

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## EYE AM A MAN Opening Reception at BCA's Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos on Wednesday, March 2, 2011

(February 10, 2011 — Bronx, NY) The Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos, the contemporary art center of the Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA), presents EYE AM A MAN: MAN-HOOD in the GAY-HOOD by the ART-HOOD, a new exhibition on view in the gallery's Project Room through May 4, 2011. The opening reception (postponed due to February 2nd's hazardous weather conditions) will be held on Wednesday, March 2nd, from 5:00-9:00pm, in conjunction with that evening's Bronx Culture Trolley. Longwood is located on the campus of Hostos Community College at 450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street, Admission is free and all are welcome.

Curated by Ivan Velez Jr., **EYE AM A MAN**, includes painting, photography, drawing, sculpture and video. It explores gender constructions, religion, machismo, popular and street culture and how they shape our notions of queerness, and homosexuality.



Featured Artists: Chad Boss, Jennifer Camper, Ricardo Osmondo Francis, Jr., David Goldenberg, Louis Kwong, La Buruquena, Steve Macisaac, Harry Medina, Aaron Mustamaa, Kei Otani, Carlo Quispe, Joseph Radoccia, Jean Segarra-Rosa, Soulivanh Thammavong, and Ivan Velez Jr.

About the Curator: Ivan Velez Jr. is a Bronx native who was influenced by chop-socky karate flicks, Astro Boy cartoons, blaxploitation films, Spanish soap operas and Silver Age comic books. Mr. Velez received BCA's Digital Matrix Commission in 2008 and was included in Longwood's 25th Anniversary Exhibition Everyday is Like Sunday. Ivan's art and writing have been featured in a number of publications including Gay Comics, Details Magazine, NYQ, and HX, HBO and the Hudlin Brothers, Blood Syndicate, and Ghost Rider, as well as in Marvel and DC Comics. Ivan is mostly known as the creator of Tales of the Closet, a ten-chapter graphic novel that depicts the lives of eight gay teenagers in Queens.

On Saturday, February 26th, the Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos presents a panel discussion: "ART-HOOD discusses MAN-HOOD in the GAY-HOOD," (2:00-4:00pm). Admission is free and all are welcome.

Longwood Arts Project is BCA's contemporary art center with a mission to support artists and their work, especially emerging artists from under-represented groups such as people of color and women, through the Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos, Digital Matrix Commissions Program, and public programs that provide opportunities for free and open dialogue.

Gallery Hours: Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos is open Monday through Friday from 10:00am-6:00pm. It is closed on Sundays and major holidays. Directions to Hostos: The Longwood Art Gallery is located on the campus of Hostos Community College, 450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street in the Bronx. Transportation: IRT 4 & 5, Bx1, Bx19 to Grand Concourse and 149 Street. Information: 718-518-6728 or www.bronxarts.org.

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