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Contact: Phil Cardone
Phone: 718-931-9500 x33
E-Mail: trolley@bronxarts.org
Website: www.bronxarts.org

Bronx Council on the Arts Executive Director Bill Aguado Named to Governor-Elect Spitzer's Policy Transition Team

(Bronx -- November 20, 2006) New York State Governor-elect Eliot Spitzer has announced that Bill Aguado, Executive Director of the Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA) has been named to his Arts, Culture and Revitalization Policy Transition Team.

In an announcement last week, the Governor-Elect and Lieutenant Governor-Elect David Paterson named thirteen policy advisory committees to help guide their transition efforts. Composed of a diverse group of leading experts from throughout New York State, these committees will advise the Governor-Elect, Lieutenant Governor-Elect and the Transition Team on the major challenges facing the state.

Of this announcement, Aguado said, "This is a wonderful opportunity to create an Arts, Culture and Revitalization statewide policy that is inclusive of artists, communities, arts organizations and cultural institutions. Similarly, it is important to realize the potential economic contributions that the creative industries and economy can make in all communities."

Bill Aguado has been Executive Director of the Bronx Council on the Arts since 1981. A graduate of Hunter College, he received an M.A. from Fordham University. His current board affiliations include: The Eugenio Maria de Hostos Community College Foundation, Phipps Development Corporation, Citizens Advice Bureau, and the Non-Profit Coordinating Committee. He is currently Chairperson of the Association of Hispanic Arts. His past affiliations included: the Mayor's Advisory Commission on Cultural Affairs, the Latino Commission on AIDS Advisory Board, WNET/Channel 13 Advisory Board, Purchase College Trustee (SUNY), and the N.Y.S. Alliance for Arts Education. Among his many awards, Mr. Aguado was the recipient of the Municipal Art Society of New York's Certificate of Merit, Arts & Business Council's Encore Award, the Mayor's Art Commission Award for Design, the New York State Joint Legislative Proclamation and the Bronx Borough President's Citation for Service. In 2000, he was the recipient of the Governor's Arts Award and in 2002. Mr. Aguado was a member of the Bronx Borough President's Transition Team.



Bill Aguado, Executive Director
of the Bronx Council on the Arts

The Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA), 2006 recipient of the Mayor's Award for Arts & Culture, celebrates its 45th year in 2007 as a leading arts service organization working to promote the arts in the Bronx and supporting artists and arts organizations of all disciplines. This year, BCA was a key partner in the launching of the Urban Arts Initiative/New York -- a new grants program for NYC individual artists of color in all disciplines. In addition to providing direct financial support, BCA develops cutting-edge programming in arts education and works to revitalize local neighborhoods.

Key programs include the Longwood Arts Project, which works to raise the profile of artists from underrepresented groups; an Intensive Art Handlers Training Program, which trains working artists and museum personnel in caring for and transporting fine artworks and artifacts; the Bronx Writers' Center, devoted to the artistic and professional development of Bronx writers; the Bronx Cultural Card, designed to connect cardholders to cultural activities in the Bronx; and the Bronx Culture Trolley which carries riders to various cultural destinations and encourages arts participation and business development along the Bronx's lower Grand Concourse. The City has supported the Bronx Council on the Arts since 1973. (Additional information on BCA can be found at www.bronxarts.org or by calling 718-931-9500).

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