



Diana H. Jones Senior Center, 9 Noll Street, Brooklyn, New York 11206

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **“PIONEERS OF BUSHWICK: WE CALL IT HOME” A photography exhibit by Daryl-Ann Saunders**

**Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> through April 27<sup>th</sup> 2012, M-F 9am-3pm**

#### **Public Reception, all are invited ~ Friday February 24<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm**

For general public (incl. seniors & families, Pioneers of Bushwick participants, city agencies, media)

#### **Private Reception ~ Thursday February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1-2:30pm (Reception will begin promptly at 1pm)**

For seniors, Pioneers of Bushwick participants and city agencies only

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Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council proudly presents ***Pioneers of Bushwick: We Call It Home***, an exhibit featuring photographic portraits of long-time Bushwick residents by Daryl-Ann Saunders, at the **Diana H. Jones Senior Center**, located at 9 Noll Street between Bushwick Avenue and Stanwix Street in the Bushwick neighborhood of Brooklyn, NY 11206.

Through *Space for Art*, a city art residency program matching artists to city senior centers with workspace, Daryl-Ann Saunders created a small “pop-up” photo studio at the center. There she began creating studio portraits and collecting written text of Bushwick residents that have lived in the neighborhood since the 1970s and still live in Bushwick today. Many center members are included in this collaborative effort.

The Bushwick-based artist explains, “Bushwick’s most difficult decades of the 1970s and 80s were marked by arson, crime, drugs and gang activity. The *Pioneers of Bushwick* project commemorates residents that persevered, raised families and contributed to a rich historical tapestry throughout those times and up to its current resurgence. Their contributions will now be in evidence within Bushwick history. As this artwork is viewed by community residents of varied ages and cultures, it is hoped it will stimulate dialogue, not just about Bushwick and its history, but also about aging, self-worth, human value and experience.”

Ms. Saunders is a professional and fine art photographer. Her images have been published worldwide, is exhibited regularly and held in the collections of Pfizer, Inc., General Electric as well as other collections, public and private. For more information about the artist and her projects, visit: [www.DASfineart.com](http://www.DASfineart.com) and [www.PioneersOfBushwick.com](http://www.PioneersOfBushwick.com).

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*Project/ exhibit space, senior participation and staff support has been generously donated to the Pioneers of Bushwick project by Diana H. Jones Senior Center and their sponsor, Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council ([www.RBSCC.org](http://www.RBSCC.org)). The organization seeks to promote the well-being of community residents who are 60+ years of age through nutrition, recreation, social services and educational programs.*

*This exhibit is sponsored, in part, by the Greater New York Arts Development Fund of the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, administered by the Brooklyn Arts Council, Inc. (BAC). The Space for Art program (now SPARC) was initiated by The Brooklyn Arts Council in partnership with New York City Department for the Aging and the Department of Cultural Affairs.*

