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**Bronx Council on the Arts presents Playwright & BRIO Winner Camille Darby
on Wednesday, June 2nd for a Staged Reading at the Mott Haven Library**

(Bronx, NY – May 24, 2010) The Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA) and the Bronx Library Center present playwright and BRIO winner Camille Darby for a 6:45pm reading from her one-act play *Sweetest Taboo* on Wednesday, June 2nd, at the Mott Haven Branch of the New York Public Library at 321 East 140th Street / 718-665-4878. The reading is open to the public and admission is free. The center is wheelchair accessible

Sweetest Taboo

Caldwell housing development is crumbling. And like many other high-rise apartment buildings in Harlem that shelter generations of Black Americans as far back as World War I, it is disappearing into thin air. Mark Hansen is one of the men responsible for this change. Despite being a Harlemite himself and a descendant of parents who stood at the forefront of the Harlem Renaissance, Mark has found a way to go further than his parents could ever go—even if that means replacing the poor with the rich. Ty, his first potential taker, proves to be quite the opposite of Mark, but in his own way seeks to find his way out. The more these two men argue about their differences, the more they realize that they have a lot more in common than they could have ever imagined.

This evening's reading will be followed by a brief Q & A period. Audience feedback is encouraged.

Camille Darby was born in Jamaica, West Indies, but migrated to New York City with her family at the age of six. Her constant attempts at adjusting to American culture—she soon discovered—were best manifested through her writing. It was her first play *Mother, May I?*, which was written in her high school's Residency Arts Program, that drew the attention of acclaimed playwright, Wendy Wasserstein. With Wasserstein's guidance and encouragement, Camille continued to study theatre, history, literature and film at Sarah Lawrence College where she received her B.A. in Liberal Arts in 2005. During the same year, she also received Honorable Mention at the College Language Association Creative Writing Contest for her ten-minute play *Where Your Gun At?* — A social commentary examining the women of the Black Panther Movement of the 1960s. Camille holds an M.F.A in Dramatic Writing from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. During that time, she had a series of readings at The Public Theatre which include *Easy Conversation* and *Sweetest Taboo*. Camille is one of BCA's BX Indie Artists in the literary field, who received the 2008 Bronx Recognizes Its Own (BRIO) award in playwriting for her full-length play *Lords Resistance*.



Playwright & BRIO Winner Camille Darby presents a staged reading from her one-act play *Sweetest Taboo* at the Mott Haven Library at 6:45pm on Wednesday, June 2nd. Admission is free. All are welcome.

Photo courtesy of Camille Darby.

Directions: Mott Haven Branch of the New York Public Library is located at 321 East 140th Street. For directions, call 718-665-4878 or visit <http://www.nypl.org/locations/tid/50/directions>.

BRIO (Bronx Recognizes Its Own) is a demonstration of the Bronx Council on the Arts' outreach and support to artists creating work in the literary, media, performing, and visual arts. Serving as BCA's flagship grant program, BRIO is one of the longest individual support mechanisms for artists in the country, honoring the very best of the many talented people of our community since 1989. Annually, twenty-five Bronx artists receive awards of \$3,000 for artistic excellence in literary, media, performing, and visual arts. For information about BRIO, call 718-931-9500 x35, e-mail lydia@bronxarts.org or visit www.bronxarts.org.

The BX Indie Artist Series is designed to encourage artists and arts collectives to explore new performance sites and to get closer to their audience thus increasing community participation and fostering an environment for the arts to thrive. As such, the series will accomplish a unique goal by filling a large gap in the community arts marketplace while giving a voice to quality professional performing artists of all disciplines.

The Bronx Council on the Arts, a private non-profit membership organization is the officially designated cultural agency of the Bronx. For over 45 years, BCA has been providing quality cultural services and arts programs to a multicultural constituency of our borough. The mission of the Bronx Council on the Arts is to encourage and increase the public awareness and participation in the arts and to nurture the development of artists and arts and cultural organizations. For more information about BCA or its many programs, call 718-931-9500, or visit www.bronxarts.org.

This program was made possible with funding by the New York State Council on the Arts, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs Greater New York Arts Development Fund, Department of Youth & Community Development, Scherman Foundation, Carnegie Corporation, Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr., Council Members Maria del Carmen Arroyo and James Vacca, and the New York State Council on the Arts.

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