



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Cheryl Simmons-Oliver to be Honored by the
Bronx Council on the Arts at a 6:00pm Ceremony on Wednesday, June 2nd**

(May 21, 2010 -- Bronx, NY) **Cheryl Simmons-Oliver** will be honored by the Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA) at a 6:00pm ceremony on Wednesday, June 2nd at the Longwood Art Gallery at Hostos Community College. The celebration will coincide with the evening's Bronx Culture Trolley activities and will include a presentation of the 2010 BRIO Award to 25 Bronx artists.

Cheryl Simmons-Oliver is currently the District Director and Senior Policy Advisor for Economic Development and Employment, for the Office of Congressman Jose E. Serrano. During her tenure, which began in 1993, she implemented and designed an effective outreach initiative strategy to advocate for the residents of the 16th Congressional District in the areas of immigration services, environment, housing, improved postal services, grants, youth, education, intergenerational housing, support services as well as economic development.

As Congressman Serrano's designee to the federal empowerment zone, Mrs. Simmons-Oliver works to ensure that full gainful employment is secured for the residents who reside within the empowerment zone designated area. Prior to joining the Congressional Office, she worked in the areas of mental health law and education at a number of medical agencies and educational facilities.



Photo courtesy of Ms. Simmons-Oliver

Mrs. Simmons-Oliver serves on the Board of Directors for Fordham-Tremont CMHC, Family Support System, Inc. She is Congressman Serrano's designee to the Bronx Overall Economic Development Board of Directors, an advisor to the Board of Directors for the Black United leadership of the Bronx, a member of a number of professional and religious organizations, and serves as an advisor to many non-profit organizations. She is a member of the Bronx Rotary Club, and most recently has been elected to their Board of Directors.

Mrs. Simmons-Oliver was born and raised in Bronx, and attended parochial schools through college. She received a Masters in Science with a specialization in Reading from City College and Juris Doctorate from CUNY Law School at Queens College. She is married to Everett Oliver, a sergeant in the NYC Police Department. They are the proud parents of two sons, Everett Arthur Oliver, an LA casting director, and Eaton-Chad Oliver, a student at Sony Brook University. Mr. and Mrs. Oliver have also raised her brother, Arthur Simmons, a graduate of Niagara University and a labor relation specialist for the NYC Health and Hospital Corporation.

Other activities taking place during that evening's Bronx Culture Trolley include exhibitions at the Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos, the Bronx Museum of the Arts, Pregones Theater, BronxArtSpace, and LDR Studio Gallery. Additional activities include an after-party karaoke night at the Bruckner Bar & Grill.

The Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos is located on the campus of Hostos Community College at 450 Grand Concourse and 149th Street. It is easily accessible by the #2, #4, and #5 trains. For additional information on BCA's 45th Anniversary Celebration at June 2nd's Bronx Culture Trolley, contact Phil Cardone at 718-931-9500 x33 or phil@bronxarts.org.

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