

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE CITY CONTROLLER

CHRIS HOLLINS, CITY CONTROLLER



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Controller Chris Hollins Hosts "The Houston That Raised Me" Featuring Mo Amer

A conversation about Houston's identity and the city we are becoming

HOUSTON — The Office of City Controller Chris Hollins invites Houstonians to an intimate and timely conversation in the Legacy room within City Hall. On Tuesday, May 26 at 10:00 AM, Controller Hollins will host "The Houston That Raised Me" — a special dialogue featuring one of the city's most celebrated and globally recognized voices: comedian, actor, writer, and Houston native Mo Amer.

"The Houston That Raised Me" will reflect on Mo's childhood, celebrate the people and experiences that define Houston, and imagine a future where the city lives up to its promise for everyone who calls it home.

As the nation's fourth-largest city — and one of its most diverse — Houston's story is inseparable from the stories of the people who sought refuge, opportunity, and a second chance here.

Mo Amer is one of those people. His journey from a nine-year-old Palestinian refugee settling in Aliefp to a Peabody Award-winning storyteller on the world stage is Houston's story told at its most

"Mo Amer has brought Houston's story to screens around the world, and now we're bringing that story home," said City Controller Chris Hollins. "Houston has always been shaped by its people, their journeys, and the communities they build. We're honored to welcome Mo back to City Hall as we reflect on what makes Houston special and the possibilities ahead the city we're building together."

The Controller's Office honored Amer with a Community Trailblazer Award during its AAPI Heritage Month celebration on May 7. "The Houston That Raised Me" continues that recognition and honors Houston's role in Mo's story.

The Office of City Controller Chris Hollins exists to hold city leaders accountable and advocate for the long-term fiscal health of Houston — which means advocating for the people, families, and communities that *are* Houston. Events like "The Houston That Raised Me" reflect the Controller's commitment to engaging Houstonians on the values, investments, and policy decisions that will define the city we leave to future generations.

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ABOUT CITY OF HOUSTON CONTROLLER'S OFFICE: Established in 1903, the City of Houston Controller's Office is the cornerstone of financial oversight and accountability for America's fourth-largest city. With a mission to uphold Houston's fiscal integrity and protect residents' tax dollars, the office oversees a broad spectrum of the City's financial operations, including its budget, investments, and debts. Committed to transparency and fiscal responsibility, the Controller's Office is key to maintaining the economic vitality of Houston, contributing to its status as a thriving metropolis for its diverse community.

ABOUT CONTROLLER CHRIS HOLLINS: Chris Hollins, serving as Houston's City Controller since January 2024, brings a dynamic approach to City governance and financial management. With a rich background in legal practice and management consulting, coupled with innovative leadership as Harris County Clerk, Hollins is dedicated to enhancing the city's fiscal practices and community engagement. Educated at Morehouse College, Yale Law School, and Harvard Business School, Hollins's commitment to accountability and service excellence drives his mission to build a financially resilient Houston. Residing in the Third Ward with his family, his work is deeply informed by his strong community ties