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*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

**Bronx Council on the Arts and 2015 BCA BRIO Award Winner Ruth Marshall Present
“Animal Skins” at the Morris Park Library**

(Bronx, NY – May, 3, 2016) The Bronx Council on the Arts is proud to present a two day exhibition by 2015 BCA BRIO Award winner Ruth Marshall. This exhibition will take place Friday, May 6th and Saturday, May 7th, 2016, starting at 10:00 – 5:00 pm, with a lecture at 2:30 pm at the Morris Park Library. The Morris Park Library is located at 985 Morris Park Avenue, Bronx, New York

Australian born artist, **Ruth Marshall** moved to the Morris Park area of the Bronx for her employment at the Bronx Zoo as an exhibit sculptor where she worked until 2009. As a trained fine artist she was inspired to change the focus of her artwork to animal representation where she could engage in a dialogue about endangered species and conservation. She is a Bronx Council of the Arts Bronx Recognizes Its Own - BRIO award winner from 2015.

Using the intricate method of intarsia and fair isle knitting she conducts research from museum and zoo collections to interpret the detailed patterns of nature. All of her knitted animal pelts are of selected individual skins, bringing to light the historical and current crisis of species loss through these animals’ stories.

For two days only, a selection of knitted artworks will be on display in the event room located on the lower level of the library for Friday, May 6th and Saturday May 7th from 10AM - 5PM. Educational class talks can be scheduled for Friday 6th May, please call (718) 931- 0636 for details. An artist talk is scheduled for Saturday, May 7th at 2:30 pm.

All are welcome and admission is free. Morris Park Library is wheelchair accessible.

The **Bronx Recognizes Its Own** (BRIO) Award for Excellence directly supports individual artists who create literary media, performing and visual works of art. Each year, a juried panel of arts professionals selects 25 awardees, each of whom receives a grant of \$3000.

Through BCA’s **Artist for Community Enrichment** (ACE) each BRIO Awardee completes a community service project that is free and open to the public. This might come in the form of an exhibition, performance or workshop depending on the genre represented by each awardee.

Over the years ACE has proven to be a valuable forum for BRIO Awardees. This allows artists to explore the vast possibilities of creative engagement with fellow Bronxites. The ACE initiative also provides the opportunity for Bronx residents to experience the wealth of artistic merit which thrives in our borough.

This series is made possible with funding from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, NYS Council on the Arts, the Lambent Foundation Fund of Tides Foundation, Auchincloss Foundation, Inc., and NYC Council Members James Vacca, Andrew Cohen, Andy King and Melissa Mark-Viverito.

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