NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

Benefits on tap for WTC victims

Caribbean victims of the World Trade Center attacks are being remembered this month through a number of efforts.

They include a benefit and artistic memorial by a Caribbean artists organization, establishment of an assistance program for the families of nonprofessional workers who died, a Christmas concert starring calypso performer Shadow and a musical tribute to the victims performed by the Mighty Sparrow.

"Rhythms of Love: Caribbean Artists Celebrate the Life of the Caribbean Victims of the World Trade Center Disaster" is being held Wednesday in Manhattan at the Pulse night club, 226 E. 54th St. (between Second and Third Aves.), starting at 6 p.m.

Proceeds from the evening of music and poetry, organized by the Caribbean Arts Alliance, will pay for the painting of portraits of the victims.

Caribbean artists — including Carrot Jarret (formerly of the reggae band Third World), Laurie Webb, Sam Archer, Qshun Dia, Joan Myers (formerly of The Grace Thrillers), Winston Irie, Anton and Kufunya — have donated their time for the event.

"Having lost members of the Caribbean community, including Jamaican sculptor Michael Rolando Richards, the artistic community deeply mourns their passing, and we can think of no better way to comfort the families than with a portrait of their loved ones created by some of the finest portrait artists of the Caribbean," said Geraldine Monroque, chairwoman of the alliance.

Richards was an artist-in-residence in the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's World Views program, which gave artists studio space in Tower 1 of the Trade Center. He reportedly was in his 92nd-floor studio when the terrorists struck.

For more information on "Rhythms of Love," call Monroque at (718) 977-8648.

■ Families of nonprofessional workers who perished in the tragedy and displaced nonprofessionals unable to get any other type of assistance can get help from the Caribbean American Center of New York's "WTC Program for Victims and Survivor Families."



"We want to help the hundreds of low-income persons, especially those in the immigrant communities who lived paycheck to paycheck and suddenly that paycheck has disappeared," said center director Jean Alexander.

The center's board, as well as Heineken, Verizon, A. Williams Construction and Bloomingdale's, are supporting this project. Alexander said families — especially those with small children — are urged to call the center.

The center also will run its annual Gifts to New York's Homeless Children program. This year the 5-year-old project has been expanded to include needy children affected by the Sept. 11 tragedy. Call (718) 625-1515 for information and details on these programs.

■ Shadow and the City South Steel Orchestra of Antigua are headliners in two benefit Christmas concerts for victims' families sponsored by Everybody's Magazine. The first show is Friday at Town Hall, 123 W. 43rd St., Manhattan, at 8 p.m. The second is next Sunday at Newark's Symphony Hall, 1030 Broad St., at 5 p.m. For tickets and more information, call (718) 941-1879 or Ticketmaster at (212) 307-4100.

■ The Mighty Sparrow will perform a tribute to Caribbeans and Caribbean-American victims as part of "Reflections in Steel 2001," a Dec. 21 holiday steelband concert at Brooklyn College's Walt Whitman Theater. The show also will star Pantonic, Sonatas, Adlib, Despers USA, Pan Rebels, Dem Stars and soloist Garvin Blake. The concert is sponsored by the United Steelband Association and the Immigrant's Journal Legal and Educational Fund. For tickets, call (718) 243-9431.

Weeksville society's fund-raiser

The Society for the Preservation of Weeksville and Bedford-Stuyvesant History holds its 30th anniversary fund-raising gala tomorrow at the Brooklyn Museum of Art. Joan Maynard, the society's executive director emeritus, and Charles Hamm of Independence Community Bank will be honored at the black-tie event, which begins at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets for the general public are $250. Call (718) 756-5250.

Weeksville is a historic settlement of free African-Americans founded in 1838 in what became Bedford-Stuyvesant. For information about the Weeksville society, its exhibits and programs for the public and schools, visit its Web site at: www.weeksvillesociety.org

Tribute to Barbados

Gospel singers Sister Marshall and Joseph Niles from Barbados are two of the performers in "An Evening of Culture and Gospel" being held today in Brooklyn at Wingate High School, 600 Kingston Ave. (at Rutland Road), from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The event, celebrating the 35th anniversary of the independence of Barbados, also stars storyteller Alfred Pragnell, Folk Voices from Barbados and other acts.

Tickets are $20 in advance, $25 at the door and $15 for children under 12. Call (718) 703-9270, (718) 385-6744, (718) 604-7556 or (718) 493-2295.

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To list an item of interest here, send the details on your organization letterhead at least two weeks in advance to: Jared McCallister, Caribbeat, Daily News, 450 W. 33rd St., New York, N.Y. 10001.

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