



G5 COLLECTIVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **G5 Collective Selects The HUB Houston For 2024 Service Project**

### ***Houston-based artist collective to mentor HUB artists toward group exhibition***

MARCH 21, 2024 — HOUSTON, TX — G5 Collective, a Houston-based, service-oriented, artist collective co-founded in 2020 by University of Houston MFA graduates Liz Gates and Doug Welsh, has selected The HUB Houston as the focus of its 2024 community service efforts. The HUB Houston, located in Spring Branch, is a non-residential educational organization serving neurodiverse teenagers and young adults. G5's year-long mentoring commitment will culminate in a HUB artists' group exhibition. G5 Collective is seeking venue suggestions for the exhibition from the Greater Houston art community.

### **HUB stands for Heard. Understood. Believed in.**

Co-Founded in 2015 by Executive Director Colleen "Coach" Russo and Program Director Melanie Krause, The HUB is a non-residential educational program supporting neurodiverse young people as they navigate their personal journey through academics, employability, community involvement and care. The mission of The HUB is to create a community where every member is "Heard, Understood and Believed in." Committed to fostering personal growth and unlocking individual potential in a relationship-centered community for teenagers and young adults, The HUB offers four programs: High School, Life 101 (Post Graduate Continuing Education/Employability Program), Aspire Accessories (Post Graduate Employment Program for Artisans) and Club HUB (social club for young adults). The HUB offers a safe place for members to socialize, develop friendships, enhance relationships and benefit from interactions through community service and group support. The 501c3 nonprofit organization is tuition-based, operates programs in three physical locations, and employs a dedicated, full-time staff.

"My goal for all of our members is to have a safe, loving, learning environment, a place where young adults want to be!" said Russo. "We want to create lifelong learners and open avenues for growth and competence. We strive to give our members many opportunities to experience new things and to find their passion so they can truly unlock all of the amazing gifts they have. The HUB is truly a place where members are heard, understood and believed in."

"The G5 Collective is offering The HUB an organic experience in which the G5 artists will consider each individual HUB members' strengths as they mentor them," added Krause. "This is a unique, open collaboration in that G5 will meet our members where they are and guide them forward. Thinking outside the box is what our members do best. We are so glad to have G5's creative support on this path."

## **Fellow Artist Pengra Connects G5 to The HUB**

The G5 - HUB connection was facilitated by Houston-based artist and former HUB staff member Mitch Pengra, who will be supporting both organizations as an advisor throughout the duration of the service project. "G5 Collective and The HUB Houston are both founded on the importance of relationship, community, and mutual support for their members, which makes them a perfect fit for this beneficial collaboration," said Pengra. "Mentoring and illuminating the work of HUB artists will nurture and benefit all involved."

"G5 is thrilled to collaborate with Mitch Pengra and assist HUB artists in developing their artwork and ideas," said Welsh. "Nurturing artistic growth and supporting the ongoing practice of art making is at the core of who we are and what we do."

"Service is a cornerstone of the G5 mission," said Gates. "Showing up to lend a hand is deeply important and the experience never disappoints. We are thrilled to work with these artists and excited about learning from each other this year. Facilitating a show that brings their work into the art community will be an honor."

For more information, to suggest a venue, or to host The HUB Houston's members' exhibition, please email G5 Collective at [gfivecollective@gmail.com](mailto:gfivecollective@gmail.com).

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### **CONTACTS**

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### **About neurodiversity**

"Neurodiversity describes the idea that people experience and interact with the world around them in many different ways; there is no one "right" way of thinking, learning, and behaving, and differences are not viewed as deficits. The word neurodiversity refers to the diversity of all people, but it is often used in the context of autism spectrum disorder (ASD), as well as other neurological or developmental conditions such as ADHD or learning disabilities. The neurodiversity movement emerged during the 1990s, aiming to increase acceptance and inclusion of all people while embracing neurological differences.

- Nicole Baumer, MD, Med and Julia Frueh, MD, MIND & MOOD: What is neurodiversity?, online, Harvard Health Publishing, Harvard Medical School, November 23, 2021

### **About The HUB Houston**

The HUB Houston was founded in 2015 as a non-residential educational organization serving the neurodiverse community in Houston and surrounding areas. Located in Spring Branch, The HUB offers four distinctive programs for teenagers to young adults: The HUB High School, Life 101, Club HUB and Aspire Accessories. For more information, please visit: [www.thehubhouston.org](http://www.thehubhouston.org).

### **About G5 Collective**

G5 Collective's mission is to serve as a collaborative force for good, igniting positive action in the Houston art community and supporting each other without ego. G5 artists Saran Alderson, Sarah Fisher, Liz Gates, Ashita Sawhney and Doug Welsh live and work in Houston, Texas. For more information, please visit: [www.g5collective.art](http://www.g5collective.art).



Members of the G5 Collective, The HUB Houston leadership and Mitch Pengra gather with HUB member artists to begin their 2024 year-long collaboration.