



50 Years and Looking Forward



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**BRIO Information Session for Writers  
A Free Bronx Writers Center Workshop  
Future Home of the Bronx Council on the Arts, 2700 East Tremont Avenue  
Monday, January 7, 2013 6:30-8:00pm**

(Bronx, NY – December 21, 2012) The Bronx Council on the Arts' (BCA) Bronx Writers Center (BWC), in collaboration with BCA's BRIO award, presents a **Bronx Recognizes its Own (BRIO) Award Information Session for Writers** on Monday, January 7, 2013, 6:30-8:00pm, at the future home of the Bronx Council on the Arts, 2700 E Tremont Avenue (corner of St. Raymond Avenue), Bronx, NY 10461, in the Westchester Square section of the Bronx.

BWC has designed this free, two-hour, hands-on session to help artists applying for the 2013 BRIO award in literary categories (screenwriting, playwriting, fiction, non-fiction, illustrated text, poetry) understand the application requirements and process and to make an appointment for an application review. A 6:30pm half-hour of speed writing -- a short writing and networking exercise -- will begin the evening hosted by **Maria T. Romano**, Director of the Bronx Writers Center and BRIO winner. A question and answer session will follow. Admission is free and all are welcome. Reserve your seat at <http://bronxwriters1072013.eventbrite.com/>.

**Maria Romano** holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from Yale University and a Masters in Fine Arts in Creative Writing from the New School. She is a creative writing teacher at Fordham University's Science and Technology Entry Program for middle and high school students and a volunteer at the nationally recognized non-profit, Girls Write Now. Ms. Romano has also worked as an Academic Director for Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions and as a Sales and Production Manager at Avon Books (now part of Harper Collins). A Bronx-bred, award-winning writer of short stories and essays, she is currently working on a novel.

The Bronx Writers Center's 2013 workshop series, *In Progress*, is posted on BCA's website at [www.bronxarts.org](http://www.bronxarts.org). For additional information on this workshop or other BWC events, call 718-931-9500 x21, e-mail [bronxwriters@bronxarts.org](mailto:bronxwriters@bronxarts.org), or visit the Bronx Writers Center's web pages at [www.bronxarts.org](http://www.bronxarts.org).

**The Bronx Writers Center** supports and develops the appetite for writing and reading in the Bronx. The BWC searches for and promotes new voices and audiences and engages the community in literary and literacy programs.

**Bronx Recognizes Its Own (BRIO)**, established in 1989, provides direct support to individual Bronx artists who create musical, literary, media, visual and performing works of art. BRIO is a competitive awards program celebrating twenty-three years of awards for creative excellence. For more information about BRIO, visit [www.bronxarts.org/brio.asp](http://www.bronxarts.org/brio.asp).

**Bronx Council on the Arts**, celebrating 50 years as a private, non-profit membership organization, is the official cultural agency of Bronx County. Recognized nationally as a leading arts service organization in providing cultural services and arts programs, BCA serves a multicultural constituency of almost 1.4 million residents. BCA provides an array of services to 5,000 artists and more than 250 arts and community-based organizations.

*This event is supported by the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, Robert A. Bowne Foundation, Arts MidWest, Bloomberg Philanthropies, NYS Council on the Arts' Literature Program, NYC Council Member James Vacca, New York City Department of Youth and Community Development, the National Endowment for the Arts, NYC Dept. of Small Business Services-Ave NYC, the Scherman Foundation, the Lambent Fund of the Tides Foundation, and the Westchester Square Branch of the New York Public Library.*

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