



DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
City of Los Angeles

201 North Figueroa Street
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MEDIA ALERT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 20, 2012

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The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs
presents
Dragon's Flight
Exhibit, Concert, and Resource Fair
at
The William Grant Still Arts Center

Los Angeles - William Grant Still Arts Center's **Dragon's Flight** is a six-week exhibition running from October 6 through November 24, 2012, introduced by a free one-day community arts festival concert and celebration as the opening event on October 6, 2012 from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. The exhibition's theme is the transformative power of creating art and its ability to reclaim and re-grow personal identity in the face of negative trauma.

Included in the exhibition are artists who are, or have been, incarcerated or artists who work in collaboration with incarcerated artists. The work exhibited is drawn from pieces created both inside and outside the prison. The exhibition partners include **A.D.E.L.A.N.T.E.**, a transition organization founded by artist Victor Bono (whose work will be featured in the exhibition) which is focused on healing the negative trauma of incarceration; **Sheila Pinkel** (artist) and **Margie Ghiz-Gillis** (of Art Release and former founder of Midnight Special Community Bookstore), featuring a collection of artists in solitary detention at the SHU in Pelican Bay; and the **Youth Justice Coalition**, a youth-led movement to challenge race, gender, and class inequality in the Los Angeles County juvenile justice system; **AK Angels**, an incarcerated women's support group; **Critical Resistance LA**, a national organization dedicated to opposing the expansion of the prison industrial complex; and the **Old Timers**, a mentorship and support group for youth and elders.

The exhibition is produced in partnership with the generous support of local organizations, the United Neighborhoods Neighborhood Council, and the Mid-City Neighborhood Council.



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The exhibition opening will include a free one-day community arts festival concert, and celebration showcasing musicians and a variety of community organizations in support of the opening of the **Dragon's Flight** exhibition.

The exhibition artists are: **Victor Bono, James "Doc" Holiday, Amanda Perez, KUSH, Oran Oshune Huston, Katrina Amaya, Leonard Dixon, Sheila Pinkel, Jack L. Morris, David Earl Williams, Diane Fellman, Youth Justice Coalition, and Sharing Our Stitches (SOS) / Women of CIW**, with murals by **AISE**, and a multi-generational **Oral History Documentary** project initiated by **John Martinez**, who gave cameras to young people to document and discuss experiences by elders in their communities.

Live music, community information tables from exhibition partners and related service organizations, arts workshops, and other family-friendly activities will also take place at the launch of the exhibition.

PROGRAM EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Dragon's Flight

Opening Reception: Saturday, October 6, 2012,
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Exhibition Dates: October 6 to November 24, 2012

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

Related Special Events: Concert and Resource Fair

Performances by:

**Kamau Daood, Chicano Son,
Marcus L. Miller World Drum
Ensemble, Rifleman, DJ Ern Medina
of Soul Assassins Radio**
Hosted by: **MC Verbs**

Presentations by grass-roots organizations
working on issues of incarceration.

Live silk-screening by **Dewey Tafoya**
Saturday, October 6, 2012, 12:00 p.m.
to 6:00 p.m.



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STAINED - A performance by
Patrisse Marie Cullors
October 20, 2012, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Dia De Los Muertos Art Workshop
Lead by artists **Cheryl Williams** and
Raul Baltazar
November 3, 2012, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Panel Discussion
Information TBD
November 10, 2012, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Health and Wellness Fair
Information TBD
November 17, 2012, 11:00 a.m. to
1:00 p.m.

Location: William Grant Still Arts Center
2520 South West View Street
Los Angeles, CA 90016

Cost: Free

About DCA

The **Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)** generates and supports high quality arts and cultural experiences for Los Angeles' 4 million residents and 26 million annual visitors. DCA advances the social and economic impact of the arts and ensures access to diverse and enriching cultural activities through: grant making, marketing, public art, community arts programming, arts education, and building partnerships with artists and arts and cultural organizations in neighborhoods throughout the City of Los Angeles.

DCA's operating budget and managed portfolio totaled \$38.2 million in fiscal year 2010/11. It consisted of: \$9.5 million in funds from the Public Works Improvements Arts Program (PWIAP); \$8.9 million in City related and indirect cost allocations; \$8.7 million from the Private Arts Development Fee Program (ADF); \$7.7 million in Transient Occupancy Tax funds; and over \$3.4 million in private and public funds raised from foundation, corporate, government, and individual donors.



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DCA significantly supports artists and cultural projects through its Public Art Division by administering a portfolio totaling \$18.2 million in PWIAP and ADF funds in FY10/11. DCA's Marketing and Development Division has raised over \$19 million since FY07/08 to re-grant to LA-based artists and arts and cultural organizations for special grant initiatives and to support DCA's special programming and facilities. DCA also grants approximately \$2.2 million annually to over 280 artists and nonprofit arts and cultural organizations through its long-established Grants Administration Division.

DCA provides arts and cultural programming through its Community Arts Division, managing numerous neighborhood arts and cultural centers, theaters, historic sites, and educational initiatives. DCA's Marketing and Development Division also markets the City's arts and cultural events through development and collaboration with strategic partners, design and production of creative catalogs, publications, and promotional materials, and management of the culturela.org website visited by over 3 million people annually.