

MEDIA RELEASE

The Studio Museum in Harlem
144 West 125th Street
New York, NY 10027
studiomuseum.org/press



CONTACT

Elizabeth Gwinn
The Studio Museum in Harlem
egwinn@studiomuseum.org
646.214.2142

Kate Lydecker
Polskin Arts and Communications Counselors
kate.lydecker@finnpartners.com
212.715.1602

THE STUDIO MUSEUM IN HARLEM ANNOUNCES SUMMER AND FALL 2017 EXHIBITIONS



Jacob Lawrence, *The Architect*, 1959. Egg tempera on Masonite, 13 5/8 × 17 1/2 in.
The Studio Museum in Harlem; gift of Mr. and Mrs. James Hathinas 1982.1

June 26, 2017—The Studio Museum in Harlem today announced its schedule through the end of 2017, offering a diverse group of exhibitions and projects that look to the Museum's—and the neighborhood's—past, present, and future.

Opening on July 20, *Their Own Harlems*, *Impressions: Expanding the Walls 2017*, and *Harlem Postcards Summer 2017* will offer a broad range of perspectives on the neighborhood by artists ranging from Jacob Lawrence—whose birth centennial is September 7, 2017—to the young participants in the Museum's *Expanding the Walls* teen photography program. *Their Own Harlems*, taking its name from a phrase Lawrence used to refer to African-American communities

around the country, contextualizes key Lawrence works from the Studio Museum's collection with those by his contemporaries and subsequent generations, all exploring the urban experience.

These exhibitions will join four highly regarded exhibitions and projects currently on view at the Museum—*Regarding the Figure*, *Rico Gatson: Icons 2007–2017*, *Jamel Shabazz: Crossing 125th*, and *Smokehouse, 1968–1970*—as well as innovative presentations outside the Museum created as part of *inHarlem*, a new set of initiatives that bring art exhibitions, projects, and programs directly into the Harlem community. The site-specific sculpture commissions that inaugurated *inHarlem* in August 2016—by Kevin Beasley, Simone Leigh, Kori Newkirk, and Rudy Shepherd—remain accessible in four Historic Harlem Parks through July 25. A new exhibition, *Derrick Adams: Patrick Kelly, The Journey*, is currently enlivening the New York Public Library's Countee Cullen Library. Further afield, the collaborative exhibition *20/20: The Studio Museum in Harlem and Carnegie Museum of Art* brings a dialogue between the two museums' collections to Pittsburgh.

In August, the Museum will invite the public behind the scenes to *Photo Studio*, the last phase of a major project to capture high-quality digital images of its unparalleled permanent collection. And in September, the Studio Museum's galleries will simultaneously host two of the Museum's most anticipated and beloved exhibition initiatives: *Fictions*, the latest in the Museum's signature "F-shows" of emerging artists, and *We Go as They: Artists in Residence 2016–17*, featuring the work of Autumn Knight, Julia Phillips, and Andy Robert.

Thelma Golden, Director and Chief Curator of The Studio Museum in Harlem, said, "As we approach our fiftieth anniversary, which we will commemorate in 2018, our exciting schedule is helping us to take stock of the achievements of the Studio Museum and look toward our future and the future of Harlem. We will be presenting works by touchstone artists including Jacob Lawrence and James VanDerZee, celebrated contemporary artists such as Julie Mehretu, Lynette Yiadom-Boakye, and Wardell Milan, and a host of outstanding emerging artists, including the participants in this year's *Artist-in-Residence* program. We're also looking both outward and inward: outward at the realities of Harlem over time, and inward at the meanings that Harlem has held for artists and residents over the generations. It all adds up to a series of exhibitions that are more vital and engaging than ever."

