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CONTACT: Robin Cavanaugh

rcavanaugh@hmh.org / 713-851-4478

Museum Celebrates Latinx Heritage Month with Three Free Programs Plus Special Exhibition

- *Withstand: Latinx Art in Times of Conflict* on view through October 17-

Houston (September 2, 2021) . . . Holocaust Museum Houston (HMH) to celebrate Latinx Heritage Month, a special time of the year to honor and pay tribute to all Latinx contributions given to the world, highlighting Latinx history, identity, and culture through spoken word, the arts, and stage performance. HMH is hosting three free public programs held in the Museum's Albert and Ethel Herzstein Theater, along with a special juried exhibition featuring 100 artworks by local Latinx artists. Public programs will take place September 11, 30 and October 7, 2021. The juried exhibition, [*Withstand: Latinx Art in Times of Conflict*](#), on view through October 17 in HMH's Minckberg Gallery, explores themes of social justice and human rights.

Kicking off the commemorative month on September 11, TEATRX presents a touring production of [*"Sonia Flew," a play by Melinda Lopez*](#). The play honors the 20th anniversary of 9/11 and tells the story of a Cuban immigrant raising two children with her Jewish husband in Minneapolis. When her son leaves college to join the military following the terrorist attacks on 9/11, Sonia must reconcile with her childhood memories of Operation Pedro Pan, a political maneuver that separated her and thousands of other Cuban children from their parents. The project is funded in part by Midtown Cultural Arts and Entertainment District and in partnership with Holocaust Museum Houston and MECA. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the program will begin at 6:00 p.m. Central Time. Theater enthusiasts can experience the performance in-person or virtually through Broadway on Demand. Streaming information is available at hmh.org/SoniaFlew.

On September 30, the Museum will host a 6:00 p.m. [*special reading by poet, educator and performer José Olivarez*](#). The son of Mexican immigrants, Olivarez's debut book of poems, *Citizen Illegal*, was a finalist for the PEN/Jean Stein Award and a winner of the 2018 Chicago Review of Books Poetry Prize. It was named a top book of 2018 by *The Adroit Journal*, *NPR*, and the New York Public Library. His work has been featured in notable publications including *The New York Times* and *The Paris Review*.

[*2022 Texas Poet Laureate Lupe Mendez*](#) will perform a special reading at the Museum on October 7 at 6:00 p.m. Originally from Galveston, Texas, Mendez is the author of *WHY I AM LIKE TEQUILA*, winner of the 2019 John A. Robertson Award for Best First Book of Poetry from the Texas Institute of Letters. He is the founder of Tintero Projects which works with emerging Latinx writers and other writers of color within the Texas Gulf Coast Region.

Withstand: Latinx Art in Times of Conflict features 100 artworks by Houston Latinx artists. The art featured in the exhibition includes several themes of focus including border relations, gender roles, domestic violence, the immigrant experience, social and political turmoil and more. *Withstand* is curated by arts professionals Gabriela Magana and Rosa Ana Orlando. [CLICK HERE for photos / artist statements / fact sheet](#)

All Latinx Heritage Month special events are free and open to the public, but advance registration is required. For full event information and to RSVP, visit hmh.org/events. Access to *Withstand: Latinx Art in Times of Conflict* is included in Museum general admission. Tickets to the Museum must be purchased online in advance at hmh.org/tickets. Face masks are required for all guests above the age of 2. Complimentary masks are available at the Security desk.

Holocaust Museum Houston, Lester and Sue Smith Campus, is fully bilingual in English and Spanish. Located at 5401 Caroline Street, HMH is closed Mondays except Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Memorial Day and Labor Day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. The Museum's Legacy Café is open on weekends only. Admission is \$19 for adults; \$15 for seniors (ages 65+), AARP members and active-duty military; always free for children and students through age 18; and free to all visitors on Thursdays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Parking is available at the Museum's adjacent lot for \$8 for a four-hour period. Tickets are available exclusively online. For more information, visit hmh.org/visit.

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