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MoAD Announces Inaugural Edition of Nexus: SF/Bay Area Black Art Week, a New Annual Art Event Celebrating the Rich Landscape of the San Francisco Bay Area

First edition to run through October 1 – 6, 2024

NEXUS

SAN FRANCISCO – The Museum of the African Diaspora (MoAD) is extremely delighted to announce the inaugural edition of **Nexus: SF/Bay Area Black Art Week**, an annual event celebrating the Black arts landscape of the San Francisco Bay Area. The first event of its kind will entail a celebration lasting from Tuesday, October 1 through Sunday, October 6, 2024, featuring a range of institutions, galleries, and artists coming together to illuminate the richness of the Black artist community through special programming, exhibitions, and other unique engagements. Intended to uplift and enliven the Bay Area arts community, the week will culminate with MoAD’s annual Afropolitan Ball fundraising gala on Saturday, October 5, an annual event that raises funds and brings critical awareness for the museum’s work and its mission. All programming for Nexus: SF/Bay Area Black Art Week will be updated via a special website, developed by MoAD, accessible at the link here: <https://www.nexus-sfbay.com/>

Monetta White, Executive Director and CEO of MoAD, said, “As MoAD’s Executive Director and a proud native of this vibrant region, I feel it is time to awaken the Bay Area and bring our incredible creative talent to the forefront of national and international recognition. Nexus: SF/Bay Area Black Art Week is not just an event; it is a movement to change the narrative about the art scene and to cultivate the economic and creative sectors that attract people to our region’s cities. Through this event, we hope to enhance our collective visibility, encourage dialogue, and build more pathways and platforms to recognize and support Black artists and their contributions in the Bay Area.”

Nexus was brought forward to recognize the unique and revolutionary legacies of Black arts and culture that have long been fostered within cities of San Francisco, Oakland, and the surrounding Bay Area. As a special initiative led by MoAD, it is a natural extension of the

MoAD

museum's mission to celebrate and create space for Black culture, artistry, and cultural contributions through the global lens of the African Diaspora. Tied to MoAD's upcoming 20th anniversary in 2025, the event is intended to form an annual week of engagement and community connection that extends MoAD's mission out to its regional partners and wider audience.

"San Francisco's arts and cultural scene is on the cusp of an exciting renaissance, and I am thrilled MoAD is helping lead that charge with the inaugural Nexus: SF/Bay Area Black Art Week," said Ralph Remington, Director of Cultural Affairs at the San Francisco Arts Commission. "San Francisco's vibrant cultural landscape is not only thriving but evolving, defying the negative narratives of the past with support of our elected leaders, like Mayor London Breed, who are helping lead the charge to reimagine our downtown public spaces, filling them with accessible art experiences that are open for all to enjoy. The Arts Commission is excited to help support this initiative that helps uplift and showcase the art and culture of the African Diaspora."

The week culminates in MoAD's Afropolitan Ball on Saturday, October 5 at 6pm at the Galleria Design Center, the museum's most significant fundraising event that supports MoAD and its community-driven mission. A full list of participants for Nexus: SF/Bay Area Black Art Week will be confirmed in the weeks leading up to the event.

About Nexus: SF/Bay Area Black Art Week

A unique initiative introduced by the Museum of the African Diaspora (MoAD), Nexus: SF/Bay Area Black Art Week is a new, landmark event, bringing together artists, cultural institutions, and art lovers to celebrate and support Black art and culture. Nexus aims to illuminate the richness of the Black artist community in the San Francisco Bay Area by offering unique opportunities to connect with diverse participants, including art museums, galleries, non-profit organizations, and creative spaces. This event is intended to foster new and meaningful connections within the arts community and beyond.

About MoAD

San Francisco's Museum of the African Diaspora (MoAD) is a contemporary art museum whose mission is to celebrate Black cultures, ignite challenging conversations, and inspire learning through the global lens of the African Diaspora. MoAD is one of only a few museums in the United States dedicated to the celebration and interpretation of art, artists, and cultures from the African Diaspora. The Museum presents exhibitions highlighting contemporary art and artists of African descent and engages its audience through education and public programs that interpret and enhance the understanding of Black art. Founded in 2005, the Museum continues to be a unique, cultural arts staple in the San Francisco Bay Area community. For more information about MoAD, visit The Museum's website at moadsf.org