

a:nursha PROJECT

News from Nursha

NURSHA October

QUICK LINKS

[Nursha Project.com](#)

[NurshaSpotlight](#)

[Featured Article](#)

[Nursha Artist News](#)

[Nursha Project Artists](#)

[On The Horizon](#)



Greetings Sara!

Welcome to the October Nursha Project newsletter. We are looking forward to the fall season after a very busy September. The first half of October had all Nursha family members busy and the second half continues the trend. With autumn upon us the seasons are changing and so is Nursha Project. We are delighted to introduce you our newest Nursha Project Artists (see spotlight section) in addition to reporting the many shows the entire Nursha family has offered over the past 6 weeks.

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage

Month

Born Brown would like to honor the invaluable contribution that Indigenous Peoples have made across the nation and the world.

Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept.15-Oct 15)

was first honored in 1968 by President Lyndon B. Johnson. Some of our favorite notable Hispanics are [Frida Kahlo](#) (Mexican Painter 1907-1954), [Cesar Chavez](#) (Mexican civil rights leader 1927-1993), and [Sonia Sotomayor](#) (Puerto Rican U.S. Supreme Court Justice 1954-). Click [here](#) for events around the country.

This issue we highlight a national controversy that effects many Nursha Artists, and families- Healthcare reform. We are actively adding to our newsletter more articles and subjects that interest our readers and collaborators. We would like extend an invitation to all of our readers to write to us or suggest subjects in which you would like to see addressed in upcoming issues of the Nursha Project Newsletter. Please feel encouraged to send us your thoughts.

Gratefully,

The Nursha Project Team
staff@nurshaproject.com

Visit our site or look for notifications in our newsletters for our exciting new offerings as they develop and bloom.

Quote of the Month



"I paint my own reality. The only thing I know is that I paint because I need to, and I paint whatever passes through my head"

FEATURE ARTICLE

HOW WILL YOU BE IMPACTED BY OBAMA'S HEALTH PLAN?: DISSECTING H.R. 3200

an offering by Kiana Kellie

"I suffer no illusions that this will be an easy process. It will be hard. But I also know that nearly a century after Teddy Roosevelt first called for reform, the cost of our health care has weighed down our economy and the conscience of our nation long enough. So let there be no doubt: health care reform cannot wait, it must not wait, and it will not wait another year."



-President Barack Obama on Healthcare Reform, February 24, 2009

[Read more...](#)

without any other consideration."

~ Frida Kahlo
(Mexican Painter 1907-1954)

Visit us on



Join Our Mailing List!

NURSHA IN THE NEWS

NEW YORK INNOVATIVE THEATER AWARDS

On Sept.21st, the Off-Off Broadway community celebrated their biggest night, their annual awards ceremony.

Micia Mosely was nominated for Outstanding Solo Performance with her show, "Where My Girls At?". Although she didn't win the award, Nursha is very proud of her nomination and look forward to future awards. Congratulations Micia!

[Read More...](#)



Donate



Support the Arts
Donate to
Nursha Project

BIG THANK YOU!

Nursha Project want to thank **Vicente Trust** for their generous donation.

We appreciate all fiscal sponsors of the Arts and what that makes available to the Arts community.

We would like to thank **Wade Grayson** for his generous giving of his editing and video mastery talents to our endeavors.

Nursha Project is fiscally sponsored by **Mason Rhynes Productions**.

[Read More...](#)

NURSHA SPOTLIGHT

ACTRESS **mildRED GERESTANT**, JOINS THE NURSHA FAMILY

Nursha Project welcomes **mildRED Gerestant** to our network. The Artist formerly known as DRED, witness a particularly mystical form of illusion and stereotype challenge. Her performance is a challenge to societal ideas of what it means to be male or female, reminding the audience that there is some of each in everyone.



DRED's motto is "Love all of who you are..." Appearing around New York City and abroad, the actor and "gender illusionist" is the creator of The Dred Love Experience. This past September mildRED premiered her latest show.

Saturday October 17th @ 8PM & 10PM w/ Q&A
"When She Was King - THE REMIX"
Black Box Theater
(above Morning Star Pentecostal Church)
308 w 133 St., Harlem, NYC
[Buy Tix Here](#)

Thursday, October 29th
Hysteria: A Festival of Women
Buddies in Bad Times Theater
Toronto, Canada
[For More Info](#)

NURSHA ARTIST NEWS

MICIA MOSELY WORKS A FLASH MOB WITH THEATER COMMUNICATIONS GROUP AND HEADS TO WASHINGTON, DC!

