

FirstWorks Media Contact
Rebecca Pazienza / 401-447-8009
mpazienza@gmail.com
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November 3, 2020

**FirstWorks Spotlights Rhode Island Performing Artists Rose Weaver and Sokeo Ros
in The Kennedy Center's "Arts Across America" National Series**

*Livestream program features diverse, visionary artists who play leadership roles in
their communities*

Providence, RI – **FirstWorks**, a Rhode Island non-profit dedicated to building community through world-class arts announces a partnership with The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA) to premiere live, virtual performances by Rhode Island-based artists **Rose Weaver and Sokeo Ros on November 9, 2020, 4 p.m. EST on Facebook Live**. The premiere will also be available for archived viewing on both the FirstWorks website <http://first-works.org> and at Kennedy Center <http://kennedy-center.org/artsacrossamerica>.

FirstWorks curated the Rhode Island performances for The Kennedy Center's "Arts Across America" livestreaming performance series, presented on Facebook Live to showcase artists from across the country. Weaver and Ros' Kennedy Center appearance is also part of FirstWorks' "Raise Your Voice" initiative, which amplifies diverse voices and champions social equity through the arts.

NOVEMBER 9, 2020 PROGRAM INFO:

Award-winning actress, singer, and writer **Rose Weaver** will kick off the livestream performance at 4 p.m. with "**UnMuted Tears.**" Rhode Island's celebrated spinner

of tales uses songs, prose and dramatic storytelling to advocate, inspire and celebrate positive self-esteem.

At 4:30 p.m., storyteller, Hip Hop dance educator, and scholar **Sokeo Ros** will perform “**Cambodian Lullaby**,” based on excerpts from his autobiographical solo show “From Refugee Camp to Project.” The performance incorporates dance and movement to tell his redemptive story of a refugee’s migration into a world where assimilation to gang violence and dance are the only ways to cope with day-to-day trauma.

The performances will be hosted by FirstWorks Executive Artistic Director Kathleen Pletcher.

“Arts Across America” is brought to you by Facebook. Learn more about the national program at <http://kennedy-center.org/artsacrossamerica>.

Listings Information:

WHO: Kennedy Center premiere of Rose Weaver and Sokeo Ros, hosted by FirstWorks’ Kathleen Pletcher

WHAT: Rhode Island artists showcased on “Arts Across America” livestream series

WHEN: Monday, November 9, 2020 at 4 p.m.

WHERE: Facebook Live

VIEWING LINKS/MORE INFORMATION: <http://first-works.org/events/arts-across-america/>

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