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***Anthem: an all-american dystopia***  
**opens at Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos on December 2nd**

(November 5, 2009 — Bronx NY) The Longwood Art Gallery@ Hostos, the contemporary art center of the Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA) celebrates BRIO XX — the 20th anniversary of BCA's prestigious BRIO Award (Bronx Recognizes its Own) with the exhibition *Anthem: an all-american dystopia*, curated by Melissa A. Calderón. An opening reception will take place on Wednesday, December 2, from 5:00 to 9:00pm, in conjunction with the Bronx Culture Trolley. Longwood is located on the campus of Hostos Community College at 450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street. Admission is free and all are welcome.



*Anthem: an all-american dystopia*, explores an America within the crux of reforming a national identity; family, health, politics, urban crisis and decay, environmental issues, consumerism and globalization. All participating artists are 2008 and 2009 BRIO award winners. They include Gloria Adams, Cara Judea Alhadeff, Tenille Blair-Neff, Linda Cunningham, Dennis Redmoon Darkeem, Donna Diamond, Marisol Diaz, Juan Doe, Nicky Enright, Michael Ferris Jr., Rosemarie Fiore, Michelle Frick, Kuniyasu Hashimoto, Tracie Hervy, Kalissa Maxwell, Josh Millis, Vittorio Ottaviani, Micky Schon, Hrvoje Slovinc, and Jennifer Tomaiolo. The show will be on display in the main gallery through February 6, 2010.

**Melissa A. Calderón** is a Bronx-based artist, curator and arts activist for the revitalization of the South Bronx, founder of the Mott Haven loft series *CONVERSIONS*, and a co-founder of Haven Art Space and Coalition of Mott Haven Artists. Ms. Calderón studied at Lehman College (CUNY). She had coordinated BRIO for the Bronx Council on the Arts and is currently the Project Coordinator for Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. In addition, her work has been exhibited in group and solo shows at El Museo del Barrio's *[S] Files Biennial* in 2007), the *2009 Portland Museum of Art Biennial*, the Bronx Museum's *Artist in the Marketplace (AIM 29)* 2009 and The Bronx Blue Bedroom Project (BBBP), and the Project Room Space at Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos. Ms. Calderón lives in the Riverdale section of the Bronx.

**BRIO**, now in its 20th year, continues to provide support for artistic development of individuals creating works of literary, media, performing, and visual arts in the Bronx. A minimum of 25 BRIO grants of \$3,000 each are awarded annually to individual artists residing in the Bronx. BRIO award winners must complete a one-time public service activity to receive their complete award. The selection for awards is based solely on artistic excellence and is decided on by a panel of professional artists representing the various disciplines. Only artists living in the Bronx are eligible to apply for BRIO.

**Longwood Arts Project** is the contemporary art center of the Bronx Council on the Arts with the mission to support artists and their work, especially emerging artists from under-represented groups such as people of color and women, through the Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos, Digital Matrix Commissions Program, and public programs that provide opportunities for free and open dialogue.

**Gallery Hours:** Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos is open Monday through Saturday from 10:00am-6:00pm. It is closed on Sundays and major holidays. Please note that the gallery will be closed on December 24th, 25th, 26th, 31st and January 1st.

**Directions to Hostos:** Hostos Community College is located at 450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street in the Bronx. Transportation: IRT 4 & 5, Bx1, Bx19 to Grand Concourse and 149 Street.

*This exhibition is made possible by the generous support of the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs Greater New York Arts Development Fund, NYS Council on the Arts, National Endowment for the Arts, Carnegie Corporation, Scherman Foundation, New York Community Trust, Eugenio Maria de Hostos Community College, Council Members Maria del Carmen Arroyo and James Vacca, and BCA's membership program*

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