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GOVERNOR MURPHY DECLARES OCTOBER DISCOVER JERSEY ARTS MONTH

Discover Jersey Arts Month honors the economic, educational and social impact of the arts throughout the state

BURLINGTON, N.J. (October 1, 2020) – The ArtPride New Jersey Foundation and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts are pleased to announce that Governor Phil Murphy has officially proclaimed October 2020 as Discover Jersey Arts Month. Held in conjunction with National Arts and Humanities Month, Discover Jersey Arts Month celebrates the joy, entertainment and enrichment the arts bring to neighborhoods throughout the state.

Highlighting the often-overlooked economic, educational and social impact the arts have on our lives, this year's Discover Jersey Arts Month also commends the artists and arts organizations that have developed inspiring ways to offer hope and healing to New Jersey's citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Artists and arts organizations have always been vital members of their communities," said Allison Tratner, Executive Director of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. "Over the past several months, we've seen our arts sector go above and beyond, finding innovative ways to engage and connect us when we've needed them the most. We are extremely grateful for Governor Murphy's continued support of the arts, and his recognition of the critical role the arts play in our state's ongoing recovery. We are proud to celebrate Discover Jersey Arts Month and highlight all of the exciting, thought-provoking and moving arts opportunities available online and in-person."

Learn more about the tremendous impact the arts have on the state and hear real stories of how art affects the lives of people of all ages and backgrounds by visiting KeepJerseyArtsAlive.org. Along with powerful videos, you'll find facts and figures that illustrate how the arts fuel our region in seen and unseen ways – from reinvigorating communities and driving the economy forward to helping kids succeed in school and bringing millions of tourists to our downtowns.

Individuals can also commemorate Discover Jersey Arts Month by enjoying arts events, both virtual and live with appropriate health guidelines, throughout the state. For fun fall festivities, visit JerseyArts.com.

"We are so grateful for Governor Murphy's acknowledgment of the incredible benefits provided by the creative community," says Adam Perle, President & CEO of ArtPride New Jersey. "With a direct economic impact of a half billion dollars annually, and a workforce of more than 19,000, the arts are essential to New Jersey's greatness and must be integral to its resurgence. As it so aptly states in the Governor's proclamation, 'our overall recovery and continued vitality is not complete without the arts.'"

To view the official gubernatorial proclamation, please visit <http://bit.ly/DJAMonth2020>.

About JerseyArts.com and Discover Jersey Arts

JerseyArts.com is the website of Discover Jersey Arts, a cosponsored project of the ArtPride New Jersey Foundation and New Jersey State Council on the Arts dedicated to increasing the awareness of and participation in the arts statewide. The site showcases New Jersey's creative community with feature stories, videos and podcasts; highlighted events; details on Jersey Arts Membership; and other content.

About the ArtPride New Jersey Foundation

The ArtPride New Jersey Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization that promotes the value of the arts to New Jersey's quality of life, education and economic vitality through research and a variety of programs and services. For more information about ArtPride, visit ArtPrideNJ.org.

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 N.J. 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. To learn more about the Council, please visit www.artsCouncil.nj.gov.

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