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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Call for Artists for “Lay My Burdens Down”

Application now open for submissions for group exhibition at McGuffey Art Center
[Promotional graphics for use](#)

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA: The Charlottesville Black Arts Collective through McGuffey Art Center is excited to announce a call for artists for an exhibition, “Lay My Burdens Down” to take place at McGuffey Art Center in February 2022 (Opening Feb. 4th, 2022).

The goal of this exhibition is to take viewers through a journey focusing on their interpretation of what it means to “Lay My Burdens Down” through various artistic mediums including visual art, performance art, and music. The theme is inspired by our people’s collective need for rest and the popular hymn, “Down By The Riverside”:

*I'm gonna lay down my burden, down by the riverside
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside
I'm gonna lay down my burden, down by the riverside
I'm gonna study war no more*

To apply, artists will be required to submit their contact information, photos of **up to 3 completed works** for consideration based on the theme, and a brief statement regarding their interest in participation in this exhibition. Applicants are encouraged to use this space as an opportunity to share or include any additional details they would like the Collective to know regarding their inspiration as an artist, their body of work, or their ideas / thoughts on the pieces(s) they've made for this show.

The free application, along with more details about the show itself and the theme, can be found on McGuffey Art Center's website ([link](#)) or at the [following application link](#). Self-identified Black artists residing in the State of Virginia are eligible to apply. All themed work(s) must be completed prior to submitting this application. We welcome diversity in artistic expression (including but not limited to visual and performing arts). **The deadline to apply is Sunday, November 14, 2021 and selected artists will be contacted by December 15, 2021.**

Interested artists with any questions about this application should be directed to **The Charlottesville Black Arts Collective (cvilleblackartscollective@gmail.com)**.

Coverage of this application is encouraged. Interviews with the members of the Charlottesville Black Arts Collective are available. For more information, please contact Derrick Waller and Kori Price at cvilleblackartscollective@gmail.com.

McGuffey Art Center, located one block from the Downtown Mall, is one of the oldest artist-run cooperative art centers in the country. A community of artists dedicated to practicing art and to passing on the creative spirit, over 150 small businesses operate under one roof. Forty-six artists work in the historic building as renting members, six rotate every year as incubator members, and 108 have studios elsewhere, creating circles of financial and artistic connections throughout Charlottesville, Central Virginia, and beyond. For more information, visit <https://www.mcguffeyartcenter.com/>.