



ALBANY MUSEUM OF ART

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS WORKSHOP SET FOR MAY 15 AT THE AMA**

The Albany Museum of Art Will Host Adults, Teens for Conversation about Race

**[For Release April 19, 2021 – Albany, GA]** — The fourth *Courageous Conversations about Race* workshop will again provide a safe space to discuss race and racism in the community on **Saturday, May 15, 2021** at the Albany Museum of Art.

Set for **9 am-1 pm** in the Willson Auditorium, the workshop is open to adults and teenagers in the community.

The current socio-political climate has placed concerns about race, racism and societal equity at the forefront of the American discussion. The *Courageous Conversations* workshop at the AMA enables discussions of race among members of our community by using works of art as a catalyst for deeper understanding of the intersection of racial identity, politics, and social and educational outcomes in America.

Returning to facilitate the workshop will be Gloria J. Wilson, Ph.D., and Sara Scott Shields, Ph.D. Wilson and Shields facilitated each of the three previous *Courageous Conversations* workshops at the AMA.

“The AMA looks forward to continuing one of our lead programs, *Courageous Conversations*,” AMA Executive Director Andrew J. Wulf, Ph.D., said. “With the expert guidance of Drs. Wilson and Shields, the Museum will again offer guests a haven for addressing bravely the freight of issues surrounding the often unwieldy subjects of race and racism that seem to convulse our nation almost daily.”

Wilson is an assistant professor in Art & Visual Culture Education at the University of Arizona. She is chair of the Committee on Multiethnic Concerns for the National Art Education Association, and co-director of Arizona Arts, Racial Justice Studio.

Shields is an associate professor of art education at Florida State University, where she serves as director of the Masters in Art Education Teacher Certification program and is chair of the Art Education Department.

The last two workshops were conducted for high school seniors and juniors in the Dougherty County School System and Deerfield-Windsor School, but AMA Director of Education and Public Programming Annie Vanoteghem said this workshop is open to the community at-large.

"This year, we're reaching out to adults and teenagers from throughout the community," Vanoteghem said. "We are offering a safe space for people from all segments of the population to get together and talk about their experiences and perceptions of race and racism. Our hope is that frank, honest conversations will help build bridges of understanding that will, in turn, build a stronger, more united community."

Because of health guidance, the workshop will be limited to 32 participants. An online registration link can be found at [www.albanymuseum.com/courageous-conversations](http://www.albanymuseum.com/courageous-conversations).

"There is no cost to participate, but we are suggesting a \$10 donation to help defray the cost of the workshop," Vanoteghem said. "We also will be offering refreshments throughout the program."

If you have questions about the workshop, contact Vanoteghem at [annie.vanoteghem@albnymuseum.com](mailto:annie.vanoteghem@albnymuseum.com), or call her at **229.439.8400**.

## CURRENT AMA EXHIBITIONS

- *Butch Anthony: Art, Nature, and Intertwangleism* is in the Haley Gallery March 4-July 31, 2021.
- *Work, Worship & Community: Paul Kwilecki* is in the East Gallery March 4-June 26, 2021.
- *Educators as Artists: 4th College Faculty Exhibition* is in the McCormack Gallery March 4-June 26, 2021
- *Works by Tom Ferguson* is in the Hodges Gallery through April 30, 2021.
- *Escape Plan*, installation by Elinor Saragoussi, is in the West Gallery.

## ABOUT THE ALBANY MUSEUM OF ART

The Albany Museum of Art is located at 311 Meadowlark Drive in Albany, Ga., adjacent to Albany State University West Campus just off Gillionville Road. The museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. The Albany Museum of Art is open to the public 10 am-5 pm Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and 10 am-7 pm Thursdays. Admission is free.

For more information about the AMA please visit our website, [www.albanymuseum.com](http://www.albanymuseum.com) or call 229.439.8400. Be sure to follow the @AlbanyArtMuseum on Twitter, AlbanyMuseum on Instagram and AlbanyMuseumOfArt on Facebook.

## CAPTION:

Gloria J. Wilson, Ph.D., talks with high school students at a previous Courageous Conversations about Race workshop at the Albany Museum of Art. The workshop will return to the AMA 9 am-1 pm on Saturday, May 15, and is open to adults and teenagers in the community. (Photo: Albany Museum of Art/Jim Hendricks)

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