VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF HISTORY & CULTURE

Media Alert May 7, 2020 Emily Lucier, Manager of PR & Marketing elucier@VirginiaHistory.org, 804.342.9665

Virginia Museum of History & Culture Partners with Artists, Hamilton Glass and Matt Lively, on Collaborative Project, All in Together

Richmond, VA – The Virginia Museum of History & Culture (VMHC) is pleased to partner with local artists, Hamilton Glass and Matt Lively, on a new collaborative project, *All in Together*. Through this project, Glass and Lively hope to bring the community together creatively while everyone is still physically distanced due to the COVID-19 crisis. Their hope is that the project helps the community heal by providing an outlet for self-expression. Visitors to the *All in Together* website are encouraged to download (for free) and fill in coloring sheets which will be collected online and at drop off locations around the city. Each individual page is part of one larger design. The artists will assemble the pages submitted to form the larger mural.

"We are so proud to be teaming up with Hamilton Glass again for this very special project," said Jamie Bosket, VMHC President and CEO. "The goal of reaching out to the greater Richmond community to unite people of all walks of life during such trying times of social distancing is so very important. As a member of the community, always wishing to do more and be more connected, the VMHC is honored to support these efforts. We plan to display a number of these murals as banners on the front of the museum as a special outdoor exhibition and will document the project for future generations to show how everyone came together during this pandemic."

To take part in this project, please visit <u>www.allintogetherva.com</u> today to download coloring pages. All are asked to color a page that will represent their own individual expression by adding color, additional lines or sketches, painting or collaging the pages. Sharing this project with friends and family is greatly encouraged so as many as possible can take part in creating murals across the greater Richmond area to symbolize togetherness during this crisis where all had to separate for the good of the community.

The project is ongoing and multiple murals will be created. The VMHC plans to display several of them outside of the museum starting in mid-June. In order to be included in these murals, submissions must be returned by May 22. Additional submissions will be accepted beyond this date for other area displays and a list of locations will posted on www.allintogetherva.com and www.virginiaHistory.org soon.

This artist collaboration is one more new and creative initiative from the state's oldest cultural institutions to serve others while its galleries are closed to the public – demonstrating the VMHC's commitment to serving Virginians during tough times. The VMHC recently launched a curated collection of digital resources and learning materials – one of the most impressive offerings of any likeminded organization in Virginia (VirginiaHistory.org/AtHome). This growing portfolio includes hundreds of hours of video content, live digital programming, hundreds of pages of articles and historical research, brand new virtual tours, as well as tools for student learning and engagement at home.

The Virginia Museum of History & Culture is owned and operated by the Virginia Historical Society – a private, non-profit organization established in 1831. The historical society is the oldest cultural organization in Virginia, and one of the oldest and most distinguished history organizations in the nation. For use in its state history museum and its renowned research library, the historical society cares for a collection of nearly nine million items representing the ever-evolving story of Virginia.

The Virginia Museum of History & Culture is located at 428 N Arthur Ashe Boulevard in Richmond's Museum District. Hours are Monday – Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for the galleries and museum shop, Monday – Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for the research library. For more information call 804.340.1800, visit VirginiaHistory.org, or connect on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

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