



## UTEP DoArt Statement of Solidarity

The Department of Art at The University of Texas at El Paso stands in solidarity with those who are leading the fight for justice and accountability and against systemic racism in our country. While we recognize that words alone are not a sufficient response, we are doing what artists and scholars do best—taking time to observe, listen and to learn. We know we can and must do better. We express our genuine commitment to foster and sustain anti-racist efforts in our teaching, art making, research, and community engagement.

We are committed to producing future art professionals for whom Black lives, Black viewpoints, and thus Black art matters. American museums and galleries still have a long way to go in diversifying their collections, as they remain

overwhelmingly white. The 2019 AIGA Design Census reports that only 3% of designers, across disciplines, are Black. As artists and scholars keenly aware of the power of art both to perpetuate and to challenge racist ideologies, we will work against racial injustice and anti-Blackness by promoting racial equity by examining the impact of our work on our students and the larger community. We will seek out opportunities to educate future Black artists, as we have future Latinx artists, to create partnerships, and encourage Black students to take art courses and guide them to become artists, designers, art historians and art educators. We recognize that it is only when those charged with shaping the future reflect the diversity of the nation that we can truly hope for an anti-racist society.

We encourage and challenge DoArt students to be agents of change in their anti-racist lives and art.

### *Image Description*

*Title: Stand Your Ground*

*Designer: Clive Cochran*

*Date created: June 19, 2015*

*Size: 32" by 44"*

*Medium: Digital print*