## **PRESS RELEASE**



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## VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART PRESENTS 67TH ANNUAL BOARDWALK ART SHOW

FALL FESTIVAL TO SHOWCASE FINE ART AND CONTEMPORARY CRAFT ALONG VIRGINIA BEACH BOARDWALK

**VIRGINIA BEACH, VA** (September 8, 2023) – The Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art (Virginia MOCA) announces the return of the 67th Annual Boardwalk Art Show at the Virginia Beach Oceanfront. The three-day show, presented by PNC, kicks off on Friday, October 20, and will highlight the work of nearly 200 artists from around the country—featuring fine art across several mediums including painting, sculpture, jewelry, wood, photography, and more. Ranked as a top 15 Fine Art Show of the Decade by *Sunshine Artist* magazine, the Boardwalk Art Show is one of the only outdoor art shows produced by an accredited museum and offers a unique experience against the backdrop of the Atlantic Ocean. The event is free and open to the public.

Virginia MOCA's 67th Annual Boardwalk Art Show will also include a Family ART Park with free art experiences for all ages. Visitors will engage in interactive activities from area non-profit organizations and enjoy rotating performances from local youth musical and dance groups, including School of Rock, Twinkle Toes Performing Arts Company, and the U.S. Fleet Forces Band. Mobile creative spaces and studios such as Studio Shift, Lil Truck of Tools, and for the first time, Virginia MOCA's ARTlab LIVE, will offer hands-on artmaking opportunities for the whole family. This portion of the festival will take place at 24th Street Park on Saturday from 10:00 AM-3:00 PM and Sunday from 11:00 AM-3:00 PM.

"Today's Virginia MOCA was born from the Boardwalk Art Show, which started in the early 1950s. Since that point in time, lifting up and celebrating the art of working artists have been core to our mission, with the art show as one of the signature facets of this commitment," said Gary Ryan, director and CEO of Virginia MOCA. "We are grateful to PNC Bank, the City of Virginia Beach, all our sponsors, and our many volunteers for their continued commitment to ensuring this coming together of art and community thrives well into the future."

Virginia MOCA will once again host the VIP Beach Club, newly relocated to the Sheraton Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel at 35th Street. A stunning lounge and indoor-outdoor space with sweeping views of the art show and the Atlantic, the new Beach Club will provide the perfect setting for celebrating the weekend. Tickets are \$50 and include private access to the Beach Club, delicious lunch, drinks, live music entertainment, a free Boardwalk Art Show 2023 Commemorative Poster, and more. To purchase tickets, visit boardwalkartshow.com or call 757.425.0000.

Also new this year, the ViBe Creative District will bring local artists to the boardwalk to paint original live murals on the spot. Interspersed with artists' booths, the murals will provide engaging complements to the fine art on display along the boardwalk. In another example of the art show's support of working artists, the Boardwalk Art Show 2023 Commemorative T-Shirt, designed by Virginia Beach artist Corinna Sayward, and Commemorative Poster, created specially for the show by exhibiting artist LJ Eidolon, will be available for purchase at the 24th and 35th Street Merchandise Tents.

## **VIRGINIA MOCA'S 67TH ANNUAL BOARDWALK ART SHOW**

Virginia Beach Oceanfront Friday, October 20 | 9:00 AM-4:00 PM Saturday, October 21 | 9:00 AM-4:00 PM Sunday, October 22 | 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

## About the Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art

An AAM accredited non-collecting museum, Virginia MOCA presents exceptional, locally relevant, and nationally resonant exhibitions that invite neighbors, strangers, students, families, communities, and cultures to explore our shared humanity through contemporary art, in all of its timeliness, restlessness, and beauty. For more information, visit <u>virginiamoca.org</u>. Follow Virginia MOCA at @VirginiaMOCA on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>LinkedIn</u> to receive the latest updates.

For more information or to support the Virginia MOCA as a sponsor, please visit <u>virginiamoca.org</u>. Follow Virginia MOCA at @VirginiaMOCA on <u>Facebook, Instagram</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>LinkedIn</u> to receive the latest updates.

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