Upcoming Exhibitions 2017

Their Own Harlems

July 20, 2017–January 7, 2018



Lynette Yiadom-Boakye, *Breakfast East Harlem*, 2010. Pastel, 11 5/8 × 16 1/2 in.
The Studio Museum in Harlem; gift of the artist and Jack Shainman Gallery, New York
2011.14.9

In honor of the centennial of the birth of Jacob Lawrence (1917–2000), *Their Own Harlems* examines the ways in which the urban landscape has influenced Lawrence's artistic practice, as well as that of other artists. Known primarily for his bodies of work that depict historical figures, Lawrence was also a keen observer of contemporary life, drawing inspiration throughout his career from the years he spent living in Harlem. He thought of Harlem in a broad sense, acknowledging the powerful and positive experiences people of African descent across the country could find in "their own Harlems." The works in this exhibition thus consider different aspects of urban life, such as the ritual of moving through the city and the direct observation of

scenes on the street, to illustrate how the city has served as a source of inspiration for artists across generations.

Drawn entirely from the permanent collection and the Harlem Postcards project, *Their Own Harlems* features the work of more than twenty artists including Dawoud Bey, Jacob Lawrence, Julie Mehretu, Wardell Milan, and Lynette Yiadom-Boakye. *Their Own Harlems* is organized by Connie H. Choi, Associate Curator, Permanent Collection.

Impressions: Expanding the Walls 2017

July 20–August 27, 2017

The Studio Museum's *Expanding the Walls* program, founded in 2001, is a photography-based residency for young emerging artists enrolled in high schools or equivalent programs in New York City, providing them with workshops with a diverse group of arts professionals, intensive instruction in the techniques of digital photography, opportunities to build community, and a culminating exhibition. Each eight-month residency is based on the young artists' investigation of the work of James VanDerZee (1886–1983), the iconic chronicler of Harlem life, whose archives are housed at the Studio Museum.



Indera Jordan, *Thunderbolt*, 2017. Digital chromogenic print. Courtesy the artist

The sixteen young artists in the 2016–17 program took an interest in particular methods of VanDerZee's practice, such as his use of hyperreal studio backdrops, street scenes and etching notes on his negatives. They were also drawn to the performative and conceptual strategies of other photographers, including Devin Allen, Isaac Diggs, LaToya Ruby Frazier, and Lorna Simpson. The works in *Impressions* are a testament to the young artists' close attention to family bonds and the nuances of life in Harlem and other New York City communities, and the exhibition reflects their shared desire to use formal aspects of photography to uncover beauty in overlooked places and histories. *Impressions: Expanding the Walls 2017* is organized by Doris Zhao, Curatorial Assistant, with Ginny Huo, Expanding the Walls/Youth Programs Coordinator.

Harlem Postcards Summer 2017

July 20–September 10, 2017

Harlem Postcards is an ongoing project that invites contemporary artists of diverse backgrounds to reflect on Harlem as a site of cultural activity, political vitality, visual stimuli, artistic contemplation, and creative production. Representing intimate and dynamic perspectives of Harlem, the images reflect the idiosyncratic visions of contemporary artists from a wide range of backgrounds and locations. Each photograph has been reproduced as a limited edition postcard available free to visitors.

This season, we are pleased to feature an unprecedented ten postcard images in conjunction with *Uptown*, a new triennial



Dawoud Bey, *A Space Where Something Was*, 2016.

surveying the work of artists who live or practice north of 99th Street, an initiative of the Wallach Art Gallery at Columbia University's new Lenfest Center for the Arts. The featured artists include Dawoud Bey, Reza Farkhondeh, Phyllis Galembo, Glendalys Medina, Al Miller, Joiri Minaya, Shani Peters, David Shrobe, Derick Whitson, and *Expanding the Walls* participant Wildriana De Jesús Paulino. *Harlem Postcards Summer 2017* is organized by Doris Zhao, Curatorial Assistant.

20/20: The Studio Museum in Harlem and Carnegie Museum of Art

The Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA

July 22–December 31, 2017

In a unique institutional collaboration, The Studio Museum in Harlem and Carnegie Museum of Art (CMOA) present a group exhibition at CMOA in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, with works by forty artists, twenty from each collection. Responding to a tumultuous and deeply divided moment in our nation's history, *20/20* mines both collections to offer a metaphoric picture of America today. Spanning nearly one hundred years—from 1920s photographs by James VanDerZee to recent works by Kerry James Marshall, Ellen Gallagher, and Collier Schorr—*20/20* provides a critical opportunity to prompt conversations about the necessity of art during times of social and political transformation.

