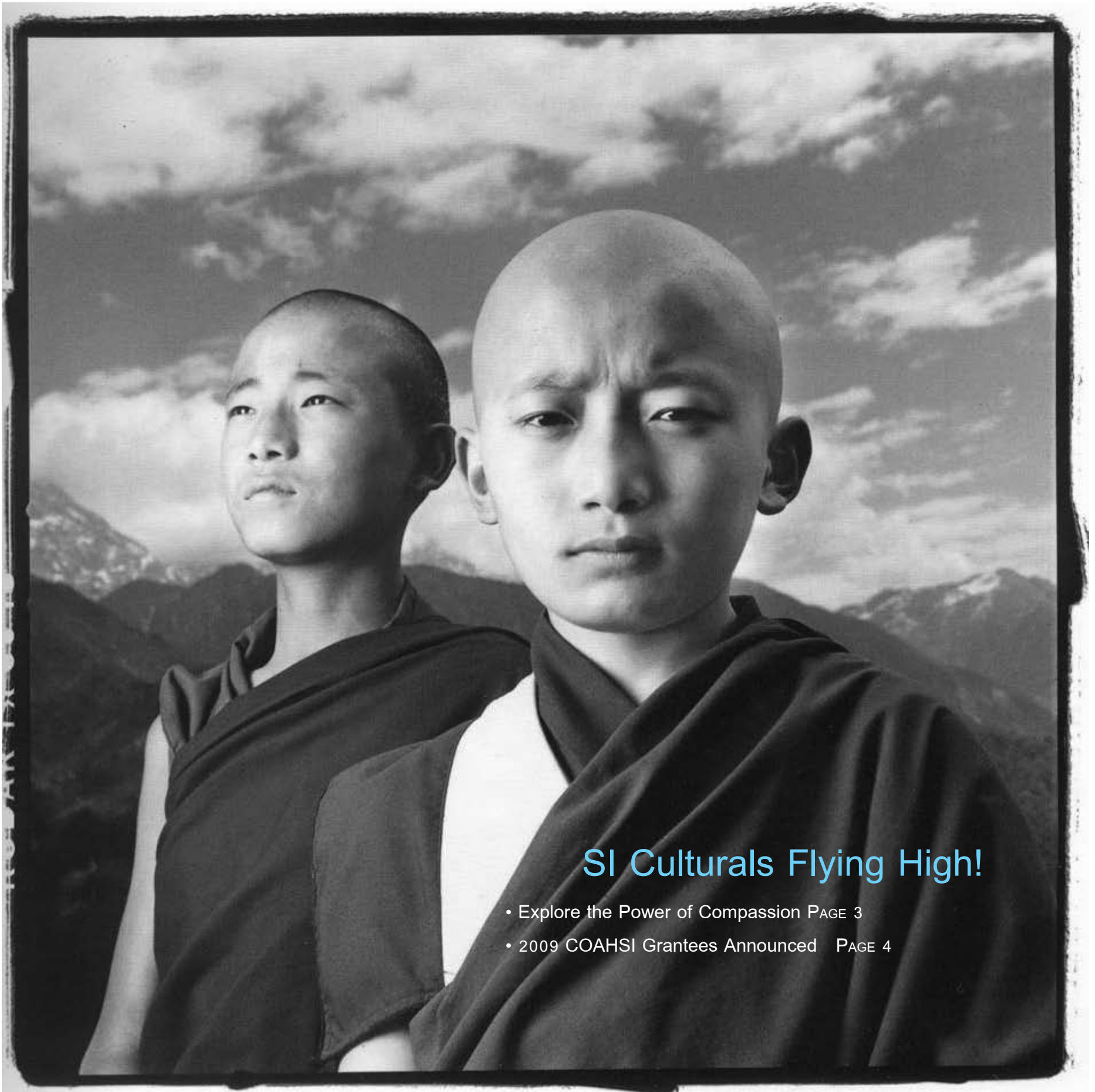


COAHSI

Winter 2009

ARTS & LETTERS

Staten Island's comprehensive arts and
culture newspaper
www.statenislandarts.org



SI Culturals Flying High!

- Explore the Power of Compassion PAGE 3
- 2009 COAHSI Grantees Announced PAGE 4

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COAHSI is supported by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; the New York State Council on the Arts; The Carnegie Corporation; JP Morgan Chase Foundation; The Staten Island Foundation; and Richmond County Savings Bank Foundation. COAHSI also thanks the New York City Councilmembers James Oddo and Michael McMahon; New York State Senator Andrew Lanza and Diane Savino; Assemblymembers Matthew Titone; and our artist, individual, family, and business members.

COAHSI's newsletter is a quarterly publication. Articles written for the newsletter are welcome, subject to normal editorial review. Articles are subject to edit and photos must adhere to certain specifications. Cultural, arts, and humanities organizations should submit information regarding upcoming programs. COAHSI does its best to provide fair representation and coverage in our newsletter to all its constituents; however, because of time and print constraints, this is not always possible.

ADVERTISING RATES

COAHSI Arts and Letters ads are the best deal in town! Readers are avid followers of theatre, film, dance, and more. They are family-oriented, concerned with community, and support cultural institutions. To place your ad in the COAHSI Arts & Letters April / May / June 2009 issue, submit it prior to March 1, 2009. Contact COAHSI at 718-447-3329.

1-Line Greeting (up to 50 chars, including spaces) \$10
 Business Card (3" x 1.75") \$35
 1/6 page (3" x 6" vertical or 9.5" x 2" horiz.) \$100
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ADVERTISING & INFORMATION DEADLINES

January / February / March **DECEMBER 1**

April / May / June **MARCH 1**

July / August / September **JUNE 1**

October / November / December **SEPTEMBER 1**

Front Cover: Phil Borges, *Namgyal, Age 13, and Thurman, Age 16, Dharamsala India*, Courtesy of the Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art
 Back Cover: COAHSI 2009 Grantees, top left photo of Musical Chairs Chamber Ensemble; top right photo of kiln-fused glass sculpture by Justin Gaynor. Bottom photo by Phil Sanders; All courtesy of the artists.

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 1000 Richmond Terrace, SI, NY 10301
 www.statenislandarts.org
 718-447-3329

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A new year brings new challenges and new opportunities

RECENTLY, I WENT TO A CONCERT at Everything Goes Café. The holidays were bearing down on me, the economy was on my mind, and I was in a bad mood. I didn't really have time to go to a concert and I certainly didn't feel like I'd enjoy anything that day, but it was a musician I admired and a COAHSI grantee.

I got to the concert a little late. The place was packed, but I found a seat to squeeze into. The music began and I picked up the rhythm. In a few minutes, my body started to relax. I looked at all the people sitting around me. They were smiling. And I realized I was smiling back.

Each of us in that room had come into the café with our own tight muscles and weighty thoughts. Had we met in a grocery store or a parking lot, we might have ignored one another, avoided eye contact, or—worst case scenario—gotten angry with each other when one of us “accidentally” stepped on the other's foot.

But during the concert, the music took our guard down. We shared the experience. We escaped our day-to-day pressures for a moment and took on a bigger perspective. We became a community in a fuller sense. It was the greatest investment of time that I made all week.

That is the power of art.

At COAHSI, we work with a large, active group of Staten Islanders who are making these moments happen for you. Despite the hardships we face this year, the existence of Staten Island's creative community is one big blessing.

Don't take it for granted. Support your favorite artists by being in the audience, giving them a good word, and asking them how you can help. Our community can weather bad financial times if we support one another.

COAHSI is doing its part to help. Beside the programs we have always offered, such as regrants, arts-in-education for our schools, and our weekly e-blasts of SI cultural events, we've started some new initiatives. One thing we always like to do is get the word out about what is going on around the island. So, we've started blogging on local art happenings for the Shores section of the *SI Advance*.

We also recently launched a “Stay Strong” program. Cultural organizations can sign-up by writing us at info@statenilandarts.org. We'll keep people up-to-date on news, grant opportunities, and workshops that are aimed at helping non-profit during these difficult times. We also offer one-on-one assistance, just e-mail or call to set up a meeting.

