



ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE IN THE EVERGLADES (AIRIE), ANNOUNCES A NEW NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO HELP FURTHER ITS EFFORTS TO REPRESENT BIPOC ARTISTS AND OTHER MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES AND NEW PROGRAM CHANGES

AIRIE also implements changes to its 2022 residency program to increase accessibility for artists. Application opens on April 1.



*Top l to r: Nasir Dean aka Note Marcato, Mikhaile Solomon, Mel Chin, Blake-Anthony Johnson
Bottom l to r : Houston Cypress, Larry Ossei-Mensah, Amanda Williams, Germane Barnes [not pictured, Nichole Levy]*

Miami, FL - March 15, 2021 - [Artists in Residence in the Everglades](#) (AIRIE), the South Florida-based non-profit arts organization that since 2001 has empowered artists to think critically about their relationship to the environment, announces the launch of a new [National Advisory Committee](#). Comprised of prominent and highly respected leaders in the arts, the Committee will help AIRIE further its efforts to represent the voices and work of BIPOC artists and other marginalized communities.

The Committee includes: [Germane Barnes](#) and [Amanda Williams](#), both visual artists and architects who are included in the current MoMA exhibition *Reconstructions: Architecture and Blackness in America*; artist [Mel Chin](#), MacArthur Genius Grant recipient and newly elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters; [Blake-Anthony Johnson](#), the CEO of Chicago Sinfonietta who is the first African American executive to guide a nationally renowned orchestra; Nichole Levy, attorney and CEO of 13th Month Productions; recording artist and

producer [Nasir Dean aka Note Marcato](#); internationally recognized curator and cultural critic [Larry Ossei-Mensah](#); [Reverend Houston Cypress](#), an artist, activist, and leader of Love the Everglades Movement, and [Mikhaile Solomon](#), the Founding Director of Prizm Art Fair.

This group will bring a broader frame of reference to the environment and arts conversations that AIRIE leads and will help it develop new programming initiatives such as the inaugural **AIRIE Art + Environment Summit** that will take place in December, 2021 and will be centered around the question: *How can we make the outdoors a space of belonging?* Committee members will also actively participate in the selection process for the 2022 AIRIE Fellows. These Fellows will take part in AIRIE's unique residency in Everglades National Park, which is South Florida's longest running artist-in-residence program.

For 2022, AIRIE is implementing several changes to its residency program to make it more accessible to artists. Changes include increasing the stipend amount awarded to each artist Fellow from \$1000 to \$4000. The organization is also inviting year-long participation and will be providing more opportunities for artists to connect, share research and incubate ideas with each other. **Applications for the 2022 residency open on April 1, 2021 with a June 1 deadline.** For information, visit www.airie.org/residency-information.

The AIRIE residency welcomes artists of all disciplines to engage with the natural world through their artistic practice. The residency program is open to emerging and established artists, writers, curators, choreographers, musicians and other creatives who want to contribute to the interpretation and communication of environmental themes and the Everglades' impact on the environment and society. Artists have the opportunity to live and work inside Everglades National Park, the largest tropical wilderness in the United States and are connected with park rangers, scientists, cultural historians and community leaders to promote understanding of the unique ecosystem of the Everglades and of our environment at large.

“We are committed to empowering BIPOC artists, uplifting the voices and ideas that need to be heard and helping to preserve the Everglades and make the outdoors accessible for all,” said T. Robertson Carter, co-chair of AIRIE's Board. “As we embark on AIRIE's 20th anniversary year, we look forward to working with our new National Advisory Committee in creating a more inclusive roadmap for our path forward.”

About AIRIE

Artists in Residence in Everglades (AIRIE) was founded in 2001, through the efforts of Everglades National Park's Chief of Interpretation Alan Scott and artist Donna Marxer.

AIRIE, a 501c-3 not for profit, has welcomed over 185 artists, writers, curators, choreographers, musicians and other creatives to its residency program, permeating the national and international art landscape with unique interpretations and stories of the Everglades.

Artists in Residence in Everglades in partnership with the Everglades National Park, empowers artists to think creatively and critically about their relationship to the environment with a mission of revealing new paths forward.

“The preservation of the Everglades and exploration of environmental issues are cornerstones of AIRIE’s programming. We are adhering to these roots while moving forward to establish a foundation for a more inclusive roadmap that includes more diversity in our artists, programs, audience and leadership team.”

Support for Artists in Residence in Everglades is provided by the generous support of John S. and James L. Knight Foundation; The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; the National Endowment for the Arts; Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners of Miami Dade County; the Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture and the State of Florida; WEGE Foundation, The Camilla & Earl McGrath Foundation, Florida Humanities Council and private donors.

For additional information, visit www.airie.org and follow @airieverglades on social media.

#

AIRIE Media Contacts:

Jane Thayer, AIRIE Program Manager, jthayer@airie.org, 305-209-0177

Donna Fields, donnafields@gmail.com