



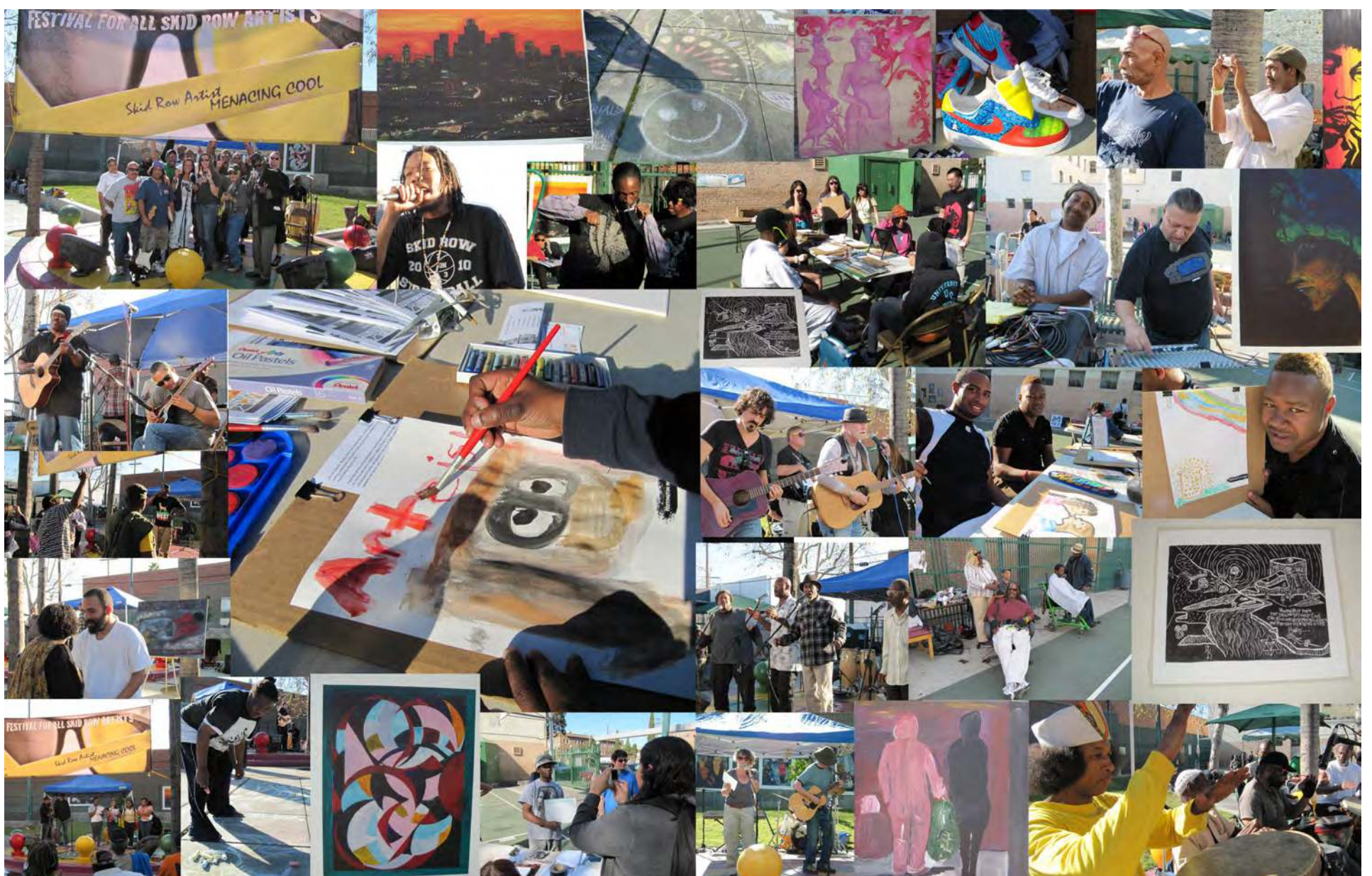
**COMMUNITY ARTISTS SHIMMER, SHAKE, AND SHINE AT 2<sup>nd</sup> annual ‘Festival for All Skid Row Artists’**