We'll be having a panel on January 8 for visual artists on how to get their work into a gallery, and on January 9, we'll host a workshop on how to write grants. But that's not all! On February 21, COAHSI will be hosting our annual grant award ceremony at CSI Center for the Arts. We're doing it big this year with exhibitions and performances by many of our grantees. It's a bargain at \$15 a ticket and we hope you'll join us to celebrate our artists, musicians, writers, and performers.

- Melanie Franklin Cohn, Executive Director

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SPOTLIGHT: TATTFOO TAN

Artist Tattfoo Tan explores food and culture through art. His newest project? A garden!

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Phil Borges
Dawa, Age 15, Drigung Valley, Tibet
 Courtesy of the Jacques Marchais
 Museum of Tibetan Art

THE POWER OF COMPASSION

Get Your Karma in Order
 The Exponential Power of Compassion
 Begins within Oneself

By Jo Anne Kavanagh and Meg Ventrudo,
 Executive Director of the Jacques
 Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art

“WE ARE, BY NATURE, the children of wrath” (Ephesians 2:3) and often the cause for another’s suffering. If we are lucky enough to remain honest and open with ourselves, we won’t steel ourselves against the moment of epiphany where we realize the damage wrought by our deeds. We will not judge others for their weakness; instead, we come to understand their suffering as our own and wish to do something about it.

Understanding without judgment—a desire to make whole—that is the essence of compassion, a building block of reconciliation.

The UN General Assembly, recognizing that reconciliation processes are particularly necessary and urgent in countries and regions of the world which have suffered or are suffering conflict that affects or divides societies, has proclaimed 2009 the International Year of Reconciliation.

As an international peace-keeping and peace-building organization, the UN views reconciliation as an indispensable precondition of any sustainable development. Reconciliation begins within oneself and radiates out through our per-

sonal networks, our daily work, into the community and throughout the international landscape.

The Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art will host several special events that explore the power of compassion culminating with the opening of a new exhibition in early spring.

On Friday, January 2, 2009, the Venerable Lama Karma Namgyel, a Bhutanese Buddhist monk, will prepare for the Buddha of Compassion Fire Ceremony by making *torma* (ceremonial cakes) and creating a ceremonial altar, including filling some fifty bowls with various seeds, saffron water, flowers, and other offerings.

By advance appointment, it is possible to schedule private consultations with Lama Karma for statue consecration, refuge ceremony, prayers and blessings, mantra healing, or divinations.

On Saturday, January 3, 2009, the museum will host a private benefit (\$100 per ticket) in which the Ven. Lama Karma will officiate the Buddha of Compassion, or *Chenrezig*, Fire Ceremony. During this special ceremony,

Continued on page 5

THE NEWS

REFLECTIONS ON COAHSI'S GRANTS

Ginger Shulick's view from the frontline

AS I WENT THROUGH my first round as Grants Director administering COAHSI's 2009 Project Grants, I was pleased to see a strong and diverse applicant pool. When I came to COAHSI in July, I made a conscious effort to meet as many returning grantees as possible, in addition to working closely with first-time applicants to polish their grantwriting and budgeting skills. I was pleased with the writing quality demonstrated by first-time applicants, and appreciated that so many implemented my often critical suggestions.

With cuts looming in the future to the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) and New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) budgets, as well as to other funding sources, COAHSI knows first-hand that it can be a scary time to seek funds—and we want to do everything we can to help. On January 9th from 3:00-5:00pm at the Richmondtown Library, Mark Rossier, Director of Development and Marketing for the New York Foundation for the Arts will be giving a workshop on grantwriting and successful fundraising, the first in COAHSI's 2009 series of technical assistance workshops. This session also marks the first of a permanent series of year-round grantwriting workshops hosted by COAHSI.

One of the comments I heard most frequently back in July was that the panel process could benefit from an influx of new panelists. This year, nearly 65 percent of the panelists had never served on a COAHSI panel. Perhaps as a result, several typically underfunded disciplines were better represented this year than in previous years, particularly that of modern dance. There were also grantees in the fields of installation art and digital art, two artistic genres that have not recently been funded through COAHSI. Funding was slightly down across the board for most COAHSI grantmaking categories in 2009, but despite this the overall number of individual artists and organizations funded was comparable to previous years.

The Premier grant category took the biggest hit financially this year, as funding was down \$20,000 over 2008—mainly due to the mandatory introduction of a returning applicant grant funded by the DCA. Every Premier applicant that I met with was informed that it would be a very competitive process this year, and indeed, only 17 of the 38 applicants received funding. Melanie Cohn and I, as well as the entire COAHSI staff,

Continued on page 11

CONGRATULATIONS 2009 COAHSI GRANTEES

47 organizations and individuals awarded grants through COAHSI programs



Meg Whitlock, Photograph from "Lhasa on the Hudson"



COAHSI PREMIER GRANTEES are funded through the Greater New York Arts Development Fund of New York City's Department of Cultural Affairs. Premier Grants are intended for first time or previously unsuccessful applicants that present art and cultural programming through projects and public presentations. COAHSI received 38 applicants in the Premier category, with requests totaling \$109,333. A total of \$39,900 was awarded to 17 applicants.

Justin Bacolo—The American Veteran, \$1,800; **Laura Del Prete**—Cages and Cases, \$1,800; **Nicholas Fevelo**—Todt Hill Wash Site, \$2,500; **Cecilia Flores**—The Big Blue, \$3,000; **Justin Gaynor**—Metastatic, \$2,000; **James Harris, Jr.**—Ashland & Division, \$2,000; **Matthew "Matt-U" Johnson**—Cross Cultural Music of Staten Island and Abroad, \$2,000; **Bob Kaiser**—A Tribute to Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn, \$3,000; **Randy Ludacer**—Songs about Packaging, \$2,000; **Rudolph Montanez**—Shreds, \$3,000; **NYC Arts Cypher**—M.U.R.A.L., \$3,000; **Janet Robinson**—"The Kwanzaa Lady"—Kwanzaa Extravaganza, \$1,800; **Marcel Rominger**—Carnegie Hall Piano Recital on Staten Island, \$2,000; **Philip Sanders**—Interactive Panoramas at the Tibetan Museum, \$2,000; **SICoLab**—Bridge the Gap, \$3,000; **Staten Island Creative Community**—Art by the Ferry, \$3,000; **Meg Whitlock**—Lhasa on the Hudson, \$2,000.

ART FUND GRANTS are funded through the Greater New York Arts Development Fund of New York City's Department of Cultural Affairs. Art Fund Grants are intended for returning grantees who present art and cultural programming through projects and public presentations. COAHSI received 19 applicants in the Art Fund category, with requests totaling \$74,968. A total of \$20,000 was awarded to 8 applicants.

Mikhael Antone—To a Man, \$2,000; **Lars "Christoph" Mayer**—The Return of the Great Blue Heron 2.1, \$3,000; **Musical Chairs Chamber Ensemble**—Musical Chairs Chamber Ensemble Fifth Concert Season, \$1,575; **Janice Patrignani**—The Children of Staten Island, \$1,500; **Tina Thompson-Pope**—Skin - Eccentrica Project II, \$5,000; **WaFoo**—2009 Concert Series, \$4,000; **Bob Wright**—The Oyster Aristocracy, \$1,425; **Frank Zuppardi**—Original Composition for Orchestra and Saxophone, \$1,500

STATEN ISLAND CREATIVE COMMUNITIES GRANTS are funded by the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) and are intended for organizations without access to state funding. This year, COAHSI received 29 applications in this category, with requests totaling \$124,257. A total of \$47,240 was awarded to 18 individual artists and non-profit organizations.

Stephen Barnett—25 Years: Photography & Sculpture Alike, \$1,900; **Celebrating Real Family Life**—Family Harmony Event Series, \$4,500; **Robert Conroy**—Songs of Snug Harbor's Sailors, \$2,390; **Day de Dada Performance Art Collective**—Shop-o-Rama, \$1,450; **Friends of**

Continued on page 10

TIBETAN ART: COMPASSION

Continued from Page 2 offerings of food and herbal medicines are given to the fire while Lama Karma chants and recites prayers. Attendees will have the opportunity to offer individual prayers during the ceremony. The power and inspiration of the ceremony is dedicated to world peace and the spiritual advancement of all beings.

