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Galería de la Raza presents *Pedagogy of Hope: Uncage, Reunify, Heal* Exhibition at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

San Francisco, March 10, 2022—Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (YBCA) is proud to host *Pedagogy of Hope: Uncage, Reunify, Heal*, a textile and photography based exhibition presented by <u>Galería de la Raza</u> and Colombian-American artist <u>Paola de la Calle</u> opening today!

The exhibition surveys the <u>Caravan for the Children Campaign (The Caravan</u>), a 100-day movement launched in January 2021 as a national effort to demand the release, reunification, and healing of migrant children separated from their families at the US–Mexico Border due to the 45th Presidential Administration's 2018 Zero Tolerance Policy. The Caravan coalition is led by cultural institutions CARECEN SF, Chicana/Latina Foundation, Galería de la Raza, Instituto Familiar de la Raza, and Latinx Racial Equity Project.

Over the course of the campaign, coalition members provided insight and expertise on current immigration policies and health and healing practices, and shared these advocacy efforts with

local officials and legislators. The Caravan held delegation trips in early 2021 to the San Diego/Tijuana border and to Washington D.C. all focusing on an arts-centered, culturally relevant, and healing message.

The exhibition will run **March 10 – May 29, 2022**. During this time, YBCA & Galería will host live activations in the space, including an opening party on **Friday, March 25**, and a special edition of Galería's long running **Lunada Literary Lounge**—a literary and spoken word gathering held during the full moon.

The work showcased in the exhibition at YBCA is informed by the photography, art, and media documentation of the initial 100-day campaign. In addition to these literary arts pieces, the exhibition also features quilts created by De Ia Calle that offer a "warm embrace" to the children separated from their families. The five quilts measure a total of 630 square feet to represent one child per square foot, which at the January 2021 campaign launch was the number of migrant children still separated. In addition to the quilts, De Ia Calle created mobile public art pieces and offered creative direction used as part of the campaign launch and delegation actions.

The Caravan is also organizing another rally on **Sunday, May 1, 2022 in Washington D.C**. which will be documented and shared digitally alongside the physical exhibition. The purpose of this trip will be to drop postcards off at the US Department of Homeland Security calling for the end of family separation and the reunification of migrant families affected by the current border policy. Galería will be collecting postcards from community members throughout the exhibition's showing.

YBCA is excited to partner with Galería de la Raza and support them in their efforts to shed light and activate advocacy around this important issue. For over fifty years, Galería has been dedicated to promoting Xicanx/Latinx art and culture in San Francisco. Despite facing displacement and the fallout of intense gentrification throughout the city, the organization has remained steadfast in creating healing spaces, where the arts are central to navigating the historical-cultural legacies of communities of color. *Pedagogy of Hope: Uncage, Reunify, Heal* builds upon this storied legacy and reminds the people that the work is not done until the people are free.

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