The Los Angeles Poverty Department, with partners UCEPP and LAMP ART PROJECT, produced the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Festival for All Skid Row Artists on Friday and Saturday January 27 and 28, from 12 – 4 PM in Gladys Park in Skid Row. This year’s festival was twice as long as last year’s because there are so many Skid Row artists whose work needs to be heard and seen. Not only did the festival showcase Skid Row’s brightest stars, the open mic part of the program was used by newbie’s to step up with their first time performances. And Festival #2 included some artists from other parts of LA, to encourage artistic exchange and to bring folks from all over to see and appreciate Skid Row’s artists at work.

The ‘2<sup>nd</sup> Festival for All Skid Row Artists’ gave a menacing-cool face to the creative community of Skid Row. Los Angeles Poverty Department filmed

and photographed the works and performances. We included all participants in our Skid Row Artists registry and archive of artists work. All participating artists received a pair of yellow shades, with the inscription “*Skid Row Artist: MENACING COOL*” imprinted on the left temple. We want to raise-up all creative people on Skid Row. Fill out the coupon on the back of the newspaper, turn it in at UCEPP, and get your own pair of *menacing cool shades* that identify you as a Skid Row artist.

**GET READY for THE NEXT FESTIVAL:** That’s right the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Festival is coming up fast. Festival #2 got put off from December to January ---when a tree fell in Gladys Park during a windstorm. To avoid bad weather messing with art, we are planning to move next year’s festival forward→ so that it happens in the fall. We’ll set exact dates at end of the summer.



**Artists performers - rap/song/poetry/theater/spoken word/music/dance:** Linda Harris, Jennifer Campbell, Raspin Stewart, Carol Shelly, Ciera Payton, Robert Gupta & Zach Dellinger with the Street Symphony, Khalif, Gary Brown, SkidRowPlayaz & Big Rob, G-Nut, John Kaye, TWIN Skid Row Flowin, Brian Beasley, Queen Mary Barnes, Crushow Herring, Queen Tabia Salima, Predestined, Michelle Yvonne Autry, Unkal Bean, Mariella & Samira Saba, Charles Porter & UCEPP Youth Leaders, Doc DC Dijon, A LIVE, Mark Philips, LA Poverty Dept. staff, Joe Clark & Anthony Page, Billie Clay, Yolanda R. Robuns Hall, Big Mack, Bobby Cooper, Chesterlas Nelson, Samuel Nunez, Michael Jackson, Norman Tate, Steven Angel, Jeffrey Jackson, King Howard & Don Ovan Johnson, Paul McCarty, Wesley McIngtosh, Franc Foster & James Garcia, Jose VanDenburg, Tommy Newman & Faith Factory, Anthony Rios, Soni, and others.

**Visual artists:** OG man, Michael Blaze & Skid Row Photography Club, Natalia Aguilar, LuAnn Poindexter, Flo Hawkins, Chad Sperandeo, Christopher Como, Darlene Altemeier Dobbs, Gary Brown, Astrid Dahlen, Josue Zeta Rojas, Kenneth Christopher, Ray Lewis, LaRonda Hartfield (hairdresser), Paul Mitchell, LAMP Art Project, Crushow Herring, Nick, and others.



# RAP

## G-Nut

I was born and raised in Los Angeles. I was ten years old when I started recording my own songs. My cousin, K1, from the group Jungles, inspired me while I was growing up. He was the one that taught me to rap. I try to send a message through my music for teens and misguided adults. Rapping and making music helps me express my emotions about what is going on in my mind. I perform for the people that live on Skid Row for free. I want the people who live there to know that they have a friend in me. I don't judge anyone. Almost everyone on Skid Row knows my song Mike Jack. You can check out my music on YouTube!

