



400 Broadway
New York, NY 10013
Voice: 212.334.7940
Email: apicha@apicha.org
Web: www.apicha.org

Free & Confidential HIV Testing
1.866.274.2429
Primary Healthcare Clinic
212.334.6029

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Contact:

Rafael Flores
646.884.5383
rflores@apicha.org

**APICHA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER TO HOST WORLD AIDS DAY
PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT**

To Feature Work of Filipino Artist and HIV/AIDS Activist Niccolo Cosme

New York, NY – In honor of World AIDS Day 2012, APICHA Community Health Center will host a World AIDS Day Photography Exhibit on Thursday, November 29, 2012 from 6-8pm in its space at 400 Broadway. The event is free and open to the public.

“As an organization founded to combat HIV within marginalized populations in New York City, and one that continues to provide HIV prevention and treatment services to thousands of patients each year, we want this event to provide the community with a space to reflect upon World AIDS Day and the significance it has for them,” explains Teresita R. Rodriguez, Chief Executive Officer. “We also want to provide attendees with information on the latest approaches for HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, and to describe the services available at APICHA that address the epidemic.”

The photos in the exhibit serve as part of Cosme’s “Project Headshot Clinic,” an international campaign that uses headshots of a diverse group of community members and HIV advocates who are committed to raising awareness around HIV/AIDS. As part of this campaign, all photo subjects will be asked to post their headshots on social media platforms such as Facebook on December 1, 2012. This, Cosme believes, will promote World AIDS Day around the world and encourage people to get tested for HIV and learn more about the disease.

“The epidemic cannot be treated with silence,” says Rodriguez. “Taking part in the Project Headshot Clinic raises the voice of advocacy, and we are grateful that Niccolo and the participants of his project are helping us amplify HIV/AIDS awareness that is needed in our community.”

This year, Project Headshot Clinic will feature over 300 photos of individuals from several international cities, including New York, Manila, and San Francisco. These photos are bound by the theme of “Unite,” which calls people together in support of the UNAIDS vision of “Zero HIV transmission, Zero Discrimination and Zero AIDS-related deaths.” APICHA’s exhibit will feature a majority of the Project Headshot Clinic photos taken in New York City.

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ABOUT APICHA

Founded in 1989, APICHA provides comprehensive primary care and other medical services including mental health, STD, Hepatitis, and enabling services targeted to Asian & Pacific Islanders, the LGBT community, and individuals living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. Over the last twenty two years, APICHA has grown from a grassroots HIV prevention-focused organization into a patient-centered medical home which has been recognized with the highest level 3 Patient-Centered Medical Home qualification by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). Last year, APICHA has served over 2,600 patients, mostly people of color, LGBTQ and low income individuals in New York City. APICHA is staffed with a multi-lingual, multi-cultural staff fluent in 21 languages including various Asian languages, Spanish, Romanian, Italian and American Sign Language. It has recently opened its doors to a Trans Health clinic, which addresses the specific medical needs of people of the trans experience, including individuals who identify as transgender, gender variant, gender queer, or gender non-conforming.

For more information, please visit www.apicha.org