



New Orleans Museum of Art

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NOMA to Host New Orleans Premiere of Documentary Film Shot by Local Teenagers



[Hi-res images available upon request]

NEW ORLEANS, La. (Tuesday, September 23, 2008)—*Talkin' Water*, a documentary film shot by four African American teenage girls in post-Katrina New Orleans, will be screened as a special sneak preview at the New Orleans Museum of Art on Wednesday, October 8 at 6 p.m.

Disillusioned by the media coverage of Hurricane Katrina, four girls—two from New Orleans and two from New York City—set out to tell the “real” story. Armed with video cameras and a sense of responsibility, the project quickly becomes personal as the girls explore issues of race, class and government, and are surprised to discover as much about themselves as New Orleans.

Incorporating footage shot by the girls, *Talkin' Water* follows the summer Rodneka, Suprena, Sade, and Briceshanay spent in New Orleans, exploring their feelings about Katrina, the United States and what it's like to grow up in chaotic times.

Present at the screening will be the two New Orleans-based teens, Briceshanay and Rodneka, as well as director and producer Shannon Sonenstein.

“I’m thrilled that *Talkin' Water* will be screening in New Orleans,” said Sonenstein. “So many members of the community participated in making this film—it’s going to be wonderful to see it come home. It’s also very special that it’s playing at NOMA, as one of the key scenes in the film was actually shot in the museum.”

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Talkin' Water Sneak Preview at NOMA Oct. 8
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Talkin' Water is a production of DCTV, an independent nonprofit media center based in New York City.

The *Talkin' Water* screening is part of the Museum's popular Mid-Week in Mid-City series, held during the weekly extended hours on Wednesday evenings, from 5-8 p.m. For details on other upcoming Mid-Week in Mid-City, from film screenings to live music to lectures, please consult www.noma.org.

Watch the trailer

To view a trailer for *Talkin' Water*, visit the film's MySpace page at www.myspace.com/talkinwater.

About DCTV

New York City-based DCTV believes that expanding public access to the electronic media arts invigorates our nation's democracy. Founded in 1972, DCTV has fostered a diverse and inclusive media arts community for over 30 years. DCTV pursues its educational mission by introducing members of the community to the basics of electronic media through hundreds of free or low-cost production courses and access to broadcast-quality production equipment.

DCTV is the most honored independent nonprofit media center in the nation. Its productions, reaching over 100 million viewers each year, have received 15 national Emmy Awards, 3 duPont-Columbia Awards, and every other major award in the television field. In recognition of DCTV's artistic integrity and social commitment, the organization was awarded a highly competitive National Endowment for the Arts "Leadership Projects for the Millennium" grant.

For more information on DCTV, visit www.dctvny.org.

About NOMA and the Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden

The New Orleans Museum of Art, founded in 1910 by Isaac Delgado, houses more than 30,000 art objects encompassing 4,000 years of world art. Works from the permanent collection, along with continuously changing temporary exhibitions, are on view in the Museum's 46 galleries Wednesdays from noon to 8 p.m. and Thursdays to Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission to the Museum is free to Louisiana residents through the generosity of The Helis Foundation.

Admission to the adjacent Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden, featuring work by 57 artists, including several of the 20th century's master sculptors, is always free during regular Museum hours.

The New Orleans Museum of Art and the Sculpture Garden are fully accessible to handicapped visitors and wheelchairs are available from the front desk.

For more information, call (504) 659-4100 or visit www.noma.org.

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