Micia Mosely has been one hard working woman. Last month she brought her award nominated show "Where My Girls At?" to college campuses and transitioned directly into a successful run doing "Butch Mamma" in New York City. Sprinkle a debut performance at the Nuyorican Cafe where she performed some poetry and stand-up.



Dying for more Mosely? Catch this dedicated Ph.D and actress, on Halloween night in DC. @ Mason Ryhmes Productions' Late Nite (aka: MRP Late Nite) Stay up late on the edge with the first LATE NIGHT of the season! LATE NIGHT is the only event of its kind in the DC area, featuring drinks, light refreshments, and a line-up of cutting-edge performances in an adults-only atmosphere!

MRP Late Nite:

Saturday, Oct 31st - HALLOWEEN
Black Expressions: LATE NIGHT!!!
Joy of Motion Dupont Circle
Tickets: \$25 single / \$40 couple in advance
\$30 at the door
301-887-1078
Adult themes. Must be 18+ to attend.

Donate



Support the Arts
Donate to Nursha Project

NURSHA PRODUCTIONS

NURSHA PROJECT CREATES AIN GORDON'S DISASTER.

Nursha Project collaborates with **Ain Gordon**, a 3 time Obie Award-winning writer/director/actor and 2 time NYFA Fellow and recipient of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation fellowship on



NURSHA ARTISTS

[Thandiwe De Shazor](#)

[Micia Mosley](#)

[Dawn Robinson](#)

[Red Summer](#)

[milDRED](#)

[Sisters In The Pit](#)

Visit us on



JUST MISSED

DORIA ROBERTS AND RED SUMMER JOIN FORCES IN ATLANTA



Doria Roberts featuring Red Summer @ The Apache Cafe Atlanta, GA

\$12 in Adv / \$15 at Door & DOS

Doors @ 7:30pm
Show @ 9:00pm (No opener)

18 and over
Wheel Chair Accessible
Non Smoking

Apache Cafe
64 3rd St. (3rd & Spring)
Atlanta, GA
404.876.5436

ON THE HORIZON

SISTAS IN THE PIT PERFORMING IN NOVEMBER!



Save the date for SITP's next fantastic performance on Sat. November 7th in San Francisco, California.

Come see the newest member, **Shelley Doti**,

his latest piece "A Disaster Begins."

This well reviewed and received production stars the impeccable Veanne Cox, who is a Tony Nominated and Obie Award-winning actress of stage and screen. With Shalonda Ingram as production stage manager and Jonathan Rosenfeld handling graphics and projects, what follows is not only a presentation and performance about the hurricane that devastated Galveston, Texas in 1900 and main character's book about the storm, but also her life and the events that led to write this seminal "disaster book," The Galveston Flood.

Veanne Cox portrays one woman's unbreakable bond with the hurricane that devastated the Texas island of Galveston in 1900, taking 6,000 lives in a single night. Equipped with a pitcher of water and drinking glass she unravels the shocking truth behind this disaster, interweaving tales of presidential corruption, pubescent despair, patriotic fervor, pre-marital passion and paralyzing writer's block.

Show runs for a limited engagement, so if you're in the area, be sure to catch this truly wonderful show.

October 1 -3, 2009 @ 8pm
Diverse Works Art Space
1117 E. Freeway, Houston, TX
For ticketing and more info:

[Read More...](#)

Oct. 9-11 & 14-17 @ 8:30 pm
Here Arts Center
145 6th Ave. NYC
For tix - www.here.org
212-352-3101

NURSHA PARTNERS



Congratulations to the honorees of Infin8 Sync for their efforts!

[Davey D](#) - Hip Hop Historian, Educator & Activist

[DJ QBert](#) - DJ Extraordinaire

[Irene Hernandez-Feiks](#) - Art Event Expert

[Keba Konte](#) - World Renowned Artist and Photographer

[Micaya](#) - Trailblazer in Hip Hop Dance Movement

[Victor Reyes](#) - World Renowned Graffiti & Fashion Artist

[Gail Silva](#) - Arts & Non-profit Consulting Guru

[Vicki Virk](#) - International Arts Visionary

[Read More about the Honorees](#)