Following a reception, Lama Karma will perform the Consecration Dance of Vajrapani. In this dance, the monk visualizes the wrathful emanation of the wisdom deity Vajrapani. Wearing a ritual mask and a costume that represents tiger skins while holding a flaming piece of wood in each hand, the monk invites Vajrapani to destroy negativity and protect and heal the area where the dance is being performed. *Cham*, ancient ceremonial dances of Tantric Buddhism, have been performed in Bhutan for centuries, traditionally at special religious festivals.

On Sunday, January 4, 2009, Lama Karma will discuss the "Value of Compassion" as a solution to difficulty in our lives and in the world. He will speak about the law of karma as it relates to our choice of actions, interconnectedness, and an acceptance of humanity to de-

velop a positive focus for the well being of our planet and all living things. This museum talk is open to the public at a cost of \$25 per person.

The museum will open a new exhibition on Saturday, March 28, 2009, "Tibetan Portrait: The Power of Compassion," highlighting photographic portraits of Tibetan people by renowned artist Phil Borges.

For over twenty-five years Borges has documented indigenous and tribal cultures around the world. Borges's portraits introduce viewers to individuals from a deeply spiritual culture who have been marginalized and displaced by the occupation of their homeland. The portraits range from images of everyday people to historic figures such as the Dalai Lama.

In addition to the portraits, the exhibit will include interactive displays focusing on aspects of Tibetan culture, related supplemental objects from the museum's permanent collection, Tibetan prayer wheels, and oral histories of Tibetans. The exhibition will remain on view at the museum through December 2010.

The Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art promotes the awareness of Tibetan and Himalayan art and culture. To learn more, visit www.tibetmuseum.org.

LOSAR—THE TIBETAN NEW YEAR

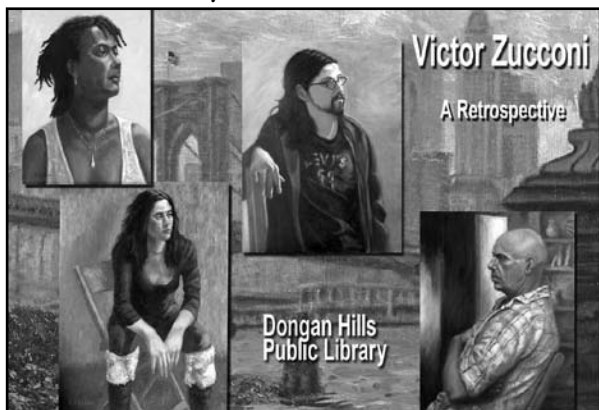
Losar is celebrated every year in February, coinciding with the New Moon. Calculated by the Tibetan lunar calendar, it does not occur on the same date each year. Losar is the biggest holiday in Tibetan culture. Many customs and traditions are followed, both at monasteries and in people's homes. The festivities last between three and seven days. Losar traditions include:

- Thoroughly cleaning one's home on the last day of the year
- Elaborately decorating the shrine rooms in monasteries with special ceremonial cakes called *tormas* and huge offerings of food
- Praying at sunrise at the beginning of Losar. Everyone gathers in the shrine room where the first cup of tea and a taste of sweet rice and *chang* (barley beer) are offered to the Three Jewels. The day is spent close to home, resting and enjoying the day
- Eating special Losar foods including dried meats, rice, fresh and dried fruits, and nuts
- Celebrating! All children born the previous year celebrate their birthday on Losar
- The remainder of Losar is spent visiting family and friends. Everyone brings *khapsey* (traditional fried cookies) and food as gifts
- In monasteries, traditional lama dances are performed with monks of all ages participating. The elaborate costumes are made at the monasteries and the monks spend many months learning the dance

THIS IS BIG!

Arts Day in Albany—February 3, 2009

WITH ALL THE ECONOMIC BAD NEWS of late, "hope floats." Arts Day in Albany is the arts and cultural community's chance to influence the NYS Budget and keep the arts alive in our community. COAHSI staff, along with artists and art leaders from all over the state, will head to Albany to discuss the investment value of arts funding and how this investment contributes to the social vitality and economy of the entire state. Arts Day is the place where lawmakers can hear direct, personal stories about the impact of the arts in regions across the state. To learn more, visit www.nysarts.org or call COAHSI to see how you can be involved.



ANNOUNCING: THE 2009 COAHSI EXCELLENCE AWARDS

\$1,000 awards to be made in Music; Performance Art, and Film

MAKE THIS THE YEAR you apply for an Excellence in the Arts Award! There will be six \$1,000 awards for music and two \$1,000 awards to performance art and film (including dance) awarded to Staten Island artists. These awards are intended to celebrate the bodies of work of Staten Island artists as well as celebrate their artistic development. The recipients of these awards participate in Summerfest, a series of presentations and exhibitions in public spaces and free to the public in June 2009.

The overall criterion is artistic excellence. Artists submitting grants need not create new work. Site-specific installation will be considered, although COAHSI retains the right to select venues. Performing artists who submit original work will be given preference.

All applications will be assessed by a review panel. Those who have received this award

in the past five years (2004-2008) are not eligible. Applicants may apply to one category. We encourage you to collaborate with other artists.

Informational workshops will be held on Monday, January 5 at 6:00pm at the Alice Austen House Museum, and on Saturday, January 10 at 11:00am at the Blue Heron Nature Center.

The deadline is Monday, February 9, 2009. Postmark or hand deliver the application packages to the COAHSI office by 5:00 pm. Applications will not be accepted past the deadline. Faxed and e-mailed applications will not be accepted. For more information go to www.statenislandarts.org or contact Ginger Shulick at 718-447-3329 or gshulick@statenislandarts.org.

Excellence in the Arts awards are supported by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.



AROUND THE ISLAND

PRIVATE BLESSINGS... BREAKING INTO THE VISUAL ARTS ... FLIGHTS OF IMAGINATION...

JANUARY 2009

☺ 2 FRIDAY, By appointment—PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS WITH LAMA KARMA, for blessings, healings, and divinations. Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art, Lighthouse Hill; free

3 SATURDAY, 1:00–5:00 pm—FIRE CEREMONY, CHAM & SPECIAL BLESSINGS: A New Year Celebration to Benefit the Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art; pre-purchased tickets required

👤 3 SATURDAY, 1:00, 2:00, & 3:00 pm—FIRST FAMILY FITNESS CALENDAR. SI Children's Museum; Three separate one-hour workshops to get families on track; fee (Also, Sunday, January 4)

☺ 3 SATURDAY, 7:30 - 10:30 pm—GAMES & GUITAR NIGHT. ETG Book Café & Neighborhood Stage; free

4 SUNDAY, 2:00 pm—COMPASSION AS SOLUTION: Museum Talk by Lama Karma. Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art, Lighthouse Hill; \$25

☺ 4 SUNDAY, 6:00 - 8:00 pm—CONFERENCE HOUSE PARK AT DARK with Cliff Hagen. For more information phone Dick Buegler 718-761-7496 or Cliff at 718-313-8591; free

👤☺ 7 WEDNESDAY, 4:00 pm—AUDITIONS for Richmond Choral Society Youth Chorus. Parish House, New Dorp Moravian Church, 2205 Richmond Rd.; free

➤☺ 8 THURSDAY, 7:30 - 9:30 pm—BREAKING INTO THE VISUAL ARTS - COAHSI. JCC, Manor Rd.; free

8 THURSDAY, 8:30 - 11:30 pm—QUEEN TIPSYP Performs. The Cellar, Manor Rd.

9 FRIDAY, 8:00 pm—MUSIC with John Di Salvo & Chad Yarborough. ETG Book Café & Neighborhood Stage; free

➤☺ 9 FRIDAY, 3:00 - 5:00 pm—GRANTWRITING and Successful Fundraising Workshop. Richmond Town Library; free.

👤☺ 10 SATURDAY, 10:00 - 11:30 am—KIDS & CRITTERS. SI Zoo; fee

☺ 10 SATURDAY, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm—FOREST RESTORATION Workshop: Egberville Ravine in the Greenbelt - Call Dick Buegler 718-761-7496 for more information.

☺ 10 SATURDAY, 12:00 - 2:00 pm—CONFERENCE HOUSE BEACH WALK for Waterfowl with Sandra Mechanic. For more information, phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496.

