

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. – A new season of exhibitions opens this fall at the Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art at Cal State San Bernardino.

“Bridging Homeboy Industries: Fabian Debora, Alex Kizu and Juan Carlos Muñoz Hernandez” will be on display Oct. 6, 2014-Jan. 31, 2015. An opening reception for the exhibition will be held on Saturday, Oct. 4 from 4-6 p.m. with a special, artist-led preview at 3 p.m.

Shown for the first time in the Inland Empire, “Bridging Homeboy Industries” includes painting, sculpture, and collaborative work by three artists who share roots in the East Los Angeles neighborhood of Boyle Heights, a close-knit community impacted by poverty and violence. This traveling exhibition, organized by guest curator and CSUSB assistant professor of visual studies Annie Buckley, originated in 2013 at Ben Maltz Gallery, Otis College of Art and Design in Los Angeles. It will be presented at CSUSB with expanded community-based art features.

Though these artists’ life paths and artistic practices are unique, each of them has benefited from the services of Homeboy Industries, the largest gang intervention program in the nation. Founded as a jobs program by Father Gregory Boyle in 1992, Homeboy Industries continues to thrive as a network of successful businesses supported and run by former gang members. Debora, Kizu and Muñoz Hernandez all count Father Boyle (G, as many fondly call him) as their mentor, supporter and friend. In conjunction with the exhibition, Father Gregory Boyle is scheduled to speak at the museum on Thursday, Oct. 30, 2014 at 6 p.m. A reception for the event will be held from 4-6 p.m., during which visitors have the opportunity to purchase a collaborative print, *One Must Return* (2012), created by Debora, Kizu and Muñoz Hernandez, with proceeds to support Homeboy Industries.

Debora, an artist and staff-member at Homeboy Industries, makes compellingly honest paintings influenced by Chicano art and contemporary representational art.

Kizu's color-infused canvases feature variations on the highly complex and ornate graffiti lettering he learned as a boy from local street artists and knowledge gained as a recent graduate of the art department of California State University, Northridge.

Muñoz Hernandez's bronze sculptures and spray paint and marker paintings fuse graffiti with diagrammatic architectural drawings and grow out of a 17-year apprenticeship with the sculptor Robert Graham and a background in street art.

The artists will also create a new on-site collaborative piece on the day of the opening reception, Oct. 4. They will also participate in a community mural the day before, Oct. 3, with the Path of Life Ministries Family Shelter at the Riverside Art Museum.

Guest curator Annie Buckley is an assistant professor of visual studies at CSUSB where she originated and facilitates the Community-based Art Program, an initiative of student-led art programs throughout the Inland Empire at sites with limited access to art. In addition to her faculty position at CSUSB, she is an interdisciplinary artist, author and art critic. Buckley's curatorial projects have been on view at Ben Maltz Gallery, Luckman Gallery and PØST, and her writing about contemporary art has been published by *The Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Artforum*, *Art in America*, *The Huffington Post*, *Artillery*, *KCET Artbound* and other publications. Buckley earned her M.F.A. from Otis College of Art and Design in 2003.

About RAFFMA

The Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art is a nationally recognized museum accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, a Washington, D.C.,-based organization whose members must meet the highest standards in securing accreditation. It is the only accredited art museum in San Bernardino.

Over its 18-year history, RAFFMA has accumulated a permanent collection of nearly 1,200 objects focusing on Egyptian antiquities, ceramics and contemporary art. The museum houses the largest permanent and public display of Egyptian art in Southern California.

General admission to the museum is free. Suggested donation is \$5. Parking at Cal State San Bernardino is \$5 per vehicle.

The museum is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and is closed Friday and Sunday. For more information, call (909) 537-7373 or visit the [RAFFMA website](http://raffma.csusb.edu) at <http://raffma.csusb.edu>.

Exhibition Accompanying Events:

October 3, 2014

Satellite Exhibitions at Riverside Art Museum:
Community Mural facilitated by Fabian Debora, Alex Kizu and Juan Carlos Muñoz Hernandez with program participants from Path of Life Ministries Family Shelter
Photo Documentation of Collaborative Mural by students and inmates, CSUSB Community-based Art Program at the California Institution for Men, photos by Andrew K Thompson.
Reception for the Artists: 6-9 p.m.

October 16, 2014

Bridging the Gap: Community Forum, co-facilitated by The Anti-Recidivism Coalition and the CSUSB Community-based Art Program: 6 p.m. at RAFFMA

October 23, 2014

Tour and Tacos: Curator-led tour: 4 p.m. at RAFFMA followed by Taco Truck! Enjoy \$1 Tacos, Sponsored by Zendejas Taco with profits to support Homeboy Industries, 5-6:30 p.m.

October 30, 2014

Reception for Father Gregory Boyle and the ongoing Public Practice Print Installation, with Profits to Support Homeboy Industries: 4-6 p.m. at RAFFMA

Guest Talk by Father Gregory Boyle: 6-7 p.m. (VA-101)
Father Gregory Boyle, Founder and Executive Director of Homeboy Industries

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