



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Workhouse Arts Foundation Appoints Lucy Burns Museum Director**

*Advancing innovative collaboration of visual and performing arts, education, community engagement, historical perspective, and personal enrichment*

**Lorton, VA – 10:00 AM August 10, 2021.** The Workhouse Arts Foundation, Inc. is excited to announce that Rebecca “Becky” Super has been appointed as the Lucy Burns Museum Director. She is an experienced museum professional, and she will begin her new role on August 23, 2021.

Ms. Super has more than 20 years of experience in the museum field and has served as the director at multiple historic sites in Prince Williams County. She has significant experience with various interpretation and educational projects, as well as working on a variety of restoration and preservation projects. Most recently, she served as the Education Specialist (Adult Education) for the National Museum of the Marine Corps. In addition to this role, and her various roles with Prince Williams County, she has also worked with the Carlyle House, Green Springs Gardens, and the Fairfax County Public Schools. Ms. Super’s educational credits include a BA (History), and a MA (Applied United States History) from George Mason University, as well as various Archeology, Landscaping and Horticulture certificates from the University of Virginia and the Northern Virginia Community College.

Leon Scioscia, President / CEO of the Workhouse Arts Foundation, said: “The Workhouse Arts Center, and the Lucy Burns Museum, is so pleased and honored to have Ms. Super join the team. She brings the right amount of skills and creativity to advance the Lucy Burns Museum in new and exciting ways. Ms. Super will build upon the solid Museum foundation as developed by Laura McKie, a member of the Workhouse Arts Foundation Board. We will forever be in Ms. McKie’s debt for her vision, and dedicated “behind the scenes” work, on the Lucy Burns Museum.”

Ms. McKie commented on this appointment: "I'm delighted to welcome Rebecca Super to the Lucy Burns Museums. As director she will bring a wealth of experience gained from working in a variety of museums large and small in this region. Through her leadership the museum will participate actively in the future development of the Workhouse Arts Center."

The exterior construction of the Lucy Burns museum was completed in 2018 while the interior construction, and the installation of the exhibitions, were completed in 2020. The museum tells the story of the 91 years of prison history as well as the story of the suffragists who were imprisoned here in 1917 for picketing the White House for women's right to vote.

From the prison's founding by President Theodore Roosevelt during the progressive reform era to the current site adaptive reuse project, re-purposing of the property to support an innovative and growing arts center, the museum explores a vast history including an incredible cast of characters of notorious criminals, some of the biggest jazz artists of the 21st century, and activist and suffragists.

As a site on the National Historic Registry, the Workhouse legacy is rich with stories of our American heritage. Suffragists picketing the White House for women's right to vote were imprisoned and force-fed. Civil rights activists Noam Chomsky and Norman Mailer were imprisoned after peaceful demonstrations in Washington, DC. Notorious criminals were held at the Workhouse like Watergate mastermind G. Gordon Liddy along with local celebrities like Chuck Brown and Petey Greene. Some of our nation's most remarkable performers like Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, and Duke Ellington performed on the site.

When asked about this opportunity, Becky Super said: "I love history and historic places. I've worked in small historic sites and large museums, but small sites will always be my first love. I am eager and excited to create programs and events that are part of the Lucy Burns Museum and the Workhouse and bring its message of arts, history and the revitalization of historic buildings to the public."

**About Workhouse Arts Center** -- The Workhouse Arts Center (Workhouse) is housed in the former Workhouse prison facility of the DC Correctional Complex in Lorton, VA that opened in 1910. After closure in 2001, its founders, in cooperation with Fairfax County leadership, transformed the site into a community arts center where people could learn about and participate in art making; be inspired by the region's and nation's best artists; experience visual and performing arts talent; and come together for festivals and community building.

Opened in 2008, the Workhouse now houses over 80 resident and associate artists; presents 100 annual art exhibitions and 300 annual performances; and supports dozens of classrooms for teaching 800 classes, engaging over 100,000 people annually. The Workhouse Arts Foundation, Inc., a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation in the Commonwealth of Virginia, operates the Workhouse Arts Center.

The Workhouse fosters innovative collaborations in the visual and performing arts through education, community engagement and personal enrichment for students of all ages and walks of life. The goal of these collaborations is to encourage art making; provide therapeutic art experiences; support physical health through Art of Movement activities; present opportunities for other forms of self-expression; and to provide the public with access to high quality performing arts experiences and events. The Workhouse also provides the public with access to the rich history of this nationally important site through the Lucy Burns Museum.

Since its inception, the Workhouse has dramatically expanded its arts education curriculum and community events calendar, deepened its relationships with the Armed Services through military arts programming, and expanded its in-house performing arts offerings with live concerts, musical theatre, and dance.

To stay up-to-date on the latest Workhouse news and events, follow the Workhouse on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#) or sign-up for their [E-newsletter](#).

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Rebecca "Becky" Super, named Lucy Burns Museum Director,  
Workhouse Arts Foundation, Inc.