The exhibition unfolds through a thematic exploration of the foundations of our national condition, ultimately championing the critical role of art in political and individual expression. Taken together, the artworks in this unprecedented collaboration offer multiple pathways for reflection and interpretation, allowing visitors to meditate on the long, complex history of our country. This exhibition is organized by Carnegie Museum of Art in partnership with The Studio Museum in Harlem and curated by Eric Crosby, Richard Armstrong Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at Carnegie Museum of Art, and Amanda Hunt, former Associate Curator, The Studio Museum in Harlem, and now Director of Education and Public Programs, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles.



**Kerry James Marshall, *Untitled (Gallery)*, 2016, acrylic on PVC panel. Carnegie Museum of Art, The Henry L. Hillman Fund
© Kerry James Marshall. Courtesy the artist and David Zwirner, London**

Photo Studio

August 10–27, 2017

Photo Studio will transform one of the Studio Museum's galleries into an active photography studio. Over the course of two weeks, museum staff will work in view of the public to create high-quality digital photographs of some of the largest works in the Museum's permanent collection of nearly two thousand works of art. This is the culminating phase in a year-long project, generously supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), to fully digitize and make accessible this unparalleled collection.

Maintaining the Museum's commitment to the preservation, accessibility, and study of work by artists of African descent, *Photo Studio* will allow for a rare behind-the-scenes look into the work that occurs at a museum while offering staff and visitors alike an opportunity to reflect upon the depth and breadth of the Studio Museum's collection. Visitors will have the chance to see art handlers installing work in a variety of media, with rarely-seen, large-scale, or technically complex artworks periodically on view in the main gallery.

Fictions

September 14, 2017–January 7, 2018

Fictions is a survey of recent work by about twenty emerging artists of African descent who live and work across the United States. The artists in the exhibition engage with a variety of media—including video, photography, drawing, and sculpture—with some combining multiple artistic practices to create large-scale installations.

The exhibition is the fifth in a series of emerging artist exhibitions presented by the Studio Museum, following *Freestyle* (2001), *Frequency* (2005–06), *Flow* (2008), and *Fore* (2012–13). Tracing the artistic developments since *Fore*, *Fictions* emphasizes the development of narrative content in contemporary art over the past five years. From the personal to the political and the everyday to the imagined, the exhibition examines the stories that form the foundation of these artists' practices.

Fictions is organized by Connie H. Choi, Associate Curator, Permanent Collection, and Hallie Ringle, Assistant Curator. The exhibition will be accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue with essays by the co-curators as well individual artist essays by emerging curators and scholars. A full list of artists will be released later this summer.

We Go as They: Artists in Residence 2016–17

Autumn Knight, Julia Phillips, Andy Robert

September 14, 2017–January 7, 2018

We Go as They: Artists in Residence 2016–17 is the latest in the annual exhibitions from the *Artist-in-Residence* program at the Studio Museum. The title makes reference to one of the most significant aspects of the Museum's residency, the community of artists, curators, and Museum staff that surround and nurture the program. Autumn Knight (b. 1980), Julia Phillips (b. 1985), and Andy Robert (b. 1984) have spent the year in close conversation with each other, negotiating the physical and mental boundaries that come with working in close proximity to one another.

Investigating the space between abstraction and figuration, Robert created a series of nocturne paintings of Harlem scenes that formally engages the history of painting, from French social realism to the Harlem Renaissance to Pop Abstraction. Phillips's seemingly functional metal and ceramic objects relate to the human body and invite the viewer to imagine a potential use. Working with physical relations as a metaphor, Phillips makes reference to psychological, social, gender, and racial power dynamics. In her installation and performance, Knight continues her investigation of the flexible boundaries of identity and psyche through her fictional talk show, *Sanity TV*, where she promotes neither sanity nor insanity. *We Go as They: Artists in Residence 2016–17* is organized by Hallie Ringle, Assistant Curator.

