

# Henry

## Our Pledge to Racial Justice

June 5, 2020

Black Lives Matter. At the Henry, we stand in solidarity with those demanding justice for Black lives. We stand against police brutality and institutional and structural racism. We mourn the murders of Trayvon Martin, Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Sandra Bland, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, and Tony McDade, as well as other Black lives that have been lost due to the internalized, sanctioned violence on which our nation is built.

It is not the responsibility of Black people to combat white supremacy. It is the work of all. As we join those fighting to dismantle systemic racism, we ask: Where does racism live here at the Henry? What can we do to address it? How can we be more actively anti-racist? We know we must do better.

We pledge to:

- Strengthen our efforts to seek out, present, and amplify the work and voices of artists who have been historically underrepresented, excluded, or stereotyped.
- Learn from and continue to support people of color—both individuals and organizations who play a pivotal role in our understanding about race and justice—and change the culture and conversation in America.
- Listen to people of color and organizations who work to dismantle systemic racism and inequities.
- Diversify our staff, leadership, board, donors, and audiences to build equity in governance, programs, and organizational culture.
- Build trust with local BIPOC communities and support their spaces of engagement.

Art has the power to challenge, incite, heal, and connect. It continues to be a lens through which humanity both questions and copes with the deep complexity, beauty, injustice, inspiration, and pain of our lives.

As an organization, we will be using this time to prioritize action and to detail in more concrete terms how we will stand up more forcefully and more effectively for the Black community, and to center Black lives. We know that we and our efforts are imperfect, and that art alone cannot effect the political, legislative, economic, social, and cultural change that is urgently needed in our country. Below, we offer a few resources to encourage learning and action.

We welcome conversation and will be seeking your input on how to realize the change we envision.

## RESOURCES

[Art for Justice Fund](#)

[Black Lives Matter - Seattle/King County Chapter](#)

[Creative Justice](#)

[Ida B Wells Society](#)

[Know Your Rights Camp](#)

[Movement for Black Lives](#)

[NW Community Bail Fund](#)

[Trans Women of Color Solidarity Network](#)