

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Jackie Zils 253.307.7550 | jzils@jayray.com

Jen Willey 206.579.9886 | jwilley@jayray.com

On behalf of Tacoma Art Museum

**Tacoma Art Museum explores realms of possibility, intimacy,
and care through experiential exhibition,
*The Current: Saying the Quiet Parts Out Loud***

TACOMA, WA (April 6, 2023) – Opening April 15 at Tacoma Art Museum, *The Current: Saying the Quiet Parts Out Loud* illustrates the story of The Current, An Artist Award in its inaugural year by transforming the gallery into an immersive experience.

The exhibition reimagines the gallery space as a portal that guides visitors into the world of The Current, An Artist Award, providing glimpses of its values and purpose. The design reflects how the award is making a place at TAM for Black artists in the Tacoma area.

“This is my invitation to visitors into The Current. This is a portal into the work,” said Victoria Miles, exhibition curator and Artist Award manager. “It is not so much to be viewed, as it is to be experienced. I am very intentional and thoughtful around any decision made for The Current. That shows through the values of the work, and how and who we are building with.

“The title ‘Saying the Quiet Parts Out Loud’ references the quiet and slowness around the intentionality of the work, expressing things that are intrinsic to us by nature, values that ground this work,” Miles said. “Thoughtful transformations and caring, supportive relationships require quiet moments for the work to take form, shape its identity, and be as earnest as possible. The Current is a new place for TAM, a place of innovation and support for Black artists — so it must be intentional and rooted in values of care.”

This exhibition will be a dynamic exploration of The Current, An Artist Award, embodying the inspirations and values that shape The Current: warmth, intimacy, care, community, and support. These themes bring attention to the importance of support and placemaking for many Black artists and individuals in the Tacoma area.

The exhibition will feature works from The Current’s 2022 awardee Darrell McKinney thoughtfully and collaboratively incorporated throughout the gallery. The exhibition will include a variety of mediums ranging from installation work to sculpture and design highlighting the vast landscape of Black artistic practices in Tacoma.

Taking advantage of the space and designing it in a manner that complements the story of *The Current*, the walls are brightly painted, permeated in pinks, purples and oranges that envelop visitors in a warm, inviting space.

The exhibition capitalizes on this cozy, intimate space by including a communal area infused with ambient music selected by the award program's contributors to this project. Also included is a bookshelf filled with resources and literature that embrace the themes and values of *The Current*. McKinney's sculptures are incorporated throughout the space, noticeably around the communal area.

The Current: Saying the Quiet Parts Out Loud will present a schedule of artist programming, including some programming in the gallery area in collaboration with this year's awardee Darrell McKinney.

Associated Programming

- Members' Opening Event, Friday April 14, from 6-8 p.m.
- The Current Artist Roundtables in the gallery. Visit tacomaartmuseum.org for dates and times.
- Additional events and information will be added at tacomaartmuseum.org and on social media.

Visit Tacoma Art Museum

- **Hours** – Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursdays 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
- **Admission** – \$18 Adult; \$15 Senior (65+); TAM Members, children 18 and under, active duty military, reservists, veterans and their families are free. FREE Neighborhood Nights every Thursday 5-8 p.m.
- **Contact** – 253-272-4258 / www.tacomaartmuseum.org

###

Celebrating over 85 years, Tacoma Art Museum is the leading resource for art of the Pacific Northwest and greater western region. TAM's mission is to transform our communities by sharing art that inspires broader perspectives and cultivates a compassionate future. TAM's collection contains more than 5,300 works, with an emphasis on the art and artists of the Northwest and broader western region. The collection includes the largest retrospective museum collection of glass art by Tacoma native Dale Chihuly on permanent view; the most significant collection of studio art jewelry by Northwest artists; key holdings in 19th century European and 20th century American art; and one of the finest collections of Japanese woodblock prints on the West Coast. TAM is in the heart of Tacoma's vibrant Museum District, which consists of six museums, including the Museum of Glass, a leader and frequent partner.

Tacoma Art Museum is located on the homelands of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians. We recognize and honor the Puyallup people and Coast Salish communities who have endured so much, so that we can all thrive here today. Learn more about land acknowledgments in TAM's current exhibition, *On Native Land: Landscapes from the Haub Family Collection*.