👤☺ 10 SATURDAY, 1:00, 2:00, & 3:00 pm—FLIGHTS OF INSPIRATION, three separate one-hour workshops that explore flight through stories and collage. SI Children's Museum; fee

☺ 10 SATURDAY, 2:00 - 4:00 pm—LIVE GREENER! Learn how to reduce your carbon footprint. Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve, 2351 Veteran's Rd. West; free

☺ 10 SATURDAY, 4:00 - 5:30 pm—FULL MOON

AFTER YULE: Sunset-Moon Rise Walk at Mt Moses. Children have always enjoyed this brief walk with walk leader Sandra Mechanic. For more information phone Dick Buegler 718-761-7496

☺ 10 SATURDAY, 7:30 pm—DRUMMING with Steve Jones with 8:00 pm Drum Circle. ETG Book Café & Neighborhood Stage; free, pre-registration required

10 SATURDAY, 11:00pm - 1:00 am—QUEEN TIPSYP Performs. Adobe Blues, Lafayette Ave.

☺ 11 SUNDAY, 9:00 - 11:00 am—ECOLOGY WALK: Crooke's Point, parking lot G, SI Museum; free, registration required

👤☺ 11 SUNDAY, 1:00 - 2:30 pm—ANIMAL OF THE MONTH CLUB: Woodpeckers, Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve, 2351 Veteran's Rd. West; free, pre-registration required

☺ 11 SUNDAY, 1:00–3:00 pm—HARBOR SEAL WATCH with Sandra Mechanic at the bluff of Mt. Loretto. For more information phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496

👤☺ 11 SUNDAY, 1:00, 2:00, & 3:00 pm—FLIGHTS OF INSPIRATION. Three separate one-hour workshops that explore flight through stories and collage. SI Children's Museum; fee

☺ 11 SUNDAY, 2:00 - 4:00 pm—TWO OPENING RECEPTIONS: 6th Annual Open Show and Drawing Student Showcase. Art Lab, Inc.; free

👤☺ 14 WEDNESDAY, 4:00 pm—AUDITIONS for Richmond Choral Society Youth Chorus. Parish House, New Dorp Moravian Church, 2205 Richmond Rd.; free

👤☺ 17 SATURDAY, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon—JR. SCIENCE CLUB, Fossils. SI Museum; registration required; fee

17 SATURDAY, 10:30 am - 2:00 pm—HEALING WORKSHOP. SI Zoo; fee

☺ 17 SATURDAY, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm—BUCK'S HOLLOW, Haunting Hill Walk with naturalist, photographer Sandra Mechanic. Meet at the intersection of Rockland and Meisner Avenues, across from the end of Manor Road. For more information, phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496.

👤☺ 17 SATURDAY, 1:00, 2:00 & 3:00 pm—INAUGURATION DAY 2009. Three separate one-hour workshops where kids will document important events. SI Children's Museum; fee (Also, Sunday, January 18)

👤☺ 17 SATURDAY, 1:30 - 3:30 pm—WINTER BIRD FEEDING. Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve, 2351 Veteran's Rd. West; free, pre-registration required

17 SATURDAY, 7:30 & 9:30 pm—TAVERN CONCERT SERIES, two performances; String Fever. Historic Richmond Town; fee

☺ 18 SUNDAY, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm—WINTER COASTAL PLANT AND BIRD WALK at Crookes' Point with naturalist and photographer Sandra Mechanic. Meet in the last parking lot before the road out to Crookes' Point. For more information, phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496

18 SUNDAY, 1:30 - 3:30 pm—CELEBRATE "THE

YEAR OF THE OX." SI Zoo; zoo admission

👤☺ 19 MONDAY, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm—COOL SCHOOL WINTER RECESS BREAK. SI Children's Museum; free

19 MONDAY, 5:00 pm—JURIED ART: Submission Deadline. SI Museum; call for details

21 WEDNESDAY, 12:00 pm—LUNCH & LEARN: Chinese New Year 4707. Celebrate with the SI Museum; fee, registration required

☺ 22 THURSDAY, 7:30 pm—FRESH KILLS PARK presentation by NYC Parks Department. SI Museum, call Seth at (718) 727-1135 ext.105 for more information, free

22 THURSDAY, 7:30 pm—READING CLUB. Film/discussion based on *The Leopard*. SI Museum, \$5 non-members/free to members; call museum for details

☺ 23 FRIDAY, 9:00 am - 2:30 pm—MEET THE GRANTMAKERS SYMPOSIUM. CSI Center for the Arts; free

☺ 24 SATURDAY, 9:00 to 11:00 am—WINTER BIRDS in Buck's Hollow with Howie Fischer. Meet at the Intersection of Rockland Avenue and Manor Road where Meisner Avenue comes down from Lighthouse Hill. For more information phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496 or Howie at 718-981-4002

☺ 24 SATURDAY, 9:45 a.m. to 3:30 pm—PROTECTOR'S ANNUAL WINTER TEN MILE WALK of the SI Greenbelt. Meet at the beginning of the Blue Line Trail at the end of Staten Island Boulevard, off Ocean Terrace by the Sunnyside campus of Petrides complex. For more information, phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496.

☺ 24 SATURDAY, 11:00 am - 1 pm—PAGE AVENUE BEACH, Surf and Turf Hike. Meet at the parking lot at the end of Page Avenue on the left. For more information phone Dick Buegler 718-761-7496 or Clay Wollney at 718-869-6327

👤☺ 24 SATURDAY, 1:30 - 3:30 pm—CAREERS WITH ANIMALS WORKSHOP: Marine Biologist. SI Zoo; fee, registration required

👤☺ 24 SATURDAY, 1:00, 2:00, & 3:00 pm—POLAR BEAR, POLAR BEAR. Three separate one-hour workshops where children learn about and make puppets of polar bears. SI Children's Museum; fee (Also, Sunday, January 25)

👤☺ 24 SATURDAY, 1:30 - 3:00 pm—ILLUMINATING LANTERNS. Clay Pit Ponds Park Preserve, 2351 Veteran's Rd. West; free, pre-registration required

24 SATURDAY, 7:30 pm—PRISM. Musical Chairs previews 5th Concert Series. SI Museum; call for details

24 SATURDAY, 7:30 & 9:30 pm—TAVERN CONCERT SERIES, two performances by Wafoo Skiffle Crazyes. Historic Richmond Town; fee

24 SATURDAY, 8:00 pm—BRIGHT POWER NIGHT: HIP HOP & FOLK. ETG Book Café & Neighborhood Stage; free

☺ 25 SUNDAY, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm—WILLOW-BROOK PARK AT DARK. Meet along Eton Place, the short entrance road to the Willowbrook Park Carousel,

VALENTINE'S DAY AND BLACK HISTORY EVENTS... BURNS NIGHT AND CELTIC CROSSINGS...

To receive the most detailed and up-to-date information about Staten Island's cultural goings-on, contact Racquel at rcornali@statenilandarts.org to receive COAHSI's free, weekly events e-blast calendar!

one block south of Victory Blvd. on Richmond Avenue. For more information phone Dick Buegler 718-761-7496 or Cliff at 718-313-8591.

☺ 25 SUNDAY, 4:00 pm—"BURNS NIGHT." A traditional Scottish midwinter gathering. SI OutLOUD at Unitarian Universalist Church, Fillmore St.; free

26 MONDAY, 7:30 pm—START OF REHEARSALS FOR RICHMOND CHORAL SOCIETY, Spring Concert Season. Noble Maritime Museum

☺ 28 WEDNESDAY, 3:00 pm—OWL PROWL. Great Kills Park with the SI Museum; free, registration required to confirm meeting place

☺ 31 SATURDAY, 9:00 am to 11:00 am—WOLFE'S POND BIRDS ON POND AND SHORE. Meet Howie Fischer in the far right corner of the parking lot, end of Cornelia Avenue, near the comfort stations closest to the pond. For more information phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496 or Howie at 718-981-4002.

☺ 31 SATURDAY, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm—LONG POND PARK in the Winter. Meet at PS 6, on Page Avenue and Academy Avenue about 3 blocks NW of Hylan Blvd. For more information phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496 or Clay Wollney at 718-869-6327.

