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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

***The Art Effect Presents Art After Dark on Friday, October 22nd***

**POUGHKEEPSIE** (July 15, 2021): The Art Effect is thrilled to announce that its fourth annual [Art After Dark Gala](#) will be returning to an in-person celebration of the arts on **Friday, October 22, from 7pm-10pm** at the Trolley Barn Gallery in Poughkeepsie, NY. The night will feature immersive arts experiences, culinary delights, and signature cocktails with an artistic twist.

The [2021 Art After Dark honorees](#) are three prominent community and arts leaders: **G. Angela Henry, Caitlyn Phillips**, and the **Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce**. **Angela** is a community advocate, educator, and actor including former board chair of Arts Mid-Hudson who recently led Barrett Art Center's last strategic plan that resulted in the affiliation with The Art Effect. She currently serves as the Executive Director of the Poughkeepsie Public Schools Foundation and is an amateur watercolorist, silversmith and needleworker. An alumna of The Art Effect, **Caitlyn** has shown artwork as a teenager at Barrett Art Center, has 20 years of experience spanning advertising, consulting, and innovation, and currently leads customer experience for Wunderman Thompson NY and Atlanta. Finally, **The Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce** is a tireless advocate for its members, a business catalyst for its region, and helped keep our community safe and informed throughout the pandemic.

"We are excited to welcome everyone back to the Trolley Barn, the future home of The Art Effect, for our signature fundraising event in 2021. We have much to celebrate including our recent affiliation with Barrett Art Center, the creation of our new youth curatorial program that launched a series of international juried exhibitions and Forge Media's incredible work this past year on events for The Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce and other community organizations." says Nicole Fenichel-Hewitt, Executive Director.

All proceeds from Art After Dark support The Art Effect, which empowers young people and local communities through the arts and media. Tickets are \$150 per person. For tickets and more information, visit [feelthearteffect.org/art-after-dark-2021](https://feelthearteffect.org/art-after-dark-2021).

Sponsorship opportunities are available for this event. Please contact Cory Spraker at [cory@feelthearteffect.org](mailto:cory@feelthearteffect.org) and visit [feelthearteffect.org/art-after-dark-sponsorships](https://feelthearteffect.org/art-after-dark-sponsorships) for more details.

**About The Art Effect:** The Art Effect empowers youth to develop their creative voice to shape their futures and bring about positive social change. The organization facilitates educational programming for youth in the Hudson Valley to explore, experience and excel in the arts. The programs provide introductions to visual arts and media, giving participants the opportunity to develop real skills in these fields and guiding them towards achieving their academic and career goals. The Art Effect is anchored by the belief that the arts have the power to create a more vibrant, caring and sustainable world led by a generation of youth who value creative thinking, diverse voices and stronger connections between all people.

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