

UPCOMING GLOBAL WEEKEND

EXPRESSIONS OF BEAUTY: SIGHTS AND SOUNDS

Friday, April 26–Saturday, April 27 | Noon–5 pm

During this special two-day festival, the Museum explores beauty from a global perspective and how beauty is represented across cultures and time.



For a fun family activity, check out the Museum's *Our Global Kitchen: Food, Nature, Culture* exhibition located on the Museum's third floor.

The Presenting Sponsor of the Museum's cultural programming is

MetLife Foundation

Support for STORIES WE TELL is made possible, in part, by the May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation, Inc., and the family of Frederick H. Leonhardt.

Our Global Kitchen: Food, Nature, Culture was organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York (amnh.org).

The exclusive corporate sponsor for Our Global Kitchen Education Programs is



STORIES WE TELL tasting experience is presented by **Whole Foods Market**.



STORIES WE TELL is co-presented by Community Works and New Heritage Theatre Group.

The Media Partner of STORIES WE TELL is **WBGJ Jazz 88.3FM**.

Special Thanks: Community Works and New Heritage Theatre Group are supported, in part, by public funds from New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; Adidas Group, Edible Schoolyard NYC, James Beard Foundation, United Nations Headquarters, New York, Global Teaching and Learning Project, and Yorkville Common Pantry.



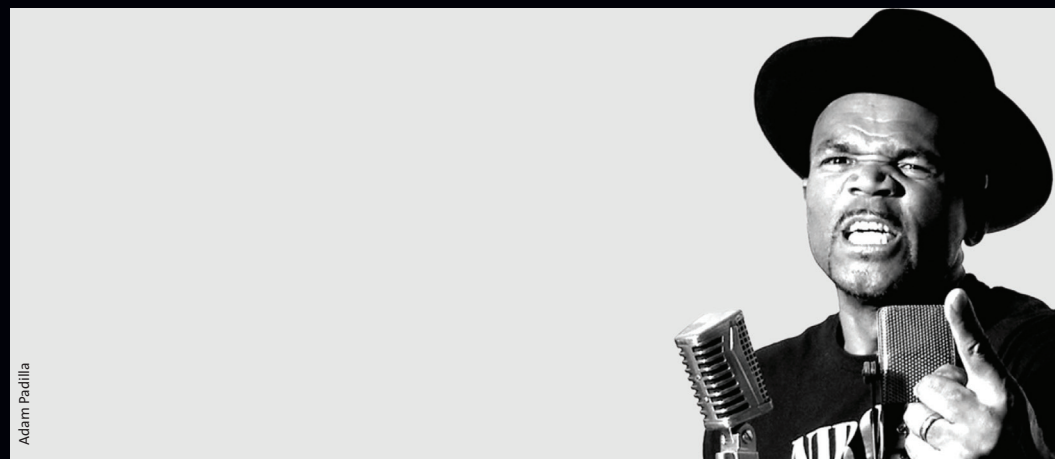
AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

GLOBAL WEEKENDS: STORIES WE TELL

A Tribute to Storytellers Who Give Voice to the African-American Experience

Saturday, February 23 | 11 am –5 pm
FREE with Museum admission

Presented in association with Community Works and New Heritage Theatre Group



Adam Padilla



Matt Karas

THE HUMAN STORY

Humans are natural story-tellers. For as long as humanity has existed, we have used stories to express ourselves, make connections, share experiences and pass knowledge from generation to generation. Our stories have also taken a creative variety of forms, from oral history and folklore, to poetry, song and dance. Stories bring the human experience to life. And today, they bring the museum to life. Let's celebrate this fundamental cultural phenomenon and use it to inspire us, to give meaning to our lives as individuals and as a community.



Annie Cameron

THE AFRICAN GRIOT: VOICE OF THE NATION

In many African countries, the "griot" (pronounced "GREE-OH") is a highly respected member of the community, who collects, preserves, and shares the stories, objects, and cultural traditions of the community. The role has a long history.

