



## The Fabric Workshop and Museum

June 4, 2020

We are bearing witness to the hurt, pain, grief, and fear that is being expressed in our city and beyond and we remain committed to challenging the oppressive forces that lead to these moments of unrest.

As an institution, we condemn racism and police brutality. We stand in solidarity with those protesting here in Philadelphia and across the country in response to the recent deaths of Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, Tony McDade, and Breonna Taylor, and the continuing realities of American injustice.

We are a collaborative organization by nature. In recent days, our staff and board have been engaged in a museum-wide conversation that collectively asks: *Where are we now? Where are we falling short? Who do we strive to be?* As we continue to absorb what is happening on the ground, as well as the feedback and ideas from our staff and board, we will also be turning to you in hopes of expanding the conversation. Taking a step back from our programs and scheduled content in the coming days, we aim to use this time to listen and share the work and words that need to be heard.

In the spirit of bearing witness, we are also encouraged by the results of important work being done here in Philadelphia; namely, the removal of the divisive Frank Rizzo monument in Center City on Wednesday, and a new collaboration between Mural Arts Philadelphia, the S. 9th Street Shopping District, and local property owners to replace a controversial mural in the heart of the Italian Market.

As efforts for positive change continue here in the city and across the country, please consider joining our staff in supporting the Art for Philadelphia Community Bail Fund, BLM Philly, the Minnesota Freedom Fund, the George Floyd Memorial Fund, and Black Visions Collective.

Yours truly,

Christina Vassallo  
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## About the Fabric Workshop and Museum

Founded in 1977, FWM both makes and presents, encouraging artists to experiment with new materials and new media in a veritable living laboratory. Through its renowned Artist-in-Residence (AIR) Program, FWM collaborates with artists to expand their practices, while documenting the course of artistic production from inspiration to realization. FWM presents large scale exhibitions, installations, and performative work, utilizing innovative fiber and other media. Today, FWM is the only US institution devoted to creating work in textile and new media in collaboration with some of the most significant artists of our time.

Major support of FWM is provided by the Marion Boulton "Kippy" Stroud Foundation. FWM receives state art funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. Additional support is provided by The Philadelphia Cultural Fund, Agnes Gund, and the Board of Directors and Members of The Fabric Workshop and Museum.

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## Media Contacts

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