

# YOUNGARTS



## ABOUT THE NATIONAL YOUNGARTS FOUNDATION

The National YoungArts Foundation was established in 1981 by Lin and Ted Arison to identify and support the next generation of artists and to contribute to the cultural vitality of the nation by investing in the artistic development of talented young artists in the visual, literary, design and performing arts. YoungArts provides emerging artists with life-changing experiences with renowned mentors, access to significant scholarships, national recognition and other opportunities throughout their careers to help ensure that the nation's most outstanding emerging artists are encouraged to pursue careers in the arts.

YoungArts receives more than 11,000 applications annually from 15-18 year old (or grades 10-12) artists across the country, and recognizes approximately 700 winners. To date, YoungArts has honored more than 20,000 young artists with over \$6 million in monetary awards; facilitated in excess of \$150 million in college scholarship opportunities; and enabled its participants to work with master teachers who are among the most distinguished artists in the world, such as Marina Abramović, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Plácido Domingo, Zaha Hadid, Joan Lader, Wynton Marsalis, Robert Redford, Martin Scorsese, Marisa Tomei and Bruce Weber. In addition, YoungArts serves as the exclusive nominating agency for the U.S. Presidential Scholars in the Arts, the country's highest honor for artistically talented high school seniors.



## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

YoungArts is working with world-renowned architect and YoungArts Artistic Advisor Frank Gehry to transform the recently acquired former Bacardi Tower and Museum buildings and three-and-a-half acre campus into its national headquarters, which will support expanded local activities in Miami and across the country. The campus will be a multidisciplinary arts complex with a new Gehry-designed performing arts center and park with state-of-the-art sound and video capabilities. YoungArts will host year-round programming on its campus, including master classes, public screenings and performances, artists in residence and visual arts exhibitions guest-curated by institutions based in Miami, New York, Los Angeles and elsewhere.

*“As much as our remarkable young artists need space to work, to learn and to present their achievements, they also need surroundings that inspire them. This campus is a place that can make their spirits soar and their ambitions a reality.”*

*Lin Arison  
Co-Founder  
National YoungArts Foundation*





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**YOUNG ARTS**  
FOUNDATION

## CAMPUS PROGRAMMING

Since opening the campus for programming in November 2013, YoungArts has debuted the European classical music phenomenon Yellow Lounge in partnership with Universal Music; held a salon with Marina Abramović and partnered in the world premiere of the 3-D film installation *A Portrait of Marina Abramović*; hosted Olafur Eliasson and his *Little Sun* installation as the debut show in the YoungArts Gallery in partnership with MoMA PS1 and Fondation Beyeler; exhibited Robert Indiana's *One, Two and Seven* sculptures on the plaza; held master classes for local music students with jazz great Wynton Marsalis and opera star Plácido Domingo; produced an interdisciplinary performance on the campus with Robert Redford, Will Calhoun, and alumni Dave Eggar and Desmond Richardson; and hosted more than 800 guests for the annual YoungArts Performance and Gala on the campus for the first time.



## NATIONAL YOUNGARTS WEEK

National YoungArts Week is the organization's signature national program, providing the country's most talented young artists in the visual, literary, design and performing arts with life-changing artistic experiences, master classes, workshops, interdisciplinary activities, performances and exhibitions. This week-long program, which takes place in Miami each year, enables approximately 170 YoungArts winners to work with distinguished master teachers and mentors, such as Debbie Allen, Jacques d'Amboise, Frank Gehry, Branford Marsalis, Rita Moreno, Andrew Rannells and James Rosenquist. Like all YoungArts programs, National YoungArts Week is designed to support young artists at a critical juncture in their lives and encourage them to pursue a career in the arts.

*"I feel like it was yesterday I was here for a week and it was a week that absolutely transformed my life. Thank you YoungArts for making me believe in the possibility of my dreams and making me believe that anything is possible."*

*-Kerry Washington  
YoungArts Alumna (1994, Theater)*





## EXPANSION OF REGIONAL PROGRAMS

In 2012, YoungArts expanded its regional and year-round programming by extending recognition and artistic experiences to more young artists throughout the nation. Modeled after National YoungArts Week, the programs in Miami, Los Angeles and New York offer emerging talents life-changing workshops and master classes with renowned artists in their fields, such as Thom Collins, Renée Fleming, Bill T. Jones, Phylicia Rashad, Rosie Perez, Desmond Richardson and Rebecca Walker.

Throughout the week, artists also get a chance to showcase their talents through performances, exhibitions and readings at some of the most prestigious arts centers in the country, including the New World Center (Miami), the Los Angeles Theatre Center (Los Angeles) and the Museum of Modern Art (New York).





