitors. The lineup includes an art installation by nationally recognized light artist and architect Phillip K. Smith III, an exhibition highlighting a series of new works and site-specific installations by celebrated New York artist Saya Woolfalk, a look at rare endangered animal species with *Endangered!*, and the Museum’s annual fall luncheon, *Artist as Global Citizen*.

“It has been a busy summer for The Newark Museum of Art, as we presented our first ever *Arts in The Garden* series, in partnership with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. This leads into a full fall schedule highlighting the work of some of the country’s most dynamic contemporary artists, our always popular fall luncheon, and an innovative reimagining of our earth sciences galleries,” said Linda C. Harrison, Director and CEO of The Newark Museum of Art. “We are extremely proud that these initiatives will showcase the many different talents on our staff when it comes to enhancing the visitor experience and exposing them to new and unique perspectives on the art world.”

“Fall is traditionally a time of fresh starts and reconnections. Our bold slate of exhibitions and events embodies that feeling of anticipation that autumn brings,” said Deborah Kasindorf, Vice President and Deputy Director of External Affairs at The Newark Museum of Art. “We are excited to share groundbreaking work inside our galleries, as well as the dramatic illumination of our main façade on Washington Street. We are looking forward to introducing a new season of creativity and innovation to all our visitors.”

Details on fall exhibitions and events include:

***Three Half Lozenges*, Phillip K. Smith III (Debuts on Oct. 9, Ongoing)**

On October 9, The Newark Museum of Art will unveil a long-term installation by renowned light artist and architect, Phillip K. Smith III. The piece will illuminate the Museum’s iconic Beaux-Arts

façade of the main building, and will serve as a beacon for the Washington Park neighborhood and Broad Street corridor. The museum aims to bring renewed vibrancy to the downtown arts district with this Smith's unique eye-catching installation which will brighten the streets nightly from afar.

Smith is recognized for his large-scale installations that live at the intersection of architecture and light. Responding to the geometries of the Museum's historic architecture, *Three Half Lozenges* activates the façade with a slowly changing program of LED lights that emerge over time beginning at dusk. The first major, site-specific installation for Smith on the East Coast, *Three Half Lozenges* packs a lot of impact without interference to the Museum building. In fact, by replacing the window panes with clear glass required for the color program to fully activate, this long-term installation returns the facade to the original state of the purpose-built 1926 edifice.

Three Half Lozenges is the second work by Smith to enter the museum's permanent collection. It joins an earlier acquisition by the Museum, a wall-mounted light sculpture entitled *Torus 9*, inspired by the sun setting across the California desert.

Saya Woolfalk: Field Notes from the Empathic Universe and Saya Woolfalk: Tumbling Into Landscape (October 21, 2021-December 31, 2022)

As an artist in residence at The Newark Museum of Art since 2019, New York based multi-media artist Saya Woolfalk immersed herself in the Museum's American art and natural science collections. She spent extended time on-site, studying the Museum's historical landscape paintings and medicinal plant specimens in the collection. This exploration of the museum environment was complemented by a long period spent in the natural landscapes of Upstate New York and Maine.

Considering issues of representation and her own relationship to the American landscape, Woolfalk has created a bold new body of work that will premier this fall, including two related exhibitions that will remain on view for over 14 months. A publication documenting the exhibitions and related programming will be published by The Newark Museum of Art in June 2022.

In her multi-faceted studio practice, Woolfalk combines high-tech and hand-made processes, using science fiction, fantasy, and global culture to re-imagine the world in multiple dimensions. *Saya Woolfalk: Field Notes from the Empathic Universe* transforms the Museum's newly renovated Global Contemporary galleries. Guests will enter through an immersive video installation layered with the artist's original digital collages. Visitors are introduced to the world of the Empathics — fictional beings created by Woolfalk to explore concepts of cultural hybridity. Highlights of *Field Notes* include an altar-like installation titled *Birth of a New Sky*, featuring 10 new collages referencing medicinal plants and fragments of landscapes.

