WHITNEY EXPANDS ONLINE PROGRAMMING TO PROVIDE OFFERINGS FOR ALL AGES

NEW YORK, APRIL 28, 2020—The Whitney Museum of American Art has broadened its online offerings with the launch of new and expanded digital education programs for audiences of all ages. Debut initiatives include two live event series, Art History from Home and Artmaking From Home, as well as Whitney Kids Art Challenge, always available at whitney.org. Other offerings include interactive online K-12 lessons and new Whitney Video Blogs (vlogs) led by Deaf museum educators communicating in American Sign Language (ASL). Part of #WhitneyFromHome, the Museum’s expanded digital experience, these programs support the Whitney’s commitment to providing continued access to its collection and resources.

For program updates and complete details, please visit whitney.org/education.

ART HISTORY FROM HOME
Premiering Thursday, April 23, Art History From Home is a series of online talks by the Whitney’s Joan Tisch Teaching Fellows that highlight works in the Museum’s collection to illuminate critical topics in
American art from 1900 to the present. During each thirty-minute session, participants are invited to comment and ask questions through a moderated chat.

Upcoming Sessions:

**Art History From Home: Technology and Fantasy**
Thursday, April 30, 12 pm
In the 21st century, we find ourselves in increasingly media-saturated and mediated realities. This session explores how artists such as Cory Arcangel, Nam June Paik, Lynn Hershman Leeson, and Laurie Simmons have addressed the changing nature of the self within these experiences. Participants will consider a range of artistic mediums—from photography to video installations to games—to explore technology’s role in both limiting and generating new kinds of agency for art-makers and viewers alike. This session is free with registration.

**Art History From Home: Collective Memory in Contemporary Black Art**
Thursday, April 30, 6 pm
This session looks at the ways contemporary Black artists draw on collective memory to play with, challenge, and transform notions of identity. Participants will examine several recent Whitney exhibitions and performances including projects by Kevin Beasley and Jason Moran, as well as works from the collection by Cauleen Smith, Ja Tovia Gary, and Tomashi Jackson. The session will explore how these artists use interdisciplinary and intergenerational references and citations to subvert the canon of American art and culture. This session is free with registration.

**ARTMAKING FROM HOME**
Artmaking From Home is a series of online artmaking events that encourage experimentation with ordinary materials in new and creative ways. Designed for all ages, each project explores artworks from the Whitney’s collection and invites participants to consider the relationship between art making and our domestic spaces. All events in this series are live, thirty-minute sessions taught by a Whitney educator.

Upcoming Session:

**Artmaking From Home: DIY Pottery**
Saturday, May 2, 3 PM
Taking inspiration from works by Betty Woodman and Arlene Shechet, participants will mix their own clay using everyday household materials and explore hand-building techniques to create ceramic sculptures. This session is free with registration.

**WHITNEY KIDS ART CHALLENGE**
Launched earlier this month, the Whitney Kids Art Challenge is a new digital offering of art projects designed specifically for children and adults to do together. Each activity is based on a work in the Whitney’s collection, ranging from Roy Lichtenstein’s Bathroom (1961) to Nick Cave’s Soundsuit #20 (2005). Using an open-ended and thought-provoking process, the projects encourage movement, conversation, and engagement beyond the screen. Visit whitney.org/families/kids-art-challenge for complete details.

**WHITNEY VLOGS**
The Museum will release new episodes of Whitney Video Blogs (vlogs), original short videos led by Deaf museum educators communicating in American Sign Language (ASL) that focus on individual artworks from the Museum’s collection. Each vlog is produced by an integrated team, in which a director/editor and Whitney educators who are Deaf work with a cinematographer and interpretive media and education specialists who are hearing. The goal of these vlogs is to increase cultural opportunities for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing audiences and create a communications laboratory to expand the ASL vocabulary of contemporary art terms.

Upcoming Vlogs:
Available by the end of May, the new vlogs will feature Deaf educator and actor Lauren Ridloff, who will play Marvel’s first Deaf superhero in a 2021 film. She will present works from Making Knowing: Craft in Art, 1950–2019 and The Whitney’s Collection: Selections From 1900 to 1965. Visit whitney.org/WatchAndListen/Access to experience the vlogs.

K-12 ONLINE LESSONS
As a continuation of its work with K-12 schools, the Museum is offering new, forty-minute interactive online lessons led by Whitney educators. Taught via videoconferencing, the lessons engage students with works of art from the Whitney’s collection through close looking exercises, guided discussions, and activities that incorporate the artists’ voice and process. Whitney educators will work in conjunction with classroom teachers to customize the lesson to meet their curricular needs. Slots are limited and advance registration is available online. Free for NYC Public Schools; $150 for all other schools (one classroom per entry time).

About #WhitneyFromHome
While the Museum is temporarily closed, the spirit of the Whitney is open to all—and the Museum is committed to engaging, entertaining, and educating audiences through continued access to its collection and resources. #WhitneyFromHome is the Museum’s expanded digital experience that provides an intimate lens into stories behind the Whitney’s art and artists, offering something for everyone who wishes to engage with American art.

In addition to the online collection, the experience provides access to the exhibition archive, an array of video and audio content, interactive resources for children and families, and Artpport—the Museum’s portal to Internet art that also functions as an online gallery space for new media art commissioned by the Whitney.

About the Whitney
The Whitney Museum of American Art, founded in 1930 by the artist and philanthropist Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney (1875–1942), houses the foremost collection of American art from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Mrs. Whitney, an ardent and pioneering supporter of modern American art, nurtured groundbreaking artists at a time when audiences were still largely preoccupied with the Old Masters. From her vision arose the Whitney Museum of American Art, which, from its earliest days, has championed the most innovative art of the United States. The core of the Whitney’s mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit American art of our time and serve a wide variety of audiences in celebration of the complexity and diversity of art and culture in the United States. Through this mission and a steadfast commitment to artists themselves, the Whitney has long been a powerful force in support of modern and contemporary art and continues to help define what is innovative and influential in American art today. 2020 marks the ninetieth anniversary of the Museum’s founding, and five years since the opening of the Whitney’s downtown building on Gansevoort Street in the Meatpacking District.

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