

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Phil Cardone x33
Phil@bronxarts.org
Lydia Clark x35
Lydia@bronxarts.org
Phone: 718-931-9500
Fax: 718-409-6445
Web: www.bronxarts.org

**Bronx Council on the Arts and BRIO present "South Bronx Cypher"
Hosted by 2012 BRIO award winner RodStarz of Rebel Diaz
at RDAC BX on Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at 7:00pm**

(Bronx – February 1, 2013) The Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA) and BRIO present "South Bronx Cypher" hosted by 2012 BRIO award winner RodStarz of Rebel Diaz on at 7:00pm on Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at RDAC BX, 480C Austin Place (off East 149th St. & Bruckner Blvd.) Bronx, NY 10455. The evening will include performances by RDAX-BX Family Cypher, DJ Illanoiz, and DJ Charlie Hustle. Open floor for B/Boys and B/Girls.

Directions to RDAC BX (Rebel Diaz Arts Collective): #6 train to East 149th Street; BX19 bus to East 149th & Southern Blvd. Phone: 646-250-4405. Admission is free and all are welcome. Seating is limited, so please visit <http://02122013brio.eventbrite.com> to reserve your ticket.

Rodrigo 'RodStarz' Venegas was a 2012 BRIO award winner for vocal music. Rodrigo is a middle child, with an older and younger brother. He was born in Chertsey, England after his parents fled Chile in exile after the Pinochet led military dictatorship of September 11, 1973. He grew up in Chicago and currently resides in the Hunts Point community of the South Bronx, where he has been organizing young people since 2005. He became a break dancer at the age of 11 and has ever since been in love with Hip-Hop culture. Rodrigo has become a full-time performer and teaching artist with Hip-Hop musical duo, Rebel Diaz, and helped found RDAC-BX in 2008. His favorite books are *Down These Mean Streets* by Piri Thomas and *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho.



Bronx Recognizes Its Own (BRIO), established in 1989, provides direct support to individual Bronx artists who create literary, media, visual, and performing works of art. 25 BRIO grants of \$3,000 each are awarded to Bronx artists. BRIO award winners complete a one-time public service. The awards are based solely on artistic excellence. Winners are selected by a panel of arts professionals representing the award disciplines. Only artists living in the Bronx are eligible to apply.

The **Bronx Council on the Arts** (BCA) was established in 1962 and celebrates its 50th year in 2012. BCA is a private, non-profit membership organization and the official cultural agency of the Bronx. We are recognized nationally as a leading arts service organization that provides grants, cultural services and programming. We serve the entire county of the Bronx (over 1.3 million residents), and connect with Upper Manhattan, Westchester and regional resources. BCA offers a wide array of services to over 4,800 artists and more than 250 arts and community-based organizations.

Funding for BRIO is provided by the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs-Greater New York Arts Development Fund, Lambent Foundation Fund of Tides Foundation, and Bloomberg Philanthropies. Additional funding is provided by the NYS Council on the Arts, the Scherman Foundation and BCA's membership program.

###