## EXCLUSIVE PATH TO THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS IN THE ARTS

At the request of the Commission on Presidential Scholars, which is appointed by the President of the United States, YoungArts serves as the exclusive nominating agency for the U.S. Presidential Scholars in the Arts, the country's highest honor for artistically-talented high school seniors. Each year, 20 YoungArts winners are chosen as U.S. Presidential Scholars in the Arts and have the opportunity to showcase their work at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts or the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. They also receive a Presidential Medal and have an opportunity to visit the White House.

YoungArts is continuing to build on its signature annual events for the U.S. Presidential Scholars in the Arts with additional performance and exhibition opportunities for its alumni in Washington, D.C.

*"I am speechless right now; I am still on cloud nine. I can't believe I made it all the way to the White House. From YoungArts Week, I performed in New York, and now I'm going to the Kennedy Center and the White House... an experience like this is something to be proud of!"*

*- Ernest Felton Baker II,  
YoungArts Alumnus and U.S. Presidential  
Scholar in the Arts (2009, Dance)*





## HBO'S *YOUNGARTS* MASTERCLASS AND PURSUING YOUR PASSION DVD & STUDY GUIDE

Some of YoungArts' work is featured in the Emmy-nominated HBO program *YoungArts MasterClass*, which chronicles the work of renowned artists sharing their art and life experiences with YoungArts winners. Previous *YoungArts MasterClass* specials have featured Edward Albee, Jacques d'Amboise, Plácido Domingo, Olafur Eliasson, Renée Fleming, Frank Gehry, Josh Groban, John Guare, Bill T. Jones, Patti LuPone, Wynton Marsalis, Bobby McFerrin, James Rosenquist, Julian Schnabel, Anna Deavere Smith, Michael Tilson Thomas, Kathleen Turner, Liv Ullmann and Bruce Weber. Upcoming programs will feature Alan Alda, Joshua Bell and Robert Redford.

In conjunction with Columbia University's Teachers College, YoungArts also has developed a Study Guide based on *YoungArts MasterClass*, which is distributed free to schools nationwide to help increase arts education and awareness.





## NOTABLE ALUMNI

YoungArts winners represent a dynamic group of artists who go on to become leading professionals in their fields. YoungArts alumni are principal dancers in major companies, members of prominent orchestras and recognizable faces on stage and screen. Their books are on *The New York Times* bestseller list. Their artwork hangs in the world's most distinguished museums. They have garnered Academy, Emmy, Grammy and Tony nominations and awards.

YoungArts alumni who have become leading professionals in their fields include actors Viola Davis, Anna Gunn, Adrian Grenier, Andrew Rannells, Max Schneider, Kerry Washington and Vanessa Williams; four-time Tony Award nominee Raúl Esparza; Chief Executive Officer of American Ballet Theatre Rachel Moore; recording artists Josh Groban, Judith Hill, Nicki Minaj and Chris Young; Metropolitan Opera star Eric Owens; musicians Terence Blanchard, Gerald Clayton and Jennifer Koh; choreographer Desmond Richardson; visual artist Hernan Bas; internationally-acclaimed multimedia artist Doug Aitken; *New York Times* bestselling author Sam Lipsyte; and Academy Award-winning filmmaker Doug Blush.



# YOUNGARTS NOTABLE ALUMNI



**DOUG AITKEN**  
1986 Visual Arts



**HERNAN BAS**  
1996 Photography



**TERENCE BLANCHARD**  
1981 Music



**VIOLA DAVIS**  
1983 Theater



**RAÚL ESPARZA**  
1988 Theater



**KATIE FINNERAN**  
1989 Theater



**ALLEGRA GOODMAN**  
1985 Writing



**ADRIAN GRENIER**  
1994 Theater



**ROY HARGROVE**  
1988 Jazz



**JENNIFER KOH**  
1994 Music



**ELIZABETH KOSTOVA**  
1983 Writing



**JENNY 8. LEE**  
1994 Writing



**NICKI MINAJ**  
2000 Theater



**RACHEL MOORE**  
1982 Dance



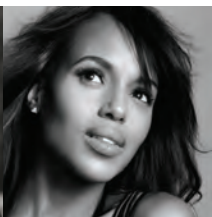
**ANDREW RANNELLS**  
1997 Theater



**DESMOND RICHARDSON**  
1986 Dance



**MAX SCHNEIDER**  
2010 Theater



**KERRY WASHINGTON**  
1994 Theater



**VANESSA WILLIAMS**  
1981 Theater



**CHRIS YOUNG**  
2003 Voice



Melanie Ramos dancing in the Jewel Box during YoungArts Miami. Photo: Jason Koerner







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