FEATURE ARTICLE-CON'T

Continued: DISSECTING H.R. 3200-OBAMA'S HEALTHCARE REFORM

As the commotion around Obama's healthcare reform intensifies, the American public becomes more engaged with the issues outlined in the President's proposal, perhaps marking an attitudinal shift in voters, from apathy to a raised consciousness around the needs of the American people. Republican conservatives would have the nation believe that healthcare reform resembles a terrorist attack of sorts. However, the reality is that the United States spends over \$2.2 trillion on health care each year, about 16% of the total economy, and it is expected that if we do not act soon, by 2017, almost 20 percent of the economy-more than \$4 trillion-will be spent on healthcare.³ Furthermore, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2007 alone, more than 46 million Americans under 65 were uninsured, of which a majority (85%) were American-born or naturalized citizens.⁴ This number does not take into consideration, those Americans on the

along with [leela Grant](#) and [Kofy Brown](#) as they rock the house! [Read More](#)

In Memoriam

A HOMECOMING HONOR FOR CAROL PAULINE DESHAZOR



With saddened hearts Nursha Project honors Carol Pauline DeShazor who is Nursha Project Artist's Thandiwe Thomas DeShazor's grandmother. Carol Pauline passed away last month. When Thandiwe was 5 years old, his Grandma was the first person to put him in front of an audience. Thandiwe acknowledges, "If it wasn't for her charm, wit and loving prayers, I wouldn't be the person I am today." Thandiwe dedicates his solo show, "Children of the Last Days" to the memory of his Grandmother.

May her memory continue to inspire Thandiwe and all those who's lives have been enriched by her spirit.

argins of society and who are not represented in data collected by institutions such as the Census Bureau. Misinformation, injudicious truths, and unanswered questions delving into every issue from abortion to illegal immigrants, have guided many of the perspectives floating about regarding Obama's health plan, all of which have been used to prey on public confidence and contributed to the insecurities we feel around the government. To address some of the myths surrounding healthcare reform, let's take a look at three fictitious characters whose changing circumstances will be impacted by the proposed healthcare plan.

Meet Margo*, an artist. Margo is 39, has been self-employed since her divorce six years ago, and is struggling to make ends meet. Then there is Bill*. Bill is 19 and HIV-positive. He has been touring with ABC Dance Company for the last 2 years and receives health insurance through the company. The tour is over. Lastly, there is the freelance writer, Rain*. Rain is 42, a mother of three, and works part time outside of the home. These scenarios will guide my analyses and interpretation of some of the most relevant conditions in the healthcare reform plan.

*(Fictitious names for hypothetical circumstances, do not reflect any factual persons)

Lets look at Margo again. She is an artist. Margo is 39, has been self-employed since her divorce six years ago, and is struggling to make ends meet. Margo had insurance, but due to high premiums, has been unable to manage the costs. Now she has pain in her wrists and arms and can't afford to pay for healthcare a-la-carte⁵, so she takes over-the-counter painkillers to get through the days.

Then there is Bill*. Bill is 19 and HIV-positive. He has been touring with ABC Dance Company for the last 2 years and receives health insurance through the company. The tour is over. Bill can either maintain the coverage for a premium he cannot afford, or he can let payments lapse. Bill's HIV status is considered a pre-existing health condition⁶, and as a result, many insurance companies will not cover him at all, or will cover him at a higher rate. Because he is currently out of school and has had his own insurance, Bill does not qualify as a dependent on his parents' policy and will have to tap into his savings to keep up his premiums for as long as he can afford to do so.

Lastly, there is the freelance writer, Rain*. Rain is 42, a mother of three, and works part time outside of the home. Her husband was recently laid off, and insurance through his job will be ending within 6 months. They do not qualify for any state-run insurance programs because they fall outside of the income brackets. Rain cannot afford self-insured premiums from her meager earnings, so they shop for coverage, research health co-ops⁷, and hope to find viable options before their insurance (through the husband's job) lapses.

The aforementioned scenarios will guide analyses and interpretation of some of the most relevant conditions in the healthcare reform plan.

1-Premium discrimination based on age, gender, and pre-existing conditions will be eliminated, and it will be against the law for insurance companies to deny one's access to premiums based

on health reasons and risks. Furthermore, insurance companies will no longer be able to drop coverage when customers become sick and need insurance the most.

This means that regardless of the newly developed pains in her wrists and arms, Margo will be able to navigate the insurance system and find a policy that works for her and does not hike the costs of her premiums because of her medical conditions. As for Bill, his pre-existing condition (HIV) will not prevent him from acquiring a manageable policy that he can afford, and even though he is only 19, he won't have to pay a policy that is significantly higher because of his age.

2-The plan is also intended to limit out-of-pocket expenses as well as eliminate excess costs for preventative medicine such as flu shots and mammograms.

