## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## PRESS RELEASE

Home Away from Home: Chaim Gross & 70 Years at Educational Alliance
Manny Cantor Center, New York City

197 East Broadway, New York City, NY, 10002

OPENING RECEPTION: November 15, 2016 | 7:00-9:00 PM



Artwork by Mimi Gross, 2016 | Drawing of Chaim Gross (right) and artist Moses Soyer from photograph.

ON VIEW: November 10, 2016 - January 2, 2017

Jewish Communal Fund and Ernest Rubenstein Galleries

**New York, NY** - The Renee and Chaim Gross Foundation is pleased to announce the exhibit "<u>Home Away from Home: Chaim Gross and 70 Years at Educational Alliance</u>," opening on November 10, 2016 at Educational Alliance's Manny Cantor Center on the Lower East Side.

The exhibit, curated by Sasha Davis, Curator of Collections at the Renee & Chaim Gross Foundation, explores how the Educational Alliance functioned as a second home for Gross, an immigrant who came from Eastern Europe to America in 1921 to pursue his dream to be a modern artist. It traces the rich 70-year history that Gross shared with the Alliance, first as a student in the early 1920s, and then from the late 1920s onward as a faculty member for over 50 years. In his later years, Gross and his wife Renee were generous supporters of the Alliance's community and educational activities through the Renee and Chaim Gross Foundation.

The exhibit will feature wood and bronze sculptures, as well as prints and drawings by Gross. A focused section on self-portraits by Gross, exhibited with archival photographs and materials from the Foundation's archive, will help tell the rich story of Gross's artistic evolution as an immigrant artist within the Lower East Side community in the early 20th century. The exhibit will also include paintings and drawings by other artists whom Gross met early on at the Alliance, including Raphael and Moses Soyer. A special feature of the exhibit will be a selection of historic African sculptures from Gross's personal art collection that he began to collect in the 1930s, a passion he shared with fellow Educational Alliance student Adolph Gottlieb.

The opening reception will be on Tuesday, November 15th, 2016, 7:00-9:00 PM.

## ABOUT THE RENEE & CHAIM GROSS FOUNDATION

The Foundation is located in the historic Greenwich Village townhouse and studio of American sculptor Chaim Gross (1904-91) at 526 LaGuardia Place. The Foundation stewards an extensive collection of over 10,000 objects that includes Gross's sculptures, drawings, prints, and sketchbooks; a photographic archive; and Gross's personal collection of African, Oceanic, Pre-Columbian, American, and European art.

ABOUT THE EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE ART SCHOOL | Located in Manny Cantor Center, the Educational Alliance Art School has served as an outlet for community engagement and dialogue in the arts for nearly a century. In addition to Chaim Gross, the Art School has hosted - both as students and as faculty - renowned artists including Peter Blume, Louise Nevelson, Mark Rothko, and Max Weber. Today, the Art School continues its mission to provide New Yorkers of all backgrounds a space to create and connect with year-round exhibitions and renewed educational offerings.

For more information, interview inquiries or other opportunities, please contact:

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