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(New York, New York - February 26, 2021) - Grammy and Tony Award-winning NEA Jazz Master Dee Dee Bridgewater, in partnership with Brooklyn-based 651 ARTS, takes The Woodshed Network virtual for 2021. The two-week residency program (March 1-12) was conceived as a way to connect, support, educate and mentor women in Jazz. Developed by Bridgewater, who serves as Artistic Director, along with Associate Artistic Director, Tulani Bridgewater-Kowalski, the pairing with 651 ARTS by is a natural fit, harkening back to the nonprofit's history with jazz legend Betty Carter. The Woodshed Network 2021 is made possible with the lead support of The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation for which Bridgewater was a 2018 Doris Duke Artist

Awardee.

The Woodshed Network sessions range in focus from recording to agent relationships; publicity to touring; women's health to imaging and branding, as well as lectures and screenings on topics including The History of Women in Jazz, Jazz and Gender Justice, Philanthropy & Education and exploring the career of iconic polymath Josephine Baker. The Woodshed Network brings to the forefront women's contributions to the continuum of Jazz, while providing participants the resources to accelerate their careers and build community. While the program is specifically developed for those who self-identify as women, both in focus and leadership, the mission is to shift the culture and environment towards one that is equitable and inclusive.

In a departure from the pilot programs' invitational acceptances in its inaugural year, this year The Woodshed Network opened its doors to applicants from across the globe. The blind submission process brought in diverse applicants from varied backgrounds and iterations of the genre. All applicants were reviewed by a peer and mentor committee, admitting twelve talented mentees for this year's residency.

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An all-Woman roster of industry leaders and experts will be serving as mentors for the 2021 program, including Marilyn Rosen (Marilyn Rosen Presents), Catherine Mayer (Just Jazz Int'l) and Juliet Temko (United Talent); Jett Galindo, award-winning Recording/Mastering Engineer and Vinyl Cutter (The Bakery), Maureen McFadden (DL Media PR) and Alisse Kingsley (Muse Media PR); Gail Boyd (Gail Boyd Artist Management); Tonya Butler (Chair of Music Business and Management, Berklee College of Music); Shelby Shariatzadeh (Tour Manager); China Moses (recording artist, producer, radio host) and Monifa Brown (WBGO and VP of PR, Schanachie Ent.); Heather Burgett (The Burgett Group, PR Stars); Dr. Regina Edmond, MD; and musician/educator Shirazette Tinnin.

Additional speakers include Maxine Gordon (author, "Sophisticated Giant:The Life and Legacy of Dexter Gordon) & Camille Thurman; Professor Terri Francis (author, "Josephine Baker's Cinematic Prism"); Grammy Award winning, Educator and Producer Terri Lyne Carrington and Melissa Walker, founder of Jazz House Kids, along with presentations from all of the first year Woodshed Network program alumna: Errin Alexis, Lakecia Benjamin, Darryn Dean, Sarah Hanahan, Kennedy of Kennedy Administration, Amina Scott, and Sequoia Snyder.

For additional information please visit <u>WWW.WOODSHEDNETWORK.COM</u>.