

Art Exhibition/Visiting Artist:
Claudia Alvarez 'History of Immigration'

Exhibition March 14 – April 9, 2012 @ the Gallery of Art & Design
Metropolitan Community College, Elkhorn Valley Campus

Public Artist Lecture: March 14, 4-5:00pm
Opening Reception: March 14, 5-7:00 pm
Visiting Artist March 14 – March 16

History of Immigration celebrates the artwork and perspectives of New York based artist, Claudia Alvarez. Alvarez was born in Monterrey, Mexico. At the age of three, she immigrated with her family to the United States. Her exhibition at Metropolitan Community College's Gallery of Art & Design will include several installations of ceramic figures that address her thoughts on the evolution of immigration in the world and how it affects the human condition. Her work uses figurative ceramic sculpture, often in the form of children, to address issues of humanity.

"The exhibition titled, *History of Immigration* is not an attempt to describe, explain, or tell the story of the history of immigration, rather its intention is to open a more intimate dialogue to question, respond to, and re-look at immigration in groups of people throughout the world." -Alvarez

Alvarez will be a Visiting Artist at the college, working with art students, as well as the Institute for Cultural Connections during her visit. She will be giving a public lecture on Wednesday, March 14 from 4-5:00 pm on Metropolitan Community College's Elkhorn campus, room 114. Directly following the lecture, 5-7:00 pm, Alvarez will be honored at the opening reception of her solo exhibition, *History of Immigration*, in the Gallery of Art & Design. Food and drink will be served. Both events are free and open to the public.

Alvarez received her BA from the University of California, Davis and her MFA from California College of Arts in San Francisco, California. She spent most of her life in California until 2005 when she was awarded a residency at the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts in Omaha, Nebraska. Her time is now divided between Omaha and New York City. Her work has been exhibited in the United States, Europe, and Mexico.

History of Immigration is an exhibition and Visiting Artist program that is one of a kind, bringing awareness of humanity and cultural issues to the Omaha community through creativity and interaction.

Metropolitan Community College's Gallery of Art & Design is a non-profit art center located on the Elkhorn Valley Campus, 204th street & Dodge.

Gallery Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, Saturday 12:00 pm- 5:00 pm

All gallery events and programs are free and open to the public.