



Contact: Charlie Vázquez
718-931-9500 x21
503-740-3795
Charlie@bronxarts.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bronx Council on the Arts Celebrates Bronx History with Edgar Allan Poe Big Read Arts Festival

Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA) will launch its next Big Read celebration, with Bronx literary history in mind, on Wednesday, October 1, 2014 at the Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos, for the opening of the exhibit “The Magic Realism of Ian Scott Charles”, from 5:00-8:00pm. BCA will be giving away a limited number of free copies of *The Great Tales and Poems of Edgar Allan Poe*, as well as handouts listing the over 16 events being launched through November 15, 2014, in honor of Poe, the arts, and the value of literature and writing.

Poe moved to Fordham Village, in the Bronx with his sickly wife Virginia in 1846 and died mysteriously in Baltimore in 1849. Among his most famous works written in the Bronx are the poems “Annabel Lee” and “The Bells” and the short story “The Cask of Amontillado.” He is considered one of the United States’ most influential writers and is credited with having invented the modern detective genre in fiction.

BCA will be celebrating Poe’s life by presenting more than ten writing workshops and book discussions at venues such as the Poe Park Visitors Center, two lectures in partnership with the Bronx Historical Society, a Day of the Dead drum/dance and poetry performance at the Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance, a children’s craft workshop at the Westchester Square New York Public Library and a theatrical performance by actor David Houston, called *Murder, Madness, and Poe* at the Bronx Library Center.

For full schedule and to sign up for BCA newsletter, go to bronxarts.org.

The Bronx Council on the Arts is a private, nonprofit membership organization and is the official cultural agency of the Bronx. Recognized nationally as a leading arts service organization that provides grants, cultural services and programming, BCA offers a wide array of services to Bronx-based artists as well as arts and community-based organizations. For more information on BCA’s upcoming events and programming, and to learn how you can support the Bronx Council on the Arts during in its future endeavors, please visit bronxarts.org.

The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest. For more information, visit www.neabigread.org. Additional support is provided by the Robert Bowne Foundation and the New Yankee Stadium Community Benefits Fund Inc., and the Westchester Square Branch of the New York Public Library. Additional support was provided by the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, NYS Council on the Arts, Lambent Foundation Fund of Tides Foundation, Lily Auchincloss Foundation, Inc. and NYC Council Members Maria del Carmen Arroyo, Annabel Palma and James Vacca.

###

Bronx Writers Center • BCA @ 2700 • Longwood Art Gallery • bronxarts.org
1738 Hone Avenue, Bronx, New York 10461
718.931.9500 • Fax: 718.409.6445 • contact@bronxarts.org