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2021 New Jersey Arts Annual: ReVision and Respond is in its Final Two Weeks

Exhibition on view until Sunday, August 22, 2021

NEWARK, NJ- August 9, 2021 –The Newark Museum of Art invites the public to see the powerful exhibition, 2021 New Jersey Arts Annual: ReVision and Respond, before it closes on Sunday, August 22nd.

This year's *New Jersey Arts Annual* features 45 artists who transformed their personal experiences of recent years into 50 works that range from photographs, paintings, sculptures, textiles, and mixed media. The *2021 New Jersey Arts Annual: ReVision and Respond* is a project of The Newark Museum of Art and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

"The *ReVision and Respond* theme offers artists room to reveal how they processed the tumultuous events of the past several years," said Amy Simon Hopwood, Associate Curator of Decorative Arts for The Newark Museum of Art, who juried the exhibition with Kristen J. Owens, Associate Curator (Programs) for Rutgers University-Newark's Paul Robeson Galleries at Express Newark. "The pandemic and social injustice have impacted everyone. These artists and their work offer the visitor a way to understand our current world and what has happened to us recently, collectively and individually."

"This is a timely and powerful exhibition, and a true reflection of the talent and resilience of New Jersey artists," said Allison Tratner, Executive Director of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. "We are grateful to The Newark Museum of Art for their commitment to engage the public in safe and meaningful ways, even and especially through crisis - and to the artists who've shared their experiences through this impressive body of work, we thank you."

The exhibition also offers visitors an interactive opportunity that applies whether one is on-site or online. A QR code lets anyone select an emoji that reflects their reaction to each work. A projection in a side gallery shows the results from all visitors.

The exhibition labels and webpage are in <u>English</u> and <u>Spanish</u> as a part of the Museum's focus on increasing visitor access. A <u>participatory experience</u> and a <u>digital catalog</u> are also available online (digital catalog is in English only).

"Presenting information in both English and Spanish is a critical priority of The Newark Museum of Art," said Silvia Filippini Fantoni, Deputy Director of Learning and Engagement at the Museum. "Thirty-six percent of Newark's population is Latinx, and many regard Spanish as their primary language. We want to make sure that our labels speak to that segment of our audience."

"We hope that visitors will take away a sense of the power of art to re-vision and respond to the world around them," Amy Simon Hopwood said. "The artwork offers a chance for visitors to reflect on their own emotions and experiences of the past years."

Discounted Admission Available

Access to the 2021 New Jersey Arts Annual: ReVision and Respond is included in regular admission to The Newark Museum of Art. Tickets to the Museum will be on a discounted basis through the end of 2021. As always, members and Newark residents are admitted free.

The Museum is open to the public from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., Thursday through Sunday. Timed admission tickets are required for all visitors. Tickets will cost \$10 for adults and \$8 for children over 2. Tickets must be reserved online.

As part of planning your visit, all visitors aged 12 and up must show proof of vaccination with a copy of vaccination card or photo, along with personal identification, or present a negative Covid-19 test from the last 72 hours. This includes both the Alice Ransom Dreyfuss Garden and inside the Museum.

For more information about The Newark Museum of Art, visit us on the web at www.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 Billy Johnson Auditorium, the Alice Ransom Dreyfuss Memorial Garden, the 1784 Old Stone Schoolhouse, and the Newark Fire Museum.

About the New Jersey State Council on the Arts

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts, created in 1966, is a division of the NJ Department of State. The Council was established to encourage and foster public interest in the arts; enlarge public and private resources devoted to the arts; promote freedom of expression in the arts; and facilitate the inclusion of art in every public building in New Jersey. The Council receives direct appropriations from the State of New Jersey through a dedicated, renewable Hotel/Motel Occupancy fee, as well as competitive grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information, visit www.artscouncil.nj.gov.