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"Third Culture Child” Making Art Between Two Worlds
Hispanic-American artists share their experiences through fine art, song, poetry and food

BETHELHEM, PA, July 2021 – Join Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites for an evening of community and conversation in the second event in the 2021 Design After Dark: Community Curated series. Following its inaugural series in 2019, Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites is refocusing the adult programming series around experiences produced by creatives with strong ties to the Lehigh Valley.

Community Curators from all over the Lehigh Valley have planned public programs including performances, workshops, lectures, exhibitions, film screenings and concerts all in response to the quote from the late designer and visionary Sylvia Harris: “Design teaches us not to make assumptions.”

On July 30, from 6:00-9:00 PM at the Kemerer Museum of Decorative Arts, Qbah Fernandez returns to the Kemerer Museum and Design After Dark after hosting a Latinx Art Café in 2019 with The Third Culture Child, examining the internal battle for identity in Hispanic-American children born in the United States to immigrant parents through food, music, art, spoken word, and discussion. “I’m grateful to be part of a program where we can use different aspects of art to create a vibe that leads to conversation and collaboration about the things that are important to our community,” says community curator Qbah Fernandez.

Featured artists include:

Devyn Briggs grew up in Bethlehem, PA and studied at the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore, MD. She then earned a master's degree in the Business of Art and Design, studying creative entrepreneurship before opening a studio at the Banana Factory. In addition to making art, Devyn is an educator and arts activist dedicated to fostering equity and inclusion within the Lehigh Valley arts community.

“My work is a means of capturing, distilling and cultivating the aesthetic structures and harmonies that fascinate and satisfy me. It’s an obsessive exercise. I filter through the cultural artifacts of my heritage to gather the raw materials of color, texture, pattern, and rhythm that resonate incessantly in my mind. Only then can I unceremoniously cut them up and rearrange them into a visual language that strains to translate and explain the origin of that aesthetic impulse.” - Excerpt from Devyn Brigg’s Website

Alyssa Garcia is a Philadelphia-based, award-winning singer-songwriter and pianist with an alternative pop sound. Living by the mantra "Music is the cure," she strives to use her original music as an outlet of positivity. García pens soulful tunes telling personal stories her audience can often relate to.
Luli is an empathetic multi-talented artist from Bethlehem Pennsylvania, where she continues to live and make colorful impacts amongst her peers. Born with the gift to passionately connect with the hearts and minds of people, she uses her various artistic skills to teach, heal, and engage with souls all over the world.

Monica Salazar is an artist and illustrator. Her work tends to be surreal, inspired by a world separate from the one she lives in. She enjoys creating characters and giving them a personality or a role within their space. Salazar seeks to communicate visually in a world that needs to be reminded constantly of the social issues we face in our lifetime.

Qbah Fernandez is a Bethlehem-born entrepreneur, music producer, audio engineer, video director, and content-creator with a degree from Full Sail University. He has over 12 years of experience in the television industry and has worked for major Emmy nominated television networks as well as local stations such as WFMZ. Although his passion lies in production, he also proudly sits on the board of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce as its current Vice Chair.

More dates, programs, and community curators will be announced throughout 2021. Information about programs and how to attend can be found on the HBMS website.

“Programs like Design After Dark invigorate and transform the museum space,” says Director of Collections & Programming, Lindsey Jancay. “...and no better place than at Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites, where it is our mission to preserve and share the stories of the Lehigh Valley and the people who make it the vibrant place it is today.”

Individuals interested in participating in the programming series as a collaborator or a sponsor can contact Director of Collections & Programming Lindsey Jancay at ljancay@historicbethlehem.org.

Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites is a not-for-profit institution that brings to life three centuries of American history. Historic Bethlehem tells the story of a small town of great influence, home to some of our nation’s early settlers, to the first pumped municipal water system in the American colonies, and to one of the world’s greatest industrial companies. Historic Bethlehem is located in eastern Pennsylvania, only an hour’s drive north from Philadelphia and 2 hours west of New York City. Historic Bethlehem is an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and part of a National Historic Landmark District - a designated site on the US World Heritage Tentative List. HBMS is proud to be a part of the effort to bring World Heritage Site status to Historic Moravian Bethlehem. We are pleased to share that as of Spring 2021, HBMS will be working in tandem with international Moravian Sites – Herrnhutt, Germany and Gracehill, Northern Ireland to prepare a joint serial nomination to the World Heritage List – a first for the United States.

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