

# REAL STORIES

An immersive art installation & spoken-word experience

COACT

# ABOUT THE PROJECT:

Real Stories is a traveling art installation and spoken-word series amplifying the voices of college students facing homelessness and basic-needs insecurities. Each portrait and performance captures courage, creativity, and resilience.

This year, we're transforming Real Stories into an outdoor public experience. The installation will allow us to transform any public space into an open-air gallery, blending art, performance, and community engagement.

## WHY IT MATTERS

In the wake of **Texas SB17**, legislation restricting Diversity, Equity & Inclusion programs on campuses, many students have lost access to spaces that affirm and protect them. Compounded with federal policies, hosting Real Stories at college campuses is uncertain.

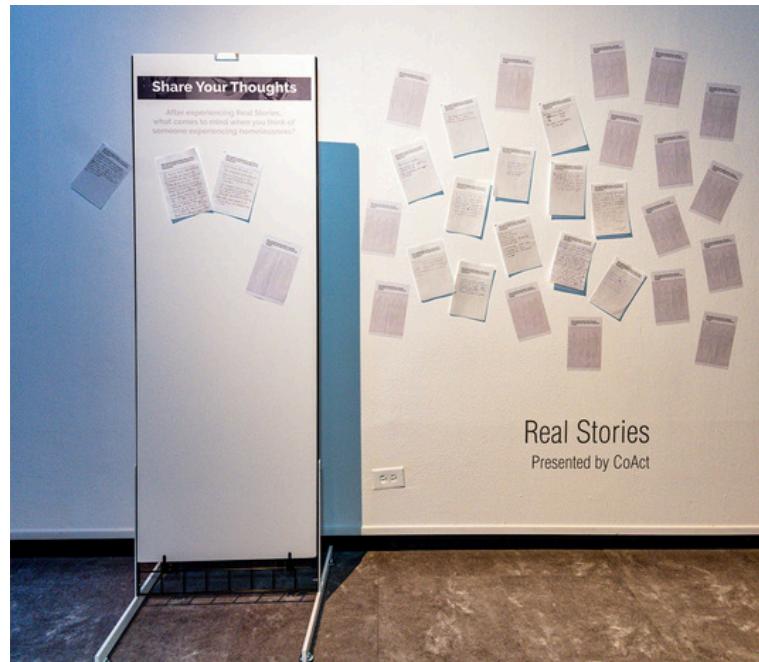
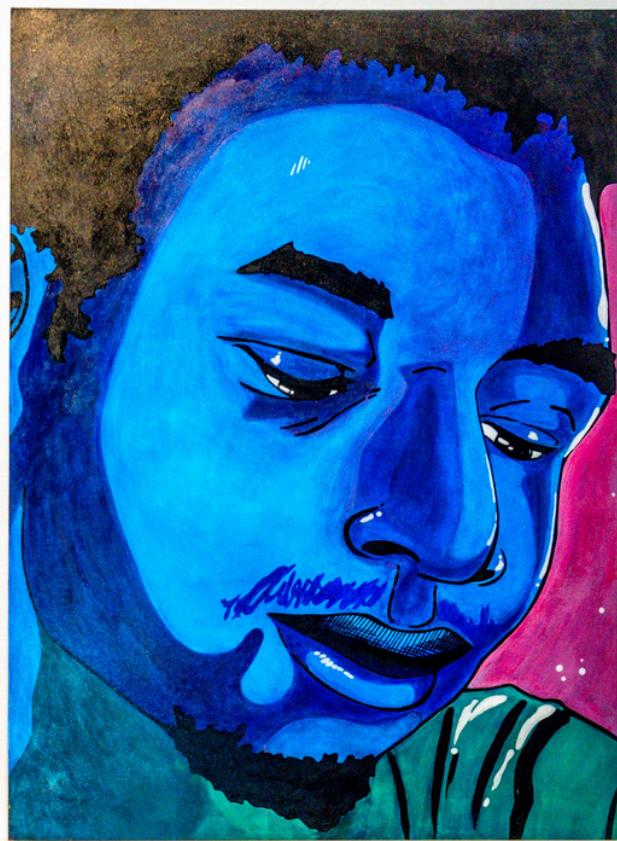
This shift in tactics offers a new stage: a civic and cultural space where student champions can be their most authentic selves and where community members can stand in solidarity through art, empathy, and action. It is a space for us to continue our journey to raise awareness and drive change towards this critical topic.

## HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Through your gift, you can help us develop our signature prop, **The Library of Experiences**, and support cost for our first public installation.

Grounded in raising the collective awareness on homelessness and the struggle of students pursuing their future, **The Library of Experiences** collects the stories, experiences, and personal alignments to bridge the divide between our struggles and moments of celebration.

