## **JAIME GUERRERO**

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## L.A. Artist Jaime Guerrero Helps Diversify the World of Glass Art Students from South Central to play with fire at international art event

June 1, 2015 – Los Angeles, CA - Glass artist <u>Jaime Guerrero</u> is bringing students from the underserved Watts district of Los Angeles to the international stage at the <u>44<sup>th</sup> annual Glass Art</u> <u>Society Conference</u> taking place June 5-7, 2015 in San Jose, CA. This will be the students' first exposure to the wider world of glass art where they plan to give a live glassblowing demonstration in the <u>Hot Shop at San Jose State University</u> on June 5 from 8-10 am.

As a teacher at the community organization <u>Watts Labor Community Action Committee</u> (WLCAC), Guerrero taught the intricate art of glass blowing to students aged 12-25. Although their glass center has closed, Guerrero is committed to supporting the growth of underserved students with an opportunity to participate in this international art event.

"Glass art is a privileged medium because it is very expensive and not everyone has access to it. I consider myself very fortunate and feel that it's my duty to share this resource with underserved youth. It helps make the glass world a little more diverse and gives youth an opportunity to express themselves in this unique way," explains Guerrero.

The students' demo is part of the three day conference, *Interface: Glass, Art and Technology*, taking place in the heart of Silicon Valley. The event gathers artists, collectors and art professionals from around the world to explore the convergence of the tech world and innovations in glass art.

As a participating artist Guerrero is excited to join the *Forum on At-Risk Youth* on Saturday, June 6 about the need and opportunities for diversity in glass art, along with representatives from other youth programs from across the country.

Guerrero is an award winning artist. Born in Los Angeles, he received his BFA from the California College of the Arts. He studied with master artists including Checco Ongaro, Pino Signoretto and Ben Moore. Currently, Guerrero is producing work that embodies the juxtaposition between ancient ideas and contemporary symbols .Guerrero will be exhibiting his own blown and sculpted glass work as part of <u>"Breaking Point" at MACLA</u> (*Movimeinto de Arte y Cultura Latina Americana*) with fellow artist, Viviana Paredes. Opening June 5 with a reception from 6-11 pm.

**The Glass Art Society (GAS)** is an international non-profit organization founded to support the worldwide community of artists who work with glass. The 44th annual conference, <u>Interface: Glass,</u> <u>Art, and Technology</u> will be held in San Jose, California June 5-7, 2015. <u>www.glassart.com</u>

**Student Demonstration**: Friday, June 5, 8:00 am – 10:00 am **Location**: SJSU, Industrial Studies Building, Bldg 32. Closest to corner of 9<sup>th</sup> St. and San Fernando in downtown San Jose. <u>Detailed directions</u>

Forum on At-Risk Youth: Saturday, June 6 11:30 am – 1:00 pm Location: City National Civic Venue Map