



THE  
CENTER  
FOR ART  
IN WOOD

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**The Center for Art in Wood believes we can do better.  
We stand with the Black community.  
We reaffirm our commitment to creating and supporting spaces for meaningful dialogue and creative expression.  
We believe in the unique power of art to address the deep rifts in our nation.**

We write to you this week with outrage and heartbreak at the loss of Black lives in the United States at the hands of those charged with protecting and serving. Though these injustices are brought into sharp focus by the recent deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and countless others, they are preceded by 500 years of racism and violence.

We also write in recognition of our role in participating within an institutional framework that is inherently racially biased and founded on colonialism. At the Center for Art in Wood, we acknowledge the areas in which we need to improve and also strive to support the voices and expression of artists and makers whose work provokes difficult, complex discussions and spotlights inequities both past and present, while also honoring woodcraft and the aesthetic beauty and wonder it inspires.

In recognition of this role, and in respect for our community, the Center for Art in Wood:

- Reaffirms its commitment to the truth of art, dialogue, and expression.
- Asserts its investment in equity, inclusion, and justice.
- Believes in the power of the people to effect lasting, positive, social change through peaceful protest.
- Supports the Black community in its struggle to overcome injustice, acts of discrimination, and racism.

In the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., “No one is free until we are all free.” We pledge to lift up the voices of creativity and artistic expression in our world and firmly, unequivocally reject hate and discrimination. Please stand with us in a united effort to fight against systemic injustice.

Sincerely,

Jennifer-Navva Milliken  
Artistic Director

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A few sources for those seeking information, looking for organizations to support, or looking to get involved:

- [Black Lives Matter Philly](#)
- [Black Lives Matter](#)
- [Crafting the Future](#)
- [Youth Art and Self-Empowerment Project](#)
- [Urgent 365](#)
- [The Innocence Project](#)
- [Philly Bail Fund](#)

- The Bail Project
- Justice for Breonna
- George Floyd Memorial Fund
- Justice for Ahmaud
- ACLU of Pennsylvania
- ACLU

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Please visit the Center's [website](#) for current information on upcoming programs.

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