

The Facing Racism Action Group and Art at First invite you to join a creative project: ***Creatives Create: Bending the Arc Toward Justice*** that will culminate with an exhibition and performances in May & June of 2023.

Participants are encouraged to explore their understanding of race and justice, think about intersections of race and faith, or experience actions that help implement a just community and equitable future as inspiration for your creative endeavor; whatever your creation may be. Exhibitions and performances will take place at The First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York, audience will include members, families and friends in the community.

The hosted programs for discussion or creation will be announced in First Matters, the church's weekly newsletter, and in Sunday worship bulletins.

All members, neighbors, and their children are invited to participate in a four-part creative arts series at The First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York.

CELEBRATE RACIAL JUSTICE

w/ART & PERFORMANCE!

All creatives are invited to do what they do:

- paint
- write
- craft
- sculpt
- draw
- recite
- make music
- stitch
- take photographs
- dance/move
- whatever inspires you

Whether you're inspired by personal experience, news, other artists, poetry, worship or academic study, any artistic work which explores issues of race and justice is welcome.

*The First
Presbyterian Church
in the City of New York*

12 W. 12th Street, New York, New York 10011
www.fpcnyc.org 212-675-6150

Art at First
The First Presbyterian Church

**& Facing
Racism**

Present

Creatives Create!

***Bending the Arc
Toward Justice***

We are looking for any
**ARTISTIC CREATION
or PERFORMANCE**

that is inspired by your experience of race and justice, experiences at the intersection of race and faith, or actions that help implement a just community and equitable future.

All are welcome to embark on this creative journey culminating in an exhibition of art and performance in May and June, 2023.

PART 1

Work in any medium is welcome- word, music, textile, visual or performing arts.

*Everyone has a story
which can spark creation.*

Need prompts to get your mind in gear?
Below are some resources for inspiration:

▶ **Reading the Written Word:**

Reading our Old First and Slavery Report and other resources noted on the Lobby Kiosk.

▶ **Visiting these New York City Institutions:**

El Museo del Barrio <http://www.elmuseo.org/>

National Museum of the American Indian (NYC)
<https://americanindian.si.edu/visit/reopening-ny>

Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture
<https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/schomburg>

▶ **Calling up these digital resources:**

artasiaamerica: <http://artasiaamerica.org/>

The Moth Story Library: <https://themoth.org/story-library/podcast>

National Museum of African American History and Culture: nmaahc.si.edu/explore/collecion

▶ **Joining Discussion events with the Facing Racism or other FPC Action Group such as:**

The Painful American History of Reconstrucion
October 9, 2022.

Reading of “Saltwater Farm” a play by
Ann Timmons October 23, 2022.

First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary Tour
October 30, 2022.

Anti-racist Legislation in NYC November 20, 2022.

Joining a discussion circle with other Creatives in
November and February.

*There is so much talent in this
congregation! Please join us as we
honor our relationships and explore
future actions leading to a just future.*

PART 2

Participating creatives will be asked to deliver their work in April of 2023, but no later than Sunday, April 30, 2023. The creations and pieces of visual art that have been collected will be curated, hung, displayed as an exhibition in the Great Hall that will open May 7, 2023 and continue to June 18, 2023.

Dates for live performances and readings will be May 21 and June 18. Pre-recorded vocal, spoken word, or short story performances may be streamed during hung art viewings. June 18th will also serve as the closing reception and a celebration of Juneteenth.

Everyone who participates will be included. Art will be hung as a show, in a celebratory manner that respects our professional artists. Each item on view will have a brief description of its inspiration as well as an artist bio.

PART 3

Subject to artist approval, photos will be taken of all participating First Church Facing Racism inspired creations, and these images will be added to the church’s visual archives.

Images will be available for use in church publications, including the First Matters and devotional booklets.

PART 4

Finally, participating artists may of course take their work home at the end of the June Exhibition, but artists will be invited to donate their piece to the church, to be sold at *A Tartan Christmas Fair’s* Silent Auction in December of 2023. Proceeds from these sales will be used to support the PTA of a school working with underserved youth in New York City.

*“We shall overcome
because the arc of the
moral universe is long,
but it bends
toward justice.”*

–Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.,

*“Remaining Awake Through a Great Revolution.”
Speech given at the National Cathedral, March 31, 1968*

▶ **Will you participate?**

▶ **Questions?**

Email us:
creativescreate@fpcnyc.org
or artatfirst@fpcnyc.org

▶ **CDC and church regulations, will be followed with all in person gatherings.**