



**MEDIA ALERT**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 26, 2011

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**The William Grant Still Arts Center  
and  
The Black Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Project**

**present**

**IMAGES: Iconic, Insurgent, Divine, and Decadent Glimpses  
Into the Lives of Black Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and  
Transgender People and their Significant Others  
in Los Angeles  
1940 to the Present**

**Opening Reception: Saturday, May 21, 2011, 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

LOS ANGELES, CA. - The Black Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Project, founded and directed by C. Jerome Woods brings the exhibition **IMAGES: Iconic, Insurgent, Divine, and Decadent Glimpses Into the Lives of Black Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender People and their Significant Others in Los Angeles - 1940 to the Present** to the William Grant Still Arts Center. This unique exhibit gives insight into the public and private lives of same gender loving people, a segment of our community that is often disregarded, made invisible, harassed, shunned, and often misunderstood. Moreover, it highlights the consciousness, contributions, and acceptance of LGBT people and their significant others in community, culture, and society.

The exhibition includes archival material from Woods' personal collection as well as contributions from the Stanley Bennett Clay Collection, Los Angeles Black Pride/ATB, Reverend Russell Thornhill, Claudia Spears, Greg McNeal, Barry Stinson, Dale Guy Madison, Alan Bell, Jewel Thais-Williams, Archbishop Carl Bean, Alden Kimbrough, and others.

**IMAGES: Iconic, Insurgent, Divine, and Decadent Glimpses** is a collection of photographs, personal stories, recorded interviews, rare magazines, books, correspondence, and much more. It highlights visual art by Black LGBT artists Duane Paul, Mira Gandy, Victory, and Byrd Bettis. The exhibition programming includes the opening reception, panel discussions, open conversations, lecture demonstrations, spoken word, other literary and performance segments as well as cinema shorts/films screenings.



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The opening reception kicks off with entertainment by vocalist Maiya Sykes and the Endangered band. The exhibition runs through July 9, 2011.

### **PROGRAM EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

**Opening Reception:** Saturday, May 21, 2011, 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Dates:** May 21 to July 9, 2011

**Times:** Tuesday through Saturday, 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

#### **Events:**

#### **Discussion with Alan Bell**

Editor and Publisher of BLK and Gaysweek Magazine  
May 28, 2011, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

#### **Film Screening**

Cinema Shorts Showing of Film Shorts by Black LGBT Filmmakers  
"Family"

Film Showing and Discussion with Director Faith Trimmel and Cast  
June 18, 2011, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

#### **Spoken Word and Poetry Slam/Jam**

Literary and Performance Artists Expound  
June 25, 2011

#### **Men, Makeup, and Metamorphosis**

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

#### **Transgender Women Share What it Takes to be Them Head to Toe and More**

4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

#### **Young, Gifted, and Gay Hit the Runway**

A Panel of Young People Look at the L.A. House & Ball Scene  
Discussion and Demonstration

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

**Closing Reception:** Saturday, July 9, 2011, 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

#### **Artists Ascending**

Discussion and viewing facilitated by Duane Paul with artist: Mira Gandy, Victory  
and Byrd Bettis

**Admission to all events is free.**



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### **About the William Still Grant Arts Center**

The William Gant Still Arts Center is a facility of the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs and is located at 2520 West Westview Street, Los Angeles, CA 90016.

### **About the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)**

The **Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)** generates and supports high-quality arts and cultural experiences for Los Angeles' 4 million residents and 25 million annual visitors. DCA advances the social and economic impact of the arts and assures access to arts and cultural experiences through grant making, marketing, public art, community arts programming, arts education, and partnerships with artists and arts and cultural organizations in neighborhoods throughout the City of Los Angeles.

DCA's operating budget and managed portfolio totaled \$36.7 million in fiscal year 2009/10. It consisted of: \$9.6 million in Transient Occupancy Tax funds; \$12.2 million in funds from the Public Works Improvements Arts Program; \$8.6 million from the Private Arts Development Fee Program; \$4.9 million in City related and indirect cost allocations; and \$1.4 million in private and public funds raised during the year. DCA grants approximately \$3 million annually to over 280 artists and nonprofit arts organizations through its long-established Grants Administration Division. DCA provides arts and cultural programming in its numerous neighborhood arts and cultural centers, theaters, and historic sites, and manages several arts and education programs.

The Department also administers the City's Private Arts Development Fee and Public Works Improvements Arts Programs, a portfolio of approximately \$20.8 million in fiscal year 2009/10. In addition, DCA raises outside public and private funds, over \$14 million since fiscal year 2007/08, used to re-grant to LA-based arts and cultural organizations for special grant initiatives and to support DCA's special programming and facilities. 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](http://culturela.org) website visited by over 2.7 million people annually.

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