PRESS RELEASE

The first of three events celebrating the legacy and lasting influence of the Black Panther Party will take place on Friday May 12 from 6pm to 10pm at the Brecht Forum located at Bank Street and the Westside Hiway.

The evening’s activities will include an historical overview of the origins of the Black Panther Party, it's impact on the rise of revolutionary spirit within post-Civil-Rights Black America, the party’s impact on the New Left movement of the 60s and 70s as well as the deep impressions the Panthers made upon the social movements all over the world.

The May 12th discussion will also focus on the rise of COINTELPRO repression of the Black Panthers and all other Black Liberation and Civil Rights organizations and its meaning for today’s revolutionary work in the US.

In addition, there will be spoken word moments from Black Panther Party members and a short video on the first reunion of Black Panther Women. Special messages are planned from Mumia Abu Jamal and Mutulu Shakur. Former Black Panthers from all over the US are scheduled to stop by these celebrations.

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