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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Arts & Humanities Bainbridge's Response to Covid-19 Events

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, WA – For the past 33 years, Arts & Humanities Bainbridge has been nurturing local artists and assisting them in revealing and elevating their creative potential. Because of these beliefs, AHB works to provide opportunities for artists to prosper, our youth to learn through art, and the community to engage in collaborative events. Through this historically challenging time of the Covid-19 pandemic, we have been doing our part to keep the community informed, entertained, educated, and connected.

In response to the current situation, AHB is now providing several several new resources to support the island's cultural community. First, we are now publishing two weekly eblasts. The first e-newsletter, targeted to the broader community, provides up-to-date local resources for cultural partners, artists and residents, including postponed and canceled cultural events, streaming events and video content, movie and book reviews, timely blogs and vlogs, virtual activities and more. The second e-newsletter is tailored to families and students on the island, delivering a plethora of activities and educational resources including home-schooling tips and webinars, online trivia, audible stories and more to support them while at home and practicing social distancing. These communications connect the residents of Bainbridge Island to the Currents Online site, which serves as a portal to all of our community partners and their sites.

AHB has been bombarded with information from various sources and our partner organizations via newsletters, blogs, emails and alerts with respect to the coronavirus and associated closures, cancellations and postponements. It is for this purpose that a new page was added to the site – coronavirus affected events. To further meet these demands, we have launched two new pages on Currents Online. The first one is an *Online/streaming* page to deliver timely on-line resources to the community, including virtual tours of museums and gardens, online trivia games, webinars, and virtual teaching resources, to name a few. The second new page is an *Artists Assistance During COVID-19* page, which is located under our Resources tab. This page is populated with financial relief grants, additional funding sources, and other helpful resources for both artists and arts organizations.

*Currents Online* is a collaborative community website whose mission is “to connect you to the abundance of creativity in our community, to empower and inspire.” AHB is working on all of these new additions at a time when community connection is most needed. We are seeing an overwhelming abundance of endless creativity, including everything from funding resources for artists to curbside takeout locations to the top five best Netflix movies to watch tonight to boredom-busting resources for families. If you would like to submit creative, helpful, or useful content, email admin@ahbainbridge.org.

*About AHB: Arts & Humanities Bainbridge is a 501 (c) non-profit organization whose mission is to connect you to the abundance of creativity in our community to empower and inspire. The organization brings art to shared public spaces through its Public Art Committee, funded by the City of Bainbridge Island. It places teach-*

*ing artists in local public school classrooms through its Arts in Education program. It hosts Currents Online – bainbridgecurrents.com - the new community cultural platform that makes the rich world of island arts and culture easily accessible. It provides every household with Currents Magazine, highlighting arts and humanities on the island. More information can be found at [ahbbainbridge.org](http://ahbbainbridge.org).*

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