



Cultural Arts Programs

Cultural Arts & Marketing Division

To: Cultural Affairs Commission
Attn: Lori Zook
From: Public Art Advisory Committee
Date: December 14, 2009

Re: RECOMMENDATION TO APPOINT MILTON BOWENS TO THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION'S PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SUMMARY

On December 7, 2009 the Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) voted to recommend to the Cultural Affairs Commission the appointment of artist Milton Bowens to a three-year term. Staff recommends that the term commence on February 1, 2010 and expire on January 30, 2013.

The PAAC is a nine-member standing advisory committee of the Cultural Affairs Commission. The PAAC and its duties were established by the City's 1989 Percent for Art Ordinance (No. 11086 C.M.S.), which defines the PAAC as "a professionally qualified citizen committee recommended by the Oakland Arts Council [later renamed the Cultural Affairs Commission] and approved by City Council to oversee quality control of the public art program, its projects, and to recommend to the Cultural Arts Division the sites, scope of project, artworks and artists for the public art projects."

FISCAL IMPACT

Acceptance of this recommendation will not result in any new expenditure of City funds. The PAAC is a volunteer advisory body and there is no financial appropriation for this committee. Expenses for the administration of the committee, such as agenda mailings, preparation of meeting materials and staff time, are incorporated within the operating costs of the Cultural Arts & Marketing Division.

BACKGROUND

To fill vacancies on the PAAC, staff and the committee's membership subcommittee identifies and contacts potential candidates on an as-needed basis. The subcommittee considers membership criteria including cultural, ethnic, and gender diversity, relevant professional background and experience, and dedication and commitment to the goals of the Public Art Program. Among other areas of expertise for consideration, it is important that the PAAC membership include working artists.

Beginning in spring 2009, the PAAC considered the names of numerous potential nominees to replace committee members who will be terming out of the Committee on January 30, 2010. On December 7, 2009, the committee reviewed the nomination of artist Milton Bowens, a nationally

acclaimed fine artist. The PAAC unanimously approved the recommendation to forward the name of Mr. Bowens to the Cultural Affairs Commission, the Mayor and City Council for approval.

Born and raised in Oakland, Milton Bowens is an accomplished painter with many solo and group shows in California and around the nation to his credit. He also lectures widely on contemporary art. Currently residing in Tracy, CA, Mr. Bowens is establishing a 501c3 nonprofit organization in Alameda County to present, create and exhibit educational contemporary art across the United States with programs encompassing the issues engaging urban and underserved communities. Mr. Bowens comes highly recommended by departing PAAC member Rick Moss, manager of the African American Museum & Library at Oakland. For more information on Mr. Bowens, please see the attached resume.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

In order to accomplish its tasks and fulfill its responsibilities, the PAAC must have a full slate of members. The term of PAAC member Rick Moss will expire in January 2010, creating a vacancy. The implementation of a public art program benefits from an advisory body that is knowledgeable about public art, art administration, aesthetics and regional and community issues. The nominee will bring aesthetic and professional diversity to PAAC and will enhance the wide range of skills and knowledge currently represented on the board.

RECOMMENDATION

The Public Art Advisory Committee recommends that the Cultural Affairs Commission approve the recommendation to appoint Milton Bowens to the PAAC for a three-year term, and forward this recommendation to the Mayor and City Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Huss
Cultural Arts Programs Coordinator

MILTON BOWENS/ARTIST

www.MILTON510.com

Born and raised in Oakland, California, Milton is the fifth boy of ten children. He began his formal art training at the Renaissance Art School in Oakland, CA during his Junior and Senior High School years. On completion of high school, Milton was awarded a scholarship to attend the California College of Arts and Crafts; after one-year of studies, Milton enlisted in the United States Armed Forces and became an Illustrator. He received his Associates Degree in Commercial Art under the Army's College Education Assistance Program (ACE). Milton continued his education in the Arts, attending Austin Peay State University, TN and Fayetteville State University, NC while serving his tour of duty in the military and Laney College, Oakland CA upon returning home from his service commitment.

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2009

- "Just Responding To The Spirit", Gallery Guichard, Chicago, IL
- "The 5th Annual Creative Justice Art Show", USF School of Law, CA
- "NFBAS" Avisca Fine Art Gallery, New York, NY
- "15th Annual Africa American Art Exhibition", Actors Theatre Of Louisville, Louisville, KY

2008

- "Richard Wright at 100" National Civil Rights Museum, Memphis, TN
- "Cultural Dimensions" Pence Art galley, Davis, CA
- "Black" 40 Acres Art Gallery, Sacramento, CA
- "Embrace" the fine art fair of the national black arts festival, Atlanta, GA
- "Banned and Recovered" Center for the Book, San Francisco, CA
- "Yea We Said It And No We're Not Sorry" Joyce Gordon Gallery, Oakland, CA
- "NFBAS" Avisca Fine Art Gallery, New York, NY
- "Common Ground" CAAM, Los Angeles, CA
- "Move" The Greenlining Institute Community Arts Initiative, Berkeley, CA
- "CCAS Benefit Art Auction" Center for Contemporary Art, Sacramento, CA

