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ARIZONA HUMANITIES WELCOMES INTERNATIONALLY-RENOWNED CULTURAL LEADERS TO VISIT ARIZONA

Bocafloja and Mark Gonzales to visit Arizona September 28 through October 2

Phoenix, AZ – Arizona Humanities welcomes internationally-acclaimed artists [Bocafloja](#) and [Mark Gonzales](#) to Arizona. Bocafloja is a poet, rap artist, scholar, cultural ambassador, and founder of the Quilomboarte collective. Mark Gonzales is an international storyteller, speaker, and philosopher. The public is invited to attend public performances in Tucson, Phoenix and Patagonia. Attendees will take a journey to examine the intimate accounts of people whose lives have been defined by their ability to negotiate masculinity and racial consciousness. Explore the healing of trauma influenced by social and political contexts through storytelling, poetry, film, and community conversations.

These special events are made possible through the generosity of several partners: University of Arizona - Common Ground Alliance and Early Academic Outreach & Adalberto & Ana Guerrero Student Center, Spoken Futures/Tucson Youth Poetry Slam, ASU Art Museum Project Space at Combine Studios, the ASU Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, ASU School of Social Transformation, Patagonia Public Library and Tin Shed Theater.

Ellie Hutchison, Programs Manager with Arizona Humanities shared, "Arizona Humanities strives to create opportunities to explore our shared human experiences and we are excited to partner with organizations across the state to bring two internationally known artists, Mark Gonzales and Bocafloja to the state. Both artists have dedicated their lives to excel in the craft of storytelling and doing so in and with the communities they perform."

In addition to the public performances, Bocafloja and Mark Gonzales will conduct specific workshops for university students, local high school students, and female inmates at the Perryville Prison.

Read below for details on programs and bios. More information can be found at www.azhumanities.org or by calling 602-257-0335. For questions, contact Ellie Hutchison, Programs Manager (ehutchison@azhumanities.org).

Wednesday, September 28th

Nana Dijo: Irresolute Radiography of Black Consciousness

Film screening and post-film community dialogue facilitated by Dr. Rashad Shabazz with Bocafloja on his latest project, "Nana Dijo"

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Arizona Humanities - 1242 N. Central Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85004

In partnership with the ASU Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, ASU School of Social Transformation

Thursday, September 29th

"Masculinity in the Mix"

A public performance by Mark Gonzales, film screening and post-film community dialogue with Bocafloja on his latest project, "Nano Dijo."

4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

University of Arizona - Tucson - Chavez 211/217

In partnership with the University of Arizona - Common Ground Alliance and Early Academic Outreach & Adalberto & Ana Guerrero Student Center, and Spoken Futures/Tucson Youth Poetry Slam

Friday, September 30th

"Masculinity in the Mix"

Artist meet and greet with Mark Gonzales and Bocafoja
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

ASU Art Museum International Artist Residency

Project Space at Combine Studios (821 N. 3rd St. #11, Phoenix, AZ 85004)

In partnership with: ASU Art Museum Project Space at Combine Studios, the ASU Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, ASU School of Social Transformation

Sunday, October 2nd

"Collective Space and Human Story Dialogue"

A public performance and community conversation with Mark Gonzales on the necessity of the imagination to dream and to create collective space for human dialogue

12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

Tin Sheet Theater - N 3rd Ave, Patagonia, AZ 85624

Light refreshments will be served.

In partnership with the Patagonia Public Library and Tin Shed Theater

About Bocafoja: Bocafoja is a poet, rap artist, scholar, cultural ambassador, and founder of the Quilomboarte collective. In addition to five professionally edited music albums being "Patologías del Invisible Incómodo" his most awarded musical project, and having toured internationally throughout 15 countries, Bocafoja has transgressed into one of the most revered icons in the Spanish speaking Hip Hop communities. Prognosis is his second literary project is on race relations, decolonial narrative, and the African diaspora in Latin America studies are fundamental topics addressed in his body of work.

Bocafoja is recognized in Mexico as one of the first Hip Hop artists that effectively utilize cultural production as an alternative tool to stimulate critical thinking, developing a divergent form of political participation coherent with the marginalized youth experience.

About Mark Gonzales: Mark Gonzales is a storyteller, professor, father, and a futurist of social possibility. He specializes in creative potential, engagement strategies, and the unique role stories play in the human operating system. For over 20 years, he has worked with the private and the public sector to synthesize the best practices and fabulous failures of civilizations into strategic visions for the next stage of human power and potential.

His impact portfolio spans 5 continents and include: revitalizing old cities via The New Medina, maximizing idea capital with the World Islamic Economic Forum, and bridging the equity gap in 21st century education. He currently serves as a lecturer at Stanford University.

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Arizona Humanities

<http://www.azhumanities.org>

Mission: Arizona Humanities builds a just and civil society by creating opportunities to explore our shared human experiences through discussion, learning and reflection.

Arizona Humanities is a statewide 501(c)3 non-profit organization and the Arizona affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Since 1973, Arizona Humanities has supported public programs that promote understanding of the human experience with cultural, education, and non-profit organizations across Arizona.