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Join us for our Tuesday, February 2nd Press Preview at Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos. 2:00-4:00pm and 5:00-7:00pm.

RSVP

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bronxafrica-exhibition-press-preview-meet-artists-and-curators-tickets-20107259354?aff=eivtefrnd>

**February 3rd Bronx Trolley First Wednesday Arts & Culture Tour
BRONX:AFRICA Opening Reception with Live Music and DJ!
Exhibitions! Book Reading! And, of course, A Ride on the Trolley!**

(Bronx, NY – January 15, 2016) **The Bronx Trolley First Wednesday Arts & Culture Tour**, a program of the Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA), returns on February 3rd with the exciting opening of **BRONX:AFRICA** at BCA's **Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos**, along with exhibitions at the **Bronx Museum of the Arts**, **BronxArtSpace** and **Wallworks Gallery**. Additionally, the evening will include a book signing and reading at the Bronx Museum of the Arts. The evening begins and ends at Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos on the campus of Hostos Community College at 450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street. Admission to venues is free and all are welcome to hop on board the trolley and enjoy them.

Directions to Hostos: Subway: 2, 4 & 5 trains; Bus: BX1, BX2 & BX19; all destinations to 149th Street/Grand Concourse.

February 3rd's trolley begins at 5:00pm at Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos (Hostos Community College, 450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street) with the opening reception for **BRONX:AFRICA** featuring contemporary art across disciplines along with Program Ambassador events around the Bronx and beyond. Our borough is home to major and still growing populations from various countries in Africa. Their vital presence influences and transforms our city. **BRONX:AFRICA** is a multi-disciplinary exploration of the art, expressions and influences of African cultures and their impact on the arts as nationals mix and infuse. **BRONX:AFRICA** celebrates the influence of contemporary African cultures that strengthens and connects us with the many peoples of African descent, the diaspora, mixed heritage and migration-dispersion that call the Bronx home. **BRONX:AFRICA** features work by 25 artists, with an online component. The curatorial team includes LeRonn P. Brooks, Exhibition Curator; Atim Oton, Curator of Community Engagement; Juanita Lanzo, Longwood Art Gallery Director; and Deirdre Scott, Executive Director of the Bronx Council on the Arts.

The opening reception will include a live musical performance by Gambian musician Muhamadou Salieu Suso, renowned for his mastery of the 21-stringed Kora; "Ancestor Calling", a live performance by Dowoti Desir; and additional music will be provided by DJ Juwandi of House Riddims.

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 trolley is your free ticket to a cultural tour along the South Bronx Cultural Corridor of the lower Grand Concourse. The 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.

In addition to Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos, this month's trolley stops and attractions include:

- **Bronx Museum of the Arts** for a special reading of *Voices Beyond Bondage: An Anthology of Verse by African Americans of the 19th Century* with co-editor Erika DeSimone; and free guided tours of the Museum's exhibitions: *Michelle Stuart, Theatre of Memory: Photographic Works; Trees Are Alphabets; Martin Wong: Human Instamatic; Transitions: New Photography from Bangladesh*. Visit bronxmuseum.org for detailed descriptions of their exhibitions.
- **BronxArtSpace** for **SPEAK OUT**, an evening of spoken word and performances featuring works from over 40 artists addressing the persistent condition of injustice by presenting empowering concepts of the self, body and community.
- **Wallworks Gallery** for *Chow Down with Mr. Wonderful*, a solo exhibition of works by local artist BR163 featuring his character Mr. Wonderful.

The Bronx Trolley First Wednesday Arts & Culture Tour will return on March 2, 2016. Visit www.bronxarts.org in mid-February for information on March 2nd's trolley as well as other BCA programs and activities. Additional information: 718-931-9500 x33.

The Bronx Trolley First Wednesday Arts & Culture Tour, a program of the Bronx Council on the Arts and the Bronx Tourism Council, is made possible with funding from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, NYS Council on the Arts, the Lambent Foundation Fund of Tides Foundation, Lily Auchincloss Foundation, Inc., Hostos Community College, Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr., NYC Council Members Fernando Cabrera, Andrew Cohen, Melissa Mark-Viverito and James Vacca and the Bronx Delegation of the City Council.

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