Downstairs in the Museum's historical landscape gallery the intervention *Saya Woolfalk: Tumbling Into Landscape* prompts questions of identity and belonging in relationship to the American landscape and diverse histories of the United States. Echoing the altar-like structure featured in the main exhibition, this installation features the artist's first-ever self-portrait flanked by six recently conserved paintings on view for the first time in decades.

Artist as Global Citizen: 2021 Virtual Fall Luncheon (November 9)

This November, the Museum is hosting its annual fall fundraising luncheon to celebrate 112 years of The Newark Museum of Art. This year, the theme, *Artist as Global Citizen*, celebrates the diverse audience and global network the Museum has celebrated and collaborated with in its history. The 75-minute virtual program will feature an in-depth conversation with four leading contemporary artists: Marela Zacarias, Victoria-Indongesit Udondian, Nadia Liz Estela, and Kenseth Armstead.

The Museum's Curator of American Art, Tricia Laughlin Bloom, and Deborah Willis (Chair of Tisch School of the Arts' Department of Photography and Imaging and the Director of NYU's Center for Black Visual Culture) will moderate. .

Endangered! (November 12, 2021 – April 24, 2022)

Endangered! looks at the threats animals face in our ever-changing world. This exhibition explores the stories behind some extinct, threatened and lower risk species, as well as how human behaviors affect animals and their habitats. Through the guided study of works of art depicting animals and specimens from the Museum's science collection, visitors will learn what it means to be an endangered species, some of the factors that have led to the extinction of animal groups, and what people can do to help reverse or slow the process. All are invited to make a pledge to help save various animals worldwide.

Endangered! also includes *Lost World: The Audubon Immersive Experience*. This digital recreation focuses on three areas and the currently endangered and extinct species that once called them home. Taken from Audubon's *Birds of America*, you can watch artistic representations of these animals come to life. *Endangered!* is made possible by a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and support from Fannie and Morris Sklaw Foundation, Inc., The Merrill G. and Erita E. Hastings Foundation, Eleonore K. Cohen and generous individual donors.

Visiting The Newark Museum of Art

Admission to the Museum will be on a discounted basis through the end of 2021. As always, members and Newark residents are admitted free. Gallery hours are from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., Thursday through Sunday. Timed admission tickets are required for all visitors. Tickets are \$10 and \$8 for children over 2 years of age.

Currently, visitors must present a copy or photo of their COVID-19 vaccination card OR proof of a negative COVID-19 test within the previous 72 hours.

Tickets must be reserved online. Information can be found at newarkmuseumart.org.

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About the Newark Museum of Art

Founded in 1909, The Newark Museum of Art is the largest art and education institution in New Jersey and one of the most influential museums in the United States. Its renowned global art

collections, supported by significant holdings of science, technology and natural history, rank 12th among North America's art museums. The Museum is dedicated to artistic excellence, education and community engagement with an overarching commitment to broadening and diversifying arts participation. As it has for over a century, the Museum responds to the evolving needs and interests of the diverse audiences it serves by providing exhibitions, programming and resources designed to improve and enrich people's lives.

The Museum also encompasses the Victoria Hall of Science, the Alice and Leonard Dreyfuss Planetarium, the 1885 Ballantine House, the MakerSPACE, the Billy Johnson Auditorium, the Alice Ransom Dreyfuss Memorial Garden, an authentic 1784 Schoolhouse, and the Newark Fire Museum.

The Newark Museum of Art, a not-for-profit museum of art and science, receives operating support from the City of Newark, the State of New Jersey, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State (a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts), the New Jersey Cultural Trust, the Prudential Foundation, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the Victoria Foundation, the Estate of Phyllis and Sanford Bolton, the Wallace Foundation, and other corporations, foundations, and individuals. Funds for acquisitions and activities other than operations are provided by members and other contributors.