As a result of this condition, Margo, Bill, and Rain will all

be able to seek preventive medical services before any of their health conditions worsen. In addition, all three individuals will have to worry less about going broke due to high premium costs.

3-It allows for people without insurance and small businesses to shop for policies at competitive prices as to eliminate the monopoly on insurance programs that exists currently. The plan also provides tax credits to individuals so they can purchase insurance policies and to small businesses so they can provide employees with benefits. Additionally, the bill requires employers to either offer private health insurance coverage or pay a percentage of their payroll expenses to help finance a public plan. The 8 percent payment would indeed apply to employers with payrolls over \$400,000 in the previous year, and lesser amounts would apply to smaller firms. Those with payrolls of \$250,000 or less would pay nothing. But the penalty isn't incurred if an employer "does not offer the public option," as it has been purported. Rather, it would be a penalty for not offering health insurance to employees⁹.

This means that Margo, Bill, and Rain will find ways in which they can subsidize their insurance policies. Furthermore, even though Rain only works part time outside her home, her employer may now be able to provide her with some insurance because of the newly earned tax credits. Margo, who is self-employed, will also be able to purchase a policy that acknowledges her status as a small business owner; this way, she won't rack up debts associated with exorbitant premium fees.

Other myths that need to be debunked include those surrounding abortion and illegal immigrants. The bill has proposed the following on the two topics:

4-On abortion, the plan explains that The Capps Amendment¹⁰ prohibits the use of public money to pay for abortions, except in cases of rape, incest, and to save the life of the mother. This would still allow the public healthcare plans to cover all abortions, so long as the plans bring in enough private money in the form of premiums paid by individuals or their employers.

Last but not least, illegal immigrants will not be covered under the Obama healthcare reform. The bill states, "Nothing in this subtitle shall allow Federal payments for affordability credits on behalf of individuals who are not lawfully present in the United States." And, current law prohibits illegal immigrants from participating in government health care programs¹¹.

Contrary to what nay-sayers would have the public believe, there are lots of redeeming qualities about healthcare reform in the United States. After all, it attempts to correct a longstanding problem in our nation's history, the problem of the uninsured and the underinsured and an issue of access in marginalized communities. One may even argue that since our nation was founded on personal freedoms and liberties, we deserve access to basic healthcare, and that we are all morally obligated to support the empowerment and the better health of our neighbors. Nevertheless, the reform is far from perfect, as some politicians argue that it will contribute to our national debt and deficit. In the end however, the president vows to keep the process "open, inclusive, and transparent" ¹²and to encourage a bipartisan dialogue and solution to the healthcare problem.

For more information on Obama's healthcare reform, I recommend you visit www.whitehouse.gov.

¹ H.R. 3200 refers to the Obama healthcare reform plan, also known as America's Affordable Health Choices Act of 2009. (<http://www.opencongress.org/bill/111-h3200/text>)

² http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/health_care/

³ http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fy2010_key_healthcare/

⁴ <http://www.nchc.org/facts/coverage.shtml>

⁵ Healthcare a la carte refers to the process by which low-cost health services are offered to patients in exchange for cash, credit card, or check payments at the time of service in order to eliminate the bureaucratic procedures embedded in reimbursement by health insurance and HMO companies. (<http://www.fastcompany.com/blog/heath-row/healthcare-la-carte>)

6 A pre-existing condition is defined as a medical condition that exists before one attains medical insurance or coverage. In most cases, there is about a 12-month waiting period, meaning if an insurance company provides coverage, they may opt not to cover the pre-existing condition for about a year. The rationale for this is that insurance needs to be had before an injury or accident occurs-a pre-existing condition does not adhere to this guideline. (healthinsurance.about.com)

7 Health co-ops are non-profit driven insurance programs that were intended to create competition for private insurance sectors. (<http://www.healthdemocracy.org/>)

8 http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/health_care/plan/

9 <http://factcheck.org/2009/08/twenty-six-lies-about-hr-3200>

10 <http://www.rhrealitycheck.org>

11 <http://factcheck.org/2009/08/twenty-six-lies-about-hr-3200/>

12 http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/health_care/

Click here to [send us your thoughts](#) on the above.
Select responses will be shared in our next newsletter.

[Forward email](#)

SafeUnsubscribe®

This email was sent to jrosenfeld.nyc@gmail.com by nursha@nurshaproject.com.
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by



Nursha Project | 1125 16th St. #3 | Oakland | CA | 94607