

September 17, 2009

## Bronx Arts BRIO Winner Featured

The Bronx Council on the Arts and the Bronx Library Center present playwright and BRIO winner Camille Darby for a 6 pm reading from her play *Sweetest Taboo* on Sat., Sept. 26, at the Bronx Library Center at 310 East Kingsbridge Road at Briggs Avenue. The reading is open to the public and admission is free. The center is wheelchair accessible.

*Sweetest Taboo*: Caldwell housing development is crumbling. And like many other high-rise apartment buildings in Harlem that shelter generations of Black Americans as far back as World War I, it is disappearing into thin air. Mark Hansen is one of the men responsible for this change. Despite being a Harlemite himself and a descendant of parents who stood at the forefront of the Harlem Renaissance, Mark has found a way to go further than his parents could ever go—even if that means replacing the poor with the rich. Ty, his first potential taker, proves to be quite the opposite of Mark, but in his own way seeks to find his way out. The more these two men argue about their differences, the more they realize that they have a lot more in common than they could have ever imagined.

*Sweetest Taboo* is a one-act play, considered by Darby as a work-in-progress. This evening's reading will be followed by a brief question and answer period. Audience feedback is encouraged.

Darby was born in Jamaica, West Indies, but migrated to New York City with her family at the age of six. Her constant attempts at adjusting to American culture—she soon discovered—were best manifested through her writing. It was her first play *Mother, May I?*, which was written in her high school's Residency Arts Program, that drew the attention of acclaimed playwright, Wendy Wasserstein. With Wasserstein's guidance and encouragement, Camille continued to study theatre, history, literature and film at Sarah Lawrence College where she received her B.A. in Liberal Arts in 2005. During the same year, she also received Honorable Mention at the College Language Association Creative Writing Contest for her ten-minute play *Where Your Gun At?* — A social commentary examining the women of the Black Panther Movement of the 1960s. Camille holds an M.F.A in Dramatic Writing from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. During that time, she had a series of readings at The Public Theatre which include *Easy Conversation* and *Sweetest Taboo*. Camille is one of BCA's BX Indie Artists in the literary field, who received the 2008 Bronx Recognizes Its Own (BRIO) award in playwriting for her full-length play *Lords Resistance*.

For further information call (718) 579-4244.