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**Bronx Council on the Arts Awards \$143,100 to 55 Grantees
at February 1, 2012 Check Presentation**

(Bronx, NY – January 20, 2012) The Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA) has awarded \$143,100 to 63 local recipients of both New York State Council on the Arts' Decentralization Program and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) Greater New York Arts Development Fund grants. A check presentation will take place at 4:00pm on February 1st at the Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos preceding that evening's First Wednesday Bronx Culture Trolley event. The ceremony will be attended by representatives of recipient organizations, artists, local legislators, the New York State Council on the Arts, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, and members of BCA's Board of Directors.

The Decentralization Funds or Community Arts Grant is open to Bronx arts organizations and community-based organizations that utilize the arts to help fulfill their missions. **34 Bronx organizations received this year's award totaling \$65,100. Bronx Arts Organizations** (19) are: Bardekova Ensemble, Blind Beggar Press, Bronx Comic Heroes, Bronx Concert Singers, Inc., Bronx Stage & Film, Bronx Symphony Orchestra, BronxNet, Center Stage Community Playhouse Inc., City Island Historical Society, Drammeh Institute, Inc., Garces Puppeteria, Hunts Point American Indian Council, NuyoRican School Poetry Jazz Ensemble, Inc., Orchestra of The Bronx, Papatian, Riverdale Choral Society, Sinfonietta of Riverdale, Theater International, Inc., and The Uptown Coffeehouse. **Bronx Community-Based Organizations** (non-arts organizations) (15) are: Brainpower Research and Development Services, Inc., Bronx River Alliance, Inc., BronxWorks, Building 13 Association, Friends of Pelham Bay Park, Friends of The Woodlawn Cemetery, Herman Liebman Memorial Fund, Hope of Israel Senior Citizens Center, Inc, Kingsbridge Heights Community Center, Kingsbridge-Riverdale-Van Cortland Development Corp., Riverdale Community Center, Inc., SCAN-New York Volunteer Parent-Aides Association, Inc., St. Barnabas Hospital/ Fordham-Tremont Community Mental Health Center, St. Peters Church SMART Center, and Womens Housing and Economic Development Corporation (WHEDCO).

The DCA Greater New York Arts Development Funds are open to Bronx-based artists and arts organizations with organizational budgets under \$200,000 who do not receive direct funding from DCA and provide arts activities to borough residents. **16 artists and 5 arts organizations received this year's award totaling \$78,000. Individual Artists** (16) are: Ave Maria Cross, Wilfred Torres & Dennis Redmoon Darkeem, Dalia Davi, Nicholas Dumit Estevez, Ray Felix, Michael Ferris Jr., Martine Fougeron, Andrew Geddis, Guy Gonzales, Nadia Hallgren, Ali Irizarry, Pedro Martinez, Laura Napier, Bobby Sanabria, Militeri Tucker, and Ivan Velez. **Arts Organizations** (5) are: Bardekova Ensemble, Bronx Concert Singers, Inc., Garces Puppeteria, NuyoRican School Poetry Jazz Ensemble, Inc., and Theater International, Inc.

Each year BCA provides artists and organizations the opportunity to apply for funds serving a variety of purposes. These funds are charged with fostering the continuing development of local cultural resources responsive to community needs. Applications for the 2012-2013 grants will be available from the Bronx Council on the Arts beginning July. For more information on BCA and its entire grant programs, please visit the grants pages on BCA's website at www.bronxarts.org.

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