



PRESS RELEASE

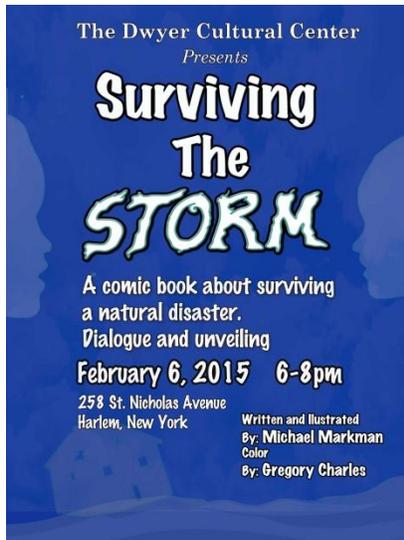
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Surviving the Storm Makes Disaster an Art

Comic Book uses Hurricane Sandy to Teach

New York, January 31, 2015: Artist and Educator Michael Markman will be launching his disaster preparedness comic book, *Surviving the Storm*, on February 6, 2015 at the Dwyer Cultural Center in Harlem from 6pm to 8pm. Admission is Free. *Surviving The Storm* details how a family uses survival skills learned from past generations to brave a natural disaster. The comic includes testimonies from Sandy victims, and artwork that captures the family's fear thanks to the collaboration of Markman and New Jersey artist Gregory Charles. *Surviving The Storm's* unveiling follows the opening of Markman's art exhibition, *Mind Body & Soul*, now showing at the Dwyer Cultural Center through

February 28, 2015.

"When the announcement of a storm hits, like storm Juno did this past week on the east coast, there's usually pandemonium", Markman says. "If you stay prepared by having the necessities in your home the way my mother did growing up, there is no longer this mad dash at the supermarket and supply stores. The comic book opens the discussion on how to prepare in a way that's informative for parents and doesn't scare the children."

About Michael Markman:

Michael Markman is a professional artist and teacher born and raised in New York City has been a resident of Jersey City for 22 years. He holds a BFA from The School of Visual Arts and an MS from Mount Saint Vincent. Markman has participated in The Contemporary Art Fair in New York City, The Harlem Art Tour featured at Martha's Vineyard and Philadelphia. His Illustrations have been published in The Nation, New York News-day and the Jersey City Journal.

- For full bio click here: <http://www.markmandesigns.net/#!/about-michael-markman/c240r>

About the Dwyer Cultural Center:

The DWYER CULTURAL CENTER is a 7000 square foot state of the art facility conveniently located at 258 St. Nicholas Avenue (entrance on 123rd Street), is dedicated to supporting Harlem's artists and arts organizations and promoting the community's cultural life. The DWYER includes a 75- seat multimedia theatre, state-of-the-art exhibition galleries, rehearsal multi use/workshop spaces as well as a new arts industries incubator. Since its opening in 2009, the DWYER CULTURAL CENTER has hosted hundreds of events, performances and exhibitions attended by over 50,000 Harlem residents and visitors from throughout the tri-state region.

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