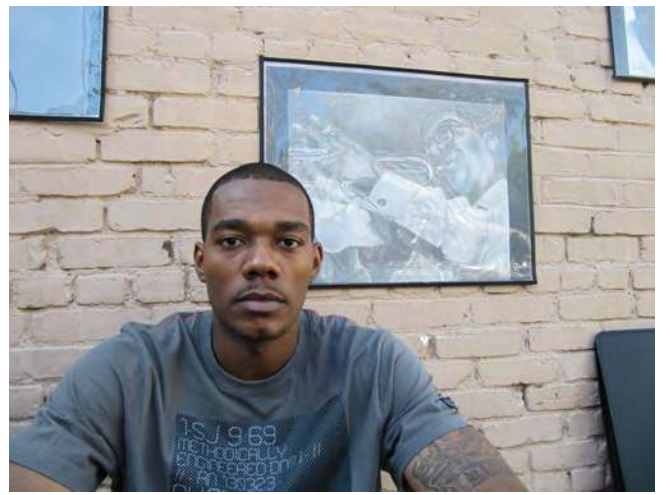


# SPOKEN WORD

# FINE ART

## Mariella Saba

My performance tells the story of immigrants who are selling their fruits downtown. They are being harassed by the police while they are just trying to make a living. I make 'Spoken Word Teatro,' merging theatre and poetry. I want to address political issues that we are facing right now because of my identity and what I experienced because of that: I am Latino with immigrant parents. I am Queer. When your identity is under attack, you fight back, and theatre and creative art is a powerful way to do just that. I want to send a message that promotes unity and power against ignorance through my work. I want to humanize an issue and create empathy. That is also therapeutic for myself.



## Christopher Como

I make 'fine art'. I brought a few portraits in black and grey of Steve Harvey, Tupac, and 50 Cent. People tell me my work is realistic, flawless and that it is intriguing because it has a color of its own. I like to capture the emotion and the essence of the picture. I want my work to be aesthetically pleasing for the viewer, but it also serves as a therapy tool for myself. When I draw, I become lost in my work, as if in a trance. It becomes a way to forget about everything else.



## Flo Hawkins

I was born in Chicago and started drawing when I was very young. I was five years old when I made my first painting. The beautiful California weather made me want to move to Los Angeles. When I am painting or drawing it makes me feel like I'm in heaven because it is so peaceful. You can find my murals all over downtown Los Angeles. Many people know me for the portrait I made of Tupac. It is called "What I See Can Be Me," and you can see it in the big mural on 5th and Crocker. Michael Blaze, from the Skid Row Photography Club filmed it and put it on YouTube. I try my best to make my work look and feel realistic. I want to send out a message for peace throughout the world through my artwork.



## Chad Sperandeo

I am from Chicago and I was an actor before I became an artist. I'm 42 years old. For five years now I have been making these glass mosaics. I love the beautiful colors of glass. I have been interested in art and I've taken a lot of art classes since I was little. I make glass mosaic art on jewelry boxes, paintings, paint pots, and much more! Every piece of glass mosaic I make has a story behind it.



## LuAnne Poindexter

I was born in South Pasadena and I am seventy-one years old. I started creating my own artwork when I was three years old. I love making art: I was born to be an artist. I am still inspired by a very passionate painting of a bright red girl holding a sword that I created many years ago. My artworks are quotes about love, music, and drugs. I don't just do artwork, I also design clothing, purses, hats, and much more! I am proud of a piece I did on Alvaro Street, near downtown Los Angeles, called "I Am Women". It is a 4x5 picture and you can see it right now at the Alvaro Street Gallery.



