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**Bronx Council on the Arts Collaborates with Bronx Museum of the Arts
and PEN American Center for World Voices International Literary Festival**

(Bronx, NY – April 15, 2015) The [Bronx Council on the Arts](http://www.bronxarts.org) is teaming up with [Bronx Museum of the Arts](http://www.bronxmuseum.org) and the [PEN American Center](http://www.pen.org)—the leading human rights organization for writers worldwide—for the PEN World Voices literary conference on Thursday, May 7, 2015. This first-time collaboration will bring international literary programming to the Bronx and will be the first of continuing partnerships for these groundbreaking organizations.

This day of programs will include fiction and memoir writing workshops with Cuban-American novelist Chantel Acevedo (1:00pm-3:00pm) and Billy Kahora (3:30pm-5:30pm), and will conclude with “The Witnesses” an author’s panel discussion on elders and folklore that will feature writers and celebrities Vinie Burrows, Boubacar Boris Diop, Yusef Komunyakaa, Achille Mbembe, and Ngũgĩ wa Thiong’o, which starts at 6:30pm.

“The Bronx is an immigrant borough and deserves worldly literary programming,” says Bronx Writers Center Director Charlie Vázquez. “The Bronx Council on the Arts was extremely excited to participate on this project and we’ll continue this win/win/win partnership for the benefit of Bronxites borough-wide.”

Info and RSVP: www.bronxarts.org

The **Bronx Writers Center** is the literary division of the Bronx Council on the Arts and provides free writing workshops and professional development support to writers of all genre and skill levels throughout the borough. For more information email: bronxwriters@bronxarts.org.

The **Bronx Council on the Arts** (BCA), established in 1962, is the official cultural agency of the Bronx. BCA is 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 a multitude of artists and more than 250 arts and community-based organizations. For further information about BCA and its programs and activities, visit www.bronxarts.org or call 718 931-9500.

The Bronx Writers Center is supported by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the Robert A. Bowne Foundation, the New Yankee Stadium Community Benefits Fund, NYC Council Members Annabel Palma and James Vacca, NYC Department of Youth and Community Development, the National Endowment for the Arts, Auchincloss Foundation, Inc., and the Westchester Square Branch of the New York Public Library.

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