LACMA PRESS RELEASE

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) and Four Southern California Institutions Embark on Multi-Year Partnership Featuring LACMA's Collection

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A major grant from the Art Bridges + Terra Foundation Initiative supports a dynamic exhibition partnership through 2024

(Los Angeles—January 14, 2021) The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) is pleased to announce Local Access, a partnership with four Southern California institutions made possible by a grant of nearly \$2 million from the nationwide Art Bridges + Terra Foundation Initiative. Established in 2018, Art Bridges and the Terra Foundation for American Art created the Art Bridges + Terra Foundation Initiative (ABTFI) to expand access to American art across the United States. LACMA is the first institution in the Western United States to receive a grant from Art Bridges + Terra Foundation Initiative.

Local Access will bring special exhibitions drawn from LACMA's collection to four institutions in greater Southern California: Lancaster Museum of Art and History (MOAH); Riverside Art Museum (RAM); Vincent Price Art Museum at East Los Angeles College (VPAM); and California State University, Northridge, Art Galleries. Over the next several years, each partner will present up to three exhibitions that reframe and broaden traditional ideas about American art. This unprecedented partnership is centered on sharing collections and museum resources to establish a new model for accessible and inclusive community engagement. The exhibitions are the result of a years-long exchange and collaboration among the staffs of the institutions.

"LACMA is working to redefine what 'outreach' and 'collaboration' mean for a 21st-century art museum," said Michael Govan, LACMA CEO and Wallis

Annenberg Director. "Over the next several years, we will share our collections and resources with partner institutions to spread exhibitions and programs beyond the museum's Wilshire campus. Local Access brings together a community of ambitious, forward-thinking institutions that are developing lasting relationships, experimenting and learning as a collective, and engaging new audiences. LACMA has always aimed to serve the widest possible audience. The generous support of Art Bridges and the Terra Foundation for American Art offers an unprecedented opportunity to make our programming accessible throughout the region."

Local Access's inaugural exhibition, opening this winter, is *Golden Hour:* California Photography from the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. The presentation will begin at the Lancaster Museum of Art and History with a virtual exhibition (February 7–May 9, 2021). Following the presentation in Lancaster, *Golden Hour* is scheduled to tour Southern California: Riverside Art Museum (June 5–September 26, 2021); Vincent Price Art Museum (October 16, 2021–February 5, 2022), and California State University, Northridge, Art Galleries (February 19–April 30, 2022). *

*Dates are subject to change. Please visit the websites of each partner institution for the most up-to-date exhibition information.

Golden Hour features works by more than 70 artists and three photography collectives, offering an aesthetic approach to understanding the complexities and histories of California. These images from LACMA's collection have come to define the myths, iconographies, and realities of this unique state. Pairing masters of photography with experimental practitioners in a range of lens-based media that includes photo sculpture, vernacular, and video work, the selection blurs the boundaries of the tropes that formed a California identity. With works ranging from the early 1900s to present day, *Golden Hour* is neither a didactic history of the state nor an inclusive tale of photographic history, but rather artists' impressions of the state of being in, and being influenced by, California.

The second exhibition, slated for 2022–23, will explore progressive design and political activism and examine the creative means that California designers and artists have used to advocate for civil rights, oppose wars and unjust policies, and press for change. A third exhibition will be announced at a later date.

"The Art Bridges partnership with LACMA is built on our shared belief in collaboration and the mission to expand access to treasured artworks," said Paul R. Provost, CEO, Art Bridges. "Countless visitors will be introduced to LACMA's collection via Local Access and it is our hope that this will deepen engagement with their respective communities among all five partner organizations. We are proud to support Local Access and are eager to see the inspiring exhibitions and programs come to life."

Local Access joins other multi-year, multi-institutional partnerships supported by the initiative across the nation, including those organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Detroit Institute of Arts; Philadelphia Museum of Art; and Smithsonian American Art Museum.

"Bringing together LACMA with partner museums in Southern California illustrates the rich collaboration that is a hallmark of this project," said Sharon Corwin, President and CEO of the Terra Foundation for American Art. "Central to this initiative is the belief that community engagement through experiencing works of art first-hand connects audiences in fresh and exciting ways."