## Darlene Altemeier Dobbs

I have always been artistic but I got inspired to start painting here on Skid Row. I love to paint the scenery from Skid Row. My paintings portray the Downtown Los Angeles skyline and other scenes from Skid Row. While living here I've been inspired to bring Skid Row into a positive light, instead of the bad connotations it receives, and I decided to do that with my paintings. My art has been filmed and was shown in "The Soloist", "The Bold and The Beautiful," and "Humble Beauty". I am a member of the LAMP Art Project.



## Queen Mary Barnes

*We think that Queen Mary is a very artistic woman. She inspired us to express our artistic potential to the world and to not be afraid of getting laughed at. We believe that Queen Mary will continue to make art with others, especially with children because she loves them. Besides being artistic, Queen Mary has a charisma that draws people's attention. She is very sweet, kind-hearted, spiritual, funny, smart, and throughout it all she is an inspirational leader. We hope that one day more people get to see her art work and get to know who she is, because she is very talented and for a talent like hers to never be noticed would be a shame.*

By Karinna Guerrero and Nataly Garcia



## Paul Mitchell

I'm originally from Seattle. My dad inspired me to become an artist and I became a house painter in my dad's business. I was disabled for three years. In order to keep a positive attitude I started to paint full time. My artwork is colorful. I am a visual art worker. I have to go to the location that I'm going to paint to get into the mood and to focus on what I am painting. While I'm there I create a story about the image that I'm painting.



# MUSIC

## Twin - Skid Row Flowin

I am a musical artist. I'm not a rapper, but a spoken word poet. I have been writing my own music for twenty years, but I only started performing ten years ago. I write my own lyrics because it is easier for me to express what I feel through musical words than in a regular conversation. My music mainly expresses how I feel about the stereotypes that are put on the Black Men of Skid Row. You can find my music on YouTube!



## Violists Robert Vijay Gupta and Zach Dellinger of the Street Symphony

We had such a blast playing for the LAPD Skid Row Artist's Festival - the connection with this totally human community, truly onsite, hands-on outreach to an audience on Skid Row reminds us why we make music. Zach and I performed the G major duo of Mozart, on the composer's 256th birthday - I don't think he could have asked for a better audience or venue. The Street Symphony hopes to be back very soon.

# POETRY



## Ciera Payton

I am a New Orleans native. I performed an excerpt of my one-woman show called "Michael's Daughter." I stepped into my father's shoes and told his story from his point of view: his experiences that lead to his incarceration. I tell my dad's story and I give some insight into the relationship I have with him. My dad has been in prison since I entered high school. He is the inspiration for this one-woman show. It clearly has impacted my life and my relationships. This performance is healing for myself but I hope it also touches my audience.



## Jeffrey Jackson

I am a Vietnam War veteran. I gave many years to the Army, and I received a degree in music from City College. Jackson 5, Bobby Siel, and the Civil Rights of the 60's had a big impact on my life. I am starting an organization for Drummers called, "Drummer Personify," which is open for anyone who desires to educate themselves.



## King Howard 'Self-imagine'

I grew up performing in church-performance choirs, cover bands, orchestras, and directing choirs. The Gospel has given me a purpose: using great music to spread a message for today's modern times. My contribution as a Top 40 artist is to provide music that is healthy for the soul-and great for raising well adjusted children who grow to be kind, competitive, eager, inventive, spiritual, and make great choices in their lives. I have come across too many people who need a healthy mind reconditioning. It's like speed counseling to music! U feel me? It's like my message rides the vehicle of music. So much can be accomplished in people by simply groovin them the way they need to be grooved- if u will... peace and blessings...



## Curshow 'Art is Life, Life is Art'

I was born in Missouri and raised in South Central Los Angeles. I am dedicated to Skid Row and I'm a member of the Skid Row brigade. I have been rapping for 7 years making "New Era Folk Songs." I love basketball really developed a passion for painting and customizing skateboards, T-shirts, and sneakers. It gives me a creative way to connect to life. I'm also a father and my son Arteist loves to paint as well. Ice Cube, Public Enemy, Tupac, and LL Cool J. are my positive influences. It was great to perform on the same stage with Chuck D, Flava'Flav, and Yoyo during Operation Freedom last week on Skid Row.



