



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Jennifer Wormser / Deb Bissen
(239) 691-7548 / jwormser@mpaart.org
(703) 216-1181 / dbissen@mpaart.org

**McLean Project for the Arts to Host Inaugural
MPA Inspires: A Weekend of Collecting and Connecting**
*Weekend-long celebration to include alumni artist exhibition, panel discussion,
jazz brunch, and more*

McLean, VA: Art enthusiasts, collectors, and jazz lovers alike are invited to join McLean Project for the Arts (MPA) November 18 and 19 for MPA Inspires: A Weekend of Collecting and Connecting. This inaugural weekend-long celebration will take place at MPA Downtown, the organization's hoped-for new supplemental space located in The Signet building at 6910 Fleetwood Road in McLean, VA. The Alumni Art Exhibition Showcase will feature work by more than 60 MPA alumni artists.

"We are thrilled this weekend will bring such a group of dynamic artists, each esteemed alumni of MPA's exhibition program, together with our warm and engaged community of supporters. We will come together to celebrate MPA's rich artistic legacy as well as our exciting plans to expand our presence within the vibrant DC arts community," said MPA Executive Director Lori Carbonneau. "This moment stands as one of the most remarkable milestones in MPA's 61-year history, and a celebration of our continued leadership in McLean and the wider regional arts scene."

MPA Inspires festivities kick off **Saturday, November 18 from 2-5pm with Art Insights | Panel Discussion and Reception**. Presented by The Mather, the Art Insights event will begin with a panel discussion featuring collectors Michael Abrams and Sandra Stewart, art advocate Nancy Hirshbein, and Eric Key, Arts Program Director at the University of Maryland University College. A "Meet the Artists" session and gallery tour will follow the panel discussion.

The celebration continues on **Sunday, November 19 from 11:30am until 2:30pm with Art + Soul | Jazz Brunch**. A casually sophisticated event designed to connect and engage artists and art-lovers, Art + Soul guests will enjoy live music by saxophonist Langston Hughes II. Accompanied by Chris Hon on the upright bass and Jan Knutson on guitar, the trio's distinctive style—honed through years of experience and mentorship under jazz greats—will transport guests to "a world of beauty, passion, and positivity."

In addition to the brunch and jazz performance, Art + Soul will include a highly anticipated Collectors' Drawing featuring art in the exhibition of more than 60 works generously contributed for the event by generations of alumni artists who represent MPA's artistic legacy. All artists featured in the MPA Inspires Alumni Art Exhibition have donated their works in support of the development of a new MPA Art and Education Center. [A preview of donated artwork is available on the MPA website.](#)

McLean Project for the Arts.

MPA@MCC: 1234 Ingleside Avenue ■ McLean, Virginia 22101 ■ 703.790.1953 ■ www.mpaart.org
@mp4a

There is no cost to attend Saturday's Art Insights event, but reservations are required. [Art + Soul Jazz Brunch tickets](#) are available for \$150 a person, and [tickets for the Collectors' Drawing](#) are an additional \$600. Ticket sales are limited to the first 60 collectors. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Visit mpaart.org for more information.

#

About MPA

MPA Exhibits, Educates and Inspires

McLean Project for the Arts (MPA) is one of the mid-Atlantic region's most respected contemporary visual arts organizations. MPA provides high-quality art exhibitions showcasing the work of established and emerging artists, educational programs, art classes, MPAartfest, summer art camps, and ArtReach, an award-winning program serving students in grades K–12, seniors, and individuals with special needs. For more information, visit www.mpaart.org.

McLean Project for the Arts.

MPA@MCC: 1234 Ingleside Avenue ■ McLean, Virginia 22101 ■ 703.790.1953 ■ www.mpaart.org
@mp4a