Inspired by the Japanese Shinto Shrines and Ema Cards used to submit prayer request, **The Library of Experiences** aims to elicit an emotional response from patrons as each message is absorbed, offering reassurance amid adversity, and reminding people of the human support network around them. It is a subtle reminder that we are not alone, that our problems are not always unique to just us.



# INSPIRATION



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# PROPOSED DESIGN



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# SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## PRESENTING - \$10,000

**"Center Stage for Change:** Supports installation build-out, content development, and artist recruitment

- Includes Legacy, plus
- (1) Large printed portrait (20x20 in)
- Feature spotlight on COACT's newsletter
- Recognition in opening remarks and reception program
- Opportunity for representative to welcome guests



## LEGACY SPONSOR - \$5,000

**Stories that shape our future:** Helps host the Student Champions Reception, including stipends for two storytellers to share their lived experience on stage.



- Includes Key Note plus,
- Feature spotlight on COACT's social media
- Recognition during public reception and social media posts

## KEYNOTE SPONSOR - \$2,500

**Lifting local artists and voices:** Supports recruitment and compensation of local artists contributing to the Third Thursday event



- Includes Community Partner plus,
- (1) Printed portrait (12x12 in)
- Logo on social media and printed materials

## COMMUNITY PARTNER - \$1,000



**Art with impact:** Helps fund materials for storytelling props and art displays around South Main.

- Includes Friends of Real Stories, plus
- Logo or name listed on event signage and website
- Recognition in event program and thank you posts

## FRIEND OF REAL STORIES - \$500



**Every portrait tells a truth:** Help fund a portrait and story development for a new student champion.

- Name listed as community donor
- Invitation to the Student Champions Reception
- Recognition in COACT newsletter

# ADD ON OPPORTUNITIES

## STORY CIRCLE – \$1,500

**“Where art, truth, and healing meet.”**

Support a live spoken-word performance led by student champions and local poets sharing personal narratives of survival, courage, and hope.

- Logo featured on performance signage and program listing
- Recognition during emcee introduction and COACT’s social media reels
- Reserved seating for sponsor guests at the live performance
- Optional opportunity for representative to introduce or close the segment
- Inclusion in post-event thank-you reel featuring performers and sponsors



## STUDENT STIPEND FUND – \$2,000

**“Investing in the storytellers themselves.”**

The heart of Real Stories lies with our student champions—individuals who courageously share their lived experiences of housing insecurity and resilience

- Acknowledgment as a Student Champion Sponsor on signage and website
- Option to be paired with a student story (with consent) to learn their journey
- Recognition in COACT’s newsletter and donor impact stories
- Invitation to private meet-and-greet reception with student storytellers
- Inclusion in COACT’s annual report impact section



## EDUCATIONAL PARTNER SESSION – \$1,500

**“Bridging awareness with action.”**

Sponsor a brief pop-up session or panel in partnership with advocates, faculty, and community leaders to discuss college homelessness, policy barriers, and solutions.

- Recognition in event program and digital promotions
- Logo placement on session signage and discussion materials
- Opportunity to nominate a moderator or representative speaker
- Inclusion in COACT’s advocacy communications post-event



## PHOTOGRAPHY & STORY ARCHIVE – \$1,000

**“Preserving every moment, every voice.”**

Support the documentation of Real Stories through professional photography and digital storytelling. Your gift ensures the exhibit’s legacy continues to inspire beyond Third Thursday.

- Credit in photo gallery and COACT’s online archive
- Recognition in press releases and post-event media kits
- Exclusive access to select photos for sponsor’s internal communications



# HOW TO SUPPORT

## SPONSORSHIP

To schedule your sponsorship to contribute to lasting impact, please use the following QR Code or visit the webpage below!



## DONATION

For small gifts, consider an individual donation to help us with raising funds to host Real Stories at Third Thursday. Every dollar helps us with raising awareness and supporting the students directly impacted by college homelessness.



## PROJECT INFO AND HISTORY

To learn more about the project, please feel free to visit the website below or use the following QR Code.