Currently on View

Regarding the Figure

through August 6, 2017

Regarding the Figure presents works from The Studio Museum in Harlem's permanent collection that explore the practice of portraiture and figuration as a means of celebrating personal and collective histories, ideas, and identities. Ranging in date from the late nineteenth century to the present, and representing some forty artists from Henry Ossawa Tanner (1859–1937) to Njideka Akunyili Crosby (b. 1983), the works present diverse and at times unexpected methods of figuration, from the traditional (the portrait bust) to the experimental, and show subjects who come from the realms of both the celebrated and the anonymous. More than fifty paintings, drawings, photographs, works on paper, and sculptures attest to the power that can come from representing the black body and the responsibilities that may attend these representations. *Regarding the Figure* is organized by the curatorial team of Eric Booker, Connie H. Choi, Hallie Ringle, and Doris Zhao.



Njideka Akunyili Crosby, *Nwantinti*, 2012. Acrylic, pastel, charcoal, colored pencil and Xerox transfers on paper, 68 × 96 in. The Studio Museum in Harlem; Museum purchase with funds provided by the Acquisition Committee and gift of the artist 2012.41.1 Courtesy the Artist and Victoria Miro, London; Photo: Marc Bernier

Rico Gatson: Icons 2007–2017

through August 27, 2017

Rico Gatson: Icons 2007–2017 presents a selection of the artist's works on paper featuring renowned figures of African-American history and culture, sourced from well-known photographs. By juxtaposing these found photographs with hard-edge geometric lines in a palette featuring red, black, and green—implying Pan-Africanism—Gatson evokes the foundational importance to black consciousness of the people who are depicted, while also emphasizing the cultural, social, and political implications of color and pattern. *Rico Gatson: Icons 2007–2017* is organized by Hallie Ringle, Assistant Curator.

Jamel Shabazz: Crossing 125th

through August 27, 2017

Jamel Shabazz: Crossing 125th is a selection of images by the acclaimed Brooklyn-born street photographer, who has been documenting African-American life since the 1980s. Spanning twenty-five years of work in the heart of Harlem, the exhibition captures Shabazz's love for this thriving community, showing the joy, self-determination, and complexities of black life along 125th Street. *Jamel Shabazz: Crossing 125th* is organized by Eric Booker, Exhibition Coordinator.

Smokehouse, 1968–1970
through August 27, 2017

Smokehouse, 1968–1970 presents archival images of the work of the Smokehouse Associates, artists who developed community-oriented public art projects in Harlem aimed at transforming space through vibrant, geometric abstract murals, and sculptures. Photographs by Robert Colton, a Smokehouse Associate, depict the collective's original members, William T. Williams, Melvin Edwards, Guy Ciarcia, and Billy Rose at work in Harlem, often alongside local teenagers and elders. *Smokehouse, 1968–1970* is organized by Eric Booker, Exhibition Coordinator.

inHARLEM

Now in its second year, *inHarlem* is a set of initiatives designed to explore innovative ways to engage the community while taking the Studio Museum beyond its own walls, and encompasses a growing range of dynamic exhibitions and programs.

Derrick Adams: Patrick Kelly, The Journey
Countee Cullen Library, 104 West 136th Street
through October 20, 2017

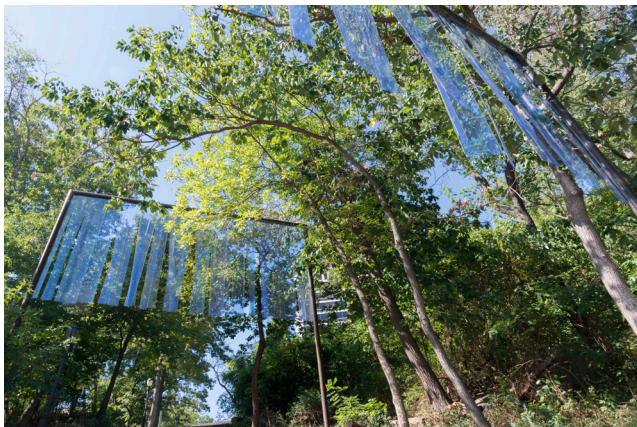
Derrick Adams: Patrick Kelly, The Journey is an *inHarlem* project presented by The Studio Museum in Harlem in partnership with the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and the New York Public Library's Countee Cullen Library. The exhibition is based on artist Derrick Adams's extensive research into the archive of the influential African-American fashion designer Patrick Kelly (1954–1990), housed at the Schomburg Center.



