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Bronx Writers' Center Announces 2009-10 Literary Arts Fellowship Opportunities

(Bronx, NY – July 9, 2009) Talented Bronx writers are invited to apply for the 2009-10 Literary Arts Fellowship and Residency, available from The Bronx Writers' Center (BWC), a program of the Bronx Council on the Arts. Two nine-month fellowships are awarded annually to fiction writers, poets, playwrights and screenwriters who reside in the Bronx. Fellows are awarded \$5,000 and are required to complete a community service project as part of a residency at the Bronx Writers' Center. Applications must be received by 5:00 pm on Monday, September 14, 2009. There is no entry fee. The current Literary Arts Fellows are writers Sam J. Miller and Silvia Morales. Previous winners include Broadway stars Suheir Hammad and Sarah Jones and writers Sonya Chung, Angie Cruz, Helen Dano, Nelly Rosario, Mariposa, and Flaco Navaja.

An information session for writers interested in applying will be held on Tuesday August 4th from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm, at Longwood Art Gallery at Hostos Community College. This information session will focus on the Fellowship application process, with ample time for questions. Applications will be available. This session is also an opportunity to learn more about the Bronx Writers' Center programs and plans for the future.

To RSVP for the information session, obtain an application, or for additional information about applying for the Literary Arts Fellowship, please visit the Writers' Center page on the Bronx Council on the Arts website at www.bronxarts.org, call Maria Romano at 718-931-9500 x21, or email maria@bronxarts.org. Fellowship applications are also available at the Bronx Council on the Arts offices (1738 Hone Avenue in the Morris Park section of the Bronx) and the Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos located at Hostos Community College (450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street in the Mott Haven section of the Bronx).

Eligibility: Literary artists who reside in the Bronx and are not enrolled as full-time students in an undergraduate or graduate program are eligible to apply. Recipients of the 2009 BRIO and 2008 Literary Arts Fellowship are not eligible for this award.

Criteria: The Award decisions are made solely on artistic excellence and are decided by a panel of professional writers. All materials and information involved in the selection process are kept confidential and reviewed anonymously.

Manuscript Submission Guidelines: All eligible applicants must submit four (4) copies of representative work that displays professional accomplishment and commitment to a literary career. Applicants should submit work created no earlier than 2004. Older material will not be considered. An English translation must accompany any work submitted in another language. Fiction writers, playwrights, and screenwriters should submit no more than twenty pages, double-spaced, single-sided. In addition, four copies of a synopsis of no more than 250 words should be included with the work (the synopsis is not included in the 20-page count). Poets should submit no more than ten pages, single-spaced, single-sided. Applicant's name **must not** appear on the manuscript or synopsis.

Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos (718-518-6728) is located on the campus of Hostos Community College, at 450 Grand Concourse, just steps from the 149th street subway station and bus stop. By subway, take the #2, 4 or 5 IRT trains to 149th Street and the Grand Concourse; by bus, take the BX1 or BX19 to 149th Street and the Grand Concourse.

About the Bronx Writers' Center: The Bronx Writers' Center promotes and supports the writing community, the development of writers and the audience for literature and reading in the Bronx. Through our reading series and open mics, free creative writing workshops, seminars, fellowships, competitions, and the Bronx WritersCorps program, BWC reaches writers of all ages, backgrounds and disciplines. Over the years, BWC has presented one of the most diverse and exciting reading series in New York City, featuring emerging talents from the Bronx as well as renowned writers from around the country.

For Current Opportunities and Services: Visit the Bronx Writers' Center's web pages at www.bronxarts.org for information on these programs and to view BWC's current calendar and opportunity listings. You can also contact Maria Romano at the Writers' Center at maria@bronxarts.org or 718-931-9500 X21.

The Bronx Writers' Center, a program of the Bronx Council on the Arts, is supported by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs Greater New York Arts Development Fund, the New York State Council on the Arts' Literature Program, the New York City Department of Youth & Community Development, the Carnegie Corporation, the Scherman Foundation and NYC Council Member James Vacca.

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