

# LAWNDALE ART CENTER

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Lawndale Art Center

Presents

### A new mural by Otabenga Jones & Associates

on view

**February 28, 2014 – January 10, 2015**

**Opening Reception February 28, 2014, 6:30 - 8:30 PM**

**Artist talks at 6 PM**

### *The People's Plate* • Otabenga Jones & Associates

North Exterior Wall

*Houston, Texas* – Lawndale Art Center is pleased to announce the 2014 mural at Lawndale Art Center will feature Otabenga Jones & Associates. This project will be the fourth mural at Lawndale Art Center.

Through a collaborative art project/public health program, Otabenga Jones & Associates will attempt to mitigate the ongoing health crisis of obesity and its related risks. The Collective will create a public mural at Lawndale Art Center along with a series of adjacent programs, kicking off a year-long commitment to health education. Programs will include cooking classes, a foraging workshop, an urban gardening workshop, an instructional cooking video and a line of mass produced lunchboxes that will be made available to the public. Inspired by the Black Panther Free Breakfast for School Children Program, which saw the Panthers cooking and serving breakfast to poor inner city children, the Collective aims to provide at-risk community members with a set of tools that will encourage self-sufficiency and empowerment in terms of maintaining their own health through food choices, while building community.

The new mural, titled *The People's Plate*, will open along with four exhibitions on **Friday, February 28, 2014, 6:30 - 8:30 PM**, with artist talks beginning at **6 PM**. The mural will remain on view until January 10, 2015.

*The People's Plate* is a project of [Creative Capital](#).

*This project is generously sponsored by [Kinzelman Art Consulting](#).*

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## ABOUT THE ARTISTS:

**Otabenga Jones & Associates** is a Houston-based educational art organization founded in 2002 by artist and educator Otabenga Jones in collaboration with members Dawolu Jabari Anderson, Jamal Cyrus, Kenya Evans, and Robert A. Pruitt, among others. The group's pedagogical mission, manifested in the form of actions, writings, and installations, is threefold: to underscore the challenging intricacies of representation across the African Diaspora; to establish a cross generational progression emanating from the transatlantic experience; and, as they write in their mission statement, quoting from Sam Greenlee's 1969 classic satirical novel *The Spook Who Sat by the Door*, "to mess wit' whitey."

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<b>About Lawndale:</b>	Lawndale Art Center develops local contemporary artists and the audience for their art. Lawndale is dedicated to the presentation of contemporary art with an emphasis on work by Houston artists. Lawndale presents exhibitions, lectures and events, and offers an annual residency program to further the creative exchange of ideas among Houston's diverse artistic, cultural and student communities.
<b>Address:</b>	4912 Main St., Houston, TX 77002
<b>For More Info:</b>	<a href="http://www.lawndaleartcenter.org">www.lawndaleartcenter.org</a> or <a href="mailto:askus@lawndalwartcenter.org">askus@lawndalwartcenter.org</a>
<b>Gallery Hours:</b>	Monday-Friday, 10-5; Saturday, 12-5; Closed Sunday
<b>Admission:</b>	Free
<b>Press Contact:</b>	Dennis Nance, 713-528-5858, <a href="mailto:dnance@lawndaleartcenter.org">dnance@lawndaleartcenter.org</a>

Programs at Lawndale are supported in part by The National Endowment for the Arts, Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The City of Houston through the Houston Museum District Association, The Texas Commission on the Arts, Houston Endowment, The Brown Foundation, Inc., The John R. Eckel, Jr. Foundation, The John P. McGovern Foundation, The Joan Hohlt and Roger Wich Foundation, Art Colony Association, John M. O'Quinn, Cecily E. Horton, Ann W. Harithas, Diana M. Hudson and Lee Kaplan, Julia and Luke Burke, Monica Rios and Colin Fulton, Bruce Eames, Anita and David Garten, Felvis Foundation/David R. Graham, Samantha Schnee and Michael Hafner, Henke Law Firm LLP, Jenny and Mark Johnson, Gretchen and Andrew McFarland, Paula Murphy, Nicole and Joey Romano, Scott Sparvero, Mary Martha and Joel Staff, Lia and David Rodi, TeleFlex, United Airlines, Kinzelman Art Consulting, Page, Poggenpohl Design Studio, Saint Cloud and other contributors, memberships, benefit events and many volunteers.

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