

Phoenix Art Museum

News Release

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Phoenix Art Museum and storyteller Rachel Egboro present second installment of *The Whole Story*

Storytelling event returns to Phoenix Art Museum sharing diverse perspectives of the black experience in Arizona

PHOENIX (February 21, 2017) – On First Friday, May 5, 2017, Phoenix Art Museum will present *The Whole Story: Part 2*, the second installment of a storytelling series that seeks to broaden perspectives with personal stories that honor the black experience in Arizona. *The Whole Story* is a live, quarterly show that premiered in January 2017 at Phoenix Art Museum, and will continue to take place at the Museum for parts 2, 3, and 4 in 2017. Through stories about personal experiences, *The Whole Story* seeks to bring greater depth and breadth to our understanding of one another and the issues we face surrounding identity and connection, exploring both themes particular to the black community as well as more universal experiences told from a black perspective.

“We are pleased to welcome *The Whole Story* back to Phoenix Art Museum,” said Amada Cruz, the Sybil Harrington Director and CEO of Phoenix Art Museum. “This show celebrates a multitude of perspectives and utilizes the power of artistic expression to enhance our understanding of one another as a community. We look forward to continued collaboration, as we seek to increase access to and interest in artistic expression within the larger community.”

The Whole Story was launched by Rachel Egboro, co-producer of *The Storyline*, another staple of the Phoenix storytelling scene. Egboro was inspired by a TED Talk entitled “The Danger of a Single Story,” in which author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie highlights the importance of sharing stories from a range of perspectives in order to subvert the one-dimensional nature of cultural stereotypes. The aim of the show, Egboro said, is to provide the audience with a fuller picture of black experiences, one that expands beyond snippets of media coverage by delving into the personal narratives of storytellers from a variety of backgrounds. Egboro is excited to partner with Phoenix Art Museum because of its ability to reach a broad and diverse audience. “I wanted to create a dialogue around black stories that will continue beyond the event” she says. “It’s a gift to see people of all shapes, faiths and races mingle together in the Museum’s galleries after the show.”

The Whole Story: Part 2 will take place on First Friday, May 5. Tickets are available at <http://bit.ly/PhxArtFFTWS>. *The Whole Story* is still accepting submissions for participation in this and future shows. Storytellers of any background and experience level are invited to submit a synopsis of a story that takes place within a black context to thewholestorymail@gmail.com. For more information, visit the show’s Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/TheWhOleStOry/>.

About Phoenix Art Museum

Phoenix Art Museum has provided access to visual arts and educational programs in Arizona for more than 50 years and is the largest art museum in the Southwestern United States. Critically acclaimed national and international exhibitions are shown alongside the Museum’s permanent collection of more than 18,000 works of American, Asian, European, Latin American, Western American, modern and contemporary art, and fashion design. The Museum also presents festivals, a comprehensive film program, live performances and educational programs designed to enlighten, entertain and stimulate visitors of all ages. Visitors also enjoy vibrant photography exhibitions through the Museum’s landmark partnership with the Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona. To learn more about Phoenix Art Museum, visit PhxArt.org, or call the 24-hour recorded information line at (602) 257-1222.

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