

Haiti's "Spirit" on display at The Art Gallery at Eissey Campus exhibition



(Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. – Dec. 13, 2011) The themes of hope and strength are reflected and celebrated through Haiti's artists in the upcoming exhibition, "Art & Life: The Spirit of Haiti," at The Art Gallery at Eissey Campus at Palm Beach State College in Palm Beach Gardens, Jan. 5 through Feb. 10. In the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake, Haiti continues to rebuild and its people continue to live another day with the hope of a better life. The family and national ties between the Haitian people, both here and elsewhere in the U.S., are strong and resilient.

The exhibition will show a dynamic cross-section of 27 pieces of art and crafts created by nine artists of Haitian descent living in south Florida. Some of the artwork exhibited will be for sale, with prices ranging from \$500 to \$5,000. The show will be curated by Onajide Shabaka, gallery director of Artlab33 | Art Space in Miami. Haitian poets Jackeyria Pierre-Louis, Kyoto Walker, Yawatha Desouvre and Geansli Joseph will read selections of their original works inside the gallery during the opening reception.

The art and crafts of Art Creation Foundation for Children in Jacmel, Haiti will also be on exhibit. These will include papier mache, paintings, mosaics and pieces from a special post-earthquake exhibition which links rubble, stories and paintings. Papier mache pieces made by ACFFC's young artists will be available during the opening reception as thank you gifts for donations of support.

Art Creation Foundation for Children, founded in 2003, is a nonprofit arts organization created for personal growth of malnourished and undereducated children. ACFFC teaches self-sufficiency via the arts and education, nurturing a sense of security, pride, social responsibility, community and connectedness in shaping the next generation of traditional Haitian artists and artisans.

The opening reception for the exhibit is Tuesday, Jan. 10 from 5:30-8 p.m. Gallery hours are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. The exhibit and reception are free and open to the public. For more information contact art gallery specialist Karla Walter at 561-207-5015 or visit the gallery's webpage at www.palmbeachstate.edu/artgallerypbq.xml.

Serving more than 51,000 students annually, Palm Beach State College is the largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, providing bachelor's degrees, associate degrees, professional certificates, career training and lifelong learning. Established in 1933 as Florida's first public community college, it offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

Editor's note: Caption for image: From left: "Le règne l'amour" by Erntz dit Kyapazon; "Soft, Dark and Dreamless" by Vicki Pierre; "Free" by Kandy Lopez. High resolution images available upon request; contact the CRM specialist below for more information.

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