



****MEDIA ADVISORY****

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Long Branch/Flower Coalition

Contact: Melinda Ulloa (301) 785-1242

**LONG BRANCH/FLOWER COALITION ANNOUNCES UNVEILING OF
"FLOWER DREAMS" MURAL BY CLASS ACTS ART**

- WHO:** Valerie Ervin, Montgomery County Council Member
Claire Schwadron, Director, Project Youth ArtReach of Class Acts Arts
Carlos Perozo, President, Long Branch Business League
Robert Goldman, President, Montgomery Housing Partnership (MHP)
Peggy Castrelli, Finmarc Management
- WHAT:** Inaugural celebration and unveiling of the "Flower Dreams" mural
- WHEN:** Wednesday, April 3, 2013, 11:00 a.m.
- WHERE:** Media Availability at "El Golfo" Restaurant, 8739 Flower Avenue, Silver Spring followed by mural Unveiling at the corner of Flower and Piney Branch Ave., 8639 Flower Avenue

On Wednesday, April 3 at 11:00 a.m., the mural "Flower Dreams" will be unveiled in the heart of the Long Branch neighborhood. The Long Branch/Flower coalition, dedicated to beautifying Long Branch, expects the unveiling to represent the first of what is projected to be many future aesthetic enhancements planned for the Long Branch area. The mural is being placed at the corner of Piney Branch and Flower Avenues, the heart of the Long Branch neighborhood's vibrant ethnic cultural center. At the request of the Long Branch Business League, with support from the National Endowment for the Arts as well as the Community Foundation of Montgomery County, and a generous contribution from Finmarc Management, Class Acts Arts created the vibrant mural. Further support was provided by the Long Branch Business League and MHP.

The mural was designed and created inside the Montgomery County Correctional Facility during workshops with Project Youth ArtReach, a program of Class Acts Arts. Under the guidance of professional artists, Peter Krsko and Alicia Cosnahan, a core group of 10 young male inmates contributed their efforts as a means of giving back to the community.

The partners in this endeavor are pleased to spark renewed interest in development plans that reflect the importance of the cultural identities that make up this exciting neighborhood. "Flower Dreams" represents a new beginning for Long Branch. The spider web imagery points to the interlinked web of relationships between members of this community, and the community's shared intent to grow something beautiful together for the future.

The Long Branch/Flower Coalition includes: Class Acts Arts, Long Branch Business League, Montgomery Housing Partnership, Flower Theater Project, Impact Silver Spring. Outside support and advice is kindly being provided by Arts on the Block, Howard Connelly Studio and Pyramid Atlantic Art Center.