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ANNOUNCING THE THIRD ANNUAL 21c MUSEUM HOTEL ARTADIA AWARD: THIS YEAR IN THE RESEARCH TRIANGLE, NORTH CAROLINA

*Application Opens June 15;
Partnership Will Support Visual Artists in Nine Rotating Cities Nationwide*



21c Museum Hotel in Durham, NC

(DURHAM, NC | May 22, 2023) – **21c Museum Hotels**, a multi-venue contemporary art museum and award-winning hospitality company, and **Artadia**, a non-profit grantmaker and nationwide community of visual artists, curators, and patrons, are thrilled to announce their collaboration on the third annual **21c Artadia Award** this year in the greater **Research Triangle** area of **North Carolina**, including nine counties that will encompass **Chapel Hill, Durham** and **Raleigh**.

Launched in Louisville, KY in 2021, the 21c Artadia Award marked the beginning of a long-term partnership, which will annually provide **\$15,000** in unrestricted funds to one artist living and working in the unique creative communities where 21c Museum Hotels are located. The 21c Artadia Award is designed to provide essential funding and recognition to artists at pivotal points in their careers, strengthen arts communities, and spur new levels of career achievement.

In addition to the grant itself, the Award includes lifelong access to the Artadia Network, a support program nurturing strategic relationships and connecting Awardees with a community of fellow artists and a diverse cohort of professionals. This partnership allows Artadia to reach new communities and artists with its Award program, with future Award cycles slated for Cincinnati, OH (2024), Bentonville, AR (2025), and Saint Louis, MO (2026).

Open June 15–July 15, 2023, the 21c Research Triangle Award application is an open call, free to apply, and available to visual artists currently living and working within Chatham, Durham, Franklin, Harnett, Johnston, Nash, Orange, Person, and Wake counties. The 21c Research Triangle Artadia Awardee will be announced in August 2023.

"We are excited to continue our partnership with 21c, which has allowed us to connect with localized artist hubs across the country and make intentional connections with artists, institutions, and like-minded organizations. We have already witnessed two successful runs in Louisville, Kentucky and Kansas City, Missouri thus far and we look forward to being in the greater Research Triangle this year and playing a small part in the rapidly burgeoning arts landscape," shared Executive Director, **Carolyn Ramo**.

"We are thrilled that the third 21c Artadia Award will be given to an artist based in North Carolina's vibrant Research Triangle, home to a growing and inclusive arts community," says 21c Chief Curator and Museum Director **Alice Gray Stites**. "21c and Artadia share a commitment to supporting today's most dynamic, engaged artists across the country. Last year's Awardee, Kansas City-based Kathy Liao, continues to make compelling work that is being exhibited in numerous venues to great acclaim. We expect that the opportunity the Award cycle will bring to the Research Triangle will elevate national awareness of the richness and strength of talent here."

"Being the recipient of the Kansas City 21c Artadia Award was such an incredible honor. The unrestricted award came at a pivotal time - it allowed me time and capacity to breathe and slow down into this new year, to take care of myself and my family," remarked **Kathy Liao**, last year's 21c Kansas City Artadia Awardee. "The greatest gift is being tapped into the Artadia Network - the continuous exchange of resources, learning and mentorship opportunities, and peer network has already opened doors and will expand possibilities for my art practice in the years to come."

About 21c Museum Hotel Durham

21c Durham includes a 125-room boutique hotel, contemporary art museum, and Counting House restaurant. Standing tall in the center of downtown Durham, the property offers 10,500 square feet of exhibition space featuring rotating, curated contemporary art exhibitions free of charge,

seven days a week. Onsite restaurant, Counting House, offers a dining experience with deep ties to the community, featuring seasonal ingredients and products.

For more information, visit 21cDurham.com

About 21c Museum Hotels

21c is a multi-venue contemporary art museum combined with a boutique hotel and chef-driven restaurant with nine properties across the U.S. The company was founded by Laura Lee Brown and Steve Wilson, contemporary art collectors and preservationists committed to expanding access to thought-provoking contemporary art. Each 21c property features a public exhibition space that presents rotating solo and group exhibitions that reflect the global nature of art today and commissioned site-specific installations curated by Museum Director, Chief Curator Alice Gray Stites. 21c collaborates on arts initiatives with artists and organizations worldwide, including the North Carolina Museum of Art, Contemporary Arts Center, Speed Art Museum, Creative Capital Foundation, Creative Time, For Freedoms, and others. Since opening in Louisville, KY, in 2006, 21c Museum has presented over 100 exhibitions, including *Alter Ego: A Decade of Work* by Anthony Goicolea; *Aftermath: Witnessing War, Countenancing Compassion*; *SEEING NOW*; *Wild Card: The Art of Michael Combs*; *Albano Alfonso: Self-Portrait as Light*; *Pop Stars! Popular Culture and Contemporary Art*; *Labor&Materials*, *Fallen Fruit: The Practices of Everyday Life*; *The SuperNatural*; *Dress Up, Speak Up: Regalia and Resistance*; *The Future is Female*; *Truth or Dare: A Reality Show*; *Refuge*; *Wim Botha: Still Life with Discontent*; and *Still Life! Mourning, Meaning, Mending*.

About Artadia

Artadia is a non-profit grantmaking organization and a nationwide community of visual artists, curators, and patrons. Over two decades, Artadia has worked collaboratively to foster a more just arts economy and improve the conditions necessary for artists of all backgrounds to thrive. We elevate the careers of artists at critical moments in their practice through a proven combination of recognition, grantmaking, community support, and advocacy. Since its founding in 1999, Artadia has awarded over \$6 million in unrestricted funds to nearly 400 artists nationally. Celebrating visual artists and their foundational role in shaping society, the Artadia Award benefits three artists annually in seven major US cities with high concentrations of creative workers—Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, New York City, and the San Francisco Bay Area.

For more information, visit artadia.org

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