



FLINT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STORYCORPS TO BEGIN INTERVIEWS WITH FLINT RESIDENTS

Kick off begins August 6 at 11:30 AM at the FIA

Flint, MI – StoryCorps, the groundbreaking oral history project celebrating the stories of everyday Americans, will record interviews in Flint from August 6 through September 6 as part of its cross-country MobileBooth tour. Having collected more than 65,000 interviews from Americans in all 50 states, StoryCorps has gathered one of the largest single collections of human voices ever recorded. The StoryCorps MobileBooth is making its first ever visit to Flint to record, share, and preserve the stories of the city.

An opening day press conference on August 6 will introduce StoryCorps to the Greater Flint community and allow media to interview StoryCorps staff and participants, as well as tour the mobile recording studio.

WHAT: StoryCorps Kick Off, with speakers from StoryCorps, Michigan Radio, FIA and Hurley Medical Center

WHERE: Flint Institute of Arts, 1120 E. Kearsley, Flint, MI 48503-1915

WHEN: Tuesday, August 6

11:30 AM - Press Event

12:00 PM - Tour of StoryCorps MobileBooth

StoryCorps' MobileBooth - an Airstream trailer outfitted with a recording studio - will be parked in front of the Flint Institute of Arts for four weeks, from August 6 to September 6. Local residents are invited to bring a special person in their lives to participate in a recorded conversation in the booth. Reservations for a recording time can be made by calling StoryCorps' 24-hour, toll-free reservation line at 800-850-4406 or by visiting <http://storycorps.org/stops/mobile-stop-flint-mi>. Reservations slots are currently open for multiple hours and days during the visit.

On Monday, August 5, Michigan Radio is hosting "Issues & Ale: Inside StoryCorps" at the Flint Farmers' Market, 300 E. First Street, Flint, MI, from 6:30-8 PM with host Lester Graham. The attendees can talk with StoryCorps staff members about their visit to Vehicle City, life on the road with America's oral history project, and some of the unique stories they've heard. "Issues and Ales: Inside Story Corps" is free and open to the public, but reservations are required. The FIA will host a listening event at the end of August, as StoryCorps' time in Flint draws to a close.

StoryCorps is partnering with Michigan Radio, Michigan's NPR News Leader, to collect 60+ stories from Flint area residents. Michigan Radio will air a selection of local interviews gathered during the Flint sessions and StoryCorps may also share edited versions of select interviews via its weekly broadcasts on NPR's *Morning Edition* or via StoryCorps' digital platforms or best-

selling books. With participant permission, all StoryCorps interviews are archived at the American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress.

ABOUT STORYCORPS

Founded in 2003 by award-winning documentary producer and MacArthur Fellow Dave Isay, StoryCorps gives people of various backgrounds the opportunity to sit down and listen to one another and have that experience recorded into collective American memory. More than 500,000 people have participated since StoryCorps' founding, making it both the largest single collection of human voices ever gathered and a priceless repository of wisdom for future generations.

ABOUT THE FLINT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

The Flint Institute of Arts is Michigan's second largest art museum and one of the largest museum art schools in the nation. The FIA's mission is to advance the understanding and appreciation of art for all through collections, exhibitions, and educational programs.

The FIA is located at 1120 East Kearsley Street in the Flint Cultural Center. The museum is open Mon–Sat 10 AM-5 PM and Sun 1-5 PM. Gallery admission is free for all Genesee County residents, FIA members, and children under 12; Adults are \$10; Senior Citizens and Students with I.D. are \$8. Saturdays are free for all visitors thanks to Huntington Bank.

For more information, please visit www.flintarts.org