We couldn't have done the festival without the **X-men**: Left: Ray Young a.k.a. X-Ray and Right: Xavier Estrada a.k.a X-Man, our master sound engineer who brought his amazing music production skills and equipment so that every artist would sound the best possible! Thank you X- Men!

# COMMUNITY



A special thanks to the **SkidRowPlayaz** who drummed both days of the festival, supporting others and making the atmosphere.



**Pictured above-** our Cal State LA interns: Rosalinda Del Rio, Delia Caperon, Viviana Fernandez, Rogelio Mendez, Jason Chingburanakit, Nataly Garcia, Karinna Guerrero, Karen Cervantes, Ida Tran, Xiomara Sasha Diaz, Viviana Fernandez, Karissa Avila, Emelda Romero, and Andrea Corrales.

**Los Angeles Poverty Department would like to give a big THANK YOU!** to Hayk Makhumuryan from LAMP Arts Project; Xavier Estrada and his Orchestrada Audio; UCEPP; SRO Housing; OG man; the SkidRowPlayaz; the LAPD production team; the Waterman; Natalia Aguilar; our Cal State LA interns; and All Skid Row Artists who made the Festival a huge success. Newspaper design: Aqua Yost Photographers: Xiomara Sasha Diaz, Henriette Brouwers

## Making a Case for Skid Row Culture

Animating Democracy, a program of Americans for the Arts, released “**Making a Case for Skid Row Culture: Findings from a Collaborative Inquiry by the Los Angeles Poverty Department and the Urban Institute**”. This study by John Malpede (Los Angeles Poverty Department) and Mario Rosario Jackson (Urban Institute) documents the role of arts and culture in Skid Row. This study found that culture comes from the ground up in Skid Row and is often initiated by residents and resident driven initiatives. This festival is undertaken to recognize these people and initiatives and to stimulate a new way of envisioning and talking about this neighborhood. The festival is moving the case for Skid Row culture forward in practice. The paper is available at:

HYPERLINK :

“[http://www.artsusa.org/animatingdemocracy/pdf/reading\\_room/LAPD.pdf](http://www.artsusa.org/animatingdemocracy/pdf/reading_room/LAPD.pdf)”