☺ 31 SATURDAY, 1:00, 2:00, & 3:00 pm—PROGNOSTICATING PEOPLE. Three separate one-hour workshops where kids will learn to predict winter's length. SI Children's Museum; fee (Also, Sunday, February 1)

31 SATURDAY, 7:30 & 9:30 pm—TAVERN CONCERT SERIES. Two performances, Johnson Girls. Historic Richmond Town; fee

☺ 31 SATURDAY, 8:00 pm—AMAZING CABARET. ETG Book Café & Neighborhood Stage; free

FEBRUARY 2009

☺ 1 SUNDAY, 1:00 – 2:30 pm—ANIMAL OF THE MONTH CLUB: Groundhogs. Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve, 2351 Veteran's Rd. West; free, pre-registration required

☺ 1 SUNDAY, 1:00 – 4 pm—CLAY PIT PONDS STATE PARK/PRESERVE. Meet at the park office building at the end of Carlin Avenue, off Sharrott's Road in Rossville. Call Dick Buegler 718-761-7496 for more information.

☺ 1 SUNDAYS, 6:00 – 8:00 pm—BUTTONBUSH SWAMP at Dark. Meet Cliff Hagen at the corner of Rockland and Meisner Avenues, at the foot of Manor Road. Search for hooting owls in the frozen night. For more information phone Dick Buegler, 718-761-7496 or Cliff at 718-313-8591.

2 MONDAY, 7:00 am—ANNUAL GROUNDHOG DAY CELEBRATION & BREAKFAST. SI Zoo; fee

2 MONDAY, 7:30 am - 1:00 pm—GROUNDHOG DAY BLOOD DRIVE. SI Zoo

3 TUESDAY—ARTS DAY IN ALBANY. See Member News for details.

☺ 6 FRIDAY, 8:00 pm—TRANSCONTINENTAL POETRY READING, "Bones, Roses, Dr. Zhivago" with Marguerite Rivas, Wil Wyn, Lu Bardel. ETG Book Cafe &

Neighborhood Stage; free

☺ 6 FRIDAY, 9:00 pm—GRAND PEPPER OF REALITY with Doug Principato - ETG Book Café & Neighborhood Stage; free

☺ 6 FRIDAY, 3:00 – 5:00 pm—PERSONAL FINANCES AND TAXES for artists. Richmond Town Library; free

☺ 7 SATURDAY, 9:00 – 11:00 am—GREAT KILLS PARK, Waterfowl & Wintering birds. Meet Howie Fischer at the entrance parking area just off Hylan Blvd. For more information phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496 or Howie at 718-981-4002.

☺ 7 SATURDAY, 10:00 – 11:30 am—KIDS & CRITTERS. SI Zoo; fee

☺ 7 SATURDAY, 1:00 – 3:00 pm—THE RED TRAIL from the LaTourette Clubhouse through Buck's Hollow. Meet in the parking lot at the LaTourette Golf Course Clubhouse. For more information phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496 or Clay Wollney at 718-869-6327.

☺ 7 SATURDAY, 2:00 pm—AFRICAN AMERICAN POLITICS ON SI. SI Museum; free

☺ 7 SATURDAY, 2:00 – 4:00 pm—A COMMUNITY FROM CLAY: an historical presentation of the preserve. Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve, 2351 Veteran's Rd. West; free, pre-registration required

☺ 7 SATURDAY, 7:30 pm—DRUMMING with Steve Jones; 8:00 pm Drum Circle - ETG Book Café & Neighborhood Stage; free

7 SATURDAY, 7:30 & 9:30 pm—TAVERN CONCERT SERIES: 2 performances; Songs of the Sea & Taverns. Historic Richmond Town, fee

☺ 8 SUNDAY, 12:00 noon – 2:00 pm—HARBOR SEAL WATCH. Meet in the Hylan Blvd parking lot of Mt. Loretto Unique Area, across the Blvd. For more information phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496.

☺ 8 SUNDAY, 4:30 – 6:00 pm—FULL SNOW OR HUNGER MOON. Sunset-Moon Rise Walk at Mt Moses. Meet at intersection of Rockland and Meisner Avenues. Children have always enjoyed this brief walk. For more information phone Dick Buegler 718-761-7496.

☺ 8 SUNDAY, 6:00 – 8:00 pm—THE BLOOMINGDALE WOOD PARK AT DARK. Meet at the comfort station, corner of Ramona and Lenevar Avenues. For more information phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496 or Cliff at 718-313-8591.

☺ 8 SUNDAY, 9:00 – 11:00 am—ECOLOGY WALK. SI Museum; free

☺ 8 SUNDAY, 1:30 – 3:30 pm—MAKE YOUR OWN VALENTINES! Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve, 2351 Veteran's Rd. West; free, pre-registration required

☺ 8 SUNDAY, 2:00 - 4:00 pm—CHILDREN FOR CHILDREN: RELIGHT NY. SI Museum; free

☺ 8 SUNDAY, 3:00 pm—"STELLALUNA." CSI Center for the Arts; fee

☺ 8 SUNDAY, 7:00 pm— Todd Oliver presents "FUNNY DOGS." St. George Theatre; fee

11 WEDNESDAY, 12:00 pm—LUNCH & LEARN: SOUTHERN COOKIN' at Bob'Z RibZ with SI Museum; fee, registration required

☺ 11 WEDNESDAY, 3:00 pm—SEAL WATCHING AT MT. LORETTO. SI Museum; free, - call museum to register and confirm meeting place

12 THURSDAY, 6:00 pm—ANNUAL GALA & SOCIETY BALL, hosted by SI Zoo at the Excelsior Grand; fee, registration required

☺ 13 FRIDAY, 5:30 – 8:30 pm—PARENTS' NIGHT OUT ON VALENTINE'S EVE kids drop-off program for ages 4 – 12, no exceptions! SI Children's Museum; fee

14 SATURDAY, 1:30 - 3:30 pm—COURTSHIP TAILS - SI Zoo; \$5

☺ 14 SATURDAY, 4:00 pm —A reading of "THE AUDACITY OF HOPE" by Barack Obama. SI OutLOUD at St. Philips Baptist Church, Bennett St.; free

14 SATURDAY, 7:30 pm—A VALENTINE EVENING OF MEMORIES with Bobby Rydell. St. George Theatre; fee

14 SATURDAY, 7:30 & 9:30 pm—TAVERN CONCERT SERIES, 2 performances, The Homegrown String Band. Historic Richmond Town; fee

☺ 14 SATURDAY, 8:00 pm—MATT U & FRIENDS. Hip Hop, Pop, & Soul. ETG Book Café & Neighborhood Stage; free

☺ 14 SATURDAY, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm—FOREST RESTORATION WORKSHOP. Gretta Moulton Tract in the Greenbelt. Meet in the Nevada Avenue, High Rock parking lot. Call Dick Buegler 718-761-7496 for more information.

☺ 15 SUNDAY, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm—ANCIENT TREES of Wolfe's Pond Park, Annual Bruce Kershner Winter Memorial Walk. Meet at the far right corner of the parking lot at the end of Cornelia Avenue, off Hylan Blvd. For more information, phone Dick Buegler, 718-761-7496.

☺ 15 SUNDAY, 1:30 – 3:00 pm—WEATHER WATCHERS: Snow. Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve, 2351 Veteran's Rd. West; free, pre-registration required

☺ 15 SUNDAY, 1:30 – 3:30 pm—MEERKAT MANNERS ENRICHMENT WORKSHOP. SI Zoo; zoo admission

☺ 16 MONDAY, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm—COOL SCHOOL HOLIDAY MID-WINTER BREAK. SI Children's Museum; free

☺ 16 MONDAY, 1:30 – 3:30 pm—DINOSAURS & MORE. SI Zoo; zoo admission


☺ 19 THURSDAY, 1:00 – 3:30 pm—BUNDLE-UP MINI EARTH CAMP. SI Museum; fee, registration required (Also, Friday, February 20)


☺ 19 THURSDAY, 6:00 – 8:00 pm—LOCAL ARTISTS' JURIED ART OPENING RECEPTION. SI Museum; free


☺ 21 SATURDAY, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm—JR. SCIENCE CLUB: Catapult into Physics. SI Museum; fee, registration required


☺ 21 SATURDAY, 1:00 – 3:00 pm—BLUE TRAIL to

Latourette woods with Sandra Mechanic. Park near end of Old Mill Rd, near St Andrews Church, off Arthur Kill Rd. For more information, call Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496.


