



Newsletter of the Black Coalition on AIDS/Rafiki Wellness

October - November 2011

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Special Event

Night with the Divas



(Clockwise, from top left) Jennifer Bryce, Paula West, Faye Carol and Denise Perrier.

Learn about these fantastic women appearing in "Night with the Divas."

Night with the Divas - Coming to San Francisco November 6

Four of the Bay Area's top soulful female vocalists take center stage in a benefit concert for **BCA/Rafiki Wellness**. Join us for a night of soul, featuring the following unique artists:

Jennifer Bryce: a hypnotic vocalist with musical influences that range from Stevie Wonder to Dianne Reeves to Etta James to Meredith Monk. She is a unique vocal stylist embracing her repertoire with excellent taste.

Paula West: an American jazz and cabaret singer known for her rich, powerful contralto voice and for her sensitive interpretations. Her arrangements are witty, sultry, and they swing hard.

Faye Carol: a powerful jazz and blues singer. Faye has been recognized as one of the San Francisco Bay Area's most versatile and creative female vocal stylists for over three decades. She weaves the influences of jazz singers like Billie Holiday and Betty Carter and blues singers like Bessie Smith into her unique vocal tapestry.

Denise Perrier: a musical story teller, with a sultry, warm, open and very sincere vocal style--her songs smoke! If you like your jazz with a bluesy feeling, you won't be disappointed. She has much to offer even the most jaded jazz/blues audience. Her wealth of musicality includes the Great American

Watch for updates and videos!



Songbook, latin and blues.

The vocalists will be accompanied by San Francisco's internationally-acclaimed Marcus Shelby Trio.

Night with the Divas is set for Sunday, November 6 at the Buriel Clay Theater at the **African American Art and Culture Complex, located at 762 Fulton Street in San Francisco.** Meet and greet the artists at the VIP reception, which lasts from 4 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.; and enjoy their wonderful talent at the concert, 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Tickets for the VIP reception and priority seating are \$50.00 each. General admission price is \$35.00. To make a secure, online ticket purchase, please [click here](#). You may also send a check or money order to BCA, c/o Development Director, 2800 Third Street, San Francisco, CA 94107.

Buy or Sell a Home, Support BCA - At Zero Cost to You

If there was a zero-cost way you could help the Black Coalition on AIDS advance its decades-long mission of ensuring that African Americans affected by HIV/AIDS receive the services they deserve, would you do it?

Of course you would.

That's why we're introducing our supporters to My Broker Donates, which raises funds for BCA through real-estate commissions.



My Broker Donates connects people looking to buy or sell a home with caring, qualified brokers who donate 15% of their fee to BCA. **You choose the agent you like best.** Once you find the right agent, the process is no different from any other real estate transaction.

To learn more, visit www.MyBrokerDonates.com.

You're Invited to First Saturday Health Party



Mobilizing for your health.

Taking place every first Saturday, the monthly health party is a community meeting that features complementary alternative medical services, fun exercise activities, healthful cooking demonstrations and an open forum with members from the African American Community Health Equity Council.

For information about the next First Saturday on November 5, [click here](#).

For other information, please contact Asara Tsehai at 415-615-9945, ext. 110, or send an email to asara@bcoa.org.

It's About You(th) - Prevention for the Next Generation

Thanks to generous funding from The Kaiser Foundation Hospital Fund for Community Benefit Programs at the East Bay Community Foundation, we are proud to announce the launch of BCA/Rafiki Wellness' newest HIV/AIDS prevention program, "It's About You," for Black and Latino youth, ages 15-24. Through "It's About You," BCA/Rafiki Wellness will engage youth with the following resources: health education and risk reduction workshops; special events with free, confidential rapid-HIV testing; community outreach; and access to case management.

To view or order "It's About You" campaign awareness cards, please [click here](#).

For more information, please contact Javarre Wilson at (415) 615-9945, ext. 113, or send an email to javarre@bcoa.org.

Black Spectrum - Fun and Community Across the Board

BCA/Rafiki Wellness promotes community-building, health and wellness, and leadership development through free or low-cost activities. Forums, movie nights, arts and "culture salons," an annual leadership retreat and opportunities for advisory council positions are all components of our privately-funded initiative, titled "Black Spectrum."

Learn about upcoming events! [Click here](#) to like "Black Spectrum" on Facebook.

For more information, contact Francis Broome at (415) 615-9945, ext. 114, or send an email to fbroome@bcoa.org.

Give today! BCA/Rafiki Wellness Pledge Drive

June marked the start of a rigorous pledge campaign to benefit BCA/Rafiki Wellness. Funds raised through the pledge drive will support the agency's continuing mission: to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS and eliminate health disparities in San Francisco's Black community.

Our City's health department has released sobering data on the state of Black health in San Francisco:

- Black people account for less than 6% of the City's population but comprise 14% of those living with HIV/AIDS. Black women comprise 45% of all women diagnosed with AIDS through 2008.
- The prevalence of high blood pressure among the Black population is 46.9% (among Whites, 17.7%).
- The lung cancer rate for Black people is 85.5 per 100,000 cases (among Whites, 49.6 per 100,000 cases).
- Black youth (ages 15-19) have the highest rates of Chlamydia and gonorrhea. The Chlamydia rate for Black youth is 9,616 per 100,000 (for Whites, 746 per 100,000). The gonorrhea rate for Black youth is 2,497 per 100,000 (for Whites, 132 per 100,000).
- Black people currently comprise 34.7% of all Hepatitis C infections in San Francisco.

May we count on you to support our mission?

Here's how you can help:

- [Click here](#) to make a secure, online contribution.
- Mail a check or money order to BCA, c/o Development Director, 2800 Third Street, San Francisco, CA 94107.

Your tax-deductible donation will allow BCA/Rafiki Wellness to continue providing a place of care and community. Your donation will also make you part of our organization's collective effort to secure better health outcomes for San Francisco's Black community.

On behalf of the board, staff and clients of BCA/Rafiki Wellness, we thank you.

 Take Action