**Pictured on right:** Michael Blaze and work by the Skid Row Photography Club.



## ALL SKID ROW ARTISTS

Abi Abraham, Brandon Acevado, Axanion Allen, Victor Allen, David Alston, Darlene Altemeier, Miguel Alvarez, Angela Cesare, Burton Anderson, Deborah Anderson, Gary (Khalif) Anderson, Lawrance Anderson, Lulu Anderson, Earlean Anthony, Grace Astisdell, Yvonne Michelle Autry, Mike Balakuri, Santiago Barajas, Queen Mary Barnes, Unkal Bean, Brian Beasley, Darlyn L. Berry, Elijah Mothershed, Jerome C. Binder, Amma Birago, Yorel Bishop, Lil Bit, Young Blood, Veronica Bonner, Pierre Bouyer, Devon Bowser, Danny Boy, Willis Boyd, Shelly Bradford, Yolanda Briant, Brian Brown, Garry Brown, Jonathan James “Cowboy” Brown, Gregory Brown, James Brown, Be Bruce, Warren Bryant, Jesse Buenrostro, Carl Bunker, Roland Burras, Hylen Burt, Richard Butts, Kirk Cain, Laura Caloca, Jennifer Campbell, Nicole Castro Nunez, Socorro Chacon, Robert Chambers, Kanciah Chapman, David D. Childress, Kenneth Christopher, Joe Clark, Isaac Clay, James Cobb, Rob Cohen, Frank Collins, Kenneth Collins, Chris Como, Emanuel/ OG MAN Compito, Mr. Boby Cooper, Leatrice L. Cosh, Ron Crockett, Robyn Cunningham, Delorise Dabrof, Mary Davis, Zac Davis, Jasmine Davis, Luanne De Costa Poindexter, Zach Dellinger, Jessica Detty, Money Draper, Shanantae Duncan, Linda Evans, Calvin Faulkner, Walter Fears, CerBlu Fetherson, Monthy Flippen, Hendy Foote, Liam Franc Foster, Steven Frye, Vinson Fuller, Nick Gardner, Rose Gibson, Enrique Gomez, Alejandro Gonzalez, Gregory Goodin, Tommie Goodman, James Graham, Terry Graham, Bill Grant, Ernest Green, Robert Gupta, LaDienle H., Yolanda R. Hall, Eugenia Hamelin, Dean LaMar Harper, Jeremiah Harrell, Albert Harris, Bernard Harris, Linda Harris, LaRonda Hartfield, Oscar Harvey, Randy Harvey, OC Hasson, Lorinda Hawkins, Anthony Haynes, Fridgeir Helgason, Marissa Heller, Tonya Henderson, Cristina Hernandez, Frank Hernandez, Crushow Herring, Peggy Hill, Vanessa Hill, Austin Hines, Melvin Ho, Pierre Holden, Truvette Hollinquest, Gilbert Hood, Christopher Hoskins, Ashley Howard, Greg Hutchinson, Marcus Hytche, Effie D. Iglesias, Maricruz Infante, Yahveen Israel, Charles Jackson, Jefferey Jackson, Raborn Jamal, Lauren Jennings, Beverly Johnson, Diana Johnson, Jennapher Johnson, Jimmie Johnson, Melvin Johnson, Orlando Johnson, Donovan Johnson, SS Jones, Swan Jones, Susan Jones, Sonya Jones, Lowell Jones, La’Can Jose, Franchie Joy, Ari Kaden, Kevin Michael Key, Cornelius Kincy, Gus Kommas, Sandra Kornegay, Jarris LaCasse, Imery Lambus, Rogelio Lares, Randy Law, Bobby Lee, Mr. Lee, Young Lee, Douglas Leigh-Taylor, Ray Lewis, Vincent Lewis, Mary Lindholm, Allen Luby, Wyatt Luoma, Stephanie Luque, Michael Lust, Raymond Lyons, Timmothy/ Big Mac Mackey, Cassie Marcus, Mike Marino, Dave Martin, Rosa Martinez, Brian Matonski, Bert Maxwell, Bobby May, Julius McClenon, Willie McCall, Vachelle McFarland, King Howard McGhee, Kenny McIntosh, Wesley McIntosh, Tamara Meeks, Danny Meza, Jennifer Mier, Stephanie Miller, Paul Mitchell, Daniel Moore, Brittany Morris, Cris Moser, Maric Moss, Jon Nash, Chester Nelson Jr., Tommy Newman, Mike Nice, Armenak Nouridjanian, Jamael Nunez, Samuel Nunez, Kevin O’Donohue, Anthony Page, Adela Palacios, Dong Papp, Nate Patrick, Ciera Payton, Darrell Peace, Henry Pendera, Willie Pleasants, Charles Porter, James Porter, Riccarlo Porter, Roland Porter, Cordelia Quinn, Lenore Ramoz, Earnest Ramsey, JoDy Ray, Donald Reece, Jeffery