

City of Dallas News Release

Public Information Office

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City of Dallas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 19, 2007

The City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs announces the long awaited reopening of the South Dallas Cultural Center

Dallas, Texas – The South Dallas Cultural Center (SDCC) will reopen its doors on Thursday, November 1, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. after being closed for renovation since 2005. The entire month of November will be dedicated to the grand opening celebration and will feature open houses, live music, workshops, classes, film, literary events, dance festivals and the popular “Jammin’ at the Center” open-mic jam session for jazz lovers.

“I am so excited – we are home at last! I cannot wait for the community to see our new and improved home. I am just overwhelmed by its beauty. The renovation was certainly challenging, but definitely worth the wait,” said Vicki Meek, the SDCC manager.

The South Dallas Cultural Center is internationally known and has been a staple in the community for over 30 years. It will now have nearly double the space and will feature a new library, a superbly equipped dance studio with full dressing rooms, the *Virtual Sound Lab* recording & video studio, digital photography studio, a state-of-the-art 120-seat Black Box Theater, a spectacular art gallery, new offices, break room, outdoor patio, a beautiful lobby/reception area, and an extended parking lot. The City of Dallas originally built the Center in 1985 and opened it in 1986. The renovation was funded by the City of Dallas’ 2003 Bond Program.

As part of the renovations, Dallas artist Emmanuel Gillespie was commissioned to create a public art piece that celebrates the cultural vibrancy of the South Dallas Cultural Center and its community. His mural will be unveiled as part of the grand opening ceremony.

Many City officials, community leaders and art enthusiasts from around the country will be in attendance for the official ribbon cutting ceremony on November 1, 2007. The grand opening festivities will include a reception sponsored by the Texas Caribbean Food & Absolutely Blooming, and the commemoration/dedication of the new Arthello Beck Gallery.

The South Dallas Cultural Center acknowledges its 2005 and 2006 partners: Jack Matthews and Kristian Teleki from Matthews Southwest – the developers of South Side On Lamar, Gwen Dixie from the Dallas Public Library, Dr. Tony Summers from Richland College and Hank Lawson from South Fair CDC. These important partners provided temporary satellite homes that allowed for the Center’s programs and events to continue while it was closed for renovation.

The grand opening ceremony for the South Dallas Cultural Center is free and open to the public. All present and past SDCC students, patrons, friends and family are encouraged to attend. For more information call 214-670-0315 or visit <http://www.dallasculture.org/southDallasCulturalCenter.cfm>

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SOUTH DALLAS CULTURAL CENTER REOPENING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, November 2nd

Open House for Dallas arts community 12 noon – 5 p.m.
3 yr. Retrospective of Sights Sounds & In A Flash
opens in the Arthello Beck Gallery
Richland College Steel Drum Ensemble 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Reception sponsored by: Absolutely Blooming & Associates
In Concert - Missy Burton - R & B 8 p.m.

Saturday, November 3rd

Open House 10am-4 p.m.
The Third Eye 22nd African Awakenings Conference 7-10:30 p.m.
For conference fees call 214-426-1683

Sunday, November 4th

Third Eye Speakers Brunch (by invitation only) 10 am-12 noon
Open House for Faith groups
South Dallas Concert Choir Gospel Concert & Praise dancers 3-5 p.m.
Followed by a reception

Tuesday, November 6th

Literafeelya Magazine On-Line Publishing workshop 10 am-12 noon
Write On Dallas!-2nd Generation 1-4 p.m.
Followed by a reception sponsored by WordSpace 4-7 p.m.
Write On Dallas!- 1st Generation 7-9 p.m.

Thursday, November 8th

DISD Learning Ctrs. Fine Art Faculty mtg 4-6 p.m.
Followed by a reception
South Dallas Dance Festival Round table 6-8 p.m.

Friday, November 9th

7th Annual South Dallas Dance Festival (SDDF) 8-10 p.m.
Admission \$5 - \$10
Followed by a reception sponsored by
The Dallas Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.

Saturday, November 10th

Open House 10am-4 p.m.
Gwendolyn Brooks Reading Club (sponsored by TARGET) 10-12 a.m.
SDDF (master class & performances) 1-10 p.m.
Refreshments by the North Texas Coca Cola Bottling Company

Sunday, November 11th

7th Annual South Dallas Dance Festival 3-5 p.m.
Admission \$5 - \$10
Followed by a reception
Refreshments by the North Texas Coca Cola Bottling Company

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Tuesday, November 13th

Open House for Neighborhood Assocs. & CDCs

12 noon-8 p.m.

Followed by a reception

sponsored by The Old Mill Inn of Fair Park

Thursday, November 15th

Open House for SDCC community partners

5-9 p.m.

Followed by a reception sponsored by

The SDCC Advisory Board

Friday, November 16th

Open House for Black Chamber members & Fair Park businesses

5-7 p.m.

Followed by a reception sponsored by

The Black Contractors Association

Black Cinematheque Dallas (BCD)

8 p.m.

Admission \$5

Jammin' (open-mic jam session for jazz lovers)

12am -3 am

Saturday, November 17th

Open House for General Public

10am-4 p.m.

BCD Family Films;

10am-4 p.m.

reception sponsored by

Real Men Cook, DFW ABJ and the Small Business Network

Sunday, November 18th

Remembering the Woodman Auditorium

4p.m. - until

Dallas area jazz jam session

Followed by a reception sponsored by:

The Foundation For Community Empowerment

Saturday, November 24th

Washington/Lincoln Alumni Evening. of Jazz

7-11 p.m.

Benefit Concert with special guest artist Melba Joyce

For ticket information call 214-421-9788

Sunday, November 25th

Reading The Writers (R.T.W.)

2:30-5 p.m.

Followed by a reception

Tuesday, November 27th

The Listening Room@ SDCC

7-9 p.m.

Followed by a reception

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