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Kidspace Children's Museum Celebrates Black History Month with LINEAGE, a Collaborative Community Art Project

PASADENA, CA (*February 21, 2023*) Kidspace Children's Museum invites you to participate in a collaborative community art project, *LINEAGE*, celebrating the significant contributions of Black culture and visual arts to American life, on February 24–26, and March 3, 2023.

As part of an ongoing collaboration with <u>Transformative Arts</u>, Kidspace will host artists Chelle Barbour and Rosalyn Myles to create communal large-scale collages in the style of Romare Bearden. Bearden (1911-1988) is best known for his collages that layer magazines and newspaper images with colored paper and paint.

"Our work with Transformative Arts is focused on building visual literacy and cultural connection through art making," said Lisa Clements, CEO of Kidspace. "Large-scale collage is a dynamic format for Black artists to explore and challenge culture. It's also a terrifically accessible medium for artists of all ages, because it utilizes familiar and available materials."

Bearden's work celebrates Black culture and expresses Black life as layered and complex, and foundational to American life. He recognizes the idea of lineage, especially in the role of Black women as memory keepers and storytellers.

"Bearden is one of the most important seminal artists of our time. He was the grandfather of contemporary Black art," said jill moniz, Ph.D. founder of Transformative Arts. "He worked in collaboration with others, and he did as much as he possibly could to make space and open the doors as wide as he could to let as many people in as possible."

Museum guests are invited to contribute collage imagery to the project as well as create their own collage artwork to take home.

"We want children to understand even at a young age that collaborative play and collaborative making is the best kind of community building you can do," said moniz. "It weaves together an understanding of other people and the richness of layering ideas, identities, and stories."

For more information about LINEAGE, visit our website. Participation in the LINEAGE project is included with general admission and is free to members every day. The project will be onsite February 24-26 and March 3, 2023. Reserve your tickets at kidspacemuseum.org.

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ABOUT KIDSPACE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Kidspace Children's Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational and cultural institution committed to serving the needs and interests of children and families. Kidspace hosts nearly 380,000 guests each year on a beautiful, 3.5-acre outdoor campus with more than 40 hands-on exhibits, a live animal collection, and a variety of creative play spaces and water features. Kidspace offers a wide array of free and discounted programs, field trips, and digital resources for schools to maximize access for children and educators.