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**3SN & COALITION announce RAW HOPE OF HUMANITY RISING
Amidst Turbulent Times in the Nation's Capital**
<https://thirdspacenet.com/raw-hope/>

(Washington, DC) – **Third Space Network & Coalition** announce ***Raw Hope of Humanity Rising***, a series of online public dialogues intended to spark virtual community for artistic action and social change. The first panel, **The Social Impact of Mural Art**, focusing on mural art as expression of political resistance, takes place Wednesday, February 17 at 6pm ET.

Each event will culminate in the ++ **After Hours / Drinking About Art** virtual soirée creating a dynamic online social space for the arts & cultural communities to share ideas and aspirations during these extraordinary times of crisis.

Raw Hope of Humanity Rising responds to the extreme challenges of the moment, using online civic participation as a platform for advocacy and critical dialogue: connecting diverse artists, activists, and changemakers to share perspectives and overcome constraints. The series is a response to continued injustices surrounding the pandemic, Black Lives Matter, racial reckoning, gentrification and political polarization in Washington DC and throughout the country.

According to 3SN Director of Welcoming & Belonging and independent curator **Monica O. Montgomery**, “We need arts, culture and humanities to guide our way forward, as our nation embarks on a deep dive journey of remedy and repair. We have a vision for inclusion and racial diversity in the *Raw Hope* series that is critical to ensure all voices are heard and welcomed. Through our Coalition partners and participating panelists, we are seeking common threads in these fractured times where honest, respectful discussion can surface in order to help renew our humanity through arts and activism.”

Raw Hope of Humanity Rising is Webcast via the Third Space Network’s Crowdcast platform, which activates public dialogue across the boundaries of the local & remote to a global audience. **To Register and Save Your Spot:** <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/raw-hope-2021-panel1>

The project is organized by 3SN Creative Director **Randall Packer**, and supported by the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities, Crowdcast Equality Program, and the *Raw Hope* Coalition of arts organizations, educators, and friends of the Third Space Network.

For panel dates, speakers, and more information please visit:
<https://thirdspacenet.com/raw-hope/>

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Panels & Participants

All events are from 6pm-7:30pm ET broadcast online via Crowdcast

(1) **The Social Impact of Mural Art**, Wednesday, February 17, 2021

Mural art in public spaces as an expression of social and political resistance by providing a collaborative platform for community action.

- Randall Packer (moderator)
- Sophia Dawson, Brooklyn Mural Artist, Resident in the Whitney Independent Studio Program
- Nancee Lyons, Public Affairs, DC Department of Public Works, Head of MuralsDC
- Levi Robinson, DC Mural Artist, member of the DMV League of Artists collective

(2) **Transformation of the Urban Space**, Wednesday, March 17, 2021

Initiatives such as Black Lives Matter Plaza in Washington, DC demonstrate a clear and powerful signal of civic empowerment and the activation of contested urban space.

- Randall Packer (moderator)
- Keyonna Jones, DC Artist & Executive Director of Congress Heights Arts & Culture Center
- Ian Callender, Owner, Suite Nation, Co-Owner, Sandlot Southeast DC
- John Chisholm, Executive Director of P.A.I.N.T.S. Institute, DC

(3) **The Internet as a Medium of Activism & Social Change**, Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Political action and resistance through social media collaboration, virtual community, alternative journalism, and digital forms of artistic media.

- Monica Montgomery (moderator), Museum activist, Strategic Director, Museum Hue
- Jeff Gates, DC artist and writer, founder of the Chamomile Tea Party
- Makia Green, Core Organizer, DC Black Lives Matter
- Randall Packer, DC Artist, Creative Director, Third Space Network

(4) **DIY Maker Culture**, Wednesday, Wednesday, May 12, 2021

The social significance of collaborative spaces and educational initiatives that facilitate DIY (Do it Yourself) and DIWO (Do it With Others) practices that stimulate cross-cultural and interdisciplinary project opportunities.

- Randall Packer (moderator)
- Nehemiah Dixon, Director of Community Engagement, The Phillips Collection/ARC, DC
- Laura Cohen, Education Manager, Open Works Baltimore
- Layne Garrett, Co-Founder, Program Director, Rhizome DC

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About the Third Space Network

Third Space Network (3SN) is an artist-driven Internet platform for staging creative dialogue, live performance and uncategorizable activism: social empowerment through the act of becoming our own broadcast media. A project of Randall Packer, 3SN explores the Internet as a place for live artistic experimentation and new forms of social engagement.

<https://thirdspacenetWORK.com/>

Raw Hope Coalition partners:

The Phillips Collection is America's first museum of modern and contemporary art. Founded in 1921 by art collector and philanthropist Duncan Phillips, it is located in historic Dupont Circle in Washington, DC. With its renowned collection of artworks from the 19th century to present, the Phillips mission is to explore the most pressing ideas of our time through diverse exhibitions, programs, collaborations, and public participation. With **The University of Maryland Center for Art and Knowledge** at The Phillips Collection—as the museum's nexus for academic work, scholarly exchange, and innovative interdisciplinary partnership—and **Phillips@THEARC**, located at the Town Hall Education Arts Recreation Campus in SE Washington—as a workshop and gallery that provides a space to view, discuss, make, and show art and encourages community dialogue and action—the Phillips enters 2021, celebrating its Centennial as well as the artistic expression of diverse people with empathy and inclusion.

The American University Museum is a three-story public museum and sculpture garden located within the university's multidisciplinary Katzen Arts Center in Washington, DC.

Congress Heights Arts & Culture Center was established to explore arts + culture of people of the African Diaspora, specifically, communities of African Americans, residing East of the Anacostia River.

Johns Hopkins University Museum Studies and Cultural Heritage programs offer the theory and practice of all aspects of the museum and heritage fields, teaching innovative skills and knowledge to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

International Visions Art and Consultants promotes and curates contemporary, diverse collections from national and international artists to museums and collectors with a focus on Washington area art and under-represented artists of color.

Museum Hue is a platform for cultural diversity, advancing the visibility and viability of people of color within arts, culture, history, creative economy and museums. Our community of practice reflects intersectional ideas around equity, inclusion and representation.

McLean Project for the Arts (MPA) in Virginia exhibits the work of emerging and established artists from the mid-Atlantic region, offers instruction and education in the visual arts, and promotes public awareness and understanding of the concepts of contemporary art.

VisArts in Rockville Maryland transforms individuals and communities through the visual arts. Their vision is a vibrant, diverse community enriched and connected by the visual arts.