



ST. HOPE

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FINAL EDITION

Kim Curry-Evans Named Arts Executive of the Year

By Lisa Serna-Mayorga

On October 3, 2007, during its annual luncheon, the Arts and Business Council of Sacramento named 40 Acres Art Gallery Director, Kim Curry-Evans Arts Executive of the Year. "The Arts and Business Council's recognition of me as the Arts Executive of the Year was recognition for the arts in Oak Park", said Curry-Evans. "I am humbled and honored by the recognition, knowing that the high quality of programming that 40 Acres provides is the result of successful teamwork with St. HOPE, our schools, our financial contributors and collaborative partners." For the last four years, Curry-Evans has brought to life St. HOPE's mission of bringing arts and enrichment to inner-city communities like Oak Park.



Kim Curry-Evans celebrates with a smile.

Curry-Evans has curated numerous exhibitions with such artists as Flo Oy Wong, Cathleen Lewis, Beverly McIver, Mark Priest, Willie Birch, and Milton Bowens. She was also the guest curator for *HairStories*, a nationally touring art exhibit addressing the social, historical and political impact of African-American hair on popular culture. Current projects include exhibitions with Michael Ray Charles, Peter Wayne Lewis, Roy DeCarava, and Claudia Bernardi.



Senator Barack Obama on the campaign trail.

Sac High Students Volunteer at Obama Fundraiser

By Shani Alford

On Wednesday, November 14th more than 100 Sac High students boarded busses bound for San Francisco to volunteer at Senator Barack Obama's last public appearance. Students participated in a one hour volunteer training session before the event began. A representative from Barack's campaign expressed to the students how critical their participation would be to the success of the event. For nearly three hours students were responsible for meeting, greeting and ushering nearly 7,000 attendees

Once all the attendees were seated, Sac High students had the opportunity to listen to Senator Obama as he delivered his speech. By the end of the night students were expressing what a great opportunity it was to be exposed to such an event. Kudos to Sac High students for their hard work!

Artist Claudia Bernardi works with Sac High Students

By Shani Alford

In September, the 40 Acres Art Gallery welcomed acclaimed artist and activist Claudia Bernardi as an artist-in-residence at Sac High. For three months she will be working with 9th - 12th grade students, teaching them how to effectively combine art, education and social justice in order to be community activists. Bernardi is focusing on several different areas: creating a mural, developing a student-led sound sculpture for 40 Acres, and documenting the residency so that students can ultimately present it as a call to action to government officials. During her residency students will learn about the horrors and history of El Salvador, how it relates to their lives in Oak Park, and what they can do to create positive change. To find out more about Claudia Bernardi, visit www.40acresartgallery.org.



Claudia Bernardi works with a Sac High student at the 40 Acres Art Gallery.

Sac High Charter Renewal FAQs

Over the last four years, Sac High has made a significant, positive impact on student outcomes. For the next month we will document the value-added benefit to students as outlined below in the following frequently asked questions:

1. Is the Sac High campus being underutilized?

No, the campus is not being underutilized. During modernization, 50% of the main campus is unavailable. This means we have less space for students. Many components of our educational program necessitate more space than an average high school. We have small class sizes, advisories of 12 students (to one adult) and extended day classes all of which have greater space requirements. Also, PS7's middle school has been moved to the Sac High campus. District estimates of a capacity of 2800 students are incorrect. The square footage used for this calculation includes many spaces such as the gym, auditorium and weight room, none of which make appropriate classroom space.

2. Would Sac High consider sharing the campus with another school?

The Sac High school community feels strongly that co-location of two schools that are managed by different entities on one campus will adversely effect school culture and is not in the best interest of students for a number of reasons:

- Our educational model requires more space be made available for 5th period, support staff, after school programs, etc.
- Need additional space for growth, i.e. middle school, K-8, and potential small learning communities
- Uniforms, extended day, and high expectations may conflict with another school's model

3. What was the outcome of the consent decree community engagement meetings?

All three of the community engagement meetings hosted by SCUSD clearly demonstrated little opposition for locating the consent decree high school at Marian Anderson. There was significant opposition to locating the consent decree high school on the Sac High campus.

Walls of Hope Fundraiser

Join us for a celebration in honor of Walls of Hope, a nonprofit organization for the School of Art and Open Studio in Perquin, El Salvador, founded by artist Claudia Bernardi. In addition to hearing Bernardi speak about the school, attendees will also enjoy El Salvadoran delicacies while viewing the exhibit. The fundraiser will culminate with a performance by Chilean performing artist Lichi Fuentes, a recognized multi-instrumentalist, singer and songwriter. Tickets can be purchased in advanced at 40 Acres for \$45. Call or email now to reserve your tickets - (916) 456-5080 or kcurry@sthope.org.

Happenings at the Guild Theater

We are pleased to announce the following upcoming events at the Guild Theater located at 2828 35th Street in Oak Park:

- Darla Givens presents "The Gift", a theatrical Stage Play: December 7-9, 2007
- Monroe Howard Concert: December 15, 2007
- SN&R JAMMIES: January 12, 2008
- "LEGACY, a MLK Jr. Tribute": January 18-20, 2008, Images Theater Company
- YouthWORKS DIM Awards: January 24, 2008

Contact Al Williamson at (916) 649-7900 for more information.

SHS Freshman Track Athletes Win Section Championships

Congratulations to Sac High freshmen cross country stars Leon Sheppard and Nathan French! Nathan placed second and Leon placed third in the Frosh Section Championship last week. Look for them to further establish themselves next year when they compete on the varsity team.

Local authors to visit Oak Park

Terry Moore, one of Sacramento's best poets, will perform and sign his new book *Validated...Poetry from the heart of a Black Man*, at underground books Friday, November 30 from 6-8 pm. On Saturday, December 1 from 2-4 pm Victor Alexandria will be at the bookstore to discuss and sign his book, *Black Rain*. Call (916) 737-3333 for more info.

In the News

November 19, 2007: Editorial - Progress dictates renewing Sac High's charter
<http://www.sacbee.com/110/story/501317.html>

November 18, 2007: Letter to the Editor
<http://www.sacbee.com/110/story/498488.html>

November 17, 2007: Letter to the Editor
<http://www.sacbee.com/326/story/498596-p2.html>