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June 24, 2021 Media Contact: Donna Mandelbaum, KC Streetcar Authority, 816.627.2526 or 816.877.3219

## KC JAZZ STREETCAR ROLLS OUT FOR DEBUT

## The 2021 Art in the Loop KC Streetcar Reveal Set for 4 p.m. Friday.

(Kansas City, Missouri) – The sound of local jazz will fill Main Street as the KC Streetcar debuts its latest streetcar wrap in collaboration with Art in the Loop.

Around 4 p.m., Friday, June 25., the 2021 Art in the Loop KC "Jazz" Streetcar will debut at the Union Station Streetcar stop located at Pershing and Main Street. In addition to art on the outside of the KC Streetcar, the inside of the streetcar will feature live performances from percussionist Tyree Johnson and Deremé Nskioh on bass guitar.

"We are so excited to debut this very special KC Streetcar wrap," Donna Mandelbaum, communications director with the KC Streetcar Authority said. "This is our fourth "art car" as part of the Art in the Loop program and each year the artists of Kansas City continue to push the boundaries on how to express their creativity on a transit vehicle."

*Jazz: The Resilient Spirit of Kansas City* was created by Hector E. Garcia, a local artist and illustrator. Garcia worked for Hallmark Cards for many years as an artist and store merchandising designer. As a freelance illustrator, he has exhibited his "Faces of Kansas City Jazz" caricature collections in Kansas City jazz venues such as the Folly Theater and the Gem Theater. In addition to being an artist, Garcia enjoys Kansas City Jazz – both listening to it and playing it on his guitar.

"I wanted to celebrate Kansas City's jazz with a colorful and playful design to be enjoyed by Kansas City locals as well as out-of-town visitors," Garcia said. "The KC Streetcar is the perfect vehicle to keep the spirit of Kansas City Jazz moving around the streets of this vibrant city. It's a reminder to everyone that, no matter how hard the times may get, the resilient spirit that kept us moving through a difficult year is very much still alive."

This is the eighth year for the Art in the Loop program and fifth year collaborating with the KC Streetcar. Through a competitive, open-call process, Art in the Loop selects local artists to create temporary, sitespecific work along and near the KC Streetcar route in downtown Kansas City.

For the 2021 Art in the Loop Project, artists were asked to respond to questions about resiliency. In order to be eligible, visual artists, artist teams, and art students must be at least 18 years of age and reside within 50 miles of Kansas City, Missouri. <u>Click here</u> to learn more about the selection process, requirements, and schedule. To see examples of previous projects, please visit the <u>Art in the Loop</u> <u>website</u>.

## About the musicians:

Tyree Johnson is a drummer, percussionist, writer and music producer. He is currently the drummer in residence for Lonnie's Reno Club, a new Resident at Charlotte Street Foundation, and new Resident at The Mutual Musicians Foundation and the co-executive producer for Everyday Strangers. Find out more at <u>www.tyreethedrummer.com</u>

For Art in the Loop inquiries, please contact Art in the Loop Art Director, Kyle Mullins, kylemullins@gmail.com, or Program Director, Ann Holliday, <u>ann@downtownkc.org</u>. For more information about Art in the Loop, visit <u>www.artintheloop.com</u>, <u>www.facebook.com/artintheloop</u>, or <u>twitter.com/ArtintheLoop</u>.

For KC Streetcar inquiries, contact Donna Mandelbaum with the KC Streetcar Authority at 816.627.2526 (office), 816.877.3219 (cell) or by email at dmandelbaum@kcstreetcar.org. The KC Streetcar is also online at www.kcstreetcar.org and on Twitter (@kcstreetcar), Facebook (@kcstreetcar) and Instagram.

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