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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
**“Second Saturday Family Arts Day”**  
**Black History Month**  
**Saturday, February 9, 2007 2-4pm**

Join the Humboldt Arts Council and the Morris Graves Museum of Art as they celebrate **Black History Month** at **Second Saturday Family Arts Day!** Saturday, February 9, 2007, from 2 to 4 p.m. This Saturday's presenters will include **West African Drum and Dance with Maria Young** from 2:15-2:45pm in the Performance Rotunda, **Stories of Love from North Coast Storyteller Anita Punla** from 3:00-3:30 pm in the Performance Rotunda, **The Quilting of Gee's Bend** with Lindsay Coats from 2-4pm in the Youth Classroom, and **Art Activities for Valentines Day** with Humboldt State's Communication 422 students!

***West African Drum and Dance***

Come learn West African Dance to live drumming with Maria Young. The class will be co-taught by local dance teacher Dulce Cavallo. Maria Young teaches West African Dance accompanied by live “dunun” and “djembe” drums from Guinea. She began studying 13 years ago in Santa Cruz and began teaching 7 years ago. She has taught at several dance centers, health clubs, schools, and community centers. She gives thanks to her teachers: Allasan Kane, Youssouf Koumbassa, and Djibril Camara. She encourages all ages and levels to celebrate life through this joyous and liberating dance.

***Stories of Love from North Coast Storyteller Anita Punla***

Anita was first introduced to the power of story in the early 1990's when she heard storyteller Clarissa Pinkola Estes speak on her book "Women Who Run with the Wolves". With the birth of her daughter She'ifa, she was motivated to find and tell stories of wisdom and enchantment. "I began storytelling in schools and the Eureka Library in 2000 with my program for children called "Drumming Up a Story". Storytelling is a way of gently sharing different perspectives from many cultures and generations, and has become a way of clarifying my own understandings. As a member of the Northcoast Storytellers, I welcome opportunities to give the gift of story."

***The Quilting of Gee's Bend***

Learn about the quilting of Gee's Bend from artist Lindsay Coats and create your own quilt. Special thanks to Brenda Lou Scott of Scottie Dog Quilts offering Quilting Fabrics, Supplies, Classes & Retreats! Gee's Bend is located in southwest Alabama on a sliver of land five miles long and eight miles wide, a virtual island surrounded by a bend in the Alabama River. Without a ferry service for decades, the residents were confined by the river unless they made the hour-long drive to the county seat of Camden, directly across the river from Gee's Bend. Gee's Bend was named after Joseph Gee, the first white man to stake a claim there in the early 1800s. The Gee family sold the plantation to Mark Pettway in 1845. Most of the approximately 750 people who live in Gee's Bend today are descendants of slaves on the former Pettway plantation. Their forebears continued to work the land as tenant farmers after emancipation, and many eventually bought the farms from the government in the 1940s. Isolated geographically, the women in the community created quilts from whatever materials were available, in patterns of their own imaginative design. Like many American quilters, the women transformed a necessity into a work of art....Cited from [www.npr.org](http://www.npr.org)

***Thanks to Our Sponsors...***

The Humboldt Arts Council would like to recognize our Second Saturday Family Arts Day Underwriters: AG Edwards, Citigroup, Living Education and Arts Foundation, McLean Foundation, Sidney Stern Memorial Trust, Umpqua Bank, US Bank and Humboldt Radiology. Thank you for all of your support!

Family Arts Day is every second Saturday of the month. To be a presenter or for more information about Family Arts Day contact Rebecca Cacciari at 707.442.0278, ext. 201. The Morris Graves Museum of Art is located at 636 F St., Eureka, Ca.

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*The Humboldt Arts Council is dedicated to providing leadership in support of the rich heritage  
of North Coast arts and to bringing this legacy fully into community life.*