

MADE BY US

POWERING OUR FUTURE WITH HISTORY

Made By Us Launches Its First Interactive Experience: My Wish For U.S. *Inviting Everyone To Share Their Vision For The Future*

Washington D.C. (June 15, 2020) — Made By Us, an effort founded by civic and history organizations across the United States to present history in relevant, provocative and innovative ways, today, announces the launch of My Wish For U.S., a platform for the next generation to share their vision for the future.

With a mission to help address the issues our society faces in real-time—Made By Us is bringing history out of the textbooks and museum exhibits and into the digital and social space. Today, Made By Us launched the dynamic MyWishForUS.com digital platform, inviting young Americans to share their wishes for the future. Voting, while vital, is only one way to give voice to the future of the nation.

My Wish For U.S. is an interactive platform that invites Americans to share their wishes for the future and explore the vast landscape of our experiences and the many ways our ideas overlap and diverge. Contributors can send their wishes directly to their local government representatives, with the end goal of bringing many voices together to make actionable change.

The timing couldn't be more vital. As we approach our country's 250th birthday, our nation continues to grapple with deep-seated issues of racism and inequality that are rooted in our shared past. As we collectively work toward a better future, it is critical to understand what we carry forward from history.

"We can't change the past, but we can face it and change the future," said Caroline Klibanoff, Program Manager at Made by Us. "We need to get comfortable with the complexity of history. Change never happens in a vacuum, and it's never a simple story -- but history can help."

Made By Us has brought together leaders from historical institutions across the nation, all of whom are passionate about bringing greater representation and new voices to their museums, galleries and exhibits.

"Museums historically, and today, have also caused the hurt. Museums play a role in bearing witness and being responsive," said Jorge Zamanillo, Executive Director, HistoryMiami Museum. "Through Made By Us, history museums and civic engagement organizations have joined forces to support the massive, ongoing project of providing a voice for our communities."

By coming together in an unprecedented way, pooling resources, developing tools that are powered by history, and bringing the best each has to offer, the growing coalition has

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the power to harness the spirit of collaboration and tap into their varied strengths—across regions, disciplines, and methods, in an entirely new way.

About Made By Us

Our national motto, e pluribus unum—out of many, one— is also the ethos of this group. We are hundreds of civic and history organizations collaborating across the country. Loudly and clearly, we recognize the opportunity presented in this transformative moment for institutions like ours to better serve the public and join the ongoing conversation about the future of our country. We have come together in an unprecedented way, pooling resources and bringing the best we each have to offer, so that we might harness the spirit of collaboration and tap into our varied strengths—across regions, disciplines, and methods. We are modeling a new path forward for the ways in which history serves the people. Now is the time for us all to step up. For more information, visit <https://historymadebyus.com/>.

Our Steering Committee

Led by a Steering Committee that encompasses nine iconic historical organizations and with over 50 Anchor Partners and counting, Made By Us has a vision to see the United States of America as a vibrant country, shaped by passionate guardians of its founding ideals. Our steering committee includes Leslie Greene Bowman, President of the Thomas Jefferson Foundation, Monticello; Ann Burroughs, President/CEO, Japanese American National Museum; Sheffield Hale, President and Chief Executive Officer, Atlanta History Center; Anthea M. Hartig, Elizabeth MacMillan Director, National Museum of American History; Dr. Frances Levine, President/CEO, Missouri Historical Society; Patrick Madden, Executive Director of the National Archives Foundation; Andrew Masich, Ph.D., President and Chief Executive Officer of the Senator John Heinz History Center Commissioner, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission; Louise Mirrer, President and CEO, New-York Historical Society; Jorge Zamanillo, Executive Director, HistoryMiami Museum.

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