FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PHOENIX CENTER FOR THE λRTS

ARTS FOR A CHANGE

Phoenix Center for the Arts adds new social justice and wellness art classes Registration Now Open

PHOENIX, AZ – (June 24, 2021) Phoenix Center for the Arts is excited to announce the addition of Arts for a Change, a new department that expands upon the idea of what art is. The department is designed to offer programs dedicated to integrating the arts and community engagement as a vehicle for creating social change through fostering creative conversation, learning, and exploration.

Beginning in July, **RACE 101** with Calvin Terrell of the <u>Social Centric Institute</u> will be the first program offered through the Arts for a Change department. Presented as a free online workshop, participants will attend a 1-hour program, for three consecutive Saturdays, in which they'll learn how to effectively engage the people in their lives in healing conversations about race.

To encourage community engagement in high quality social justice education and conversation, the Center is offering this workshop free of charge. Everyone in the community is welcome to attend. An RSVP is all that is required. The Center is also welcoming donations with RSVP, to help support the growth of future programming in the new Arts for a Change department. Registration for this program is available on Eventbrite at https://bit.ly/PCA_RACE101

Arts for a Change programs will continue in the fall with classes offered by Clottee Hammons, Creative Director of Emancipation Arts, a Resident Organization at Phoenix Center for the Arts. **The Great Migration - Indiscernibles in Arizona** is a course of study, originally created as an accompaniment to a traveling exhibition of the same name, which is an in-depth examination of how Black people came to Arizona, beginning in the 1930s. This program is perfect for teachers, homeschool educators, and anyone interested in Arizona history. The exhibition is currently on view at the Stevens-Haustgen Heritage Gallery in Heritage Square.

"Offering these learning opportunities to the community is incredibly important to the mission of our organization and to the arts community here in Phoenix," says CEO Lauren Henschen. "Internally we continue to learn and grow by engaging in creative conversations on an ongoing

basis. Our hope is that our students, teaching artists, volunteers, resident organizations, and the greater arts community will take this opportunity to grow with us."

With the addition of the Arts for a Change department, the Center continues to find new ways to uplift its mission of arts and culture opportunities for all through education, programming, and advocacy. Phoenix Center for the Arts looks forward to growing the department, and offering a wide variety of social change focused arts engagement programs to the community.

Art for a Change Programs:

When: July and September through December **Where**: Virtual workshops available with registration

Cost: \$0 to \$132. Financial aid available at phoenixcenterforthearts.org/financial-aid

Register: Call (602) 254-3100 or sign up online at phoenixcenterforthearts.org/services/arts-for-a-change

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About Phoenix Center for the Arts and Central Arts Alliance

Phoenix Center for the Arts is a Central Arts Alliance facility located adjacent to Hance Park, at 1202 N Third Street in Downtown Phoenix. Central Arts Alliance is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, providing arts and culture opportunities for all through education, programming, and advocacy. Phoenix Center for the Arts is proud to be a facility of and supported by the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department. Phoenix Center for the Arts is supported in part by an award from the Arizona Commission on the Arts, an agency of the State of Arizona. Partial funding provided by the Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture through appropriations from the Phoenix City Council.

Info: phoenixcenterforthearts.org

Health & Safety

In order to provide a safe creative space for students, Phoenix Center for the Arts is continuing their health and safety protocols, originally implemented during the fall 2020 sessions. Information on the protocols taken by PCA to create a safe and welcoming environment can be found at: https://phoenixcenterforthearts.org/health-safety

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Media: Please call or email for additional images, captions, bios, interview requests and more.

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