 21 SATURDAY, 1:00, 2:00, & 3:00 pm—CARNIVALE MASK-MAKING. Three separate one-hour workshops. SI Children's Museum; fee (Also, Sunday, March 22)


 21 SATURDAY, 1:30 - 3:30pm—CAREERS WITH ANIMALS WORKSHOP: Nutritionist. SI Zoo; fee

 21 SATURDAY, 2:00 pm—WHO ARE THE MA-SONS & EASTERN STARS? -SI Museum; free


 21 SATURDAY, 2:00 - 3:30 pm—TRACKS & TRACES. Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve; free, pre-registration required


21 SATURDAY, 7:30 & 9:30 pm—TAVERN CON- CERT SERIES, 2 performances, Blue Harvest. Historic Richmond Town; fee


 21 SATURDAY, 8:00 pm—COAHSI'S NIGHT OF ARTISTS. CSI Center for the Arts; \$15


 25 WEDNESDAY, 3:00 pm—OWL PROWL at Great Kills Park. SI Museum; free, registration required to confirm meeting place



27 FRIDAY, 8:00 pm—CELTIC CROSSROADS. CSI Center for the Arts; fee

 28 SATURDAY, 8:30 - 10:00 am—BREAKFAST WITH THE BEASTS. SI Zoo; fee


 28 SATURDAY, 10:30 am & 1:00 pm—SCREEN- ING of "Peace through Understanding: The 1964/65 World's Fair," with 12:05 pm meet the filmmakers discus- sion. Fort Wadsworth Visitors Center; free.

 28 SATURDAY, 9:00 - 11:00 am—LATE WINTER BIRDS at Mt Loretto. Meet Howie Fischer in the Hylan Blvd. parking lot of Mt. Loretto Unique Area. For more in- formation phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496 or Howie at 718-981-4002.


 28 SATURDAY, 1:00 - 3:00 pm—CONFERENCE HOUSE WOODS and Beach. Meet at the parking lot at the end of Hylan Blvd. on the left. For more information phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496 or Clay Wollney at 718-869-6327.



  28 SATURDAY, 1:30 - 3:00 pm—WINTER TREE ID HIKE. Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve; free, pre-registration required


28 SATURDAY, 7:30 & 9:30 pm—TAVERN CON- CERT SERIES, 2 performances, Vincent Gross & Good Company. Historic Richmond Town; fee


 28 SATURDAY, 8:00 pm—AMAZING CABARET. ETG Book Café & Neighborhood Stage; free

MARCH 2009


 4 WEDNESDAY, 9:00 am—SEAL WALK AT MT. LORETTO with the SI Museum; free, registration required to confirm meeting place


  6 FRIDAY, 3:00 - 5:00 pm—BECOMING A 501 c3. Is it the right move for you? Richmond Town Library; free

 7 SATURDAY, 10:00 - 11:30 am—KIDS & CRIT- TERS. SI Zoo; fee


 7 SATURDAY, 1:00 - 3:00 pm—OLD MILL ROAD. Park at the end of Old Mill Road, alongside the


old church. For more information phone Dick Buegler 718-761-7496 or Clay Wollney at 718-869-6327.


 7 SATURDAY, 1:00, 2:00, & 3:00 pm—YOUTH ART MONTH AT SI CHILDREN'S MUSEUM. Three separate one-hour workshops on monster collages; fee (Also, Sunday, March 8)


 7 SATURDAY, 2:00 - 4:00 pm—TWO OPENING RECEPTIONS: Laura Del Prete and KidZ Open. Art Lab, Inc.; free


7 SATURDAY, 7:30 & 9:30 pm—TAVERN CONCERT SERIES, 2 performances, Risky Business Bluegrass Band, Historic Richmond Town; fee

 8 SUNDAY, 9:00 - 11:00 am—WOLFE'S POND PARK ECOLOGY WALK with SI Museum; free, registra- tion required to confirm meeting place


 8 SUNDAY, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm—NATURE STUDY at Blue Heron Pond Park with Sandra Mechanic. Meet at the park visitors' center on Poillon Avenue. For more information phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496.


 8 SUNDAY, 2:00 - 4:00 pm—HARBOR SEAL WATCH with Sandra Mechanic. Meet in the Hylan Blvd parking lot of Mt Loretto Unique Area. For more informa- tion phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496.


 10 TUESDAY, 6:30 - 8:00 pm—FLOWING SAP or Crow Full Moon: Sunset-Moon Rise Walk at Mt Moses. Meet at intersection of Rockland and Meisner Avenues. Children have always enjoyed this brief walk. For more information phone Dick Buegler 718-761-7496.


 11 WEDNESDAY, 3:00 pm—SEAL WALK AT MT. LORETTO with SI Museum; free, registration required to confirm meeting place

12 THURSDAY, 1:30 pm—IRISH ON STATEN ISLAND at CSI with Pat Salmon of SI Museum; call museum to register

 13 FRIDAY, 7:30 pm—DRUMMING with Steve Jones; 8:00 pm Drum Circle. ETG Book Café & Neigh- borhood Stage; free

 14 SATURDAY, 1:00, 2:00 & 3:00 pm—YOUTH ART MONTH AT SI CHILDREN'S MUSEUM. Three separate one-hour workshops making wind chimes; fee (Also, Sunday, March 15)

 14 SATURDAY, 1:30 - 3:30 pm—CAREERS WITH ANIMALS: Behaviorist. SI Zoo; fee

 14 SATURDAY, 2:00 - 4:00 pm—WOMEN ART- ISTS SOIREE. An historical talk by museum conservator, Lenore Paglia. Reception follows. SI Museum; free


14 SATURDAY, 7:30 & 9:30 pm—TAVERN CON- CERT SERIES, 2 performances, Irish Fever. Historic Richmond Town; fee

14 SATURDAY, 8:00 pm—TONY KENNEY'S IRISH EXTRAVAGANZA. St. George Theatre; fee


18 WEDNESDAY, 12:00 pm—LUNCH & LEARN: St. Joseph's Day. Call museum for details. SI Museum; fee and registration required.

19 THURSDAY, 7:30 pm—READING CLUB: "The Knickerbocker Tales." SI Museum; \$5 non-members/free to members

 20 FRIDAY, 7:00 pm—THE VITAL CHILDREN'S THEATRE presents PINKALICIOUS. St. George The- atre; fee

 21 SATURDAY, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm—JR. SCIENCE

CLUB: Go Fly a Kite. SI Museum; fee, registration required

 21 SATURDAY, 1:00, 2:00 & 3:00 pm—YOUTH ART MONTH AT SI CHILDREN'S MUSEUM. Three separate one-hour workshops celebrating spring with pup- pet crafts; fee (Also, Sunday, March 22)


21 SATURDAY, 7:30 pm—MUSICAL CHAIRS CON- CERT featuring Elizabeth McCullough, soprano and Anthony Turner, baritone at SI Museum

21 SATURDAY, 7:30 & 9:30 pm—TAVERN CON- CERT SERIES, 2 performances; This Old House, Historic Richmond Town; fee

21 SATURDAY, 8:00 pm—LESLEY GORE - CSI Center for the Arts; fee

21 SATURDAY, 8:00 pm—"SCENES FROM THE STATEN ISLAND FERRY." Sundog Theatre at New Dorp Moravian Church, 2205 Richmond Rd.; fee

21 SATURDAY, 8:00 pm—AN EVENING WITH ART GARFUNKEL. St. George Theatre; fee

 22 SUNDAY, 3:00 pm—"THE HUNDRED SECRET SENSES," by Amy Tan. SI OutLOUD at the Greenbelt Nature Center, Rockland Ave.; free

22 SUNDAY, 3:00 pm—"SCENES FROM THE STATEN ISLAND FERRY." Sundog Theatre at New Dorp Moravian Church, 2205 Richmond Rd.; fee


