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BETHEL WOODS INVITES REGION TO ENJOY FREE COMMUNITY PERFORMANCES

Local youth become headlining performers in The Event Gallery this summer

BETHEL, NY (July 16, 2018) – Throughout the summer, Bethel Woods Center for the Arts will host three free community performances in the Event Gallery, each serving as the culminating presentation for a corresponding Arts & Humanities-based program.

The first performance will be held this Friday, July 20 at 11:00am. Participants of our **E3: Engage. Experience. Explore.** program take the stage with Music in Common to present a multimedia piece (which includes music, visual art and film) that gives the audience an understanding of contemporary challenges that students face. Music in Common is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower diverse cultures and faiths to discover shared interest through collaborative songwriting and creation.

The following week, on July 28, students ages 9-15 will serenade the audience, demonstrating the songwriting and instrumental abilities they have developed throughout the three-week duration of Bethel Woods' **P.L.A.Y: Music** program. This is a unifying effort from participants with varying musical backgrounds and skill levels who come together to perform traditional and original compositions, ensemble and solo performances, and even numbers that allow audience participation.

On August 18, the Event Gallery stage transforms for the **P.L.A.Y: Theater** finale. This collaborative performance highlights the theater process by revealing an imaginative work created entirely by the contributors. Both P.L.A.Y. Music and Theater programs are the result of a partnership with professional artistic staff in residence from The College of Performing Arts at the New School in New York City.

“These performances are a wonderful way for the public to get a sense of what participants are experiencing when they enroll in an engaging program at Bethel Woods,” said Darlene Fedun, Chief Executive Officer of Bethel Woods Center for the Arts. Fedun continued, “It is our hope that in viewing these performances, arts enthusiasts of all ages will consider indulging in an artistic passion, or discover a new hobby through one of our offerings.”

Though these performances are free, they are expected to reach capacity. Reserving a seat is recommended. For more information and to reserve your seat please visit bethelwoodscenter.org.

Bethel Woods Center for the Arts is a 501(c)3 nonprofit cultural organization that inspires, educates, and empowers individuals through the arts and humanities.

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Gipson of the Tianaderrah Foundation, Joan Kaplan, the William and Elaine Kaplan Family Foundations, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, RBC Foundation USA, and the Rhulen Loughlin Family -- in memory of Trevor John Loughlin. Transportation assistance has been made possible by TD Charitable Foundation.

View a copy of our annual report or visit our website at bethelwoodscenter.org for a comprehensive list of supporters.

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About Bethel Woods Center for the Arts

Bethel Woods Center for the Arts inspires, educates, and empowers individuals through the arts and humanities by presenting a diverse selection of culturally-rich performances, popular artists, and community and educational programming. Located 90 miles from New York City at the site of the 1969 Woodstock festival in Bethel, NY, the lush 800-acre campus includes a Pavilion Stage amphitheater with seating for 15,000, an intimate 440-seat indoor Event Gallery, the award-winning Museum at Bethel Woods, and a Conservatory for arts education programming.

Through the in-depth study and exhibition of the social, political, and cultural events of the 1960s, as well as the preservation of the historic site of the Woodstock Music and Art Fair, Bethel Woods educates individuals about the issues and lessons of the decade while inspiring a new generation to contribute positively to the world around them. The not-for-profit organization relies on the generous support of individuals, corporations, and foundations to develop and sustain programs that improve the quality of life in the region and beyond.

For more information please visit www.BethelWoodsCenter.org.