



50 Years and Looking Forward

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**Twenty-Five Bronx Artists Received BCA's 2012 BRIO Award  
Award Reception & Networking Event on Wednesday, August 1st  
at Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos Community College**

(July 19, 2012 – Bronx) Twenty-five Bronx artists are the 2012 recipients of the Bronx Council on the Arts' (BCA) prestigious **Bronx Recognizes Its Own (BRIO) Award** for artistic excellence. An award reception and networking event will be held on Wednesday, August 1st at 6:00pm at Longwood Art Gallery at Hostos Community College.

The August 1st event marks the twenty-third anniversary of BRIO, and is one of many activities scheduled for that evening's Bronx Culture Trolley at the Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos, along with a number of free trolley activities along the South Bronx Cultural Corridor. BRIO winners, past and present, are invited to socialize and network with each other while welcoming the 2012 BRIO winners into the fold. BRIO winners and guests, RSVP at <http://brio08012012.eventbrite.com/>.

**The 2012 BRIO Award recipients** will each receive a grant of \$3,000. They are:

**Literary Arts (5):** Laura Goldberg (poetry), Amy Gottlieb (poetry), Sima Rabinowitz (poetry), Tiffany Soriano (fiction), and Ajene Washington (playwriting). **Media Arts (1):** Adel Morales (narrative film video). **Performing Arts (7):** Igor Begelman (instrumental music), John Benitez (instrumental music), Don Friedman (instrumental music), Alethea Pace (dance), Matthew Jefferson (vocal), Rafael Torres (performance poetry), and Rodrigo Venegas (vocal). **Visual Arts (12):** Manuel Acevedo (installation art), Michael Paul Britto (mixed media), Patricia Delahanty (painting), Sharyn Finnegan (painting), Sean Paul Gallegos (sculpture), Nilda Garces (craft), Swati Khurana (mixed media), Elle Perez (photography), Stephanie Rodriguez (illustration/artist book), Hrvoje Slovinc (photography), Jennifer Tomaiolo (painting), and Randall Wilcox (painting).

BRIO awardees must complete a one-time public service activity to receive their complete cash award. Known as the **ACE** (Artists for Community Enrichment), this activity is an essential component for all BRIO recipients and must be performed within the one-year period of their award. The ACE provides artists with additional visibility and demonstrates to the community the wealth of artistic talent available in our borough.

Since its inception in 1989, BRIO has provided support for the artistic development of Bronx artists. Over the years, more than \$725,000 has been awarded to 260 artists. The selection of the awardees is based solely on the artistic excellence of the work submitted and judged anonymously by a panel of professional artists (different panelists each year) from outside the Bronx and working in each respective field.

Over its twenty-three years, BRIO has grown from ten annual awards of \$1500 to twenty-five annual awards of \$3,000. The Bronx has the unique distinction of being the only borough in New York City to have an ongoing fellowship awards for artists.

The August 1st BRIO reception is among the many activities taking place during that evening's Bronx Culture Trolley which includes the Designers' Bazaar at Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos, a book signing event and tour of the Bronx Museum of the Arts, and exhibitions at BronxArtSpace and the Clock Café & Martini Bar.

For further information about BCA's BRIO program, e-mail [BRIO@bronxarts.org](mailto:BRIO@bronxarts.org). For information on August 1st's Bronx Culture Trolley or other events and activities of the Bronx Council on the Arts, visit [www.bronxarts.org](http://www.bronxarts.org). Hostos Community College is located at 450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street in the Bronx. Take the 2, 4, or 5 train to 149th Street & Grand Concourse.

*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.*

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