27 FRIDAY, 8:00 pm—"SCENES FROM THE STATEN ISLAND FERRY." Sundog Theatre at New Dorp Mora- vian Church, 2205 Richmond Rd.; fee


28 SATURDAY, 1:00, 2:00 & 3:00 pm—YOUTH ART MONTH AT SI CHILDREN'S MUSEUM. Three sepa- rate one-hour painting workshops honoring Van Gogh; fee (Also, Sunday, March 29)


28 SATURDAY, 1:00 - 5:00 pm—OPENING RECEP- TION, "Tibetan Portrait: The Power of Compassion." Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art


28 SATURDAY, 7:30 & 9:30 pm—TAVERN CON- CERT SERIES, 2 performances, Watersign. Historic Richmond Town; fee

28 SATURDAY, 8:00 pm—"SCENES FROM THE STATEN ISLAND FERRY." Sundog Theatre at New Dorp Moravian Church, 2205 Richmond Rd.; fee


 28 SATURDAY, 8:00 pm—AMAZING CABARET. ETG Book Café & Neighborhood Stage; free

 29 SUNDAY, 8:30 - 10:00 am— BREAKFAST WITH THE BEASTS. SI Zoo; fee

 29 SUNDAY, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm—PAGE AVE. BEACH WOODLANDS, Tottenville, with Sandra Mechanic. Park and meet at the end of Page Avenue where it meets the shore. For more information, phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496.

 29 SUNDAY, 2:00 - 4:00 pm—TERMINAL MO- RAINE on Tottenville Beach with Dr. Alan I. Benimoff. Meet at the Conference House Parking lot at the end of Hylan Blvd. For more information phone Dick Buegler at 718-761-7496.

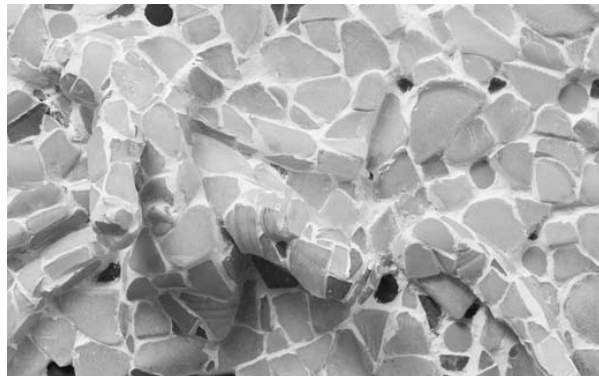
29 SUNDAY, 3:00 pm—"SCENES FROM THE STATEN ISLAND FERRY." Sundog Theatre at New Dorp Moravian Church, 2205 Richmond Rd.; fee

 29 SUNDAY, 5:00 - 7:00 pm—GREAT KILLS PARK AT DARK. Meet at the first parking lot on your left, a mile in from Hylan Blvd. For more information phone Dick Bue- gler at 718-761-7496 or Cliff at 718-313-8591.

THE ROUND-UP

PRIMORDIAL DEBRIS

Sculpture and mosaic by Judy Hugentobler



A SOLO EXHIBITION of the work of Judy Hugentobler is on display from January 20 to February 27, 2009, at the Wagner College Gallery.

The exhibition features new sculpture of ceramic and glass, highlighting figurative form. The three-dimensional artworks exist somewhere between representation and abstraction, with their varied surface and coloration. This series was initially developed in 2003, during a sculpture residency at I-Park in East Haddam, Connecticut.

Working within the natural setting of a state park and having access to preserved wetlands directly influenced the creation of the ceramic pieces. The artist's further reflections on nature at Blue Heron Park on Staten Island greatly defined the intimacy of the sculptural works. An opening reception will be held Saturday, January 25, from 3:00 to 6:00 pm.

A CROWN, A FLOWER, & CONGRATS

SI Artist receives prestigious award

STATEN ISLAND ARTIST, HELEN LEVIN, has just been awarded \$1,000 from the Ruth & Harold Chenven Foundation to create a series of abstract paintings inspired by architecture. Levin is one of 7 artists out of a pool of nearly 400 applicants awarded grants for 2008. Levin is a past COAHSI grant recipient, and has an extensive curatorial and exhibiting arts background. She was the guest artist at 55 Mercer Gallery in 2005, and a guest curator for the Synagogue for the Arts in NYC in 2006. In 2006, she had a solo exhibition at Ceres Coop Gallery in Chelsea, and, in 2007, had a solo exhibition in Woudrichem, Netherlands. Most recently, Levin had a solo exhibition in June 2008 of ten large paintings in L'Espace Culturel in the BNP Paribas Bank in Nice, France. Congratulations, Helen!!

OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS AT ALICE AUSTEN HOUSE MUSEUM

Juried photography contest gives high school students a chance to show their stuff

THE ALICE AUSTEN HOUSE MUSEUM is calling for entries for "Race: A Juried Photography Competition For High School Students." The museum is looking for photographs that tell a story about race or reference race in some way. Each submission will be judged based on creativity, technical ability, and connection to the theme. Cash prizes will be awarded.

The competition is open to all high school students who either reside or attend high school in Staten Island. All work entered must have been completed within the last two years.

There is no charge to enter the competition. Each applicant may submit up to three photographs either in print or on a CD disk. The deadline for submission is February 28, 2009. Finalists and honorable mention winners will be notified by March 7, 2009. A presentation and reception for the artists will be held at Alice Austen House on March 15, 2009.

For more information on the competition and an entry form, contact the Alice Austen House Museum by calling 718-816-4506, x 10, or on the Web at www.AliceAusten.org.

POSTCARDS FROM THE RAILS

Journey along a path apart with artist Mary Bullock

POSTCARDS FROM THE RAILS explores and celebrates life along the Staten Island Railway (SIR). Artist Mary Bullock rode the entire length, stopping at each of the 22 stations, to explore and highlight what she found there. She produced a printed postcard for each station and a Web site with more discoveries from each of the 22 stations (www.postcardsfromtherails.com). Each postcard celebrates a particular place at a particular moment in time—buildings, scenery, and daily life on Staten Island. She hopes



Mary Bullock, *Dongan Hills*, 2008

Postcards from the Rails will make Staten Islanders newly aware of what we have and more determined to preserve the best of it. And, ultimately, she hopes they will have as much fun looking at it as she did creating it.

This project is made possible by a 2008 Premier Grant from COAHSI, with public funding from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE GATEWAY PHOTOGRAPHERS OF SI announce meeting dates: Wed., Jan. 7, 2009, Club competition in slides, color, and B&W prints, Phil Echo, judge; Wed., Jan. 21, 2009, Macro Photography workshop with Maria Da Rocha.

WE'VE MOVED! The Interpretive Center at Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve announces the opening of its new center located at 2351 Veteran's Road West. Unless otherwise specified, programs and events will be offered in the new center. Park Headquarters will remain at

83 Nielsen Ave. For more information, contact Claire Aniela Arthurs at 718-967-1976, x 101.

YOUNG VOCALISTS in grades 4–11 can audition for The Richmond Choral Society Youth Chorus. The Chorus is an opportunity for young singers to receive instruction in vocal production, music literacy, and concert performance. Auditions will be held Wed., Jan. 7, and Wed., Jan. 14, 2009 at 4:00 pm at Parish House, New Dorp Moravian Church, 2205 Richmond Rd. (Todt Hill Rd. entrance). No preparation is necessary. Contact Louise at 718-448-3656 for an audition appointment or for info about the Spring Concert Series. Info at www.richmondchoral.com.



Tattfoo Tan, *Lot 67*

SPOTLIGHT

Tattfoo Tan

TRAINED AS A GRAPHIC DESIGNER, Tattfoo Tan's art practice seeks to find an immediate, direct, and effective way of exploring issues related to the individual in society that collapses the categories of "art" and "life" into one.

Two of Tattfoo's most recent projects include *Nuevo Americana Recipes: Compiling Your Heirloom Recipe* and *Lot 67*.

NuevoAmericanoRecipes is a project compiling stories, recipes, and photo essays of the immigrant experience as expressed through cuisine. It appears as a journal blog as well as a printed supplement in this issue of COAHSI's *Arts & Letters* newsletter. Tattfoo compiled recipes from a number of contributors and investigated what they considered their special comfort food and heirloom recipes—those passed down from generation to generation. Contributors are immigrants or descendants of immigrants who brought these recipes with them from their homeland. Tattfoo received a JPMorgan-Chase grant from COAHSI for the project.

