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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ArtSeed 20th Anniversary Annual In Real Life (IRL) Presidio and Online Exhibition:
*Only Zombies Race to Mass Extinction!***

ARTSEED HONORS MICHELLE'S LEGACY GIFT: VIGNES VIRTUAL ART GALLERY

GRAND OPENING RECEPTION: 3 – 5 p.m. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3rd, 2020

(CLICK THIS LINK TO [JOIN OUR RECEPTION HERE](#))

THE GALLERY PREVIEW STARTED SEPTEMBER 3, ([CLICK THIS LINK TO PREVIEW OUR ONLINE EXHIBITION!](#))

To visit the exhibition IRL at China Brotsky and Seed Galleries, Tides Converge, 1007 General Kennedy Avenue, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94129, please make an appointment when local regulations allow after checking [ArtSeed COVID-19 Protocols](#).

What: ArtSeed children, artists, and other folks from a broad range of ages, professional fields, and cultural heritage, have engaged in interdisciplinary portfolio-building and collaborative arts projects. A full year of weekly lessons culminated in a three-week Fine Arts Summer Intensive that crowns a one-month exhibition online and in the Presidio (a National Park) in San Francisco. Core participants included 50 K-5th grade students and staff from Booker T. Washington Community Service Center and Saint Brigid School in San Francisco who connected with U.S. Veterans plus other local and international participants via the internet, the postal service, and earlier face-to-face events. Hands-on explorations and exchanges of participants' environmental concerns and caricatures are given tangible and presentable form with guidance from a variety of artists and guest presenters. Core participants were provided fine arts tools and training before the pandemic. In the advent of COVID-19 we moved our programs online immediately (first week of March) and encouraged the use of reclaimed, household materials. The results are a combination of solace and solicitude exhibiting the discipline of staying personally centered by art-making at home while engaging with others over the internet to achieve sociopolitical climate activism and optimism. These are just a few of the topics that we've been exploring: 1) Early Signs and Interventions; 2) Natural Wonders and Disasters; 3) Technology and Stewardship.

Why: Our polarized world often seems incapable of coming to terms with catastrophic scientific forecasts. Collaborative projects, national and international exchanges, and the age-old art-making process builds bridges between people of all ages and between communities from radically different sectors of society. ArtSeed aims to promote awareness of our social ills and the earth's fragility. Our activities create dialog. We are creating outlets for participants and a larger audience to express how they feel about society, nature and humanity's responsibilities toward maintaining a healthy planet. Social justice and environmental issues are connected as we question poor public policy and our own personal habits. Young people are empowered to look for solutions through rigorous artistic explorations, critical thinking, and humor. We are looking for connection, adaptation, and ways to urge all of us to change.

Core San Francisco Collaborators:

- Booker T. Washington Community Service Center
- Saint Brigid School & San Francisco Montessori Academy
- Swords to Plowshares Veterans Academy & Veterans Affairs Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center

ArtSeed's Mission is to connect the most resourceful and gifted with the youngest and most vulnerable citizens of the Bay Area and beyond through projects that explore links between classical and cutting-edge fine arts disciplines.