

Public Programs / Education presents in Association with
Community Works and New Heritage Theatre Group

The City Celebrates Kwanzaa 2007

Milstein Hall of Ocean Life, first floor
Saturday, December 29, 12 noon to 5:00 pm
Free with Museum admission

The City Celebrates Kwanzaa 2007 honors *Nguzo Saba*, the seven principles of Kwanzaa. Special guests and performance artists from New York City's five boroughs and Long Island celebrate the festivities through song, dance, music, and spoken word.



Throughout the day, join the bustling Ujamaa Marketplace with artisans selling Afrocentric carvings, textiles, clothing, jewelry, and books for the entire family. Special Kwanzaa culinary delights will be sold at the Museum Food Court.



Left to Right:
Something Positive Dance Ensemble,
photo: Janeen Etienne
Ronald K. Brown/Evidence,
photo: Basil Childers
Ronald K. Brown/Evidence,
photo: Julieta Cervantes
Heritage O.P. Ensemble,
photo: Karen Baird

Program One – 1:00 to 2:30 pm

Celebrate Umoja (unity), Kujichagulia (self-determination), and Ujima (collective work and responsibility)

Drum Salute and Libation – Main Stage



Kimati Dinizulu

Artistic Director, Sistah Aziza, and spiritual leaders open the day's events with Kwanzaa's Poetic Griot, Wilhelmena Taylor/Ofokona, Nana Kimati Dinizulu and The Kotoko Society, and Heritage O.P. Ensemble. Following the opening ceremonies, performance groups from Manhattan, Queens, and the Bronx will weave a vibrant tapestry of music, dance, and spirituality.

Performances – Main Stage

- Kimati Dinizulu brings Nana Kimati Dinizulu and The Kotoko Society together to perform the new musical style, Sankofa, and raise cultural awareness through traditional instruments and music. (Queens)
- Harlem School of the Arts Youth Ensemble features a group of extraordinary young dancers in a tribute to African American dance culture. (Manhattan)
- Allen Liturgical Dance Ministry of the Greater Allen Cathedral, led by Artistic Director/Founder Kathleen Turner of The Dance Ministry, performs dance and choreo-drama focused on praise, deliverance, edification, and peace. (Queens)
 - Songs of Solomon Youth Choir, directed by Chantel Wright, brings young voices to the *Kujichagulia*, a celebration of self-determination, through traditional African American songs that uplift, inspire, and educate. (Manhattan)
- Bambara Drum and Dance Ensemble shares the finest African drumming and dance traditions as a pathway towards cross-cultural exchange and understanding. (Bronx)

Program Two – 2:30 to 3:00 pm

Celebrate Ujamaa (cooperative economics) and Nia (purpose)



Heritage O.P. Ensemble

Performance – Main Stage

Heritage O.P. Ensemble brings a fusion of American and Caribbean music and vocals to the festivities.

Children's Workshop – Balcony

Poetic Griot, Wilhelmena Taylor/Ofokona, leads the Kwanzaa Crafts Workshop for children ages 6 years and up. Join in the family fun while celebrating *Nia* (purpose) through the creation of song, poetry, and handmade Kwanzaa gift cards.



Kwanzaa Marketplace

Ujamaa Marketplace – Balcony

During this program, visit the marketplace of international exchange and communication. Honor the fourth Kwanzaa principle *Ujamaa* (cooperative economics) with vendors, visual artists, crafts people, and representatives from major cultural organizations.

Kwanzaa, an African American celebration founded in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga, pays tribute to African history and origins. The City Celebrates Kwanzaa 2007 highlights the lives and artistic talents of African and African American visual and performing artists, teachers, and merchants, as well as the community organizations, with Kwanzaa's seven principles, Nguzo Saba, serving as a compass for the day's programs. The seven principles, Umoja (unity), Kujichagulia (self-determination), Ujima (collective work and responsibility), Ujamaa (cooperative economics), Nia (purpose), Kuumba (creativity), and Imani (faith), will be explored with our guests.

Program Three – 3:00 to 4:30 pm

Celebrate Kuumba (creativity) and Imani (faith)

The City Celebrates Kwanzaa 2007's grand finale features talent from Long Island, Staten Island, and Brooklyn performing traditional and contemporary forms of spoken word, dance, and music.

Performances – Main Stage

- Something Positive Dance Ensemble presents art and culture from the African diaspora through an innovative fusion of poetry, storytelling, theater, music, and dance.



Keon Nickie of Something Positive Dance Ensemble

- Hofstra-Fusion/Imani Dance Ensemble, directed by Ms. Dyane Harvey, unites student and alumni dancers in celebration of African American heritage.
- Joyce Scott Parr plays unusual musical instruments while spinning imaginative tales in an enchanting performance that draws from a multitude of cultural traditions.
- Ronald K. Brown/Evidence, an internationally acclaimed company, blends African, modern, hip-hop, and ballet dance styles to convey stories that explore the human experience.



Wunmi

- Wunmi-Afro Fusion performs a stunning show featuring infectious vocals, electrifying dance, and dazzling costumes in a spectacular finale not to be missed.

Program is subject to change. All programs are free with suggested Museum admission. Neither tickets nor reservations are required. Seating is limited and is on a first-come, first-served basis. It is recommended that you arrive with plenty of time to enter the Museum and locate the program space. Please use the main entrance at Central Park West at 79th Street.

For further information, call the Museum's Department of Education at 212.769.5315 between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm weekdays. Program information is also available on the Museum's Web site at <http://www.amnh.org/kwanzaa>

A three-story parking garage is open during Museum hours; enter from West 81st Street. For public transportation, call 212.769.5100.