Derrick Adams, *The Journey*, 2017. Mixed media collage on paper, 51 × 72 in. The Studio Museum in Harlem; Museum purchase with funds provided by the Acquisition Committee; and a gift from Bernard I. Lumpkin and Carmine D. Boccuzzi, in fond memory of Jack Tilton 2017.29; Photo: Adam Reich

At the center of *Patrick Kelly, The Journey* is Adams's "Mood Board" series, a new body of work responding to Kelly's legacy as a formalist who imbued social context and humor into his creations. These abstract collages incorporate Kelly's vintage clothing patterns, as well as his iconic fabrics, colors, and shapes: bold and colorful geometric forms, contours of the female body, and buttons and other embellishments. The works exalt Kelly's formal excellence while demonstrating Adams's ongoing interest in deconstructing, fragmenting, and manipulating structure and surface. *Derrick Adams: Patrick Kelly, The Journey* is organized by Hallie Ringle, Assistant Curator.

inHarlem: Kevin Beasley, Simone Leigh, Kori Newkirk, Rudy Shepherd
through July 25, 2017



Kori Newkirk, *Sentra* (installation view), 2016. St. Nicholas Park, New York, NY, August 25, 2016–July 25, 2017. Photo: Adam Reich

inHarlem: Kevin Beasley, Simone Leigh, Kori Newkirk, Rudy Shepherd is a public art initiative presented by The Studio Museum in Harlem in partnership with NYC Parks. Site-specific artworks are on view in four Historic Harlem Parks—Morningside, Marcus Garvey, St. Nicholas, and Jackie Robinson. Each of the four commissioned installations responds to a site in one of the neighborhood's beloved parks, animating them in new ways that are accessible to Harlem residents and visitors alike. Each artist has considered Harlem's rich history through his or her personal experiences and connections, including past work with the Studio Museum.

Selected Upcoming Programs

Books, Authors & Kids! Summer Reading Art Journals

June 28, 2–3 pm

George Bruce Library, 518 West 125th Street

Join The Studio Museum in Harlem as we celebrate The New York Public Library Summer Reading Kickoff at the George Bruce Library! Create visual journals and document your summer reading adventures during a special hands-on bookmaking workshop.

Books, Authors and Kids! at the George Bruce Library is presented free of charge and as part of *inHarlem*.

Studio Squared: Rico Gatson

June 29, 6–7:15 pm and 7:30–8:45 pm

Following a brief walkthrough of *Rico Gatson: Icons 2007–2017* led by the artist, join us for a workshop inspired by Gatson's dynamic use of geometric abstraction, line, and color to represent the energy of iconic African-American cultural figures. Guided by Gatson and a Museum educator, participants will explore ways to represent the energy and spirit of figures of personal significance through collage and drawing. We encourage participants to bring photographs, magazine/newspaper clippings, and other two-dimensional images of personal significance that they would like to integrate into their work.

Studio Squared is the Museum's series of informal art-making workshops aimed at making a wide range of studio practices accessible to adult audiences. Each workshop focuses on a particular theme and creative process inspired by our exhibitions and explores methods of creative production through an experiential approach.

Uptown Fridays!

July 7, July 21, August 4, August 18, 2017, 7–10 pm

Come celebrate the sights and sounds of summer at *Uptown Fridays!* at The Studio Museum in Harlem! This summer series transforms our courtyard and galleries into a vibrant social hub. Dance to the sounds of Libation's DJ Ian Friday with Manchildblack, and enjoy signature cocktails and drink specials. Guests are also invited to join free guided tours of our current exhibitions and browse our Museum Store's incredible selection of books, jewelry, t-shirts, and gifts. Bring a friend or come solo and make a few during a festive evening of art and culture!



