



MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local And National Artists Are Coming Together To Take Stand Against Chicago's Gun Violence

Week after week, Chicago newspaper headlines tick off the number of victims shot and/or killed as a result of senseless gun violence. Among the collateral damage are an increasing number of children. So far, more than 250 children have been shot and 32 killed in Chicago this year. The latest victims are: A 9-year-old boy shot Friday afternoon in West Roseland. Paramedics found him lying on the sidewalk. His mother and two siblings were leaving a corner store; in Ukrainian Village a 7-year-old girl was shot; two sisters were shot and one killed a week ago. Seven-year-old Serenity Broughton was killed while her mother was putting her in the backseat of a car. Serenity's 6-year-old sister also was shot and is fighting for her life.

In response to the incessant gun violence people in the creative arts and entertainment industry are coming together to spearhead what they hope will be a movement of Artists Against Gun Violence.

Lawyer and agent, Joel Finch, who is the movement's lead organizer says artists are making a unanimous declaration to stand together against the current epidemic of senseless gun violence in Chicago.

"We promise and vow to do all that we can, individually and collectively, to wage war against gun violence in Chicago now and in the days to come," states the artists' declaration. "We believe the only way to defeat gun violence in Chicago is through unity and love that will ultimately bring about healing and peace. We understand and hereby declare that we will use our creativity, passion, resources and influence to show love by bringing about unity in the City of Chicago."

After another violent weekend, artists and elected officials are coming together for a news conference **Monday, Aug. 23, 2021, at 2 p.m., Bassline Music Complex, 2239 S. Michigan Ave.** Finch, Johnny Bravo, Jameisha Trice, Lindsay Hurst, Zest, Ald. Walter Burnett and U.S. Rep. Bobby Rush will announce upcoming events to kickoff what will be an ongoing effort to end violence and save lives.

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