

**Museum for African Art**  
(Long Island City, NY)

**Total Award; \$120,000 over 1 year**

*A Congo Chronicle: Patrice Lumumba in Urban Art*

To support the traveling exhibition *A Congo Chronicle: Patrice Lumumba in Urban Art*. These works of art from the Congo's liberation period consist of popular art depicting the political career and tragic death of Patrice Lumumba. This art is the primary medium of urban memory in the Congo and it has been used to effect fundamental change. In a nation where many languages are spoken and literacy is low, graphic images helped keep hope alive in the aftermath of Lumumba's assassination. More than a decade later they were used to affirm values that current leaders seemed to have foresworn. These original paintings were rapidly produced and priced so that a growing urban middle class could afford them. They were also reproduced and hung in the homes of the poor. The Museum for African Art is considering partnerships with four historically Black Colleges that might include: Howard, Fisk, Morehouse, Spelman, and Tuskegee universities as well as small white liberal arts colleges such as Drew University. The museum will oversee the installation and de-installation at each of the chosen venues; provide curriculum materials on-line so that students and visitors can engage in an exploration of how their own symbolic heroes and martyrs were created by the media; they will explore popular celebrity and political influence; examine the tensions between African and African American students that are both cultural and political and provide each venue with fifty copies of the catalogue for the campus library and for use in relevant academic departments.

**Arts and Culture Program: *Objective I, Strategy 1***