



DRAFT

## Frequently Asked Questions: MPA's New Arts & Education Campus

### 1. What is McLean Project for the Arts (MPA)?

- MPA, established in 1962, is a premier center for contemporary visual art exhibitions and arts education programming in Northern Virginia. As a private non-profit 501(c)(3), MPA aims to nurture creative human imagination through its mission to exhibit works from emerging and established Mid-Atlantic artists, promote public awareness of contemporary art, and offer instruction in the visual arts.

### 2. What is MPA's plan to expand in McLean?

- MPA's Board of Directors approved a plan in September 2023 to create a new Arts & Education Center at 9310 Firewood Road in McLean. This purpose-built space will feature two galleries, teaching spaces, a café, gift shop, office, and conference room. This expansion reinforces MPA's brand identity separately from its partnership with the McLean Community Center (MCC).

### 3. Will MPA move out of its galleries and studio in the MCC?

- No, the new facility will complement existing visual arts programming provided through the public/private partnership with Fairfax County. MPA will continue exhibitions in the Emerson and Atrium galleries and maintain visual arts instruction in DuVal Studio.

- With this additional art exhibition and art education space, MPA will expand the programming of our award-winning ArtReach art education outreach program, offer more exhibition space availability to community partner organizations, and expand the size and offerings of our summer art camp programming for community residents.

### 4. What is the anticipated timing of this project?

- Fall 2023: Contract signed for space, pursue financing and commence fundraising.
- Q1 2024: Close on space, design process, and building permit submission.
- Spring 2024: Begin build-out, anticipated to last 5-6 months.
- Operational by the end of 2024.

### 5. How much will this project cost?

- The projected cost for purchasing, building out, and launching the new site is \$5.5 million.

### 6. What is the impact/benefit to neighbors?

- The project benefits the community by providing a beautiful space for art and community events in the heart of downtown McLean. MPA will also create a welcoming venue in its onsite café. The café will be open gallery hours and is anticipated to offer light food and drinks.