2007

- "Embrace" the fine art fair of the national black arts festival, Atlanta, GA
- "The Human Condition" the artist's response, PVAC, Pajaro Valley Arts Council and Gallery, Watsonville, CA
- "CCAS Benefit Art Auction" Center for Contemporary Art, Sacramento, CA

2006

- "CCAS Benefit Art Auction" Center for Contemporary Art, Sacramento, CA
- '10th Anniversary National Black Fine Art Show, New York (Catalog, Cover Image)
- "Oak Park Revisited", 40 Acres Art Gallery, Sacramento, CA

2005

- "The Return to Africa", University of the Pacific, Reynolds Gallery, Stockton, CA

2004

- "New Dimensions in Art", African American Museum and Library, Oakland, CA

- “Hairstories”, Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, Scottsdale, AZ (traveling exhibition, Catalog 2003-2005)

2002

- “The Box Show”, Urbanview Newspaper, YMCA, Oakland, CA

2001

- “Summer Group Exhibition”, Cecile Moochnek Gallery, Berkeley, CA
- “Group Exhibition”, Joysmith Gallery and Studio, Memphis, TN

2000

- “The Musical Journey” Cecile Moochnek Gallery, Berkeley, CA
- “Hidden Histories”, Pro Arts, Oakland, CA

1999

- “End of the Millennium” Samuel Gallery, Oakland, CA

1996

- “Annual Summer Jazz Show”, Sande Webster Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
- “Guilty of Innocence” Seventh Sanctuaries Gallery, Sherman Oaks, CA

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2009

- "The Soundtrack Of Freedom", Mondavi Center Of The Performing Arts, UC Davis, Davis CA
- "Red, White and Afro-Blue", 510 Studios Satellite Exhibition, Washington, D.C.

2008

- “Stitches In Time”, Avisca Fine Art, Marietta, GA
- “Gonna Lay My Burdens Down”, AAACC, San Francisco, CA
- “I Got You Covered” June Steingart Gallery, Laney College, Oakland, CA
- “Celebration And Contemplation” ArtsChange, Richmond Health Ctr, Richmond, CA

2007

- “Once Upon A Culture” Gallery 1910, Sacramento, CA
- “Can We Spare Some Change”, Oakland City Hall, Frank Ogawa Plaza Special Exhibition for the Tavis Smiley Presents Road to Health Tour, 2007
- “Trying to Find My Way Home” A Black Male Speaks of the Father, San Jose City College, San Jose, CA
- “Can We Spare Some Change”, LINEN LIFE PARK AVENUE GALLERY, Emeryville, CA
- “What Becomes of A Broken Soul” Letters From The New Plantation – Prison, The African American Museum and Library, Oakland, CA
- “Blood on The Fields”, The Gallery Memorial Union, UC Davis, Davis, CA
- “WE BE THE ROOT OF SOUL”, Arts Change, Richmond Health Care Center Richmond, CA

2006

- “Trying to Find My Way Home” A Black Male Speaks of the Father, Semans Library, Foothill College, Los Altos, CA
- “Can We Spare Some Change”, African American Museum and Library (Catalog), Oakland, CA
- “Writings on the Walls”, California African American Museum (Catalog), Los Angeles, CA

- “Blood on the Fields”, Kaneko Gallery, American River College, Sacramento, CA
- “Continuing Traditions”, Semans Library, Foothill College, Los Altos, CA

2005

- “Ten Cents Away from a Nickel”, 510 Studios (Satellite Gallery), Washington, D.C.
- “Trying to Find My Way Home”, A Black Male Speaks of the Father” African American Museum and Library, Oakland, CA
- “The Truth about Window Pains and The Promise of Milk and Honey” Sacramento State University Library Gallery, Sacramento, CA
- “Southern Patterns and Rituals, A Soul food Story”, African American Museum and Library, Oakland, CA

2004

- “Roots, Lyrics and Lineage”, FM Studios, Oakland, CA
- “Eye Just Wanna Paint”, Linen Life Gallery, Emeryville, CA
- “Out the Corner of My Eye”, 40 Acres Art Gallery (Catalog), Sacramento, CA
- “Blood on the Fields”, African American Museum and Library, Oakland, CA

2003

- “Thinking Out Loud”, B. Sakata Garo, Sacramento, CA
- “Me, Myself & The Other Guy”, New College of California, San Francisco, CA
- “Me, Myself & The Other Guy”, The Single Largest Solo Exhibition by an American Painter, Jack London Square (Catalog), Oakland, CA

2002

- “Echoes of the Sweetest Sound”, Private Home Show, Oakland, CA

2001

- “A La Carte”, The Penthouse, Oakland, CA

2000

- “Stop, Look, Listen”, Semans Library, Foothill College, Los Altos, CA

1999

- “Home Cookin”, African American Museum of Fine Art, San Diego, CA

1993

- “Holiday Exhibit”, Nbari Cultural Gallery, Los Altos, CA
- “Reflections”, Wajumbe Cultural Institution, San Francisco, CA