Lot 67 is an urban farming experiment about sustainability and eating local and fresh produce. It will take place for a year on Tattfoo's 2,000 sq. ft. side yard. It is an investigation into the gardens of immigrants in Staten Island—of the way they plant crops to subsidize their food consumption and retain their cultural heritage with vegetables, plants, and recipes of their culture and cuisine. *Lot 67* will also investigate the medicinal properties of plants and herbs, considering immigrants who do not utilize over-the-counter medicine, but rather rely on the herbal remedies they have brought from their home countries.

The year-long research, collaboration, and artistic process will be recorded in a blog, informational signs, banners, and on apothecary jars. Description panels will adorn the garden and explain the plants nutritional value and medicinal usage.

Tattfoo also participated in the pilot of the NYC Dept of Transportation's PARTners program with his *Nature Matching Systems Mural (NMS)* installed last year in the Brooklyn neighborhood of DUMBO. The DOT's recently announced Urban Art Program allows artists from all disciplines to create temporary projects at locations that fall under DOT's purview, which includes the ferry terminal and city sidewalks (more info can be found at http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/sidewalks/urbanart_prgrm.shtml).

NMS was developed by Tattfoo as a reminder to consume your daily-recommended dose of color. You are what you eat so choose your colors carefully!

To learn more about Tattfoo Tan and to view more of his work, visit his Web site at www.tattfoo.com/projects.html.



Willie Chu, photograph from House of Worship series

2009 GRANTEES

Continued from Page 4 **Westerleigh Park**—Young Artists in the Park, \$1,200; **The Lorin Bend Foundation, Inc.**—Concert Series: Staten Island Rocks, \$3,000; **Lars "Christoph" Mayer**—The Return of the Great Blue Heron 2.1, \$1,000; **Musical Chairs Chamber Ensemble**—Musical Chairs Chamber Ensemble Fifth Concert Season, \$3,000; **Nylon Wound**—Neighborhood Concert Series 2009, \$3,000; **Pink Diamond Steppers Association, Inc.**—Talent and Purpose Performing Arts Workshops, \$4,500; **Nancy Quin**—Global Art Project: Native America, \$3,000; **Francis Quinlan**—Shadow Wars, \$2,000; **Raja Rajeswari**—Synergy of East and West: A Creative Dance Fusion, \$2,000; **Serenade**—Historic Christ Church Concerts, \$3,000; **Staten Island OutLOUD**—Grass roots Readings, Dialogues, and Performances, \$5,000; **The Verrazano Foundation**—Arts of Recovery, \$4,000; **WaFoo**—2009 Concert Series, \$1,000; **Barbara Wesby**—Patriot Dreams, \$1,300

ORIGINAL WORK GRANTS are funded by the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA). Original Work is a competitive grant available to literary, performing, visual, digital and new media, crafts, and folk artists of all disciplines—for the creation of new work that not only broadens the applicant's scope but breaks new grounds in their work. Artists create an original work that addresses the concept of community and is community-based in the inspiration and/or production of their project. This year, 22 applicants competed for an \$8,500 pool. COAHSI awarded grants in the amount of \$2,125 to four individual artists.

Susan Amessé—Literature
Willie Chu—Photography
Ann Marie McDonnell—Sculpture & Printmaking
Tattfoo Tan—Community-Based "Intervention" Art

Full descriptions of all grantees funded programs are listed on the COAHSI Web site at www.statenislandarts.org.

MAESTRO ALAN AURELIA PRESENTS

Richmond County Opera Company

Charles REX (first violin New York Philharmonic) & Fred Zlotkin (cello chamber music society of Lincoln Center) Beethoven & Brahms Sonatas, SUN., JAN. 11th, 3pm, Wagner College Performance Center, \$25 includes reception, Students & Kids FREE!

February Frolics "A Cabin Fever Cabaret" featuring Stars from the Broadway Stage. TBA stay tuned

POP & Opera! "Divas & Devos to Die for,"

SAT., MARCH 21st, 8pm, Trinity Lutheran Church, 309 St. Pauls Ave., \$20 includes reception, Students & Kids FREE!

Advance Sales and Information:
admin@skylarkartists.net
718.390.4306

www.richmondcountyorchestra.org
www.riversideoperacompany.org

BECOME A COAHSI MEMBER

Support the creative community!

Join the more than 200 individuals, families, businesses, and organizations who are COAHSI members and watch arts and culture grow on Staten Island! Annual membership dues help support COAHSI programs and services that strengthen arts, cultural and humanities activities on Staten Island, like the activities described in this newsletter.

I WANT TO BE A COAHSI MEMBER!

Student \$25 Senior \$25
 Friend \$35 Artist \$35
 Family \$65 Patron \$100
 Benefactor \$200 Small Business \$120

Circle a T-shirt size, for memberships over \$80:

S M L XL

Non-profit (budget under \$500,000) \$80
 Non-profit (budget over \$500,000) \$120
 Corporate \$300

Yes, I would like to make a contribution of \$_____.

Yes, I would like to join the Artist Registry.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ E-mail: _____

All membership contributions are tax-deductible. Fill out and return to: COAHSI, 1000 Richmond Terrace, Staten Island, NY 10301 or sign-up online at www.statenislandarts.org. And thanks!

THANKS, FRIENDS—NEW AND OLD

OUR PATRONS: Joseph & Barbara Andersen and Francis & Valerie Quinlan. END-OF-YEAR SUPPORTERS: Janice Patrignani-Munoz, Robert J. Wright, Margaret Robinson, Irma S. Bohorquez-Geisler, Gail Decker, Michael W. Somogy, Joseph Parisi, Keith Lichtman, Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Montanez, and Ronald W. Cross. NEW MEMBERS: Sara Agnellini, Mikhael Antone, Anthony DePrimo, Scott A. Eden, Nick Fevelo, Kayka Filipowicz, Garibaldi-Meucci Museum, Adam Gordon, James Harris, Jr., Chris Jones, Linda Keenan, Alan Kindler, Rose Kingston, Roz Kurland, Joseph Loughran, Connie Massey, Steve Nutt, Sara Rowbottom, Ann Marie Selzer, Zelig Sokoll, Michael Stokes, Jay Weichun, Vernon Wooten, Victor Zucconi. RENEWAL MEMBERS: Karen M. Anderson, Gale & Vincent Bellafiore, Christina Bliss & Tim Moran, Elizabeth Chowdhury, Willie Chu, Anita Cimino, Fran Miller & Tom Smith, Lawrence Nicastro, Joe Parisi

REFLECTIONS

Continued from Page 4 are actively seeking additional funding to supplement the regrants for 2010, especially in light of drastic funding cuts to the arts.

On a more positive note, 2009 marks the first time in recent years that COAHSI has awarded maximum grants in each category. For example, \$5,000 was awarded to Staten Island OutLOUD for their outstanding programming. Their application was the epitome of what COAHSI panelists are increasingly looking for—a well-written narrative, clear and realistic budget, and outstanding work sample. COAHSI is eager to see the increased quality of programming Staten Island OutLOUD will provide with this funding, as well as the quality of programming anticipated from all 2009 grantees.

Please join COAHSI in honoring these exceptional grantees at the annual award ceremony on Saturday, February 21st at the College of Staten Island's Williamson Theatre. Contact the COAHSI office for ticketing information or go to CSI's Web site at www.cfashows.com. We'll see you there!

COAHSI Night of Staten Island Artists

A Grant Award Program
Saturday, February 21, 8:00 pm
at CSI Center for the Arts; \$15

Featuring Performances by:

Mikhael Antone
Day de Dada
Cecilia Flores/Floorwork Dance Company
Marcel Rominger

Pre-Show Visuals and Performances by:

Justin Bacolo
Stephen Barnett
Willie Chu
Laura Del Prete
Justin Gaynor
Lars Christoph Mayer
Ann Marie McDonnell
Rudolph Montanez
NYC Arts Cypher
Philip Sanders
Tattfoo Tan
Meg Whitlock

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Detail from Janice Patrignani's Snug Harbor scarf



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