

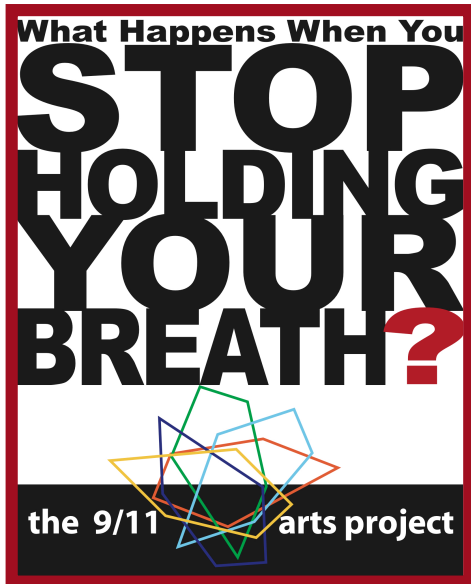


The 9/11 Arts Project

Healing 10 Years Later

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SMITH CENTER FOR HEALING AND THE ARTS ANNOUNCES THE 9/11 ARTS PROJECT A Citywide Arts Collaboration Created to Inspire Community Engagement and Healing Discourse



Washington, D.C. – August 11, 2011 – Today the Smith Center for Healing and the Arts (formerly the Smith Farm Center for Healing and the Arts) announced the kickoff of *The 9/11 Arts Project*, a citywide initiative to engage creative, social, interfaith and activist communities through the visual and performing arts to explore healing and recovery in response to the events of September 11th.

Launching this September we are catalyzing a **full year of events and programs spanning creative genres** from performing arts like dance and literary readings, facilitated dialogues, concerts and film screenings, to interfaith services, art exhibitions and more, at venues across the city. Project performances and fine arts events will focus on such themes as multiculturalism, religious tolerance, and community engagement, with creativity and healing at the center of it all.

As of this release date, project collaborators, partners and venues include the **National Portrait Gallery, Phillips Collection, National Cathedral, Goethe Institut, Carroll Square Gallery, Washington Printmakers Gallery, Hillyer Arts Space, Center for Green Urbanism, 9/11 Unity Walk, and The Pepco Edison Place Gallery**, among others.

Officially kicking off the project we are hosting **4-days of inspiring events, September 8-11:**

9/8 | 7-9pm - *10 Years After 9/11* Opening Reception at The Pepco Edison Place Gallery

9/9 | 7-9pm - *Vessel* Opening Reception at The Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts Gallery

9/10 | 11am – 7pm - CREATE Arts Center's Interactive *Arts as Healing* at Arts on Foot

9/11 | all day

1pm - World Peace Interfaith Service at Smith Center for Healing and the Arts

4pm - Kurt Steger's Burden Boat Project Ceremony at National Portrait Gallery's Kogod Courtyard

6pm - Rebirth Documentary at National Portrait Gallery's Nan Tucker McEvoy Auditorium

For a full list of up-to-date project events, partners, and launch event details please visit – 911artsproject.com.

The project is supported by an **Honorary Committee** of local Washington, D.C. arts and interfaith leaders, social activists, and grief experts, including: **Tara Brach, Ph.D., Councilmember Jack Evans, Judy A. Greenberg, George Halasz, M.D., Imam Yahya Hendi, Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton, Philippa Hughes, Micheline Klagsburn, Reverend Dr. Clark Lobenstine, Jack Rasmussen, Siddharth Ashvin Shah, M.D., Andy Shallal, Manjit Singh, and Brigadier General Wilma Vaught.**

Smith Center for Healing and the Arts is a Washington DC-based, non-denominational, 501(c)3 nonprofit grounded in the profound belief that each person has tremendous innate abilities to heal in the face of life's challenges. For over 15 years, we have provided healing and creative resources to the local community and individuals living with cancer and other serious illnesses. The Smith Center is located at 1632 U Street, NW. For more information about the work of Smith Center, *The Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts Gallery* and community programs, visit smithcenter.org.