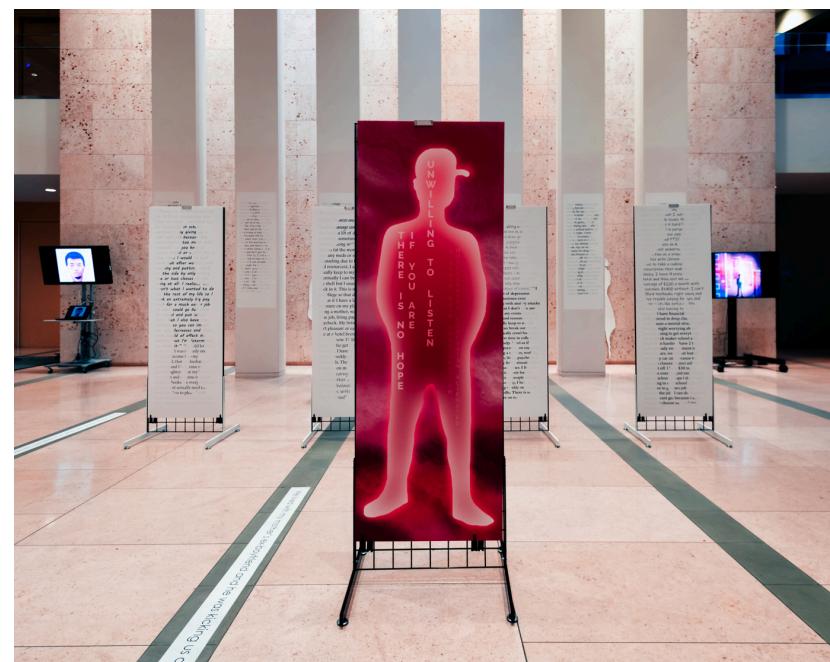
## LINKS

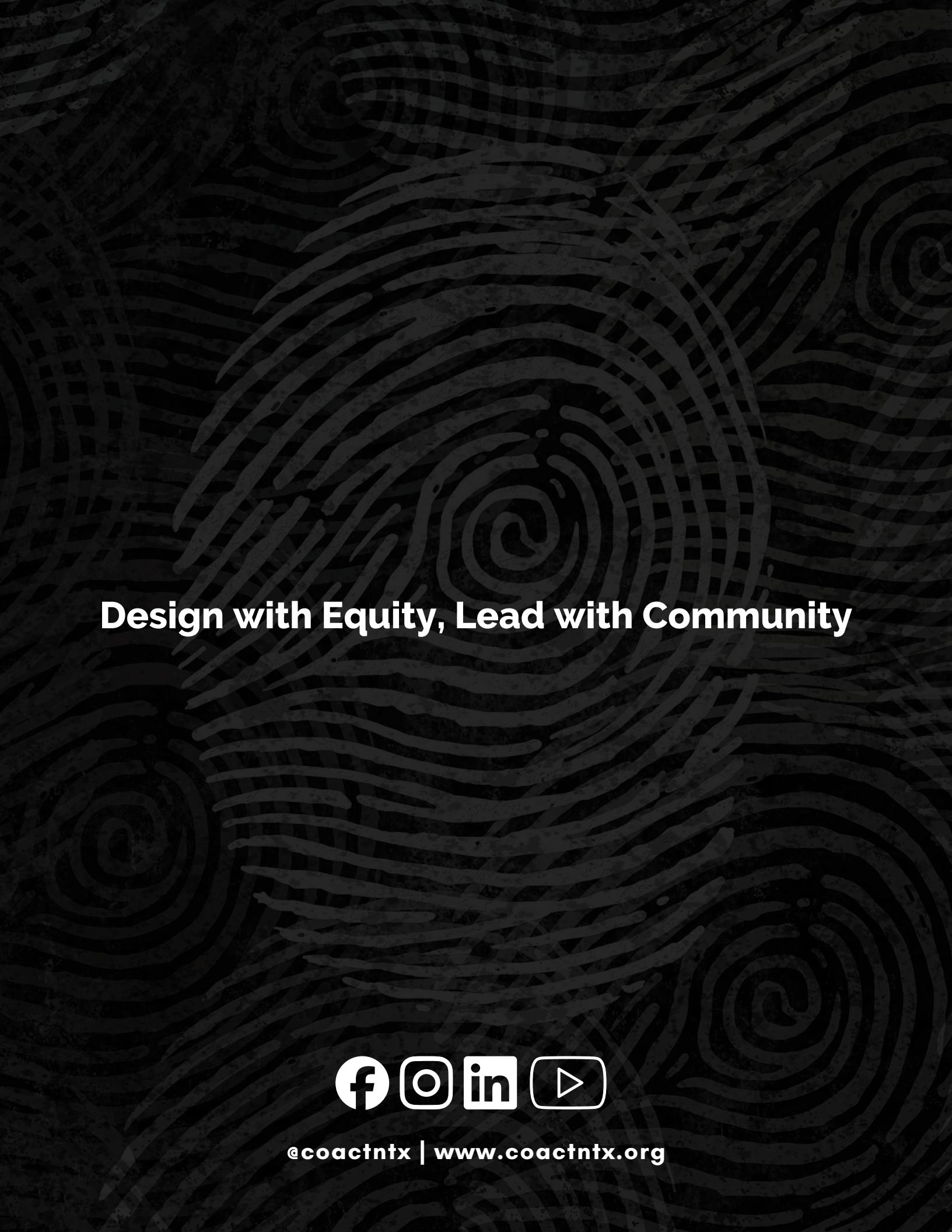
### Project Webpage:

[www.coactntx.org/real-stories](http://www.coactntx.org/real-stories)

### Sponsorship / Donation Information:

[www.coactntx.org/real-stories-info](http://www.coactntx.org/real-stories-info)





**Design with Equity, Lead with Community**



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