

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE SUGAR HILL CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF ART + STORYTELLING
TO CELEBRATE ITS 2ND BIRTHDAY ON OCTOBER 14 – 15, 2017**

Uptown Manhattan's only children's museum celebrates with new art exhibitions, live musical performances, and a block party!

NEW YORK, NY, Friday, October 6, 2017—The Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art & Storytelling will celebrate its 2nd birthday (anniversary) from Saturday, October 14 to Sunday, October 15, 2017 from 11:00am – 5:00pm. The FREE fun-filled family weekend will feature new exhibitions, storytelling, face painting, live musical performance, food trucks, and more. Most notably, on Sunday, October 15, the Museum will be bringing its celebration outdoors with a Sugar Hill Block Party on St. Nicholas Ave. between 154th and 155th Street. Free admission all weekend. Open to all ages.

To complement our weekend-long celebration, we will be inaugurating two new exhibitions: **JEWEL-BRIGHT: Kaleidoscope of Neighborhood Gems**; and **ANA MENDIETA: Thinking About Children's Thinking**, as well as present our newest Artist-In-Residence Leslie Jimenez.

OCTOBER 14TH – 15TH SCHEDULE

***NEW ART EXHIBITIONS**

JEWEL-BRIGHT: Kaleidoscope of Neighborhood Gems

On view October 12, 2017 – August 26, 2018

This year the Museum continues investigating matters of place with particular reflection on the community of Sugar Hill. A historic beacon of culture, The Museum's living room will become a grand space of reflective material and media that celebrates the luminous nature of our community. Jewel-Bright has been conceived to support the museum provocation 'What does it mean to be a global citizen?' and to encourage all visitors to exit this exhibition inspired to rise and shine.

ANA MENDIETA: Thinking About Children's Thinking

On view October 12, 2017 – September 23, 2018

As the first museum exhibition ever devoted to exploring the artist's work in relation to children, ANA MENDIETA: Thinking about Children's Thinking, invites all visitors to explore collective and individual experiences located deep within and outside of one's self, through a sound art piece, videos and a series of photographs. Guest curated by Amy Rosenblum Martín.

Known for her bold art for adults, Mendieta remarkably collaborated with her students on little known works from 1973. Her respect for children as artists revealed therein

suggests how even her famously fierce, raw art has a solemn playfulness that achieves the earnestness of children playing. Her innovative “misuse” of children’s activities as conceptual art, a precursor to “social art” prevalent now, adds to Mendieta’s historical importance.

Ana Mendieta began her career at the University of Iowa, where she initially received a degree in painting in 1969. It was not until 1972 that Mendieta profoundly elected to engage in performance art. She is best known for her “earth-body” artwork, a series of over 200 works of art that focused on a spiritual and physical connection with the earth. Since her death in 1985, Ana Mendieta has been recognized with numerous retrospective exhibitions in such venues as the Art Institute of Chicago and the Whitney Museum of American Art. Mendieta's work is also featured in many major public collections, including the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Modern Art, all New York, Centre Pompidou, Paris, and Tate, London.

LESLIE JIMENEZ, 2017-2018 Artist-in-Residence

Leslie Jiménez is a multi-disciplinary artist, illustrator, and museum educator. Leslie's work has been exhibited in galleries in NYC, Washington DC, Barbados, Santo Domingo, SCOPE Contemporary Art Fair NY, Wheaton Arts Cultural Center, and New York Presbyterian. Leslie will be developing new works in our space and have open studio sessions throughout the year as of October 2017.

***BIRTHDAY WEEKEND PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS**

‘TURNTABLE’ WORKSHOP WITH DJ AYO NISH

Saturday, October 14, 12:00 – 1:00pm, The Living Room (inside)

MEET OUR NEW ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE LESLIE JIMENEZ

Saturday, October 14, 2:00 – 3:00pm, The Studio (inside)

DANCE WITH BATOTO YETU

Saturday, October 14, 4:00 – 5:00pm, The Living Room (inside)

Harlem’s Batoto Yetu presents an interactive dance and drumming workshop inspired by music from pre-colonial Angola and the Congo.

CHALK ART WITH ARTIST EMLYN TAVERAS

Sunday, October 15, 11:00am – 5:00pm, The Street (outdoors)

Create a beautiful community chalk mosaic with artist Emlyn Taveras from the Museum into our block party!

SHINE AND THE MOONBEAMS

Sunday, October 15, 1:00pm – 1:45pm, The Street (outdoors)

Bop your head and move your feet to the lyrical and musical talent of Harlem songbird Shawana Kemp and the Moonbeams.

'FREEZE DANCE' WITH DJ FAYE

Sunday, October 15, 3:00 – 4:00pm, The Street (outdoors)
Move and stop to the beats of DJ Faye in a neighborhood dance-along!

For full schedule, visit www.sugarhillmuseum.org/calendar.

ABOUT THE SUGAR HILL CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF ART & STORYTELLING

The Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art & Storytelling is the cultural capstone of the Sugar Hill Project in Harlem, a mixed use community revitalization initiative developed by Broadway Housing Communities, a nonprofit organization based in West Harlem and Washington Heights. The Museum offers year-round art exhibitions, storytelling series, art-making workshops and an early childhood arts education curriculum. Museum programs are designed to nurture the curiosity, creative spirit and cognitive development of three- to eight-year-old children, building the language, literacy and critical thinking skills that lead to lifelong learning.

The Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art & Storytelling is located at 898 St. Nicholas Avenue at 155th Street in New York City. Hours are Thursday through Sunday, 10am to 5pm. Admission prices vary; children under the age of 9 are always free. For more information on the Museum, please visit www.sugarhillmuseum.org.

To connect with the Sugar Hill Children's Museum via Social Media, follow us on Facebook at Facebook.com/sugarhillmuseum and using @sugarhillmuseum on Instagram and Twitter.

###

MEDIA CONTACT:

Rose Mary Cortes
917-634-0340
rosemary@sugarhillmuseum.org