Reynolds, Anthony Rios, Mozes Robbes, Jerome Robertson, Yolanda Robins, James Robinson, Vickie Robinson, Ronald Rogers, Tiffany Rose, Andrea Ross, Lin Rossy, Moses Rubles, Deondri Ruff, Sam Rush, Ibrahim Saba, Mariella Saba, Samira Saba, Nadia Sandoval, Beatrice Schwarz, Bobby Scott, Gary Sexton, Bill Shan, Ricci Sharpe, Carol Shelly, Jonnie Shephard, Lonnie Ray/ TWIN Shepherd, Noah Silverstein, Betty-Jean Sinclair, Kenneth Singletary, Sierra Smith, Tanika Smith, Niko Solorio, Chad Sprandeo, Anthony E. Stallworth, Patrijk Strait, Dnero Sudio, Chris Sykes, Queen Mama Tabia Salimu, Fred Taft, Vorman Tata, Anthony Taylor, Ronald Chester Taylor, Quentin Taylor, D Taylor, Sylvio Teixeira, Norman That, Florzell Thomas Jr, Andres Trilla, Adrian Tunage, Mariana Valles, Jo Ann Van Brown, Jose Vandenburg, Gerry Vandes, Carmen Vega, Tapio Veli, Ronald Walker, Tracy Walker, Lance Walker, Pamela Walls, Norris Walton, John War, Joe/ Brother Joseph Warren, Robin Wartell, Keith Washington, Micheal Waterman- Hubman, Cary Watkins, Stan Watson, Loanner Watson, Roslyn Watson, Dee Weak, Walter Welerford, Raymond White, Archie Williams, Mark Williams, Celestine Williams, Randall Williams, Larry Doc Williams, Alven Wilson, Demetra Wilson, Darren Wise, Sammy Wynn, Eiko Yoshii, Ray Young, Cenith Youngblood, Leilani (Sashae) Zackery, Josue Zeta Rojas, AbU, Akbar, Angel, Baby Llam, Barbara, Beo, Charlotte, Dante, Dec, Derius, Doc, Donno, Dr. Mongo, Fraasie, G-Nut, James Brown, Jay, Jerry, Julius, L-Boogie, Laurie, Mariana, Mike, Money, Omar, Pepper, Ray, Reggie, Rythms From The Heart, Rocky, Rosemary, Shabazz, Skid Row Playaz, Trupocalis, Big Rob, Jeffery Young, Beatrice Scharz, Andres Trilla, Angela Cesare, Anthony Rios, Ashley Howard, Jessica Detty, Carol Shelly, Danny Boy, Don Ovan Johnson, Elijah Malachi X Mothershed Bey, Eugenia Hamelin, Flo Hawkins, Franc Foster, James Garcia, James Brown, Jassie Davis, Jassie Davis, Kenneth Christopher, Kenny McIntosh, Ladonna H, LaRonda Hartfield, Laureen Jennings, Lil Bit, Loaner, Noah Simerstein, Norman Tate, Steven Frye, Soni, Pierre Holden, Samuel Nunez, Shelly Bradhord, Vincent Davis, Rogelic Lares, Rosyln Watson, Yahreen Israel, Sam Ross, Quetin Taylor, Predestined, Cornelius, Lowell Jones, Marie Moss, Mike Nice, Yolanda R. Robuns Hall.


## GET YOUR OWN PAIR OF MENACING COOL SHADES

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Fill out the coupon and send to:  
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Los Angeles, CA 90026

OR

put the coupon in the Skid Row Artists Box  
at UCEPP 800 East 6th street  
email: HYPERLINK “mailto:info@lapovertydept.org” info@lapovertydept.org  
facebook: LosAngeles PovertyDept



**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

Los Angeles Poverty Department, founded in 1985, is made up of people who make art and live on Skid Row, Los Angeles. **LAPD’s mission:** Los Angeles Poverty Department (LAPD) creates performances and multidisciplinary artworks that connect the experience of people living in poverty to the social forces that shape their lives and communities. LAPD’s works express the realities, hopes, dreams and rights of people who live and work in L.A.’s Skid Row.

The Festival for All Skid Row Artists is produced by LA Poverty Department with support from the California Arts Council’s Creating Public Value program and The James Irvine Foundation. CAC’s CPV program is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts.



the James Irvine foundation