



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**WOODRUFF ARTS CENTER AND NATIONAL BLACK ARTS FESTIVAL  
INVITE ATLANTANS TO JOIN *THE ATLANTA DIALOGUE* THIS SUMMER**

The living legacy of the civil rights movement has brought together two great cultural leaders - the Woodruff Arts Center and the National Black Arts Festival – in an unprecedented year-long collaboration. *The Atlanta Dialogue*, which will continue throughout 2008, provides all who participate with the opportunity to explore, discuss, and reflect upon the civil rights continuum through a series of activities centered around the arts.

*The Atlanta Dialogue* is not only an important opportunity to remember the past, but to contemplate and discuss what being an American means today. It is an open invitation to experience art through a variety of programming, engage in live conversations with various artists, and share reactions through blogs on *The Atlanta Dialogue* website - [www.theatlantadialogue.org](http://www.theatlantadialogue.org).

Marquis programming scheduled as part of this year long collaboration includes:

- A rotating repertory of August Wilson's *The Gem of the Ocean* and *Radio Golf* at the Alliance Theatre
- Carrie May Weems' *Constructing History: A Requiem to Mark the Moment* during the National Black Arts Festival
- *Road to Freedom: Photographs of the Civil Rights Movement, 1956 – 1968* at the High Museum of Art
- *After 1968: Contemporary Artists and the Civil Rights Legacy* at the High Museum of Art

Upcoming *The Atlanta Dialogue* events include:

- June 7, 2008, 2:30 pm - Panel Discussion: “*Daughters of Men: Portraits of African-American Women and Their Fathers*” - Stent Atrium, High Museum of Art. Free with Museum admission and free for members. Author Rachel Vassel will be joined by a circle of African-American women whose compelling personal essays are featured in her book. The panel will offer an intimate look at black fatherhood and the numerous ways fathers have a lasting impact on their daughters’ lives.
- June 8, 2008, 1:00 pm, 2:00 pm, and 3:00 pm - Second Sundays Family Performances: The Albany Freedom Singers Sunday, Robinson Atrium, Stent Family Wing. Free with Museum admission and free for members. Experience a variety of cultures and artistic traditions together during Family Fun Sundays at the High, every second Sunday of the month. Take in a musical, dance or theatrical performance; listen up for story time; or watch an artist at work. It’s artful fun for the whole family – make sure to get in on the action. Performances will take place every month through September 2008.
- June 12, 2008, 7:00 pm - Discussion & Book-Signing: *The Race Beat: The Press, the Civil Rights Struggle, and the Awakening of a Nation* - Hill Auditorium, High Museum of Art. Join Hank Klibanoff, a managing editor at the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*; Doris Derby, photographer, educator, and Civil Rights activist; and Brett Gadsden, Assistant Professor of African American Studies at Emory University as they discuss how the nation’s press came to recognize the importance of the civil rights struggle and turn it into the most significant domestic news event of the twentieth century. (This is a free ticketed event. Please call the Woodruff Arts Center Box Office at 404-733-5000 or visit [www.high.org](http://www.high.org) to reserve your free ticket.)
- June 15, 2008, Noon - 5:00 pm - Target Free Family Fun Day: Fabulous Fathers - Celebrating Everyday Dads and History's Heroes - High Museum of Art. Invite your dad to visit the High for a fun filled day with his favorite person – you! Collage a beautiful card to document this special day and tell your dad just how much you love him. Be sure to visit the *HistoryRemixed* exhibitions and learn about heroes whose dreams have made a big difference then create a portrait of someone who is a hero to you. Relax together on the piazza and enjoy a variety of Atlanta voices performing gospel music, freedom songs, and more.
- Thursday, June 19, 6:30 pm, Talk and Talk Back Gallery Discussion featuring *After 1968* artist Jefferson Pinder - Wieland Pavilion, High Museum of Art. Free with Museum admission and free for members. Join artist Jefferson Pinder as he leads a gallery discussion focusing on his new video work featured in the *After 1968* exhibition. Jefferson Pinder, born 1970, is a visual and performance artist who primarily uses video to examine the subjectivity of being an African American in an increasingly fragmented contemporary society.

- June 28, 2008, 2:00 pm - *Memories from the Movement: Panel Discussion* - Rich Theatre, Woodruff Arts Center Memorial Building. Join Civil Rights heroes including Congressman John Lewis, Ambassador Andrew Young, activist Dorothy Cotton, introduced by High Curator Julian Cox for an afternoon of remembrances and dialogue around the contributions of the courageous champions of justice who struggled to make equality a reality for all. The panelists will reflect on their experiences in the Civil Rights movement in light of the High's current exhibition *Road to Freedom: Photographs of the Civil Rights Movement, 1956-1968*. The discussion will be moderated by Alexis Scott, journalist and publisher of the *Atlanta Daily World*, the city's first black-owned daily newspaper. (This is a free ticketed event. Please call the Woodruff Arts Center Box Office at 404-733-5000 or visit [www.high.org](http://www.high.org) to reserve your free ticket.)

For a complete schedule of events and for more information about *The Atlanta Dialogue* please visit [www.theatlantadialogue.org](http://www.theatlantadialogue.org).

#### **About the National Black Arts Festival**

The National Black Arts Festival is one of the premier national and international celebrations of the art, music and culture of people of African descent. The mission of the NBAF is to engage, cultivate and educate diverse audiences about the arts and culture of the African Diaspora and provide opportunities for artistic and creative expression.

#### **About the Woodruff**

The Woodruff Arts Center is the largest arts center in the Southeast as well as one of the largest in the nation. The Woodruff is unique in that it combines four visual and performing arts divisions on one campus as one not-for-profit organization. Opening in 1968, the Woodruff Arts Center is home to the Alliance Theatre, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the High Museum of Art, Young Audiences and the 14th Street Playhouse.

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