## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



CONTACT: Holly Christensen holly@kid-museum.org (301) 941-4905

## Artist Trisha Gupta to Unveil Large-Scale, Original Artwork at KID Museum

**Bethesda, MD** (January 5, 2023) - Contemporary artist, community activist, and educator <u>Trisha Gupta</u> is partnering with <u>KID Museum</u> to unveil her dynamic collage and woodblock prints at Museum's flagship location at 3 Bethesda Metro Center. Beginning this Sunday, visitors can view two of Gupta's large-scale artworks, custom made for the Museum's central maker space, titled *Home is Lost/Home is Found*, where the artist explores themes of identity, home, and emigration.

"I believe art is a platform for social change. My work is heavily influenced by social inequality and by my Indian-American heritage. For me, this work was created from the historic processes that are a part of my tradition and help me communicate and understand who I am." says Gupta, who expanded her artistic practice by traveling to her family's home in Rajasthan to learn more about Indian woodblock carving techniques and traditions.

"We are thrilled to collaborate with Trisha Gupta to bring the process of Indian woodblock carving to life in a way that connects with our maker community," said Jackie Eyl, Chief Program Officer for KID Museum. "This is an exciting opportunity for our visitors to work with a professional artist who is committed to preserving traditional folk art practices."

KID Museum has developed hands-on maker experiences to complement the art on display, including an artist Meet and Greet with Ms. Gupta; an ongoing activity at KID's Materials Bar called "Hardware Prints," a modern riff on block printing techniques; and "High-Tech Indian Block Printing with Trisha Gupta," a special workshop led by the artist, where visitors will design and make their own printing block with a laser-cut twist.

The Gupta exhibition and maker experiences are part of a larger Visiting Artist program launched by KID Museum last fall, with generous funding from Fleur S. Bresler. Through this program, local artists collaborate with KID Museum staff and visitors, working side by side to co-create exhibits, installations, and artwork, developing skills in design, building and making. The Visiting Artist program is a unique opportunity for families to understand how the making of art can express identity, build community connections, and strengthen STEM skills.

To learn more about Trisha Gupta's printmaking installation at KID Museum or register for the printmaking workshop, please visit our website at www.kid-museum.org

## **About KID Museum**

KID Museum is an experiential, creative learning center based in the Washington D.C. region. The organization fosters the "Mind of a Maker" and empowers the next generation of changemakers with the skills to invent the future. Through hands-on programs, KID Museum challenges young people to be active makers, building agency, confidence, and creative problem-solving skills. KID Museum designs and delivers programs across the full continuum of learning for K-8 students in partnership with educators and schools. KID Museum's weekend onsite programs, community events, and live, virtual sessions encourage families to learn and explore together. The organization is part of a growing movement to remake education for every young person, putting them in the driver's seat of their learning and trusting them to be agents of change. For more information, please visit www.kid-museum.org.

## **About Trisha Gupta**

Trisha Gupta is a contemporary artist, a community activist, an educator, and a leader of art as therapy. She works with textiles, paint, printmaking, and a variety of diverse mediums. Her work is heavily influenced by social inequality and she explores themes of colonialism, mental health, and immigration. She is strongly influenced by her Indian American heritage. She loves teaching Asian printmaking processes like Indian woodblock printing and Japanese woodblock. She is committed to preserving traditional folk art and fine Indian printmaking. In particular, she has learned about Indian block printing with natural plant-based dyes. She has taught with the Smithsonian, the Robert Blackburn Printmaking workshop, and Yellowbarn. She specializes in using natural pigments derived from traditional Indian plant sources to create colors that are used in her paints, dyes, and prints.