



55 Washington Street, Suite 218
Brooklyn, NY 11201

TEL 718.625.0080
FAX 718.625.3294

bac@brooklynartscouncil.org
www.brooklynartscouncil.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Contact: Sara DeRose, 718.625.0080, sderose@brooklynartscouncil.org

BROOKLYN ARTS COUNCIL RELEASES BLACK BROOKLYN RENAISSANCE ARCHIVE *Archive Release Reception to be held February 15th*

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK (February 1, 2012) - In celebration of Black History Month, Brooklyn Arts Council (BAC), is releasing the full digital archive from its landmark project, [Black Brooklyn Renaissance: Black Arts & Culture, 1960 – 2010](#).

The release will be celebrated with a **public reception** at **The Brooklyn Public Library, Central**, at Grand Army Plaza, on **Wednesday, February 15, from 6:30-8pm**. At the event, BAC Folk Arts Director, Dr. Kay Turner, who directed the Black Brooklyn Renaissance project and also conceived and directed the digital archive project, will introduce the Black Brooklyn Renaissance Digital Archive and show some clips from its contents. The reception is being hosted by The Brooklyn Collection of the Brooklyn Public Library. Space is limited and reservations are required. RSVP by February 10 to bacfolkarts@brooklynartscouncil.org or by calling 718-625-0080 x229.

Black Brooklyn Renaissance, a year-long initiative including research, concerts, performances, workshops, readings, screenings and exhibitions, explored Black culture and arts in Brooklyn over five decades. The [Black Brooklyn Renaissance Digital Archive](#) is a collection of 73 DVDs/CDs containing over 100 [interviews with artists and community leaders](#), as well as recordings of BAC-curated events, concerts and panels such as: [African Dance/Brooklyn Style](#); [Hip Hop Hybrids](#); [Black Brooklyn Drum Call](#); [Brooklyn the Gospel Borough](#); [Word is Brooklyn](#); Toshi Reagon concert; [Dance Kings of Black Brooklyn](#); Voices of the Elders symposia; [Rites and Ceremonies](#) symposia; and [much more](#).

“This archive will be an invaluable resource for artists, students, historians, community representatives and other stakeholders for generations to come,” said Ella J. Weiss, BAC President.

Copies of the archive will be housed in Brooklyn at the Brooklyn Arts Council Folk Arts Archive, Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation, Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn Collection of the Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Historical Society, Brooklyn Academy of Music Archive, and Medgar Evers College Library. Copies will also be deposited at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in Manhattan and the American Folklife Center Archive at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. A digital record of some Black Brooklyn Renaissance events is also available online at the Brooklyn Arts Council [website](http://www.brooklynartscouncil.org/documents/1288) (<http://www.brooklynartscouncil.org/documents/1288>).

Because limited copies of the BBR Digital Archive are being given to institutional libraries and archives, public access, while not restricted, must be gained by appointment with these institutions. Institutions will have their own protocols and visitors need to call or e-mail in advance.

ABOUT BAC

BAC is Brooklyn's leading nonprofit organization supporting artists and cultural groups in all disciplines. BAC reaches hundreds of thousands of artists and audience members each year through music, dance, film and visual arts programs, web-based directories and communities, arts education, urban folk arts initiatives, grants, training programs and artists services.

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