PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: November 13, 2019 {Knoxville, Tennessee}

Marble City Opera Company
To receive a donation check presented by
The Knoxville (TN) Chapter of The Links President, Avice Reid

The Knoxville (TN) Chapter of The Links Incorporated will present a check to the Marble City Opera Company to sponsor the premier performance of an opera commissioned by Gathering Light: The Delaney Project. The opera, ShadowLight explores the relationship of Beauford Delaney, an African American artist born in Knoxville, TN and James Baldwin the great New York writer when they were influencers of cultural life in mid-twentieth century New York and Paris. The opera was composed by Larry Delinger a well-known contemporary composer and the libretto was written by Knoxville native Emily Anderson. It will have its world premiere by Knoxville’s Marble City Opera Company, February 28-29, 2020 at The Beck Cultural Exchange Center, 1927 Dandridge Ave. Knoxville, TN 37915

The Links, Inc is an international organization of African American women that was founded in 1946 to strengthen the bonds of friendship among members so that they could provide services to people and organizations around the globe. It is the oldest African American women’s volunteer organization and has chapters in several counties where people of color reside. The Knoxville, (TN) Chapter was chartered in 1970 and many distinguished women of color in the Knoxville region are members of the chapter. The Chapter supports local groups and community initiatives through its facets or focus areas: Health and Human Services, Services to Youth, The Arts, International Trends and Services, National Trends and Services.

The support for the premiere performance of ShadowLight is part of a unique partnership the Links have with Gathering Light: The Delaney Project. It was formed in 2016 to bring the world-famous work of Beauford Delaney an African American artist home to Knoxville, TN, his birthplace. Since 2016 The Knoxville (TN) Chapter of the Links who are charter members of The Delaney Project, have received recognition and awards for their outstanding support of bringing Beauford’s paintings home from Paris to Knoxville.
where the Knoxville Museum of Art now houses the largest collection of his work in the world.

A gift of $25,000.00 will be presented by The Knoxville (TN) Chapter of The Links President, Avice Reid to Kathryn Frady, Executive and Artistic Director of the Marble City Opera Company on Wednesday, November 13, 2019, at 10:00AM, at the Knoxville Museum of Art, 1050 Worlds Fair Park Dr. Knoxville, TN 37916. Members of The Knoxville (TN) Chapter of The Links and Gathering Light: The Delaney Project will participate in the presentation of the gift to Marble City Opera Company.

For More Attention:
Contact: Sylvia Peters, Chairman
Gathering Light: The Delaney Project
865-405-5336

Contact: Evelyn Gill, Knox County Commissioner, District 1
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