Over time, griots, or "jelis" as they are known among the Manding (Mande) society, also became the official musicians of the society. The balafon is a wooden xylophone and probably the original griot instrument. But now, griots also play the ngoni, a small traditional lute, and the kora, a 21-stringed instrument – a cross between a harp and a lute.

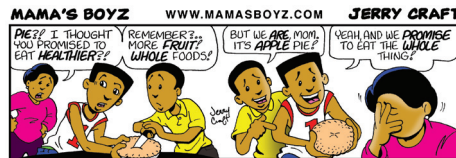
To enrich your experience at this event, please see the Museum's display of African musical instruments and ceremonial objects in the Hall of African Peoples located on the museum's second floor.

ACTIVITIES

GRAND GALLERY, First Floor (77th Street Entrance)

11 am-4 pm

- Create your own cool comic book characters and stories! Jerry Craft, creator of *Mama's Boyz*, an award-winning comic strip distributed by King Features Syndicate, will show you how you can use simple shapes to bring your heroes and tales to life!
- Enter to win a pair of Adidas Originals Superstars—a sneaker with a story all its own—signed by today's featured artist, co-founder of the legendary rap group Run-DMC and co-creator of the hit song, "My Adidas," Darryl "DMC" McDaniels!
- Honor history and those who came before us by learning about the United Nations initiative entitled, "Forever Free: Celebrating Emancipation".
- In celebration of opening their Manhattan Showcase School in Harlem this spring, Edible Schoolyard NYC will run seed sprouting workshops all day long. Go home with your own seed packet to start at home!
- Swing by the WBGJ Jazz 88.3FM table to learn more about America's art form based in the African-American experience. Then, test your culinary I.Q. with the folks at the James Beard Foundation table and learn how you can get involved at Yorkville Common Pantry.



THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN STORYTELLER: GLOBAL CALL

Like their ancestors who were called upon to expertly "tell it like it is," today's featured artists speak boldly for the many. Through an uncanny ability to craft and play with words, movements, illustration, rhythms, musical instruments, vocal inflection, and the spaces in-between, these artists do their griot ancestors proud as they breathe new life into time-honored tales and interpret today's freshest stories.



LaMont Hamilton

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Host Tantra-zawadi, Poet and Author

KAUFMANN THEATER, First Floor

Noon Meet internationally renowned master storyteller **Charlotte Blake Alston** as she weaves traditional and contemporary stories from African and African-American oral and cultural traditions, accompanied by the traditional 21-stringed kora.

1 pm Join **Composers Concordance** as they explore the influence of African-American and Native American music on classical and contemporary music. This program includes a specially commissioned narrative poem from two-time National Slam Champion and HBO Def Poetry Jam performer **Roger Bonair-Agard**, as well as exciting new music from **Valerie Coleman** (founder, Grammy-nominated quintet Imani Winds) and more.

2 pm The 2012 recipient of The Mariam McGlone Emerging Choreographer Award and a Princess Grace Award-Winning Choreographer, **Camille A. Brown** is, according to The Boston Globe, "a storyteller, with many tales to tell." Enjoy a sneak peek of Brown performing a solo excerpt, "The Real Cool," from her new work *Mr. TOL E. RANcE* which celebrates the humor and perseverance of the black performer and examines stereotypical roles dominating current popular black culture. Q&A and workshop to follow.

3 pm **Raffle winner** of first pair of Adidas Originals Superstars, autographed by DMC, announced!

CULLMAN HALL OF THE UNIVERSE, Lower Level, Rose Center for Earth and Space

3:45 pm **Raffle winner** of second pair of Adidas Originals Superstars, autographed by DMC, announced!

4 pm **WORLD PREMIERE!** Be the first to experience the innovative artistic collaboration "Rites of Passage: New Music in Conversation with Historic Collections," created in collaboration with **Darryl "DMC" McDaniels** of multi-platinum hip-hop group Run-DMC, NEA Jazz Master **Delfeayo Marsalis**, and Oscar-nominated youth ensemble **IMPACT Repertory Theatre**. A Q&A will follow, moderated by Museum Assistant Director of Cultural Education **Monique Scott**.



Keith Major