Photo: Elliot Ashby

The Artist's Voice: Jamel Shabazz

July 9, 2017, 3–6 pm

In conjunction with *Jamel Shabazz: Crossing 125th*, an exhibition celebrating twenty-five years of the Brooklyn-based photographer's dynamic street photography in Harlem, Jamel Shabazz, Harlem-based photographer Burroughs Lamar, and exhibition curator Eric Booker engage in a conversation about capturing the energy, vibrancies, and complexities of Harlem through photography. After the discussion, Shabazz will lead a walkthrough of *Crossing 125th* with several of his subjects, as well as participants of the *Expanding the Walls* teen photography program. The event will conclude with a walk along 125th Street, retracing the path along which Shabazz captured the images on view in the exhibition.

All programs are located at the Studio Museum and are free with Museum admission or membership unless otherwise noted. For the latest program information or to register, visit studiomuseum.org

About The Studio Museum in Harlem

Founded in 1968 by a diverse group of artists, community activists, and philanthropists, The Studio Museum in Harlem is internationally known for its catalytic role in promoting the work of outstanding artists of African descent. Now approaching its 50th anniversary, the Studio Museum is preparing to construct a new home at its current location on Manhattan's West 125th Street, designed by internationally renowned architect David Adjaye with Cooper Robertson as the first building created expressly for the institution's program. The new building will enable the Studio Museum to better serve a growing and diverse audience, provide additional educational opportunities for people of all ages, expand its program of world-renowned exhibitions, effectively display its singular collection, and strengthen its trailblazing *Artist-in-Residence* program.

The *Artist-in-Residence* program was one of the institution's founding initiatives and is the reason

why “Studio” is in the name. The program has supported more than one hundred emerging artists of African or Latino descent, many of whom have gone on to highly regarded careers. Alumni include Chakaia Booker, David Hammons, Kerry James Marshall, Julie Mehretu, Wangechi Mutu, Mickalene Thomas, and Kehinde Wiley.

The collection includes nearly two thousand paintings, sculptures, works on paper, prints, photographs, mixed-media works, and installations dating from the nineteenth century to the present. Artists represented include Romare Bearden, Robert Colescott, Jacob Lawrence, Norman Lewis, Chris Ofili, Betye Saar, Lorna Simpson, Kara Walker, and Hale Woodruff, as well as many former artists in residence. The Studio Museum is the custodian of an extensive archive of the work of photographer James VanDerZee, the renowned chronicler of the Harlem community from 1906 to 1983.

The Studio Museum’s exhibitions expand the personal, public, and academic understanding of modern and contemporary work by artists of African descent. A wide variety of on- and off-site programs brings art alive for audiences of all ages—from toddlers to seniors—while serving as a bridge between artists of African descent and a broad and diverse public. A leader in scholarship about artists of African descent, the Studio Museum publishes *Studio* magazine twice a year and creates award-winning books, exhibition catalogues, and brochures.

Hours and Admission

The Studio Museum is open Thursday and Friday, noon–9pm; Saturday, 10am–6pm; and Sunday, noon–6pm. The museum is closed to the public but available for school and group tours on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Museum admission is by suggested donation: \$7 for adults, \$3 for students (with valid ID) and seniors. Free for children 12 and under. Sundays are free at the Studio Museum, thanks to generous support from Target. For more information visit studiomuseum.org.

Support

Exhibitions at The Studio Museum in Harlem are made possible thanks in part to support from The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and the New York City Council. Additional support is generously provided by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Expanding the Walls is made possible with support from the Keith Haring Foundation, The New York Community Trust, Conscious Kids, Susan and Thomas Dunn, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, Colgate-Palmolive, The James and Judith K. Dimon Foundation and Joy of Giving Something. The Studio Museum in Harlem is deeply grateful for Donna Mussenden VanDerZee’s continued support of *Expanding the Walls*.

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Photo Studio is supported by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The *Artist-in-Residence* program is supported by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, the Jerome Foundation, Kiki Smith, RBC Foundation—USA, the Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation, and by endowments established by the Andrea Frank Fund, the Jacob and Gwendolyn Knight Lawrence Trust, and Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

inHarlem is made possible thanks to support from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, William R. Kenan Jr. Charitable Trust, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, National Endowment for the Arts, and the Marcus Garvey Park Alliance with funding provided by the Harlem Community Development Corporation. Additional support for *inHarlem* provided by The Office of New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, the New York City Council including Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito and Council Members Inez Dickens and Mark Levine, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.



Council on
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