



Contact

Elysa Voshell, Gallery & Public Programs Manager
310.578.1745 | elysa@venice-arts.org

**18 COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS PARTNER TO PRODUCE
YOUTH ARTS & MEDIA FESTIVAL ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2010**

Los Angeles, CA – (August 24, 2010) – On September 25, 2010, 18 community-based organizations will partner to present a one-day celebration of youth arts and media in Los Angeles featuring films, photos, music, poetry, workshops, and more. The event is free and open to the public. Everyone is welcome! The Youth Arts and Media festival will take place from 1:00 to 5:00 pm on September 25, 2010, at Mercado La Paloma, 3655 S. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90007.

Celebrating a diversity of work from youth throughout Los Angeles County, the event will include a juried exhibition featuring 100 photographs and a film festival showcasing short films, animations, and multimedia works by youth, as well as music and dance performances throughout the afternoon by groups of young people from various parts of LA. Michael Itkoff, Editor of "Daylight Magazine" served on the jury for the photography exhibition and will feature a selection of images on the "Daylight Daily blog."

Deanna Erdmann, Lead Photographer at Venice Arts, says, "It's exciting to see so many organizations from across Los Angeles come together to celebrate the work of young people throughout the city. This festival showcases the immense creativity and talent of the artists of tomorrow and the work that organizations across the city are doing to engage youth in media-based arts."

Youth Arts & Media: Los Angeles (YAM) is a partnership of community-based organizations that are committed to providing teens and young adults in Los Angeles County with free access to high quality, technology-intensive media arts, visual, and music education. The organizations share in common a desire to encourage youth to use and understand digital technologies as vehicles for communication. Through YAM these organizations are seeking to leverage their resources and thus, strengthen their ability to promote the contributions of young artists. Youth served by YAM partners represent ethnic and economic diversity that is reflective of Los Angeles County, particularly historically disenfranchised communities.

YAM was created in 2009 following a series of meetings convened by Venice Arts and Cassandra Malry of the California Consumer Protection Foundation. It has since grown into a partnership of 18 organizations: A Place Called Home, All Peoples Christian Center, Blazers, Bresee Foundation, CalArts Community Arts Partnership (CAP), Central City Neighborhood Partners, Digital Dove at Covenant House, Echo Park Film Center, Instituto de Educación Popular del Sur de California, LA-Artist Documentary Project, Little Tokyo Service Center, Long Beach YMCA Youth Institute, Remedee Foundation, St. Francis Center, Urban Oasis Film Academy, Venice Arts, Visual Communications, and Youth Speak Collective. The YAM Festival is sponsored in part by HBO.

Hi-Res images available upon request.

###