



MEDIA ALERT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE WILLIAM GRANT STILL ARTS CENTER PRESENTS
100 YEARS OF SERVICE, THE ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA STORY
CENTENNIAL TRAVELING EXHIBIT

February 3 – March 15, 2008, 12 Noon – 5 p.m. DAILY

Los Angeles – The William Grant Still Arts Center announces the **100 Years of Service, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Story Centennial Traveling Exhibit** from February 3 through March 15, 2008, from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. daily.

Founded on the campus of Howard University in Washington, DC in 1908, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is the oldest Greek-letter organization established by African American college-trained women. The exhibit traces its history to tell a story of changing patterns of human relations in America in the 20th century. The small group of women who organized the Sorority was conscious of a privileged position as college-trained women of color, just one generation removed from slavery. They were resolute that their college experiences should be as meaningful and productive as possible. Alpha Kappa Alpha was founded to apply that determination. As the Sorority grew, it kept in balance two important themes: the importance of the individual and the strength of an organization of women of ability and courage. As the world became more complex, there was a need for associations which cut across racial, geographical, political, physical, and social barriers.

Alpha Kappa Alpha's influence extends beyond campus quads and student interest. It has a legacy of service that deepens, rather than ends, with college graduation. The goals of its programming centers on significant issues in families, communities, government halls, and world assembly chambers. Its efforts constitute a priceless part of the global experience in the 21st century. Over the past 100 years, Alpha Kappa Alpha has used the power of that concept to transform actions into a proud history of supporting academic achievement, combating disease, broadening career opportunities, and fighting for human rights in local communities and around the world. The next 100 years have already begun. The multi-media exhibit is a history lesson for all ages. This is the only West Coast stop for this exhibit before traveling back to Washington DC.



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The Opening Reception will be held on February 2, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., featuring a performance by Marcus Miller with the Freedom Jazz Movement Trio. Admission is free.

A series of free workshops with a selected group of artists will be held during the exhibit:

- Experimental Self Portraits with Teresa Tolliver: February 7, 4:00 p.m. -6:00 p.m. (open to all)
- Critical Media Literacy Collage with Ami: February 9, 1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m. (for adults and educators, as a professional development)
- Doll Making with Teresa Tolliver: February 21, 4:00 p.m. -6:00 p.m. (open to all)
- Critical Media Literacy Collage with Ami: February 23, 1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m. (for students and youth)

The William Grant Still Arts Center (WGS) is a facility of the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. The William Grant Still Arts Center is located at 2520 S. West View St. in Los Angeles, (3 blocks) east of LaBrea off Adams. For additional information call 323-734-1165.

ABOUT DCA

The Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) serves as a leader to generate and support high quality arts and cultural experiences for Los Angeles residents and visitors. DCA also advances the social and economic impact of the arts and assures access to arts and cultural experiences through grant making, marketing, public and community arts programming, arts education, and creating partnerships with artists and arts and cultural organizations in every community in the City of Los Angeles.

DCA grants \$3.4 million annually to over 300 artists and nonprofit arts organizations and awards the Artist-in-Residence (A.I.R.) and City of Los Angeles (C.O.L.A.) Individual Artist Fellowships. It provides arts and cultural programming in numerous Neighborhood Arts and Cultural Centers, theaters, and several arts and education programs for young people. The Department operates two historic monuments, directs public art projects, and manages the City's Arts Development Fee, Art Collection, and Murals Program. DCA markets the City's cultural events through development and collaboration with strategic partners, design and production of creative promotional materials, and management of the culturela.org website.

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