

Hamilton Fish Park Branch of the NYPL Presents *Staying Alive*

Hamilton Fish Park Branch of the NYPL is delighted to present *Staying Alive*, a vibrant selection of artwork and photography by four young, talented urban artists.

Hailing from Santiago, Chile, Sofia Gallardo creates whimsical characters, ranging from cartoon-like portraits of her friends and family members to enchanting renditions of sea creatures. Following two years of art studies in Santiago, Sofia currently attends Queensborough Community College.



Jonathan “Chino” Garcia left his home in El Salvador for the U.S. three years ago. During these past three years, he has become actively involved in New York City’s legendary hip-hop scene. A multi-talented break-dancer and graffiti writer, Chino has appeared in various videos and is beginning to exhibit his artwork in galleries. His favorite artists include: Blaze, Cope2, Can2, Seen and Mr. Wany. This past June, Chino graduated from Flushing International High School.

Lower East Side native Tara Murray always loved taking photos. About two years ago, she turned her lens to street art and graffiti. “The art on the walls is so alive,” she says. “It makes me see my city in different ways.” The photos featured in this exhibit were taken at 5Pointz in Long Island City and in South Williamsburg. Tara has also been involved in curating and installing exhibits at Hamilton Fish for the past two years. A graduate of Marta Valle Secondary School, Tara currently attends LaGuardia Community College.

A second-generation graffiti writer, Nelson “Chief” Seda is quickly becoming a legend in his own time. “I like old school coloring and new school lettering,” he explains. Both a celebrated B-Boy and writer, Nelson has performed in countless venues throughout the city, and his artwork has been featured in various spaces including the Bronx Museum of the Arts “Graffiti keeps me alive,” he says. “And I will live on through my art.”

A reception for the artists, along with performances by the Lethal Weaponz Crew and Nelson “Chief” Seda, will be held on Thursday, October 8th from 5-7pm.

Coordinated by Lois Stavsky with Aaron Williams aka Kove, the exhibit continues through December 17th. Hamilton Fish Park Branch of the NYPL, located at 415 East Houston Street, is open Mondays & Wednesdays 10-6, Tuesdays & Thursdays 10-8, and Fridays & Saturdays 10-5.

For further information, contact Rodger Taylor at 212.673.2290 or Lois Stavsky at 917.562.8468.