

News for the Board
Tuesday, September 27, 2011

- **BCC collaborates with East Bay Green Job Corps, private industry, to create eight-week Green career bridge program**

A fall 2011 collaboration among the East Bay Green Job Corps (EBGJC), Berkeley City College, the Rising Sun Energy Center, Berkeley, and Solar Richmond will create a free 8-week bridge program designed to help young adults ages 18 to 24 years of age to develop the skills they need to enter green careers. The program will run from Sept. 6 to Dec. 16, with classes in Berkeley and internships in Oakland and Richmond. A total of 90 to 108 participants will be chosen for the 240-hour program, and will be paid for 100 of those hours. Residents of Berkeley, Oakland and Richmond can apply.

The program aims to teach leadership skills, job preparedness, eco-literacy and civic engagement, as well as math and English skills. Participants will earn 13 units of college credit and have the opportunity to take part in paid energy efficiency and solar internships, as well as provide free energy efficiency retrofits to residents in their communities.

Training through the East Bay Green Job Corps can lead to community college vocational training programs, union apprenticeships, or employment, with staff working one-on-one to develop career and educational plans.

- **BCC's Institute for Civic and Community Engagement, UC Berkeley students collaborate in "students serving students" project**

Berkeley City College's Institute for Civic and Community Engagement (ICCE) and UC Berkeley's Cal Corps Public Service Center were awarded a \$7,000 Chancellor's Community Partnership grant to enable BCC and UCB students to collaborate in programs which place emphasis on students serving students. BCC Service Community, a special project of ICCE, is made up of BCC and UCB volunteers who work together to better serve BCC students' needs. Beginning the first few weeks of the fall semester, BCC's Service Community volunteers will work as Transfer Liaisons and Peer-to-Peer Mentors to help with transfer questions and as mentors for PACE, EOPS, and basic skills students. The project also incorporates leadership training and workshops that help students to understand the transfer process. Volunteers also will work with the Associated Students of Berkeley City College (ASBCC) on the Healthy Communities Project which places BCC students in community based social justice projects which focus on issues of their choice.

- **Ishmael Reed, John Russo to Speak at African-American Museum and Library's Reception to Honor Ralph Fasanella's "Welcome Home Boys" Painting**

A reception to honor "Welcome Home Boys," a 1953 painting by Ralph Fasanella, the late Bay Area artist and union activist, takes place 1-4 p.m., Sat., Oct. 1 at Oakland's African-American Museum and Library. The museum is located at 695 -14th St. Guest speakers include noted authors Ishmael Reed and John Russo.

The event, which is free and open to the public, is cosponsored by the American Italian Historical Association's Western Regional Chapter, the African American Museum and Library of Oakland, and Berkeley City College. Dr. Laura Ruberto, BCC humanities instructor, helped to make the event possible.

"Welcome Home, Boys," which depicts a post-World War II strike, was painted in 1953. Its title reflects Fasanella's concern for the fair treatment of American workers and U. S. veterans returning to work after the war. The artist spent his entire 50-year career commemorating labor activism and progressive politics while passionately advocating for racial and gender equality.