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2011 Studio LLC Exhibition

Jamaica, New York, TODAY'S DATE— The Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning (JCAL), is proud to announce that the *2011 Studio LLC Exhibition* will open on Wednesday, December 14th with an artists' reception from 6 – 8 PM. The exhibition, which will run through March 10, 2012, will feature works by fifteen emerging artists, including Ian Burnley, Crystal Z. Campbell, Hon Eui Chen, Florine Demosthene, Chuyen Huynh, Eun Hyung Kim, Charles Printz Kopelson, Zaun Lee, Mona Kamal, Maia Cruz Palileo, Antonia A. Perez, Courtney Puckett, Jacoby Satterwhite, Rosemary Taylor, and Lauren Tickle. The free exhibition is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday for viewing in both the William P. Miller Gallery and the newly renovated Community Gallery located at 161-04 Jamaica Avenue, in the heart of the Jamaica transit hub.

JCAL's Studio LLC is a yearlong program that provides emerging artists with the practical skills and training that they will need to market themselves as artists, set up and manage studios and handle the unique challenges that are part and parcel of an artist's everyday life. In the fall of 2010, JCAL announced an open call for emerging artists, who were within three years of their most recent degree, to submit an application. Through a panel process, sixteen artists were selected for admission to the program that began with the first seminar on tax issues in January 2011.

Subsequently, the artists have been meeting for a monthly seminar and for a monthly visit to one of the participating artist's studio. The seminar series has brought in an outstanding line up of professionals and established artists who have been sharing their experience and knowledge with the artists. Covered during these sessions were a wide range of subjects pertaining to the business of being an artist including medical and other insurances, grant writing, curatorial practices, gallery operation and coping with negative reviews.

In order to broaden their horizons, the artists are also making a monthly visit to one of their member's studio. The studio visits offered the artists the opportunity to learn more about each other's work and to share experiences. These visits also served to foster a spirit of collaboration through feedback sessions and information exchanges. In addition, the visits provided an opportunity for the artists to improve their skills in critical thinking and to come to understand the work of their contemporaries.

The yearlong program caps off with the upcoming exhibition that features works of all artists, except one who could not contribute his work due to an unforeseen circumstance. The exhibition is meant to celebrate a transitional point in the careers of the young artists, a point at which they hopefully will have achieved a better understanding of the practical and business elements of being an artist. Program graduates are likely to come away with a much more mature and sophisticated outlook on the challenges they face as artists.

The Studio LLC Program is one of JCAL's signature visual arts programs. For almost 40 years, JCAL has served as an arts oasis in a section of New York City where cultural opportunities are extremely limited. Created in 1972 as part of an effort to revitalize Jamaica, JCAL has earned a reputation for inspiring youth to take an interest in the arts, showcasing the talents of up and coming local artists and performers, and creating dynamic multicultural programs and workshops that have been embraced by the community. Each year, tens of thousands of visitors of all ages, backgrounds and skill sets pass through its doors to attend classes and workshops, view art exhibitions and attend performances.

Lead support for the Studio LLC program comes from the New York Community Trust. Additional support for the program as well as all JCAL programs comes from: the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and Commissioner Kate D. Levin; Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg; the New York City Council; Council Speaker Christine Quinn; the Queens Delegation of the New York City Council; Deputy Majority Leader, Councilman Leroy Comrie; Councilman James F. Gennaro; Councilman James Sanders, Jr.; Queens Borough President Helen M. Marshall and the New York State Council on the Arts.



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