May 26, 2011

Media Contact: Will Caperton y Montoya
DCA Director of Marketing and Development
213.202.5538
will.caperton@lacity.org

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.
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.
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 website visited by over 2.7 million people annually.

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