

the children's art carnival

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 245-3200

Presented by The Harlem School of The Arts, Created and sponsored by The Museum of Modern Art

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FOR RELEASE:
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An open house for parents and children in the Harlem community will be held at the new Children's Art Carnival at The Harlem School of the Arts, 641 St. Nicholas Avenue, on Thursday, March 27 from 11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Created and sponsored by The Museum of Modern Art, the Carnival will serve about 9,000 children between the ages of 4 and 12 each year. Classes began on March 17.

In one area of the Carnival children will play with the toys, such as a color organ and magnetic board, especially designed to introduce children to the elements of art. In the studio-workshop they will paint, make collages and constructions and model in clay. All the children now enrolled in the program, their parents, and members of the Carnival's Community Advisory Board and its Community Consultants have been invited to the opening reception.

Betty Blayton Taylor, a young artist and teacher who organized art projects for children and teenagers under the Haryou Program from 1964 through 1966, is Executive Director of the Carnival. It was originated by Victor D'Amico, Director of the Museum's Department of Education, who is serving as Consulting Director. The Carnival in Harlem staff includes three teachers and four aides. A limited number of teenagers will serve as special aides and receive art training during the summer months. Interested mothers will also have an opportunity to receive training in youth art teaching. "I plan to arrange field trips for the children to visit other parts of the city," Mrs. Taylor says, "and we will encourage the active participation of parents in the program. All children regularly attending the Carnival and their parents will be given free passes
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Community Advisory Board: Mr. Theodor Gunn, Mrs. Doris Haywood, Mr. Charles Innis, Mrs. Kenneth Marshall, Mrs. Nona Pierce, Mrs. Malukah Rahman, Miss Vivian Rogers, Mrs. Joan Sandler, Mr. William Songer, Mrs. Melba Taylor, Mrs. Lydia Thaxtan, Mr. Wendall Wray. *Ex Officio:* Miss Dorothy Maynor, Mrs. Betty Blayton Taylor.
Community Consultants: Mr. Romare Bearden, Dr. Mamie Clark, Dr. Kenneth Clark, Mrs. Ida Cullen Cooper, Mrs. Jean Hudson, Dr. Kenneth Marshall, Mr. Cyril Tyson.

to The Museum of Modern Art."

The Carnival, housed in a former garage owned by the Harlem School, was remodeled by the Museum this winter. Its brightly colored walls are decorated with paintings done by the students and posters. Stained glass windows created by a group of the older children can be seen by passers-by on St. Nicholas Avenue.

The Harlem School of the Arts, directed by Dorothy C. Maynor, has made the space available to the Museum rent-free for a three-year period. The Museum of Modern Art has undertaken to provide financial support for the Carnival during that period.

The opening of the Carnival in Harlem marks the first time the Museum has established a year-round, full-time activity outside its main building at 11 West 53rd Street.

"After many months of consulting with community leaders and organizations, The Museum of Modern Art is pleased to announce the opening of the Carnival in Harlem. We welcome this opportunity to extend one of our activities to the Harlem community," Bates Lowry, Director of The Museum of Modern Art, said. "We are delighted that The Harlem School of the Arts, established in 1963, and headed by the noted artist and administrator, Dorothy C. Maynor, has given us space so that our Carnival, concerned with visual arts for the young, can become a new autonomous adjunct to her existing school, which is primarily concerned with music, ballet, and theater."

Children have been enrolled from New York City Public Schools, Headstart programs, Neighborhood Boards, Livingroom Day Care programs of the New York City Department of Social Services, The Harlem School of the Arts, and other community organizations. The year is divided into four three-month periods. Children attend a minimum of one class per week, or a total of 16 sessions, during the three-month period. Children who are not enrolled in the Carnival are offered an opportunity to attend one of several hour-long "open" sessions; they can then reserve a regular place in the following three-month term. Classes have been arranged during school hours in cooperation with the public schools in Harlem.

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Established initially as a pilot project, the Carnival is being financed by The Museum of Modern Art, which has received contributions from individuals and foundations, including the Ford Foundation, The New York Times Foundation, The New York Fund for Children, the Van Ameringen Fund, and the Heckscher Foundation for Children. Additional funds are being sought for the initial three-year period. If the Carnival functions as an effective service to the community, further funds will be sought to continue its operation beyond this period.

Community Consultants to the Children's Art Carnival are Mr. Romare Bearden, Dr. Mamie Clark, Dr. Kenneth Clark, Mrs. Ida Cullen Cooper, Mrs. Jean Hudson, Dr. Kenneth Marshall, and Mr. Cyril Tyson. The Board of Community Advisors, which meets monthly, consists of Mr. Theodor Gunn, Mrs. Doris Haywood, Mr. Charles Innis, Mrs. Kenneth Marshall, Mrs. Nona Pierce, Mrs. Malukah Rahman, Miss Vivian Rogers, Mrs. Joan Sandler, Mr. William Songer, Mrs. Melba Taylor, Mrs. Lydia Thaxan, and Mr. Wendall Wray.

The Carnival, which was presented at The Museum of Modern Art for many years with outstanding success, has also been sent to children in Italy and Spain and was at the Brussels World's Fair in 1959. In India, a replica of the Carnival, constructed by the Museum, was presented to the Indian Government on behalf of the International Council of The Museum of Modern Art and The Asia Society by the wife of the late President Kennedy when she visited that country in 1962.

Photographs and additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, and Susan Bernstein, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. 245-3200, exts. 201 and 403

Anyone wishing to film at the Carnival should phone the Department of Public Information in advance.