FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:
Kim Luke
Marketing & Community Relations Coordinator
Arts Council Santa Cruz County
831.475.9600 x24
kim@artscouncilsc.org l tanneryartscenter.org

TANNERY ARTS CENTER HOSTS A SERIES OF
CONVERSATIONS AROUND ART AND SOCIAL CHANGE

Tannery Talks kick off September 13 with a conversation about housing

SANTA CRUZ, CA — August 29, 2018 — The Tannery Arts Center, home to nearly 200 artists, will be hosting a series of conversations this Fall exploring the role of the arts in social activism, identity, and self-expression. Four events in the series will focus on the topics of Access to Housing, Dancers from the African Diaspora, Feminism and the Female Body, and Creativity, Spirituality and Social Justice. Through panel discussion, talk back, and performance, the series is a jumping off point for individuals to find their own path to action, and to further engage with artists examining these topics in their work. The events are free, open to the public, and welcoming to the Santa Cruz County community.

The first talk, "A Room for Everyone", takes place September 13 and focuses on the role of the arts in addressing access to housing. A Room for Everyone will be moderated by Margaret Niven, a university educator, visual artist and Tannery resident. The event is free and takes place at Radius Gallery at the Tannery from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Panelists:
Greg Handberg (Artspace Projects, Inc.)
J.M. Brown (Chair, County Housing Commission, Analyst for County Supervisor Bruce McPerson, Former Chair, Arts Council of Santa Cruz County)
Gary Ingram (Tannery resident, silversmith/small metals)
Linda Cover (Tannery resident, artist, art educator)

The Tannery Talks were inspired by a lecture series hosted by Niven at the Tannery in 2015.

"I'm excited to see the Tannery Lecture Series reborn as the Tannery Talks," Said Jim Brown, Tannery Director. "The Tannery Arts Center is such a remarkable place, with dancers, poets, sculptors, actors, and other artists creating here on a daily basis. These talks are a chance to bring that creative spirit together with Santa Cruz County's innate drive for social change. I'm super curious to see what emerges from each unique conversation!"

The full series:

September 13
A Room for Everyone
Radius Gallery 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
The role of the arts in addressing access to housing
Moderator: Margaret Niven (Tannery resident, visual artist, art educator)

October 13, 2018
Diaspora Performance Project
Colligan Theater 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Talk back exploring the 40+ year connection between dancers of the African Diaspora and the Santa Cruz community. Ticketed performance to follow.
Moderator: Cat Willis (Founder, Director, Tannery World Dance & Cultural Center)

November 8, 2018
She Speaks: Feminism and the Female Body
Radius Gallery 7:00 - 8:30 p.m
An exploration of womanhood in 2018 through the lens of Santa Cruz artists and activists. Discussion will range from vulnerability and violence, to resistance and resilience.
Moderator: Jasmine Schlafke (Tannery resident, poet, Word Church)

January 17, 2019
Creativity, Spirituality and Social Justice
Radius Gallery 7:00 - 8:30 p.m
Find the connection between art, spirit and cultural activism.
Moderator: Yasmina Porter (Tannery resident, dancer, dance educator, Fulbright Scholar, dance historian)

More information: tanneryartscenter.org/tannery-talks

About Arts Council Santa Cruz County
The Arts Council generates creativity, vibrancy, and connection in Santa Cruz County. For 39 years, we have fueled our creative community, supporting individual and collective artistic expression and building bridges and bonds between people throughout our county. Through grants to artists and arts organizations, arts education programs that serve more than 17,000 kids across Santa Cruz County, and community initiatives such as Open Studios and Ebb & Flow, we help Santa Cruz County thrive.