



City of
OAKLAND
California

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News from: Oakland Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 1, 2011

Creative Power Exhibition, Featuring Artwork by Detained Youth, at Main Library's TeenZone

Oakland, CA – Oakland Public Library's Teen Services Division and Alameda County Arts Commission (ACAC) are proud to present a group exhibition featuring artwork by detained youth at the Alameda County Juvenile Justice Center (ACJJC) in San Leandro, CA. This exhibition, part of National Arts in Education Week, celebrating youth arts learning in the Bay Area, will be on display at the Main Library's TeenZone, 125 14th Street, 2nd floor, from September 2 to December 16, 2011.

The ACAC manages the Arts Education Program, called Creative Power, at the ACJJC in partnership with the Alameda County Probation Department and the Alameda County Office of Education's Butler Academic Center and the Alameda County Office of Education's Alliance for Arts Learning Leadership.

President Barack Obama has said, "The future belongs to young people with an education and the imagination to create. That is the source of power in this century." Supporting this vision, the Creative Power arts education program engages youth through art-making workshops where they are encouraged to learn new skills, build self confidence, and explore their imagination. Working with professional artists, the youth are introduced to various art media through activities that offer extensive opportunities to practice problem solving and making positive decisions. The Arts Education Program, Creative Power, at the ACJJC serves up to 900 youth annually.

For more information, please call Amy Sonnie, Teen Outreach Librarian, at 510-238-7233, or email her at asonnie@oaklandlibrary.org. You can also contact Violet Juno, ACAC Program Coordinator, at 510-208-9646, or artscommission@acgov.org.

About National Arts in Education Week

Hundreds of organizations from all around the Bay Area are coming together for the first time in Bay Area history for this unique multicounty collaboration. Youth and families are encouraged to take part in the celebration through free or low-cost events showcasing the myriad facets of arts education occurring in our community, both in and out of the classroom. For more information on events, visit www.artiseducation.org/calendar.

About the Alameda County Juvenile Justice Center

Each year, more than 1,500 youth are detained within this secure detention facility for youth ages 12-18. The arts education program contributes to the overall goals of Alameda County and the ACJJC, which are to promote learning and the acquisition of social skills for the youth, thereby furthering their strengthening their skills and resources for when they return to the community.

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About the Alameda County Arts Commission

The work of the public art program is based on the belief that the arts are an essential part of every successful and thriving community. Viewing and creating artwork can help all young people, families, and community members understand diverse perspectives and common experiences as well as imagine individual transformation and future opportunities.

About Oakland Public Library

The Oakland Public Library informs, inspires and delights our diverse community as a resource for information, knowledge, and artistic and literary expression, providing the best in traditional services, new technologies and innovative programs. This exhibition is hosted by the Library's Teen Services Division, which serves as a popular destination for thousands of Oakland youth, a conduit for local teen culture, and a hub for education, recreation and workplace preparedness.

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