



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE & LISTINGS
From Community Works
Contact: Barbara Horowitz at (212)459-1854

Community Works Joins Forces with Lower Manhattan Cultural
Council and Harlem Arts Alliance to Present
harlem is...Downtown

Community Works, in its tradition of bridging gaps and connecting communities through the arts, is bringing together Lower Manhattan Cultural Council and Harlem Arts Alliance to present ***harlem is... Downtown***, a year-long extension of the landmark ***harlem is...*** program. From December 2004 to December 2005, components of the multi-layered ***harlem is...*** will be exhibited at South Street Seaport Museum, Trinity Church, Tribeca Performing Arts Center and Borough Manhattan Community College, The Schimmel Center for the Arts at Pace University, The World Financial Center, Abrons Art Center at Henry Street Settlement and St. Augustine's Church, marking the first-ever collaboration between Lower Manhattan Cultural Council and Harlem Arts Alliance.

Launched in early 2003 at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and Aaron Davis Hall in Harlem, ***harlem is...*** is a multimedia, intergenerational living-history program celebrating and documenting Harlem's cultural importance. The exhibit chronicles Harlem's evolution from 1600 to the present through contemporary photographic portraits, archival photos, student writing, a graphic timeline, neighborhood maps, sound and video clips and an interactive website. What began as a view of Harlem through the lens of Harlem's young people has culminated in a landmark citywide public art project with a multi-component exhibit and public programs that have reached tens of thousands of people.

"harlem is... Downtown is a significant step in realizing Community Works' vision to bring the exhibit to all five New York City boroughs, and ultimately across the country, as an effective

model for uplifting and strengthening communities.” Remarked Barbara Horowitz, founder and president of Community Works, “How extraordinary that what began as a project in one classroom in Harlem – with students researching and writing about the history and heroes of their local community – has grown into a museum quality public art exhibit installed at multiple Lower Manhattan locations, and poised for a city-wide and national tour. The exhibit provides a model for other communities to explore and celebrate their own rich history and heroes.”

harlem is...Downtown traces the journey of African Americans from Lower Manhattan to Harlem, examining the unique historical connection between Downtown and Uptown. In addition to the main exhibits, the public will be engaged through more than 100 ancillary events which include dialogues, workshops, symposiums, guided tours and performances – at exhibit sites and various high-profile Downtown locations.

“This is a chance to experience what makes this city tick.” States Tom Healy, President of Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, “Harlem is only eight miles away from Downtown, but the collective cultural energy up there is something I could only hope would happen in Lower Manhattan. ***harlem is...Downtown*** may just be the kick start we need.”

“***harlem is...*** chronicles an important story that surprisingly has never been told. I am proud to play a role in communicating that story in the Harlem community where we had an opportunity to tell this story to 100,000 young people and adults. I am equally as excited about sharing the story and the rich culture of Harlem with the Lower Manhattan Community,” Says Vosa Rivers, Chairman, Harlem Arts Alliance.

EXHIBIT COMPONENTS

South Street Seaport Museum exhibition:

harlem is... 30 Harlemites Making a Difference – honoring 30 Harlem individuals, from the Silver Bells (members of the original Cotton Club dancers) to John Isaacs (Harlem Rens basketball player) to Charles Rangel (Congressman), who have shaped and defined today’s Harlem. Exhibit features a comprehensive timeline with archival photographs detailing Harlem’s history over the last 100 years.

LOCATION: Melville Gallery, South Street Seaport Museum
213 Water Street, 212-748-8600

DATES: December 6, 2004 – March 20, 2005, Wed. – Sun. 10 AM to 5 PM

Trinity Church exhibition:

harlem is... The Gospel Tradition – tells the stories of four churches at the forefront of the migration of African-American churches from Downtown to Harlem: the Abyssinian Baptist Church, Mother African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, Mount Oliver Baptist Church and St. Philip's Episcopal Church. The exhibition will include a never before seen collection of archives from the Trinity Church collection illustrating the history of Trinity's relationship with African Americans.

LOCATION: Trinity Church Museum
Broadway at Wall Street, 212-602-0872
DATES: December 3, 2004 – June 2005, Mon. – Fri. 9am to 11:45am & 1pm to 3:45pm, Sat. 10am to 3:45pm, Sun. 1pm to 3:45pm

Tribeca Performing Arts Center Exhibition:

harlem is... Dance– celebrates Harlem's living legacy of dance, honoring three important Harlem-based leaders of African-American dance: Ruth Williams, Marie Brooks and Dele Husbands. Exhibit features a timeline on the history of Harlem from 1900 to present.

LOCATION: The Breezeway Gallery, Tribeca Performing Arts Center at Borough of Manhattan Community College
199 Chambers Street, 212-220-1460
DATES: January 10th, 2005 – February 28th, 2005, Mon. – Fri. 11am to 5pm, Sat. 12pm to 5pm

Pace University Exhibition:

harlem is... Dance– celebrates Harlem's living legacy of dance, honoring three important Harlem based leaders of African-American dance: Williams, Marie Brooks and Dele Husbands. Exhibit features a timeline on the history of Harlem from 1900 to present.

