WATERFRONT ARTS FESTIVAL MIXES IT UP WITH YOUTH PERFORMANCES

ACTS OF TOLERANCE, HIP HOP AND MORE SAT JUNE 2 IN RED HOOK, BROOKLYN

Brooklyn, NY – Where do young and old, visitors and locals, water and shoreline, rich and poor, and all those in-between come to celebrate a common purpose? The Red Hook Waterfront Arts Festival, Saturday, June 2, where community is achieved through acts of tolerance.

Ghandi once said, "Be the change." At this free, fun, outstanding festival with a message you can dance for a better world with DJ Kool Bob Love and young people from across the globe who are the Change.

With longer hours -- **10 am** to **7 pm** -- a new location, and a focus on tolerance, the 2007 Red Hook Waterfront Arts Festival promises to be better than ever. Come to **Louis J Valentino Jr. Park & Pier** at Coffey and Ferris streets where cool sea breezes, grassy lawns and breathtaking views of the harbor and the Statue of Liberty make an ideal setting. Here is what's in store:

- **TOLERANCE TENT –** New multi-disciplinary arts venue with workshops for children and teens, performances and talkbacks, films from the 3rd annual Red Hook Youth Film Festival, winners of Current TV's "Seeds of Tolerance" film contest, and much more will be going on throughout the day. Funded by the Third Millennium Foundation.

- **YOUTH DANCE FOR TOLERANCE –** Dance students from South America will be joining local youth groups on stage. Young dancers from Brazil's renowned Edisca School, from the streets of Cali, Colombia and the local Brooklyn International High School will perform a "dance for tolerance" that they choreograph together prior to the festival. Local youth groups Pee Wee Hoofers, PureElements: An Evolution in Dance, Jow-ile-Bailar Dance Company, Solomon Goodwin Dancers, Final Destination, PS 27, PS 15 and other youth groups will also strut their stuff on stage.

- **HIGH ENERGY HEADLINERS IGNITE THE MAINSTAGE**

  Bobbito Garcia (**a.k.a. kool bob love**) is a bonafide Hip Hop legend and a world-class club DJ. Crowds from Sweden to South Africa have celebrated his unique blend of rare funk, Latin, Afro-beat, soul, classic rock and ballads. Bobbito has opened concerts for five-time Grammy Award Winner Eddie Palmieri, Afro-funk progenitor Tony Allen and other fêted musicians.

  Look for an exciting and high energy show when local hip hop artists **Baba Israel** and **Yako** take the stage. Baba Israel is an emcee, beatboxer, and hip hop didgeridoo player known for his freestyle ability, powerful lyrics, and booming beatbox beats. Yako is a gifted multi-instrumentalist who plays bass, triggers beats, cuts, and beatboxes with the best of them. They will be featuring special guests Dawn (spoken word) and Core Rhythm, plus a surprise B-boy!

  Frankie Martinez's ABAKUÁ Afro-Latin Dance Company is a captivating, ethnically diverse dance group on the cutting edge of the Afro-Latin dance scene. Choreographer Frankie Martinez is defining a new genre by mixing West African dance forms, traditional salsa, mambo, cha cha cha and rumba with contemporary twists. Flamboyant costumes and out of this world, go-for-broke dancing make this group a must see.

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Expect an uncensored explosion of art and music from **earthdriver**, a high-octane band made up of some of the hottest musicians on the New York City scene. Their intense hybrid of funk, rock, soul, hip-hop, world music and experimental genres reflect the group's political stance on free thinking and creativity.

- **FREE ACTIVITIES** for children, teens and the whole family , including **FREE CANOE** and **KAYAK RIDES** provided by The Red Hook Boaters, GREAT FOOD & inter-active community resource tables with free give-aways add to the festivities as always.
- **NEW!** Bobbito will DJ a lively **DANCE PARTY** to close out the event on a high note. Bring your dancing shoes!
- **NY WATER TAXI** will be taking passengers from Manhattan & Queens to Red Hook hourly.

The Red Hook Waterfront Arts Festival is made possible with support from the Third Millennium Foundation, Independence Community Foundation, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, Astoria Federal Savings, Partnerships for Parks, Greg O'Connell & Harbor View Associates, Cornell Paper and Box Company and NYC Council Member Sara M. Gonzalez.

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Red Hook Youth Film Festival Sponsor Gowanus Industrial Park, Inc.

The festival is produced by Dance Theatre Etcetera – Executive Director Martha Bowers, Production Coordinator Robert Martin. Visit www.dancetheatreetcetera.org for more information.

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