1992

- “Khafre Presents Milton Bowens Original Paintings and Drawings”, Khafre Con Cultural Center, Oakland, CA
- “Emotions”, Viewpoint Gallery, Oakland, CA

MULTIMEDIA

2003

- "Eye Just Wanna Paint", The DVD, Next To Me Productions, Fremont, CA

2004

- "Trying To Find My Way Back Home", The Unauthorized Soundtrack, Oakland, CA (Out of circulation)

2006

- "Can We Spare Some Change", The Documentary DVD, Oakland, CA (back ordered)
- "Can We Spare Some Change", Online Catalog, (hardcopies available for purchase while supplies last)
- "Gonna Lay My Burdens Down", Online Catalog, (hardcopies back ordered)

2008

- "Stiches In Time ", Online Catalog, (hardcopies available while supplies last)

LECTURES

2009

- San Francisco City College Lecture Series @ Ocean Campus, John Adams Campus and Mission Campus, San Francisco, CA
- "Colored Pictures", Laconte Elementary School, Berkeley, CA; School-wide Assembly

2008

- Black Art and Its Importance to History, Laney College, Oakland, CA
- Collecting Contemporary Black Art, Joyce Gordon Gallery, Oakland, CA
- Health Services Association California Community Colleges, Sacramento, CA
- Black History Month School-wide Assembly, Hayward High School, Hayward, CA
- "Banned And Recovered", AAMLO, Oakland, CA
- "Who's Next?", 40 Arces Art Gallery, Sacramento, CA

2007

- 4TH Annual Leslie Campbell Black Youth Leadership Conference, UC Davis, Davis, CA
- Morrison & Foerster, BHM "Then & Now: Evolution of Black Culture", San Francisco, CA
- Oakland School for the Arts School-Wide Assembly, Oakland, CA
- Meiklejohn Hall, New Voices-New Visions, CSUEB, Hayward, CA
- African American Museum and Library, Oakland, CA
- Linen Life Gallery, Emeryville, CA
- Arts Change, Richmond Health Care Center Richmond, CA
- The Gallery Memorial Union, UC Davis, Davis, CA
- San Jose City College, San Jose, CA
- PVAC, Pajaro Valley Arts Council and Gallery, Watsonville, CA
- Sacramento High – School Wide B.H.M. Assembly, Sacramento, CA

2006

- Bay Area Science Project, Saturday Seminar Series, Albany, CA
- Craft and Cultural Arts Gallery, Oakland, CA
- African American Museum and Library, Oakland, CA
- Foothill College, Los Altos, CA
- American River College, Sacramento, CA
- 40 Acres Art Gallery, Sacramento, CA

2005

- Congressional Black Caucus/35th Annual Legislative Conference, Washington, D.C.
- African American Museum and Library, Oakland, CA
- University of the Pacific, Stockton, CA
- California State University Sacramento, Sacramento, CA
- Mentor Diversion Program, Alameda County Superior Court Probation Department, Oakland, CA (2004-2006)

2004

- Linen Life Gallery, Emeryville, CA
- Guild Theatre, Sacramento, CA
- 40 Acres Art Gallery, Sacramento, CA
- African American Museum and Library, Oakland, CA

2003

- Guild Theatre, Lecture Series, Sacramento, CA
- Charles Houston Bar Association, Oakland, CA
- University of California, Office of the President (UCOP Night), Oakland, CA

2000

- Semans Library, Foothill College, Los Altos, CA

1999

- African American Museum and Library, Oakland, CA
- Meridian Gallery, Instructor and Consultant, San Francisco, CA

1997

- Mayor's Youth Education Employment Program (MYEEP), Meridian Gallery, San Francisco, CA

SELECTED AWARDS

- Joyce Alexander Wein Artist Prize Nominee, 2006
Studio Museum of Harlem, NY
- Brown-Forman Corporation Purchase Award, 15th Annual African American Art Exhibition, 2009

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Museum, Fort Bragg, NC, 1989
- Pratt Museum, Fort Campbell Kentucky, 1990
- Highland Foundation, Highland General Hospital, Oakland, CA 1995
- African American Museum of Fine Art, San Diego, CA, 1999
- Foothill College, Los Altos, CA, 2000
- University California Berkeley, Office of Pres., Berkeley, CA, 2000
- St. Hope Corporation, Sacramento, CA, 2003
- African American Museum & Library, Oakland, CA, 2003
- 40 Acres Art Gallery, Sacramento, CA, 2004
- University of Pacific, Mc George School of Law, Office of Dean, Sacramento, CA, 2004
- Sacramento State University, ASA, Sacramento, CA, 2005
- California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA. 2006
- Foothill College, Los Altos, CA, 2007
- Richmond Health Center, Richmond, CA, 2007
- Laney College, Office of Pres., Oakland, CA, 2008
- East Oakland Asian Development Corporation, Oakland, CA, 2008
- Brown-Forman Corporation, 2009