LOCATION: The Michael Schimmel Center for the Arts at Pace University
1 Pace Plaza, (212) 346-1715, www.pace.edu/culture
DATES: March 8, 2005 – April 13, 2005, Hours TBA,
See www.pace.edu/culture for schedule

Additional exhibits will be announced for the World Financial Center Arts and Events Program, Abron's Arts Center Henry Street Settlement and St. Augustine's Church. A series of *harlem is...* programming will also take place in Harlem to connect and augment our *harlem is... Downtown* exhibition. The new *harlem is... Theatre* component will premiere at the Museum of

the City of New York in February 2005 and *harlem is...The Gospel Tradition* will reopen at Aaron Davis Hall.

Community Works, a leading nonprofit arts and education organization located in Harlem and Midtown Manhattan, was founded by Barbara Horowitz in 1990 with the mission to build bridges between diverse cultures and neighborhoods, use the arts as a tool for social and personal change, and share the rich community stories that connect us all. Community Works serves 150,000 youth and community members a year, through its major public art exhibits, public events, multicultural performances and workshops.



Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC) is an essential part of Downtown's cultural landscape and principal player in its redevelopment – as it has been since 1973. Through cultural planning, artist workspace programs, art services and funding opportunities, and free events in the performing, visual, and new media arts, LMCC takes a unique approach to enriching New York City's creative capital. Following the loss of their office, studio and programming venues at the World Trade Center, LMCC has re-emerged as a new and improved cultural force.

Harlem Arts Alliance is a membership service organization dedicated to preserving, promoting, sponsoring and presenting the rich cultural programs that reflect the vast contribution of Harlem's multiethnic and multicultural artists and arts organizations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about *harlem is... Downtown*, to arrange youth and other group tours, and to obtain a schedule of special events, contact Community Works at (212)459-1854 or visit www.communityworksny.org. Please contact Community Works to find out about our *harlem is...* educational components, which include a student and teacher study guide, interactive website, performing arts presentations and a public program series, in addition to the exhibit itself.

#

harlem is... 30 Harlemites Making A Difference
30 Individuals who have shaped and defined modern Harlem

Albert Murray • Writer, Professor & Historian
Basil A. Paterson • Attorney
Betty Allen • Opera Singer & Arts Administrator
Betty Allen • President Emeritus, The Harlem School of the Arts
Charles Rangel • Congressman
Dr. Yosef ben-Jochannan • Historian
Eloise Banks • Community Leader and President of West 138th Street Block Association
Gertrude Jeanette • Founder/Director of The Hadley Players
Gloria Lynne • Singer
Grace Williams • Visual Artist
Inge Hardison • Sculptor
James Allen • Director of Addicts Rehabilitation Center (ARC)
Joe Cuba • Afro-Latin Jazz Musician, The Salsa Museum
Joe Merenda • Owner of The Flash Inn Restaurant
John Bess • Founder and Director of The Valley
John Isaacs • The Harlem RENS Professional Basketball Team Member
Lloyd Williams • President, The Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce
Lorraine Monroe • Educator and Founder of Frederick Douglass Academy
Marie Brooks • Marie Brooks Caribbean Dance Theatre
Max Roach • Jazz Legend
Muriel Petioni • Community Leader and Doctor
Percy E. Sutton • Businessman
Raven Chanticleer • The Afro-American Wax Museum Sculptor
Rosa Guy • Writer and Co-Founder of Harlem Writers Guild
Ruth Williams • Ruth Williams Dance Studio
Sister Miriam Cecelia • Franciscan Handmaidens of the Most Pure Heart of Mary Convent
The Silver Belles • Harlem Chorus Girls
Tunde Samuel • Producing Director of The National Black Theatre
Vy Higginsen • Musical Theatre Producer, The Mama Foundation
Warren & Marguerite Blake • Detective and Funeral Directors
Yuri Kochiyama • Civil Rights Activist

MEDIA COVERAGE SUPPORT

1. **TOURS** of one or more of the sites can be arranged
2. **INTERVIEWS** can be set up with:
 - Exhibit honorees
 - Students whose work is represented in the exhibit
 - Barbara Horowitz, founder & president, Community Works
 - Voza Rivers, co-chairman, Community Works
 - Collaborating Partners
 - South Street Seaport Museum
 - Trinity Church
 - Tribeca Performing Arts Center
 - The Michael Schimmel Center for the Arts at Pace University
 - World Financial Center Arts and Events Program
 - Abron's Arts Center Henry Street Settlement
 - St. Augustine's Church
3. **IMAGES** can be provided:
 - Of the honorees
 - Vintage photos of Harlem