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Summer Workshops Mark the Beginning of a Full Slate of Public and Adult Programs

Jessie Nagel May 27th, 2010
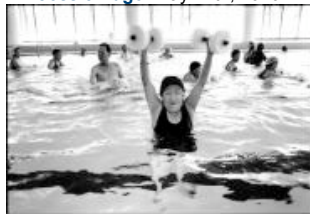
Venice, CA – (May 27, 2010) – Venice Arts, the local non-profit organization which has received critical acclaim around the world for its innovative, media-based arts programs for youth, is launching a new series of Public Programs including workshops for adults; gallery exhibits focusing, this year, on documentary photography and high caliber work created through participant photography projects; and free lectures, discussions, and screenings, to begin this Fall.

On June 6th, the workshops for adults begin with "Processing in the Digital Darkroom: PhotoShop 1." This kicks off the first in a series of intensive workshops designed for both novice and professional photographers. Taught by Jack Duganne, owner and master printer at Duganne Ateliers. Later in the month, Venice Arts will be offering "Printing in the Digital Darkroom: Creating Exhibit Quality Prints," also taught by Jack; "Developing Your Documentary Project," taught by photojournalist and documentary photographer Marissa Roth; and, "Quick Website and Gallery Building for Photographers," taught by Franklin Odel, a digital artist and web designer.

This summer's gallery schedule includes Positively Sixth Street: 1992-2009 A retrospective of work from San Francisco's Sixth Street Photography project, featuring work both by professional photographers and homeless participants of Sixth Street's photo programs. It will be open from June 24-July 31, with a reception on June 26th, from 5-8 pm. It will be followed by Through The Eyes Of Haitian Children, a selection of photographs by Haitian youth involved in Zanmi Lakay, a photo-based youth program in Haiti. Their work has previously been featured on "The New York Times" photo blog, "Lens." It will run from August 6–September 24, 2010, with an opening reception on August 14th, from 5-8pm. A free film screening about the sugar industry in Haiti is also planned for this period. Finally, Venice Arts will close out its exhibit year with Injustice, Power, & Unusual People, a retrospective of work by renowned documentary photographer Jim Hubbard, the Creative Director for Venice Arts' special documentary projects, who has received many accolades for his work, including three Pulitzer nominations. Concurrent with Jim's exhibit will begin Venice Arts' series of free presentations, conversations, and special events about documentary photography, photojournalism, and visual storytelling in the digital age.

According to Elysa Voshell, the Gallery and Public Programs' Manager, "While we have had many, wonderful exhibits in our gallery over the past five years, we are excited to be able to strengthen our curatorial focus and to offer what we hope will be interesting, educational, and stimulating programs, free-of-charge, to our community."

Adds Venice Arts' Executive Director, Lynn Warshafsky, "We've been working on building our programs to reach more people in our community—to create a real center for photography, filmmaking, and digital media learning—without compromising our primary commitment to mentoring and educating low-income kids. I think our new Gallery and Public Programs represent that vision."

About Venice Arts:

Since 1993, Venice Arts has been running innovative programs in documentary photography, filmmaking, and digital media/arts, primarily targeting low–income youth in the Los Angeles area. Venice Arts also implements regional, national, and international participant–produced photo documentary projects with adults and children. In 2007, Venice Arts joined with the USC Annenberg Center on Communication Leadership to create the Venice Arts/USC Institute for Photographic Empowerment. Since its inception 17 years ago, Venice Arts has come to be recognized as an Exemplary Arts Organization and has been the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions for its unique Media Art Mentoring programs and its innovative integration of technology into arts learning.

For more information about Venice Arts, please visit: www.venice-arts.org

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