



November 20, 2020

Dear Friends,

Today we honor the lives of those lost to anti-trans violence. Now, more than ever, it is the responsibility of arts organizations to lift the voices and experiences of trans people, particularly trans women of color, who have tirelessly fought to be represented, visible, and valued in society. The violence and inequities that trans people, especially trans women of color, experience is unacceptable. HSAC has partnered with Forward Together to present this powerful work that so vibrantly translates the experiences and resilience of the trans community.

Community building is critical to the work we do at HSAC, providing a foundation for positive cultural change. Exposure to the arts has the power to unify visitors of all ages, genders, races, and socio-economic backgrounds. It is our intention to create space for the trans community and allies to find empowerment and healing, while engaging with the exhibition: *Radical Imagining: Trans Resilience is Powerful*.

While COVID-19 has dampened many opportunities for arts engagement, including classes, workshops, and gatherings, HSAC is committed to centering the voices of artists from diverse communities and creating space for connection and education in our outdoor Garden Gallery. In addition, we are developing virtual programming alongside our regular exhibit content, providing extensive engagement opportunities and connectivity.

HSAC thanks the leaders and artists in the trans community. We stand together in solidarity and honor all trans lives lost to violence through the years. We invite you to join us in continued work around diversity, equity, and inclusion in the arts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelly Harris". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial 'K'.

Kelly Harris

Executive Director