

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Contact: Mina Elison • (808) 322-3362 • [info@donkeymillartcenter.org](mailto:info@donkeymillartcenter.org)

**Event: Art is a Priority! Online Art Auction**

**Dates:** Silent Auction - February 13 - 27

Live Stream Auction - Saturday, February 27, 5:00-6:30pm HST

Preview Art Online and at the Donkey Mill starting February 3

**Location:** Online / Donkey Mill Art Center

**Event Link:** <https://bit.ly/annualartauction>

### Art is a Priority! Online Art Auction Celebrates the Importance of the Arts in our Community

HOLUALOA, HI – During this extraordinary year, the importance of the arts has never been so clear. This year's online art auction, **Art is a Priority!**, celebrates art as an essential component of our individual and collective well-being and health. As West Hawai'i's premier event for art enthusiasts and collectors, the Donkey Mill's fourteenth annual art auction will be held online with the silent auction taking place from February 13 to 27, culminating in an exciting livestream auction event on Saturday, February 27, 2021 from 5:00 to 6:30pm HST.

The online auction features works by more than 70 renowned artists, ranging in value from \$100 to \$10,000+. In addition to the wide selection of works by established and emerging artists from Hawai'i and beyond, this year's auction also debuts 80+ new works on 1'x1' panels created by invited artists specifically for the event.

The annual auction enables the Donkey Mill to continuously serve the West Hawai'i community as an established arts organization, vital to the health of the community. By holding this beloved community event online, the Donkey Mill is able to broaden its reach and increase engagement with the local and global community, enabling patrons around the world to bid competitively on exemplary work by respected artists.

"Art is not a luxury as arts education develops the survival skills of creative problem-solving, empathy, collaboration and curiosity necessary to unite communities on a local and global scale. And while this year's bidding is online, we look forward to safely hosting the community in-person at the Mill throughout the month of February to view the work in the gallery. We are also excited to share the incredible 1"x1" panels that artists near and far created for this exhibition which celebrates the importance of the arts," shared Mina Elison, the Donkey Mill's Communication Director and Curator.

Highlights of this year's auction include works by renowned artists Melissa Chimera, Kaili Chun, Alex Couwenberg, John Koga, Wayne Levin, Hiroki Morinoue, Richard Notkin and Carl Pao; ceramic artists Clayton Amemiya, Jisoo Boggs, Daven Hee and Esther Shimazu; lauhala pāpale (hats) by Nanette Bell and Makiko Yamaguchi and sculptural works by Jesse Kahoonei and Daniel Sheinfeld Rodriguez, and so much more!

Online registration for the live online auction is donation-based and opens on Wednesday, February 3, 2021. Visit [donkeymillartcenter.org](https://bit.ly/annualartauction) for more information and register to participate at <https://bit.ly/annualartauction>.

***Art is a Priority! Online Art Auction*** is made possible through the generous support of sponsors Holualoa Inn, Mary Therese Perez Hattori, the Lindborg 'Ohana, BREW and Kona Trans.

Donkey Mill Art Center is the home of Hōlualoa Foundation for Arts and Culture, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit art education organization. The Donkey Mill Art Center is a community hub for the exploration of arts and culture to inform, inspire and strengthen individual and collective well-being. For more information, visit [www.donkeymillartcenter.org](http://www.donkeymillartcenter.org) or call [\(808\) 322-3362](tel:8083223362). Donkey Mill Art Center, open Wednesdays - Saturdays, 10:00am - 6:00pm, 78-6670 Mamalahoa Highway, Holualoa, HI 96725