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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ArtReach: Tales from North St. Louis champions hometown connections in student artist exhibition, opening March 10



Resident teaching artists Bharat Ajari (left) and L.M. Flowers (right) work with students at Sumner and Vashon High Schools. Photos courtesy CAM staff.

February 10, 2023 (St. Louis, MO) - The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) presents a new exhibition of works made by teen artists participating in the Museum's <u>ArtReach</u> program, a year-round partnership that provides weekly art classes to local high school students. This year's exhibition marks the five-year milestone of CAM's ArtReach partnership with Vashon High School, which began in 2017, and has since expanded to include the historic Sumner High School in 2021. *ArtReach: Tales from North St. Louis* will be on view in CAM's Education Galleries between March 10–August 13, 2023.

Artwork from both schools' fall 2022 semester is featured in CAM's Education Galleries this season, including a collection of drawings and paintings, video, a self-published art book, and sculpture from found materials. Guided by Resident Teaching Artists Bharat Ajari, L.M. Flowers, and Mee Jey, students created works with hometown connections, including collaborative stacked-unit sculptural homes, an artbook anthology combining hand-crafted techniques and digital technology, and a series of superheroes that students wished to see in their communities. The wide range of works on display are the result of the classes' unique perspectives and explorations of the neighborhoods in which the schools and many of the students reside.

ArtReach: Tales from North St. Louis is organized for the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis by Miriam Ruiz, School and Community Partnership Manager.



Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis

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Hours 10-5 Wed 10-5 Thu 10-8 Fri 10-5 Sat & Sun

CAM is free. Visit often!



ArtReach is generously supported in part by The Strive Fund; The Dana Brown Charitable Trust, US Bank, Trustee; Ann and Randy Lipton; Ferring Family Foundation; Nancy and Ken Kranzberg; Emerson; Anonymous; DeWitt and Caroline Van Evera Foundation; Crawford Taylor Foundation; The Mary Ranken Jordan and Ettie A. Jordan Charitable Foundation; The Saigh Foundation; Caleres Cares; Norman K. Probstein Charitable Foundation; and Terry D. Weiss, MD, Youth Education Endowment Fund.

Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis







Related Events

Friday, March 10 Patron and Press Preview 10:00-11:30 am Member Preview 5:00-6:00 pm Public Opening 7:00-9:00 pm

For press access on March 10, RSVP to Samantha Lyons at sivons@camstl.org. Miriam Ruiz, CAM's School and Community Partnership Manager, will be available at the Patron and Press Preview for interviews.

To schedule a Zoom or phone interview with participating Resident Teaching Artists throughout the spring/summer exhibition season, please contact slyons@camstl.org.

About the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis

The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis creates meaningful engagement with the most relevant and innovative art being made today. Founded by civic and cultural leaders in 1980, the Museum transformed from a small gallery into an internationally recognized arts institution, now permanently housed in a flexible, open, and inviting building designed by renowned American architect Brad Cloepfil. CAM's distinct architecture reflects the organization's values and supports a dynamic range of exhibitions, public programs, educational initiatives, and community collaborations. The only museum in the region solely dedicated to contemporary art, CAM is one of the preeminent non-collecting institutions of its kind in the United States. We are a site for discovery, a welcoming space, free and open to all. For more information, visit camstl.org.

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