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## **The Newark Museum of Art Hosts its 2021 Annual Fall Fundraising Luncheon, *Artist as Global Citizen***

*Virtually Enter the Studios of Worldwide Artists as they Bring You  
Behind the Scenes into their Creative Process*

**NEWARK, NJ – October 26, 2021** – On Tuesday, November 9 at noon, The Newark Museum of Art presents its fall luncheon, *Artist as Global Citizen*. Artists **Kenseth Armstead, Nadia Liz Estela, Victoria-Idongesit Udondian** and **Marela Zacarias** will offer behind-the-scenes insights into their work and how art is healing communities and aiding recovery from the global pandemic. These artists' works are exhibited in museums across the U.S., Mexico, Brazil, and Europe.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the 2021 luncheon will be held virtually for the second consecutive year. Registration and fees are required and information is available via The Newark Museum of Art website at <https://www.newarkmuseumart.org/artist-as-global-citizen>.

Moderators **Tricia Laughlin Bloom**, PhD, The Newark Museum of Art's Curator of American Art, and **Deborah Willis**, PhD, Chair, Tisch School of the Arts Dept. of Photography & Imaging and Director, Center for Black Visual Culture at NYU, will guide the conversation with the artists.

"Funds raised from this signature annual event will support The Newark Museum of Art's public programs, exhibitions and initiatives, each designed to support our mission of welcoming everyone and fostering community," said Linda C. Harrison, President and CEO of The Newark Museum of Art. "This year's event is focused on an 'of the moment' need for art and culture to heal during our collective recovery from the last year and a half."

"This year's luncheon is a great opportunity to learn from an extraordinary group of artists at the forefront of shaping important narratives in our global art community," said Bloom. "We are excited for this unique chance to hear first-hand about current projects, concerns, and insights on the idea of global citizenship at this moment."

Artists appearing include:

***Kenseth Armstead***

Kenseth Armstead is a multimedia conceptual artist whose work has been included in pivotal moments in the exploration of history, American culture, and ethnicity at museums and alternative spaces around the world. His works have appeared at the The Whitney Museum of Art and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York; the FUTURA Center for Contemporary Art, Prague, Czech Republic; and the MIT List Visual Art Center in Cambridge, Massachusetts. His work is also in the collections of the Centre Pompidou in Paris, France; Studio Museum in Harlem, New York; and The Newark Museum of Art. His most recent public artwork is *Boulevard of African Monarchs*, presented by the New York City DOT Art Program and the Marcus Garvey Park Alliance in Harlem, which celebrates the legacy of African excellence in America.

***Nadia Liz Estela***

Born in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, ***Nadia Liz Estela*** explores the journeys people make, collectively and individually. A Montclair, New Jersey resident, Estela references the invisible layers of migration and memory that form identity. She creates a visual language where contradictions exist in the same plane. Her work combines paper and print, paint and canvas, installation and performance. She has exhibited internationally at institutions worldwide including the Luo Zhongli Art Museum and Sichuan Fine Arts Institute in Chongqing, China; Project for Empty Space in Newark, New Jersey; American Medium Gallery in New York; the Torpedo Factory Art Center in Alexandria, Virginia; and the Montclair Art Museum in Montclair, New Jersey. Estela is the Inaugural Artist in Residence at the Hayama International Artist Residency in Japan.

***Victoria-Idongesit Udondian***

***Victoria-Idongesit Udondian*** creates interdisciplinary installations and large-scale sculptural projects that draw from her life growing up in Nigeria. She engages with textiles and re-purposed materials to investigate how fundamental changes in fabric can affect one's perception of his or her identity, and ultimately a nation's psyche. Her work has been exhibited at Fondazione di Venezia, Bag Factory Studios in Johannesburg, South Africa; MASS MOCA, Fisher Landau Center for the Arts in Long Island City, New York; the Nigerian National Museum in Lagos; and the Instituto Sacatar in Bahia, Brazil, among others.

***Marela Zacarias***

***Marela Zacarias*** utilizes a labor and research-intensive process that merges sculpture with painting. Her technique involves molding window screens and plaster into undulating 3D forms that she then paints, making them alive with movement and expression. Zacarias has created site-specific commissions throughout Mexico and the U.S., and her work has appeared at leading institutions including the Brooklyn Museum; the Galería Alterna in Mexico City; El Museo del Barrio and Sapar Contemporary Gallery in New York; the Mexican Cultural Institute in Washington, D.C., and the British Society of American Art in Brooklyn.

Sponsors for the *Artist as Global Citizen* virtual luncheon include The MCJ Amelior Foundation, Sara and Jonathan Bonesteel, Eleonore K. Cohen, Ann B. Dickinson, Kathy O. Grier, Allen J. Karp,

Arlene S. Lieberman, Judith Lieberman, Prudential Financial, PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. , PSEG,Inc., The MaryAnn and Gordon Rich Family Charitable Fund, Eleanor C. Shanley, Julie and Lewis Stone, Mindy A. Cohen, Lee Ann Dillon, Curtis Johnson and Melissa Hager, Ruth Lipper, Lynn and Peter Sayre, Sotheby's, Roberta Thaxton, and Nina Mitchell Wells.

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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 1885 Ballantine House mansion, the Victoria Hall of Science, the Alice and Leonard Dreyfuss Planetarium, 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 education, 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 William J. Dane, the Estate of Ruth C. Flanagan, the Wallace Foundation, and other corporations, foundations, and individuals. Funds for acquisitions and activities other than operations are provided by members and other contributors.