



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 8, 2019**

Contact: Shirley Verrico, Curator  
Buffalo Arts Studio 2495 Main Street, Suite 500  
Buffalo, New York 14214  
(716) 833-4450  
[www.buffaloartsstudio.org](http://www.buffaloartsstudio.org)

SECOND ANNUAL PANTHFRICA CELEBRATION  
AUGUST 23, 2019, 5:00-8:00PM  
PART OF M&T FOURTH FRIDAYS AT TRI-MAIN CENTER



BUFFALO, NY – Buffalo Arts Studio is pleased to announce our programming for M&T Fourth Friday in August with the **Second Annual Panthfrica Celebration**. This celebration includes both visual and performing arts and will take place on Friday, August 23, 2019, 5:00-8:00 pm.

Panthfrica is a collective of black creatives that transform and empower communities through the arts and entrepreneurship by partnering with community arts organizations to present special events that reflects the Afrofuturist view of a powerful, heroic future for people of color while also sharing music and spoken word rooted in African traditions.

The Panthfrica Celebration coincides with *Black Imaginings*, a solo exhibition by Stacey Robinson (Urbana-Champaign, Ill) whose work discusses ideas of “Black Utopias” and Afrofuturism as decolonized spaces of peace. Also on display is *Night Boy* by Black Kirby, a collaboration between Robinson and John Jennings (Riverside, CA) based on their most recent project *Night Boy*, a graphic novel that tells the story of a young victim of police brutality who becomes a pawn in a supernatural power struggle, and a guardian of the City of Light.



# Buffalo Arts Studio

In the Community Space Gallery, *A Leap of Faith into a Galactic Adventure Story*, will showcase artwork by students who participated in a week-long workshop with Stacey Robinson: Ryan Dalglish, Faith Danahy, Serenity Degraffenried, Lucy Dietrich, Carly Glashauser, Abdu I Habeeb, Demetrius Hall, Elijah Jones, Grace Lewonka, Marieme Mbaye, and Kaela Wallace. These students developed graphic novel sequences based on *Night Boy* to create original artwork inspired by Black Kirby's bold forms, combining themes centered around Afrofuturism, social justice, representation, and magical realism. This celebration will also feature music and a live performance from The Night Boy & Friends workshop and powered by Team Radio.

*High-resolution images are available upon request*

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*Buffalo Arts Studio is a not-for-profit arts organization whose mission is to provide affordable studio space and regular public exposure for regional, national, and international artists through exhibitions, and to enrich the community with art classes, mural programs, and public art. Buffalo Arts Studio is located at 2495 Main Street, Suite 500, Buffalo, NY 14214. The gallery is open Tuesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.*

*Buffalo Arts Studio receives major visual arts support from:*

*The Cameron and Jane Baird Foundation, Erie County Cultural Funding, John R. Oishei Foundation, Open Buffalo, Vogt Family Foundation, Sam Magavern and Monica Angle, New York State Assembly Majority Leader Crystal Peoples-Stokes, The National Endowment for the Arts, and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.*

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