With Local Access, LACMA is building on its long history of working with communities to share programs and artworks, as it does through its ongoing partnership with Charles White Elementary School in MacArthur Park. Since 2007, LACMA has presented exhibitions drawing on its permanent collection and commissioned work by contemporary artists at its art gallery at the school. Recently, the museum has expanded its public programming there to include hands-on workshops and experiences for local communities on Saturdays. Additional partnerships have been developed in Compton, East Los Angeles, North Hollywood, South L.A., Van Nuys, Watts, and Willowbrook, including exhibitions from LACMA's collection and ongoing public programs and resources.

About Local Access Partners

California State University, Northridge, Art Galleries

A major art exhibition space in the San Fernando Valley, the CSUN Art Galleries are located just a few miles north of downtown Los Angeles. The Galleries have mounted over 500 exhibitions since 1980 with yearly gallery attendance averaging 25,000 visitors. Visit <u>csun.edu/artgalleries</u>.

Lancaster Museum of Art and History (MOAH)

Founded in 1986, the Lancaster Museum of Art and History operates four sites within the City of Lancaster, serving the Antelope Valley and greater Los Angeles County regions. MOAH, with a collection of over 10,000 artworks and artifacts, is host to large-scale curatorial initiatives, which celebrate the historic traditions and artistic revolutions taking place in Southern California. MOAH:CEDAR boasts additional gallery spaces and is home to the Museum's artist-in-residence program and activates the region's youth and young adults through its weekly programs. The Western Hotel Museum and the Elyze Clifford Interpretive Center offer semi-permanent exhibitions highlighting the rich indigenous, ecological, natural, and economic histories of the Antelope Valley and provide access to the past and future from environmental perspectives. For more information, visit lancastermoah.org.

Riverside Art Museum (RAM)

The Riverside Art Museum integrates art into the lives of people in a way that engages, inspires, and builds community by providing high-quality exhibits and art education programs that instill a lifelong love of the arts. RAM relies on the generosity of members and donors to support its exhibitions, education programs, and special events. A 60-plus-year-old, non-profit cultural arts institution housed in a National Historic 1929 building designed by Hearst Castle and AIA Gold Medal-winning architect Julia Morgan, the museum serves over 50,000 people a year. The Riverside Art Museum is slated to open The Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art & Culture in the fall of 2021 in partnership with the City of Riverside and Cheech Marin. For information on exhibits, events, classes, memberships, or sponsorship opportunities, visit RiversideArtMuseum.org.

Vincent Price Art Museum at East Los Angeles College (VPAM)

The mission of the Vincent Price Art Museum at East Los Angeles College is to serve as a unique educational resource for the diverse audiences of the college and the community through the exhibition, interpretation, collection, and preservation of works in all media of the visual arts. VPAM provides an environment to encounter a range of aesthetic expressions that illuminate the depth and diversity of artwork produced by people of the world, both contemporary and past. By presenting thoughtful, innovative and culturally diverse exhibitions and by organizing cross-disciplinary programs on issues of historical, social, and cultural relevance, VPAM seeks to promote knowledge, inspire

creative thinking, and deepen an understanding of and appreciation for the visual arts. For more information, visit <u>vincentpriceartmuseum.org</u>.

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About LACMA

Located on the Pacific Rim, LACMA is the largest art museum in the western United States, with a collection of more than 142,000 objects that illuminate 6,000 years of artistic expression across the globe. Committed to showcasing a multitude of art histories, LACMA exhibits and interprets works of art from new and unexpected points of view that are informed by the region's rich cultural heritage and diverse population. LACMA's spirit of experimentation is reflected in its work with artists, technologists, and thought leaders as well as in its regional, national, and global partnerships to share collections and programs, create pioneering initiatives, and engage new audiences.

Location: 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA, 90036. lacma.org

About Art Bridges

Art Bridges is the vision of philanthropist and arts patron Alice Walton. Since 2018 Art Bridges has been creating and supporting programs that expand access to American art in all regions across the nation. The foundation strives to bring great works of American art out of storage and into communities. Art Bridges partners with a growing network of nearly 130 museums of all sizes and locations, providing financial and strategic support for exhibition development, collection loans, and programs designed to engage new audiences. For more information, visit <u>artbridgesfoundation.org</u>.

About Terra Foundation for American Art

The Terra Foundation for American Art supports individuals, organizations, and communities to advance expansive understandings of American art. Established in 1978 and headquartered in Chicago, with an office in Paris, its grant program, collection, and initiatives are committed to fostering cross-cultural dialogues of American art locally, nationally, and internationally.