



__ P R E S S R E L E A S E __

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 3, 2009

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HOWARD COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL HOSTS OPEN MIC NIGHT AND RECEPTION

Ellicott City, MD – On Wednesday, July 22, 2009, the **Howard County Arts Council** will host an **Open Mic Night**, in the lobby beginning at 6:30 pm. The Open Mic Night will be in conjunction with the free exhibit reception for *[trans]TEXTURE* and *No Boundaries*.

The host of the Open Mic event will be actor/director, **Bruce Nelson**. Performances will last for 3-5 minutes and a **People's Choice Award** will be given to the performer with the most audience votes. Participants can perform in any artistic medium. Stage time can be reserved by contacting the Arts Council at 410-313-ARTS (2787) or by emailing Deputy Director, Wendy Meetze at deputydirector@hocoarts.org with the name, act type and the approximate length of act. Performers can also sign-up at the door, time permitting.

The exhibit reception, from 6-8 p.m. will feature *[trans]TEXTURE* in Gallery I, with sculpture and 2-D works from handmade paper and paper pulp and *No Boundaries*, in Gallery II, with work by youth and adults with developmental disabilities, presented in partnership with Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks, Therapeutic Recreation and Inclusion Services. **Light refreshments will be served.**

The exhibits will open July 3, 2009 and run through August 14, 2009. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday 10 a.m. – 8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., and Sunday 12 – 4 p.m. The Galleries are closed Independence Day, July 4, 2009. For more information about Howard County Arts Council programs and exhibits call 410-313-ARTS (2787) or visit <http://www.hocoarts.org/>.

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The Howard County Arts Council is a non-profit organization whose mission is to serve the citizens of Howard County by fostering the arts, artists and arts organizations. The Howard County Arts Council receives major grants from the Howard County Government and the Maryland State Arts Council and sustaining annual support from corporate, foundation and individual sponsors. Howard County Arts Council offices are located at the Howard County Center for the Arts, 8510 High Ridge Road, Ellicott City, MD 21043. The Howard County Center for the Arts is an accessible facility encouraging the full participation of individuals with disabilities. For information, call 410.313.ARTS (2787), fax 410.313.2790, or email info@hocoarts.org. TDD: 711

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