



For Immediate Release

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The Spirit of Artistic Inspiration Sweeps Through the Garment District at Arts Festival Oct. 18 - 20

District-wide showcase of open studios, gallery shows, public art installations & outdoor craft demonstrations available to the public during free, three-day celebration

New York – [Date] – Manhattan's famed Garment District will host to the 15th Annual Garment District Arts Festival, a three-day celebration of art, inspiration and creativity offering a close-up view of many of New York City's most talented artisans.

The district-wide celebration, hosted by the Garment District Alliance, will provide New Yorkers and visitors alike with the opportunity to make behind-the-scene visits to nearly 100 artists' studios, watch public performances, witness craftspeople engaged in the creative process at Makers Way, and enjoy a range of unique and stirring art installations throughout the neighborhood. This year's festival will begin on Thursday, October 18th and run through Saturday, October 20th.

"For generations, the Garment District has served as a wellspring of creativity and artistic inspiration," said Barbara A. Blair, president of the Garment District Alliance. "This arts festival is designed to link the artist and the viewer in an intimate way. Because of their boldness and proximity, these creations redouble their aesthetic impact."

ZAZ10TS – a cultural initiative led by Tzili Charney – will present the Festival's opening party at 10 Times Square (1441 Broadway) on October 18th, as well as several installations, a performance on the plazas on opening night, artist talks, outdoor screen video art, and more.

"As a home for fashion designers and art advocates, ZAZ10TS is excited to participate in the Garment District Arts Festival for the first time," said Tzili Charney, founder of ZAZ10TS. "We look forward to partnering with The Garment District Alliance on this important event, and to joining the dynamic lineup of artists who are contributing to this weekend of cultural enjoyment in New York City."

On Saturday, October 20th between 11:00 am and 6:00 pm, the festival's third annual Makers Way will present 13 artisans and crafters offering interactive activities and displays on the pedestrian plazas lining Broadway between 39th and 40th streets. Witnessing the creative process first-hand, guests will engage with artisans creating handmade arts and crafts, including printmaking, ceramics, drawing, textile art, jewelry making and other artistic treasures.

Art Elevated – presented in partnership with Orangenius, an arts-focused technology platform – features the work of 90 artists on display through October 31st. Selected on a competitive basis, their artwork is

replicated on banners suspended from lampposts throughout the Garment District, which extends from 35th Street through 41st Street between Fifth Avenue and Ninth Avenue.

The festival also showcases *Candy Nations*, which consists of 20 colorful, nine-foot-tall, candy-shaped sculptures that extend three blocks along Broadway's pedestrian plazas between 36th and 39th streets. Conveying a message of global unity, the candy art was created by prominent French sculptor Laurence Jenkell.

Visitors can also view the Garment District Space for Public Art program's latest public exhibits, including: Margaret Zox Brown's *Color and Life* oil paintings at the Kaufman Arcade building on 132 West 36th Street between Sixth and Seventh avenues through November 2nd; Arleen Joseph's landscape series, *Journeys*, at the Staybridge Hotel at 340 West 40th St between Eighth and Ninth Avenues through November 1st; and Kohrou Kawata's dyed fabric series, titled *Sōme*, at the Medialia Gallery at 215 West 38th Street between Seventh and Eighth Avenues through October 27th.

For the 15th Annual Garment District Arts Festival's full schedule, please visit garmentdistrict.nyc/arts/arts-festival.

The Garment District is home to thousands of people working in the creative economy, including fine and performing artists, designers, architects, photographers and more than a hundred theaters, galleries, performance spaces and studios.

Please direct media inquiries to Jessinia Brooks of Marino at 212-402-3485 or <u>JBrooks @marinopr.com</u> For more information including a full schedule and map of the Garment District Arts Festival, please visit http://garmentdistrict.nyc/arts/arts-festival/

About the Garment District Alliance

The Garment District Alliance (www.garmentdistrictnyc.com), is a not-for-profit corporation established in 1993 to improve the quality of life and economic vitality of Manhattan's Garment District. Through programs in the areas of streetscape improvements, sanitation and public safety, marketing and promotions, economic development, and community service, the Garment District Alliance supports the neighborhood's transformation into a modern, 24/7 destination for dining, nightlife, hotels and unique office space.