



NEWS RELEASE

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The Frick Pittsburgh and Duquesne University Students Partner on New SoundWalk Experience

Duquesne students bring the sights and sounds of Frick history to life in multisensory installation

PITTSBURGH, PA, April 13, 2023 - This spring, visitors to The Frick Pittsburgh can expect a new layer of dimension to their museum-going experience through the **Duquesne SoundWalk at the Frick**, a collaboration between the Frick and students of Duquesne University's Mary Pappert School of Music, which brings the sounds of Frick past into the present. Led by Dr. Nicole Vilknor, assistant professor of musicianship, the **Duquesne SoundWalk at the Frick** features 17 QR code exhibits, or SoundSites, stationed throughout the Frick campus, which encourage visitors to interpret environment, culture, and history through sound. Re-creations of the soundscapes surrounding Clayton in the 1890s, the home of a turn-of-the-century steelworker, the evolution of automobile horns, and the music enjoyed by the Frick family are just some of the sounds visitors can immerse themselves in throughout the site.

"One of the goals of the SoundWalk is to encourage people to think about how sounds shape everyday life," said Dr. Vilknor. "As musicians, we believe that music profoundly affects people - their emotions, well-being, and thinking - and we spend a lot of time interpreting the sounds we make at the Mary Pappert School of Music. But what about all the other sounds that surround us? In this project, students were asked to scrutinize the impact and influence of environmental sounds on the Frick grounds, past and present."

The SoundWalk project was recently selected to receive the 2023-24 John G. Rangos Sr. Prize, a university-wide prize awarded to innovative academic initiatives imagined by Duquesne University students and faculty members. This award will allow Dr. Vilknor and her students to continue to develop new SoundWalk projects in the future, and further curate existing SoundWalks, such as the one launching at the Frick.

"We're thrilled to partner with Dr. Vilknor and her students on this exciting project, which adds a rich new layer to the experience visitors have when they come to the Frick," remarked Caito Amorose, curator of

performance events at The Frick Pittsburgh. “The students have brought to life not only Frick history, but Pittsburgh history in ingenious and creative ways, and we look forward to showcasing their work by sharing the immersive experiences they’ve produced throughout our campus.”

The Duquesne SoundWalk at the Frick debuts on Saturday, April 22, and will be free to enjoy as part of the Frick's grounds. For more information about the project, visit fricksoundwalk.com.

ABOUT DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1878, Duquesne is consistently ranked among the nation's top Catholic universities for its award-winning faculty and horizon-expanding education. A campus of nearly 8,500 graduate and undergraduate students, Duquesne prepares students by having them work alongside faculty to discover and reach their goals. The University's academic programs, community service and commitment to equity and opportunity in the Pittsburgh region have earned national acclaim.

ABOUT THE FRICK PITTSBURGH

The Frick Pittsburgh offers authentic experiences with art, history, and nature that inspire and delight. Visitors of all ages and backgrounds are warmly welcomed to explore collections of fine and decorative arts, vehicles, historic objects, and buildings – including Clayton, the Frick family home and the only intact Gilded Age mansion remaining from Pittsburgh’s Millionaire’s Row – left as a legacy to the people of Pittsburgh by Helen Clay Frick, daughter of noted industrialist and art collector Henry Clay Frick. Alongside these treasures, the Frick offers an active schedule of temporary exhibitions and programs on our 10-acre garden campus in the heart of Pittsburgh's East End. Information about The Frick Pittsburgh is available online at TheFrickPittsburgh.org.

For additional information or images, please contact Kaitlyn Clem, Marketing and Communications Manager, at kcllem@thefrickpittsburgh.org or 412-342-4025.

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