



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Phil Cardone

Phone: 718-931-9500 x33

E-Mail: trolley@bronxarts.org

Web: www.bronxarts.org

Bronx Culture Trolley Returns on Wednesday, June 1st with the 22nd Annual BRIO Awards Presentation, Art Exhibitions, Concert, Book Signing, and more!

(Bronx – May 23, 2011) The Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA) celebrates the 22nd anniversary of its prestigious BRIO Award (Bronx Recognizes Its Own) on Wednesday, June 1st as part of the evening's Bronx Culture Trolley at the Longwood Art Gallery at Hostos Community College at 450 Grand Concourse and 149th Street.

The BRIO award presentation is among the many activities taking place throughout the evening which includes the opening of new art exhibitions at the [Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos](#); [bronxArtworks](#) Artisans boutique, a book signing and a tour of three exhibitions at the [Bronx Museum of the Arts](#), a chamber music concert at Pregones Theater, new exhibitions at [BronxArtSpace](#) and [LDR Studio Gallery](#), and an art exhibit and "live band" karaoke at the [Bruckner Bar & Grill](#). The [Bronx Culture Trolley](#) is a program of the [Bronx Council on the Arts](#). Admission to venues is free and all are welcome to hop on board and enjoy them.



June 1st's Trolley begins at the **Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos** (Hostos Community College, 450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street) at 5:00pm with an opening reception for the new exhibitions. **Born Again: A Lebanese-Dominican Dominican York is Born Again as a Bronxite**, curated by Nicolas Dumit Estevez, focuses on Estevez's time spent with groups and individuals in the Bronx and unearthing the perceptions and misperceptions that have shaped the identity of the borough since the 1960s. In **Eight Artists Respond to Born Again** artists play off Estevez's perceptions by bringing Bronxites' perspectives and voices on the subject. **En Castellano and in other Languages: Video Artists From Andalucía and the Bronx**, co-curated by Juan Ramon Barbancho and Nicolas Dumit Estevez, presents three artists from Andalucía and three from the Bronx whose work engages in cultural memory, popular rituals and the day-to-day in the streets of two distant or not-so-distant locations, one in Europe and the other in the Americas. The show was co-curated by Juan Ramon Barbancho and Nicolas Dumit Estevez.

The Longwood Art Gallery is celebrating its 30th anniversary as one of New York City's oldest and longest running alternative spaces, presenting solo and group art exhibitions by emerging artists from under-represented groups such as people of color and women. For more information on the Longwood Art Gallery and its exhibits, visit www.bronxarts.org or call 718-518-6728.

In the Hostos lobby BCA's **bronxArtworks Artisans Collective** will display and sell such imaginative creations as Korean knotting novelties, crafts, crocheted hats, ethnic masks, illustrations, jewelry, knitwear, metal sculpture, note cards, paintings, papermache masks and vases, post cards, and more. All items are original designs created by Bronx Artisans.

The trolley bell clangs at 5:30pm, 6:30pm, and 7:30pm indicating the trolley's departure from Hostos on its way to the evening's cultural events. The Bronx Culture Trolley is your free ticket to a cultural tour along the South Bronx Cultural Corridor of the lower Grand Concourse. Admission to participating venue attractions is free. The Bronx Culture Trolley runs on the first Wednesday of each month (except January and September) providing Bronxites and tourists alike a fun way to travel via a replica of an early 20th-century trolley car. Passengers are given the opportunity to sample several of the area's hottest cultural attractions, dining establishments and entertainment venues along the way.

This month's trolley stops and attractions include: **Bronx Museum of the Arts** for a **book signing event with author Zoya Kocur** as she celebrates the publication of her new book *Global Visual Cultures, An Anthology*, then tour the museum and view the current exhibitions: **Alexandre Arrechea: Orange, Lobby-For-The-Time-Being, Urban Archives, and Happy Together**; **Pregones Theater** for a **concert by St. Luke's Chamber Ensemble**; **BronxArtSpace** for a viewing of **Street Files Part 1: El Museo del Barrio**, presented by [Bronx River Art Center](#); **LDR Studio Gallery** for a viewing of **Exhibition in Salute to the NYC Puerto Rican Day Parade 2011** and the **Bruckner Bar & Grill** for a viewing of their current exhibition and "Live Band" Karaoke in which a live band plays and you sing.

For Bronx Culture Trolley information, contact Phil Cardone at 718-931-9500 x33 or at trolley@bronxarts.org. The Bronx Culture Trolley will return on July 6, 2011. Visit BCA's website at www.bronxarts.org in mid-June for information on July 6th's Bronx Culture Trolley activities as well as updated information on other events, activities, and programs of the Bronx Council on the Arts including June 4th's ¡Viva Cultural! "Culture Trolley Saturday" celebrating Puerto Rican heritage in the Bronx.

The Bronx Culture Trolley, a program of the Bronx Council on the Arts' Bronx Cultural Card and the Bronx Tourism Council, is made possible with funding from the Bronx Empowerment Zone, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the New York State Council on the Arts, the Lambert Foundation, the Scherman Foundation, and Council Member Maria del Carmen Arroyo.

###