



STATEMENT FROM THE MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK JUNE 1, 2020

Over the past week, we have all seen a deepening of our national trauma. The unconscionable deaths of George Floyd and others continue and amplify a long history of racism, injustice, inequality, and violence. They come at a moment when the global pandemic is having a particularly devastating impact on Black and brown communities. We condemn bigotry, police brutality, and the senseless loss of life, and we stand together with the Black community and all those searching for a more peaceful, safe, just, and equitable world.

The collective anger, protests, and demands for change at this critical moment draw on legacies rooted in the long history of the fight against racism in our city and nation. These are topics that the Museum has worked hard to illuminate over many years, in exhibitions such as [Activist New York](#)—including in its content on the [Movement for Black Lives](#) and the [Young Lords and health equity](#)—[King in New York](#), and [New York at Its Core](#), among many others. We believe deeply in the heightened importance of that work at this moment.

We commit to continuing to share stories that shine a light on New York's history of diversity, struggle, resilience, and reinvention. We likewise commit to fighting discrimination and promoting inclusion, equity, and accessibility within our own institution and community, striving to contribute to a better future for all New Yorkers.

William C. Vratton

Chairman

Whitney W. Donhauser

Ronay Menschel Director & President