

## Poster Exhibition at Noyes Museum Tells Story of Poor People's Campaign of 1968

*For immediate release*

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**Hammonton, N.J.** - The Noyes Museum of Art at Stockton University Kramer Hall presents "City of Hope: Resurrection City and the 1968 Poor People's Campaign" on display from Feb. 15 - May 9.

The poster exhibition examines the Poor People's Campaign—a grassroots, multiracial movement that drew thousands of people to Washington, D.C. For 43 days between May and June 1968, demonstrators demanded social reforms while living side-by-side on the National Mall in a tent city known as Resurrection City.

Organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) in collaboration with the National Museum of African American History and Culture, "City of Hope" highlights a series of newly discovered photographs and an array of protest signs and political buttons collected during the campaign.

Although President Lyndon B. Johnson declared a "war on poverty" in 1964, tens of millions of Americans were denied livable wages, adequate housing, nutritious food, quality education, and healthcare. Led by Drs. Martin Luther King Jr. and Ralph David Abernathy, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) organized the Poor People's Campaign in response to poverty as a national human rights issue.

Stretching 16 acres along the National Mall between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument, Resurrection City housed 3,000 protesters with structures for essential services like sanitation, communications, medical care and childcare. It included a dining tent, cultural center and a city hall along the encampment's bustling "Main Street."

The Poor People's Campaign marked an important moment in U.S. history and set the stage for future social justice movements. Within months after Resurrection City's evacuation, major strides were made toward economic equality influencing school lunch programs, rent subsidies and home ownership assistance for low-income families, education and welfare services through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and more.

The City of Hope exhibition is open to the public during Kramer Hall hours, Monday from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Tuesday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Kramer Hall is

located at 30 Front St. in Hammonton. Face coverings are required and social distancing protocols are in place. A virtual exhibition will also be available on the Noyes Museum website at [noyesmuseum.org](http://noyesmuseum.org).

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