Press contact: Samantha Lyons

314.492.2988

slyons@camstl.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAM announces Podcast-in-Residence for Speak Up St. Louis Season 2



Quinton Ward and Tré Alexander of Speak Up St. Louis. Photo courtesy Chanel Thomas.

April 7, 2023 (St. Louis, MO) - The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) announces a new partnership with Speak Up St. Louis, an interview-based podcast that will host its second season at the Museum this spring and summer. Speak Up St. Louis is a podcast that elevates the community's diverse voices and broadcasts the shared stories, ideas, and creative contributions of our city's cultural fabric. During their Podcast-in-Residence at CAM, co-creator and host Quinton Ward and producer Tré Alexander will develop live episode recordings, audio tours, blog posts, and more.

During its first season, Speak Up St. Louis produced more than 50 episodes that highlighted the stories of local luminaries, creators, and changemakers, including Missouri State Senator Brian Williams, street artist Peat "Eyez" Wollaeger, filmmaker David Kirkman, and Mayor Tishaura O. Jones, among others. Reflecting on their upcoming season, host Quinton Ward is excited to continue to build upon the foundation of Season 1 and reach audiences in a new cultural space. "This podcast is meant to be a community experience," says Ward. "It was built from a place of meeting community members and hearing these different stories of people where they're at. We wanted to continue to do that moving forward with CAM as a community space where people feel invited and welcome."

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St. Louis, MO 63108 314.535.4660 camstl.org Announced guests for season 2 include journalist Ashley Winters, artist Doug Weaver, and Tyrell Manning, program manager at Health Stop for HIV/AIDS prevention, with many more to come. A special live episode will be recorded at the Museum on Friday, May 5 at 7:00 pm as part of CAM's First Friday series. As part of the residency, Ward and Alexander will also develop exhibition audio guides, in which community members of various ages and backgrounds will share their perspectives on the art on view at CAM.



The first episode of Season 2 airs Friday, April 7, with new episodes airing every other Friday. Episodes will be available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or wherever you get your podcasts. To learn more, visit camstl.org/speakupstl.

Speak Up St. Louis is hosted by co-creator Quinton Ward and executive produced by Tré Alexander. Support from the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis is organized by Michelle Dezember, Director of Learning and Engagement.

To schedule an interview with Speak Up St. Louis creators Quinton Ward and Tré Alexander, please contact <u>slyons@camstl.org</u>.

About the Podcast Creators

Tré Alexander is Executive Producer of the Speak Up St. Louis podcast. Hailing from Saint Louis, MO, he studied Mathematics and Electrical Engineering at UMSL and Washington University in St. Louis. Born into a family of entrepreneurs—particularly Real Estate investors—Tré aspires towards a life of complete autonomy. He has a passion for enhancing the world around him through design. This, coupled with his background in engineering and technology, has yielded the inception of his creative endeavors. He is the founder of Visioneer LLC, a company that specializes in Business and Real Estate content curation via photography, videography, and virtual design. Taking his experiences from virtual modeling/digital design and database management at PARIC Corporation, as well as wedding and event photography and videography, Tré melds his creative and technical skill sets to create captivating stories. He is also a Co-Founder of Nspired Nvestors, a personal finance and real estate investment company that shares insights into economic tools and resources to educate, empower, and inspire the masses to freedom.

Quinton Ward is Co-Creator and Host of the Speak Up St. Louis podcast. He is a Saint Louis native and earned his Bachelors of Fine Arts in Graphic Design at Webster University in Saint Louis in 2019. Quinton's practice expands into the broader community at the intersection of art, design, and community. Working within nonprofit leadership, he has created interventions for access to basic needs, assisted in equitable community development and engagement processes, and designed programming to create a positive sustainable impact. He currently serves as Senior Manager of MetroMarket at Operation Food Search, a metro bus turned into a mobile grocery store that travels to areas with limited access to fresh, healthy food at a reduced cost. He serves on Grand Center Inc.'s Young Friends Board. He has presented a solo exhibition at SOHA Studio + Gallery "Who Will Stand With David?" and group exhibitions at Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, Intersect Arts Center, and the Arcade Contemporary Art Projects. Recent honors include: St. Louis Business Journal 40 Under 40 and Next City Vanguard Fellowship, Creative

Reactive Lab Seeds of Power Fellow, Regional Arts Commission St. Louis C.A.T Fellow, Design + Diversity Fellow, and Arts and Education Council Katherine Dunham Fellow.



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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 and follow us on Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn.