

YoungArts 2017

Master Teachers, Selection Panel and National Reviewers

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DIANA ABU-JABER | YoungArts Week Writing Master Teacher | Fort Lauderdale- based author Diana Abu-Jaber's books have been translated into over twenty languages. Her 2016 memoir, *Life Without a Recipe*, described as "a book of love, death, and cake," was an Indie Next title, and named a top pick by *Entertainment Weekly*. Her most recent novel, *Birds Of Paradise*, won the 2012 Arab-American National Book Award, and her 2008 novel *Origin* was named one of the best books of the year by the *LA Times*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and the *Washington Post*. Abu-Jaber's 2004 novel, *Crescent*, won the PEN Center Award for Literary fiction and the American Book Award, and her 2003 novel, *Arabian Jazz* won the Oregon Book award for Literary Fiction. Her cooking memoir, *The Language of Baklava*, won the Northwest Booksellers' Award. *SilverWorld*, a young adult fantasy, will be published by Random House. Abu-Jaber lives in with her family and teaches writing and literature at Portland State University.

DERRICK ADAMS | Visual Arts National Selection Panelist | YoungArts New York Visual Arts Director | Derrick Adams is a multidisciplinary New York-based artist whose practice focuses on the fragmentation and manipulation of structure and surface, exploring self-image and forward projection. A recipient of a 2009 Louis Comfort Tiffany Award, Adams received his M.F.A. from Columbia University and his B.F.A. from Pratt Institute, and is a Skowhegan and Marie Walsh Sharpe alumnus. His exhibition and performance highlights include MoMA PS1, Brooklyn Museum of Art, PERFORMA, Studio Museum in Harlem, Brooklyn Academy of Music, and his work is part of the permanent collection of The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

ABDUL ALI | Writing National Reviewer | Abdul Ali is the author of the 2014 New Issues Poetry Book Prize *Trouble*, and is a teacher of English and Creative Writing. His work has appeared in news outlets including *The Washington Post* magazine and *The Atlantic*. Ali has been honored with two literature fellowships from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, and currently resides in Baltimore, MD where he teaches at The Bryn Mawr School.

KARRIN ALLYSON | YoungArts Week Voice Master Teacher | Five time Grammy nominee Karrin Allyson has released thirteen Jazz vocal albums with Concord Jazz albums, a recent self-produced holiday album, *Yuletide Hideaway* that won four stars from Downbeat. In 2015, she released *Many A New Day: Karrin Allyson Sings Rodgers & Hammerstein*. The collection marks Allyson's debut on the Motéma label, and is a 14-song collection featuring Allyson's romantic, sly and swinging take on songs that have become part of our cultural fabric. Allyson currently lives in New York City, following a childhood in the Midwest, schooling in the Bay Area, degree in classical piano performance and important stints in Minneapolis and Kansas City, where she began her recording career. Allyson currently spends two days out of three on tour, playing the major jazz festivals, concert venues and clubs of the U.S. and making repeated tours overseas — to Brazil, Japan, Australia, and the great cities of Europe.

RYAN AMADOR | Voice National Reviewer | A songwriter since the age of nine, Ryan Amador has released five collections of work in the last six years, including his most recent music project *(IN)BODY*, a co-creation with LA-based producer/ saxophonist Daniel Weidlein. His song "Instead" has over 630,000 listens on Spotify and his YouTube videos, "Define Me" and "Spectrum", have received over 700,000 cumulative views, receiving acclaim from *Huffington Post*, Sirius XM Radio, and Pride Festivals in New York, Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Brisbane, Australia. He has been awarded the Robert Allen Award by ASCAP for the song "Safe in Your Heart" and has been

on the YoungArts Songwriting panel since 2014.

EFRAÍN AMAYA | Classical Music National Selection Panelist | Efraín Amaya began his musical training in Venezuela. In the United States, he earned two Bachelor of Music degrees in composition and piano from Indiana University and a Master's degree in orchestral conducting from Rice University. While in Venezuela, Amaya became the Music Director & Conductor for one of the El Sistema Youth Symphony Orchestras based in the Núcleo La Rinconada. Once back in the U.S., he was named the Resident Conductor and Artist Lecturer in Music Theory at Carnegie Mellon University and Associate Conductor with the Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra. He has also been Music Director & Conductor to the Greensburg American Opera and the Three Rivers Young People's Orchestra, among others. Amaya is on the faculty of Minot State University and has been named the Music Director for the Minot Symphony Orchestra, starting with the 2015-16 Season.

MARIE ARAGO | YoungArts Miami Photography Co-Director | Marie Arago lives in Port-au-Prince, Haiti where she works as a freelance photographer for international publications and organizations. She is also a director and teacher for FotoKonbit, a non-profit initiative she co-founded that teaches photography to youth and adults in Haiti. Arago studied photography at the International Center of Photography and has spent many years traveling and working in Latin America.

KAYCE ARMSTRONG | YoungArts Miami Design Master Teacher | As a designer, musician and entrepreneur, Kayce Armstrong's work fuses Fashion, art and music. While living abroad in Milan, Italy, Armstrong became one of Giorgio Armani fit models, which gave her insight into the fashion world, and hands on experience that continues to inspire her today. In 2013 Armstrong took Miami International Fashion Week by surprise with her unique vision of using unlikely materials to create her collection "AOS," and took home the coveted Designers Choice Award, while her collection "Metemorph-us" received the International Rising Star award. Armstrong's latest collection "Drive" debuted in 2016 at Fort Lauderdale Fashion Week. Originally inspired by the song *Bend*, which was written by her band Aceskully, the song played as the models strutted down the catwalk in original Graphic soy dyed Jackets made from tarp fabric.

ANDREA ASSAF | YoungArts Miami Writing Master Teacher | Andrea Assaf is a writer, performer, director, and cultural organizer. She's the founding Artistic Director of Art2Action Inc., and the National Coordinator of the *Institute for Directing & Ensemble Creation* (an Art2Action collaboration with Pangea World Theater). Through the Building Bridges program, she is currently Artist-in-Residence and guest faculty at the School of Theatre & Dance, University of South Florida (Tampa). Andrea has served as a consultant with the Arts & Democracy Project, Alternate ROOTS, and more. She is a former Artistic Director of New WORLD Theater (2004-2009), and former Program Associate for Animating Democracy (2001-2004). Assaf has a Master's degree in Performance Studies and a B.F.A. in acting, both from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. She currently serves on the Board of CAATA (Consortium of Asian American Theaters & Artists), Alternate ROOTS, and the International Management Committee of WPI (Women Playwrights International, 2012-2015), and is a member of RAWI (Radius of Arab American Writers).

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FIRELEI BÁEZ | YoungArts Week Visual Arts Master Teacher | Firelei Báez was born in Santiago de los Caballeros and lives and works in New York. Báez makes intricate works on paper and canvas that are intrinsically indebted to a rigorous studio practice as well as large scale sculpture. She received an M.F.A. from Hunter College and a B.F.A. from The Cooper Union's School of Art and studied at The Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. Báez has had solo exhibitions at the Utah Museum of Contemporary Art and at Pérez Art Museum Miami, and

has held residencies at The Headlands, The Joan Mitchell Center, The Fine Arts Work Center, The Lower East Side Print Shop, and The Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Workspace. She has been the recipient of the prestigious Joan Mitchell Painters and Sculptors Award, the Jacques and Natasha Gelman Award in Painting, the Catherine Doctorow Prize for Contemporary Painting, and the Chiaro Award from the Headlands. In 2015 The Pérez Art Miami Museum published *Firelei Báez: Bloodlines*, with an introduction by the museum's Director, Franklin Sirmans, an essay by Assistant Curator María Elena Ortiz, an interview with Naima Keith, and a contribution by writer Roxane Gay.

LINA BAHN | YoungArts Week Classical Music Master Teacher | Described as “brilliant” and “lyrical” by the Washington Post, Lina Bahn is a violinist with a keen interest in collaborative and innovative repertoire. She was a member of the award-winning Corigliano Quartet from 1998-2010, and Executive Director/violinist with the VERGE Ensemble at the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, D.C. Currently, she is a member of the Interference Collective, and a founding member of MoVE, a violin quartet dedicated to social change. Solo performances include those at the Phillips Collection, Issue Project Room, Corcoran Gallery of Art, and The Stone. In June 2016, Naxos released her solo album, *Mean Fiddle Summer*. Other appearances include those as guest with the Takacs String Quartet at the Concertgebouw, Strathmore Hall, Carnegie Hall, and Queen Elizabeth Hall. She has taught master classes throughout the world, and was on the faculty of the University of Colorado-Boulder from 2008-2015. She currently teaches at the Thornton School of Music at the University of Southern California.

GERMANE BARNES | YoungArts Miami Design Master Teacher | Germane Barnes' research and design practice investigates the connection between architecture and identity, examining architecture's social and political agency through historical research and design speculation. Learning from historical data and perspectives from within architecture as well as cultural and ethnic studies, he examines how the built environment influences the social and cultural experience. Born in Chicago, IL, Barnes received a Bachelor's of Science in Architecture from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Master of Architecture from Woodbury University where he was awarded the Thesis Prize for his project “Symbiotic Territories: Architectural Investigations of Race, Identity, and Community.” Currently he is the designer in residence for the Opa Locka Community Development Corporation and a lecturer in the School of Architecture at the University of Miami.

IVONNE BATANERO | Dance National Reviewer | Ivonne Batanero was born in Lima, Perú, received her B.F.A. from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, and has studied extensively in Miami with Brigid Baker. Batanero was awarded the 2009 Semans Art Fund to travel to Vienna, Austria to attend Impuls Tanz Vienna International Dance Festival, and in 2011, became the first Miami-based artist to receive a full Adrienne Arsht Center for Performing Arts Scholarship to attend the American Dance Festival. She was commissioned by Miami Light Project in 2012 and 2013 to create work for their annual Here and Now program. In 2015, she toured Lima, Perú to create her first dance on film, and present her solo work, *I Think It's In My Belly*. Batanero is a 2016-2017 recipient of Miami Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs Dance Miami Choreographers' Program, and is currently a Principal Dancer with the Rosie Herrera Dance Theater.

HINTON BATTLE | YoungArts Miami Multidisciplinary Performance Director | Hinton Battle is a three-time Tony Award winner, recognized as one of Broadway's most respected musical stars. After studying at the renowned Jones Haywood School of Ballet in Washington D.C. and School of American Ballet in New York City. Hinton began his career on stage at the age of 15, as the Scarecrow in the Broadway production of *The Wiz*. He has since gone on to build an impressive portfolio of work, dazzling audiences across the country and around the world for over three decades, starring in some of the most memorable musicals, including *Dancin'*, *Dreamgirls*, *Sophisticated Ladies*, *Chicago* (Billy Flynn), *Ragtime* (Coalhouse Walker Jr.), *Miss Saigon* and *The Tap Dance Kid*. He is the recipient of numerous awards honoring his versatility as an entertainer, among them the NAACP Image Award, Midtown International Theatre Festival Award, Fred Astaire Award, Ira Aldridge Award, the Choreographer

Media Honors, Planet Connection Award, the 2012 Champion of the Arts Award from Big Boi's Antwan Patten Big Kidz Foundation, and the Amas 2014 Rosie Award for lifetime achievement in recognition of extraordinary accomplishment in theatrical arts.

BHAKTI BAXTER | YoungArts Miami Visual Arts Master Teacher | Producing works ranging from naturalistic painted portraits of his family members, to collages reminiscent of Henri Matisse's, to surrealistic, mixed-media sculptural assemblages of found objects, Bhakti Baxter deliberately defies categorization, continually experimenting with different materials, techniques, and approaches to making art. He has been a staple of the contemporary art community in his native Miami since the early 1990s, when he and fellow artists Martin Oppel and Tao Rey transformed the lower level of their rented house into an experimental art space, establishing them as dynamic emerging talents and launching their careers. While Baxter's output ranges vastly, his works are linked by an enduring fascination with natural systems, anthropology, global cultures, and the joy he finds in the alchemical process of art-making: "In art, one plus one can equal three any time—when two things come together, magic can happen."

MARTIN BEJERANO | Jazz National Reviewer | A world-class jazz pianist and composer, Martin Bejerano has been a member of jazz legend Roy Hayne's Grammy-nominated quartet for 13 years. He has performed professionally with Christian McBride, Pat Metheny, Dave Holland, Ron Carter, Russell Malone, Roy Hargrove, Ignacio Berroa, and many others. His blossoming solo career includes the release of several albums and performances at festivals and venues worldwide, including the Barquisimeto Jazz Festival, El Hatillo Festival, Festival Miami, Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola, The Jazz Gallery, and Arturo Sandoval's Jazz Club. He has been awarded a New Jazz Works grant from Chamber Music America, a "Bacardi Choice" composition grant from Bacardi, and the Dranoff 2 Piano Foundation. He currently heads the jazz piano department at the University of Miami.

APRIL BENDER | Voice National Reviewer | April Bender is a pop songwriter, vocalist, and vocal producer signed to Glassnote/Insieme Music Publishing. She has written for artists on RCA Records, Universal, Columbia, Warner and more, both in the U.S. and abroad. She is an ASCAP Foundation award winner and a graduate of Berklee College of Music.

IGNACIO BERROA | Jazz National Reviewer | YoungArts Week Jazz Master Teacher | Ignacio Berroa has been recognized as one of the greatest drummers of our time. Born in Havana, Cuba, he moved to New York and joined Dizzy Gillespie's quartet in 1981. As an author and a renowned educator he made his mark with the instructional video *Mastering the Art of Afro-Cuban Drumming* and the books *Groovin' in Clave* and *A New Way of Groovin'*. He also conducts clinics and master classes around the world. In 2007, his first album as a leader, *Codes*, was nominated for a Grammy and won a Danish Music Award as Best International Jazz Album. Berroa has recorded and played with McCoy Tyner, Chick Corea, Wynton Marsalis, Freddie Hubbard, Clark Terry, Jackie McLean, Jimmy Heath, James Moody, Tito Puente, the Lincoln Center Orchestra, WDR Big Band and BBC Big Band, to name a few.

JOANN BIONDI | Writing National Reviewer | A former staff writer for the *Miami Herald*, Joann Biondi has written for dozens of publications including *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *National Geographic* and *Condé Nast Traveler*. She is the author of 15 nonfiction books, most recently *Miami Beach Memories*.

LYDIA BITTNER-BAIRD | YoungArts Week Photography Discipline Coordinator | YoungArts New York Photography Faculty | Lydia Bittner-Baird graduated from The Juilliard School in 2009, and is a photographer and curator who has collaborated on art pieces across the globe. Bittner-Baird is a co-founder and image hunter for Thought Loom, Inc., and has worked with many art organizations in North Carolina, including SOCO Gallery and Goodyear Arts. She is an entrepreneurial creative spirit who is passionate about supporting the development of programs and institutions that impact how communities of artists and audiences experience their art form.

DOUG BLUSH | Cinematic Arts National Selection Panelist | 1984 YoungArts Winner in Cinematic Arts | Doug Blush is an award-winning director, producer, editor, writer and cinematographer whose credits include the 2013 Oscar-winning *20 Feet From Stardom*, for which he also received the ACE Eddie Award for Best Documentary Editing. He is Editor and Associate Producer of the 2012 Oscar-nominated and multiple Emmy Award-winning documentary *The Invisible War* and the documentary *The Hunting Ground*, which aired on CNN in fall 2015. His credits include more than 50 other documentary and narrative features, and television shows. His film *Of Two Minds*, co-directed with his wife Lisa, is an intimate look at three people living with bipolar disorder. It won both the 2013 EIC Prism Award and SAHMSA Voice Award for excellence in films on mental health. Blush has taught at Northwestern University, USC, UCLA and Syracuse University, as well as in Indonesia and Brazil. He currently runs MadPix, Inc.

ANNE BOGART | YoungArts Miami Ansin Stewart Master Teacher | Anne Bogart is a Co-Artistic Director of the ensemble-based SITI Company, head of the M.F.A. Directing program at Columbia University, and author of five books: *A Director Prepares*, *The Viewpoints Book*, *And Then You Act*, *Conversations with Anne* and *What's the Story*. With SITI, Bogart has directed more than 30 works in venues around the world, including *Steel Hammer*, *The Theater is a Blank Page*, *Persians*, *A Rite*, *Café Variations*, *Radio Macbeth*, *American Document*, *bobrauschenbergamerica* and *Hotel Cassiopeia*. Recent opera works include Verdi's *Macbeth*, Bellini's *Norma* and Bizet's *Carmen*. Her many awards and fellowships include three honorary doctorates (Cornish School of the Arts, Bard College, and Skidmore College), A Duke Artist Fellowship, A United States Artists Fellowship, a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Rockefeller/Bellagio Fellowship, and a Robert Rauschenberg Foundation Residency Fellowship.

CORINNE MAY BOTZ | Photography National Selection Panelist | 1995 YoungArts Winner in Photography and U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts | Corinne May Botz is an award-winning photographer who investigates narrative, trauma, and the perception of space in her practice. She has published the books *The Nutshell Studies of Unexplained Death* (Monacelli Press, 2004) and *Haunted Houses* (Monacelli Press, 2010). Botz's photography has been exhibited around the world, including shows at Württembergischer Kunstverein in Stuttgart, Germany, Bellwether Gallery in New York, The Museum of Contemporary Photography in Chicago, and De Appel in Amsterdam. She is the recipient of residencies at Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Atlantic Center for the Arts, and the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. She has received grants from New York Foundation for the Arts and the Jerome Foundation. Corinne is on the faculty of International Center of Photography and John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and is represented by Benrubi Gallery in NYC.

ROGER BONAIR-AGARD | YoungArts Miami Writing Master Teacher | Poet and spoken-word artist Roger Bonair-Agard was born in Trinidad and Tobago and moved to the United States in 1987. His collections of poetry include *Tarnish and Masquerade* (2006); *Gully* (2010) and *Bury My Clothes* (2013), which was a long-list finalist for a National Book Award. He contributed to the collection *Burning Down the House* (2000), a selection of poems from the Nuyorican Poets Cafe. He is a two-time National Poetry Slam champion and has appeared on programs such as HBO's *Def Poetry Jam* and the PBS *NewsHour*, among others. A Cave Canem fellow, Bonair-Agard performs his work and leads workshops internationally. He is writer-in-residence with Vision Into Art and poet-in-residence with Young Chicago Authors. He is the cofounder and artistic director of the louderARTS Project and teaches poetry at the Cook County Temporary Juvenile Detention Facility in Chicago.

J. BOWERS | Writing National Reviewer | J. Bowers is an Assistant Professor of English at Maryville University in St. Louis, MO, where she teaches creative writing, literature, and composition. Her short fiction has appeared in *StoryQuarterly*, *The Indiana Review*, *Oyez Review*, *Redivider*, and many other national journals, in addition to anthologies by Ashland Creek Press, Sundress Publications, and *Zoomorphic*. She was the winner of the 2014

Midwest Short Fiction Prize, and has earned multiple Pushcart Prize nominations. Bowers holds a Ph.D. in English from the University of Missouri, an M.A. in English and creative writing from Hollins University, and a B.A. in the same from Goucher College.

JOANNE BRACKEEN | YoungArts Week Classical Music Master Teacher | JoAnne Brackeen has been described as “a visionary of extraordinary depth” by Tony Bennett and is consistently ranked by critics and jazz magazines as one of the best jazz pianists in the world. Born in Ventura, CA, she taught herself jazz at age eleven by transcribing entire piano solos from recordings. After moving to the Los Angeles area while still in her teens, JoAnne met and played with Scott LaFaro, Charlie Haden, Don Cherry, Billy Higgins, Charles Lloyd, Bobby Hutcherson, Dexter Gordon, and Art Farmer. Throughout her career, Brackeen has operated at full capacity in a male-dominated field, breaking through the glass ceiling and becoming an icon for women in jazz. After gaining distinction as the first and only female member of Art Blakey’s Jazz Messengers (1969-1972), Brackeen went on to perform extensively with Joe Henderson (1972-1975) and Stan Getz (1975-1977). Brackeen continues to tour worldwide and has given concerts at nearly every major concert hall, including Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, Town Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, and Seattle’s Experience Music Project. A consistent innovator and prolific writer, Brackeen has created a library of more than three hundred original works and is currently a Professor at Berklee College of Music.

SARAH BRAUNSTEIN | Writing National Selection Panelist | Sarah Braunstein is the author of *The Sweet Relief of Missing Children*, winner of the 2012 Maine Book Award for Fiction. In 2010, she was named one of “5 Under 35” fiction writers by the National Book Foundation and received a 2007 Rona Jaffe Writer’s Award. Her work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Ploughshares*, *AGNI*, and *The Sun*, among other places. Braunstein is on the faculty of the Stonecoast M.F.A. at the University of Southern Maine, and is currently a Faculty Fellow at Colby College.

LISA BRESCIA | Theater National Selection Panelist | Lisa Brescia is a professional actor and teacher who has worked extensively on Broadway, Off-Broadway and regionally. On Broadway, Brescia starred as Donna Sheridan in *Mamma Mia!*, Elphaba in *Wicked*, Cleo in Twyla Tharp’s *The Times They Are A-Changin’*, Amneris in *AIDA*, and Marion Halcolmbe in *The Woman in White*. She has been teaching and coaching young actors, as well as seasoned professionals for many years in New York, frequently teaching Master Classes at universities, and as head teacher and founder of The Actor’s Playgroup in NYC, a series of clown/improvisation workshops. Brescia was a guest artist at Stephens College (Columbia, MO) throughout the Spring 2016 semester, teaching acting and directing *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. Brescia is an Assistant Professor at Missouri State University’s Department of Theatre and Dance, and is a proud member of Actor’s Equity Association and SAG-AFTRA. She received her M.F.A. in Classical Acting.

LATRICE M. BRUNO | YoungArts Week Dance Discipline Coordinator | Latrice M. Bruno studied musical theatre at New World School of the Arts and graduated from Florida International University. Past performances in South Florida include *Purile*, *Sweet Charity*, *Our Country’s Good* (Aborigine), *Jackie Moms Mabley Live* (Moms), *Bourbon at the Border* (Rosa), *Seven Guitars* (Rosa), *Hampton House* (Dorothy), *Steal Away* (Blue), and *I Ain’t Yo’ Uncle: The New Jack Revisionist Uncle Tom’s Cabin* (Topsy). In addition to her stage credits, Bruno has been a part of numerous dance performances, recitals, and competitions over her 20-year dance career. She is a member of Delou Africa Dance Ensemble, and is currently a dance teacher at Next Generation Dance Academy. Bruno is also a professional teaching artist for Arts For Learning Miami and received the 2011 Arts Hero Award by the Arts and Business Council of Miami-Dade County.

MIKE BUCKLEY | Writing National Reviewer | Mike Buckley is a fiction writer and author of the short story collection *Miniature Men*. His literary fiction has appeared in *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *The Best American Non-Required Reading 2003*, and *The Southern California Review*, among others. His speculative fiction has appeared in *Clarkesworld*, *Daily Science Fiction*, and *Escape Pod*. Buckley has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize twice,

and earned his M.F.A. at California State University, Long Beach.

CHRIS BURBANK | Jazz National Reviewer | Chris Burbank has earned a Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of New Hampshire, a Masters in Jazz Studies from the Juilliard School, and a Doctorate of Musical Arts in Jazz Performance from the University of Miami. Throughout his college studies, he has studied with Clark Terry, Eddie Henderson, Brian Lynch, and Terence Blanchard. While at Juilliard, Burbank was active on the New York City jazz scene, performing at such venues as Dizzy's Coca Cola Club and Smalls Jazz Club. He represented the Juilliard Jazz program as part of their jazz education tours in Costa Rica, Japan, and Spain. He performed at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival and the Monterey Jazz Festival. Burbank was selected as a semifinalist for the 2014 Thelonious Monk International Jazz Trumpet Competition in Los Angeles, CA, and was selected for assignment to the United States Naval Academy Band in 2015.

MELISSA BURLEY | Writing National Reviewer | Melissa Burley's poetry, prose poetry, interviews, and short stories have appeared in *Tigertail*, *Flamenco*, *Mangrove*, and *Metromorphosis*. She is currently a Composition Lecturer at the University of Miami and is at work on her second novel.

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SHARI LYNETTE CARPENTER | Cinematic Arts National Selection Panelist | Shari Lynette Carpenter is an award winning New York based writer/director whose films have screened at film festivals worldwide. She is a Rockefeller grant nominee, an ABC Writer Development Fellow, an ABC Daytime Directing Apprentice, an IFP Project Involve: NY Fellow. Carpenter recently sold her romantic comedy screenplay, *32-21-42*, which she will also direct. She is currently in development with TV One on a new project entitled *Italian Valentine*.

RYAN P. CASEY | Dance National Reviewer | 2009 YoungArts Winner in Dance | Ryan P. Casey is an award-winning tap dancer, teacher, choreographer, and dance writer who was named one of *Dance Magazine's* "25 to Watch" in 2015, and one of Boston's "25 Most Innovative People Under 25." He has danced for Michelle Dorrance, Aaron Tolson, Billy Siegenfeld, and Adrienne Hawkins. With his company, Off Beat, he has presented work at numerous venues and festivals, including the Inside/Out Series at Jacob's Pillow. A regular contributor to *Dance Studio Life Magazine* and *Dance Magazine*, he also choreographs for the University of Connecticut Tap Team. Casey is a proud Capezio Athlete, and alumnus of the National YoungArts Foundation, The School at Jacob's Pillow, Legacy Dance Company and NYU's Gallatin School of Individualized Study.

JUAN CASTAÑO | Dance National Reviewer | Juan Castaño is Managing Director, co-founder, and a dancer with Calpulli Mexican Dance Company in New York City since 2003. He began his studies in dance at Grinnell College and has been a dancer for more than 18 years. Castaño continues to perform in and produce tours across the U.S. and internationally with his company. He holds an M.B.A. in Management and a B.A. in Chemistry.

TEO CASTELLANOS | Writing National Reviewer | YoungArts Week Interdisciplinary Master Teacher | Teo Castellanos is an actor, writer and director who works in theater, film and television. He is the Artistic Director of Teo Castellanos D-Projects and author of *NE 2nd Avenue*, which won the Fringe First Award at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Scotland. He also directs Piano Slam, produced annually by The Dranoff Foundation. Castellanos is the recipient of two State of Florida Individual Artist Fellowships.

CHRIS CHALK | Writing National Reviewer | Chris Chalk can currently be seen playing Lucius Fox on Fox's *Gotham* and in WGN's *Underground*, after three seasons on Aaron Sorkin's hit series *The Newsroom*. He recently starred opposite Viola Davis and Jennifer Lopez in *Lila and Eve* and was seen in Steve McQueen's *12 Years a Slave* opposite Chiwetel Ejiofor. TV: Showtime's Emmy Winning *Homeland*, *Complications*, *Unforgettable*, *Justified*, *Sons*

of Anarchy, Persons of Interest, Nurse Jackie, The Good Wife, Rescue Me and Law & Order. Chalk received the Recognition for Outstanding Broadway Debut at the 66th Annual Theatre Awards and was awarded a Drama Desk Awards Best Featured Actor Nomination for his portrayal of Cory starring opposite Denzel Washington and Viola Davis in the Tony Award Winning Fences.

ROBERT CHAMBERS | Visual Arts National Selection Panelist | YoungArts Miami Visual Arts Co-Director | Robert Chambers' work is in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO; Pérez Art Museum Miami; Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami; Museum of Science and Industry, Tampa; Tufts University, Medford, MA and 'Sugabus' at Laumier Sculpture Park, St. Louis, MO. His recent public art commissions include *Light Field*, an interactive 100' light wall, and *Orbital 1 & 2*, 10 and 12 ton marble CNC sculptures at the South Dade Cultural Art Center. Chambers earned a B.F.A. from the University of Miami, and an M.A. from New York University, and has been awarded the Nancy Graves Award, the Louis Comfort Tiffany Award and the 2008 USA Nimoy Fellowship. He is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor at Florida International University.

MEL CHIN | YoungArts Week Visual Arts Master Teacher | Born in Houston, Texas, Mel Chin is known for the broad range of approaches in his art, including works that require multi-disciplinary, collaborative teamwork and works that conjoin cross-cultural aesthetics with complex ideas. He developed *Revival Field* (1989-ongoing), a project that pioneered the field of "green remediation," the use of plants to remove toxic, heavy metals from the soil. A current project, *Fundred Dollar Bill/Operation Paydirt*, focuses on national awareness and prevention of childhood lead-poisoning through art-making. Chin is well known for his iconic sculptures and installations that often address the importance of memory and collective identity, and for inserting art into unlikely places, including destroyed homes, toxic landfills, and even popular television, and investigating how art can provoke greater social awareness and responsibility. He is the recipient of numerous awards and honorary doctorates. Recent exhibitions include *Degrees of Separation*, Station Museum, Houston, Texas, *The Value of Food*, St John the Divine, NYC, *Mel Chin /Works* at Thomas Rehbein Galerie, Köln, Germany and *Fade/In* at the Swiss Institute, NYC.

KATIE CHRISTIE | YoungArts Miami Interdisciplinary Master Teacher | Katie Christie is the Founder and Director of Voices United, Inc., which she established as a high school senior in 1989 to promote cross-cultural understanding through the performing and visual arts. Christie has facilitated and coordinated international arts programs for youth in Japan and Lesotho and directed original productions at the World Youth Congress in Quebec in 2008 and again in Istanbul in 2010. A graduate of New World School of the Arts in Miami, FL, Christie has been recognized for her work on behalf of Voices United with diverse international accolades including recognition as one of the top 100 organizations addressing race and culture in President Clinton's "Promising Practices" *One America Initiative on Race*. She has served as Artistic Director on Peace Child International's arts exchange programs in Russia and South Africa, and was a Facilitator at the Peace Child International Leadership Forum in Washington, D.C. She was the Advisor to the Key Biscayne Youth Council and is a member of the Theater Communication Group/Young Leaders of Colors.

EMMET COHEN | YoungArts Week Jazz Master Teacher | YoungArts Miami Jazz Director | 2009 YoungArts Jazz Winner | Multifaceted American jazz pianist and composer Emmet Cohen is one of his generation's pivotal artistic figures. Downbeat praised the "nimble touch, measured stride and warm harmonic vocabulary" he employs to communicate with other musicians and audiences at what he terms "the deepest level of humanity and individuality." Cohen plays with the command and passion of an artist fully devoted to his medium. He has appeared in the Monterey, Newport, North Sea, Bern, and Edinburgh jazz festivals, and the Kennedy Center, Jazz at Lincoln Center, Birdland, Blue Note, Cotton Club (Japan), and Ronnie Scott's (London) among others. A Suzuki piano

student at age three, Cohen holds jazz piano degrees from the Manhattan School of Music and the University of Miami. He was finalist in both the American Pianists Association's Cole Porter Fellowship (2015, 2011) and the Thelonious Monk International Piano Competition (2011) and has performed, recorded, or collaborated with Christian McBride, Herlin Riley, Jimmy Cobb, Brian Lynch, Kurt Elling, Jimmy Heath, Bill T. Jones, Lea DeLaria, and Debbie Allen.

YUGA COHLER | Classical Music National Reviewer | 2007 YoungArts Winner in Music | Since being appointed music director of the Young Musicians Foundation (YMF) Debut Orchestra, 27-year-old Yuga Cohler has risen to international prominence as a conductor and cultural innovator. His concert comparing the works of Kanye West and Beethoven, entitled *Yeethoven*, was hailed as a work of "musical genius" and received widespread attention from publications including the *Los Angeles Times*, the Associated Press, *Rolling Stone*, *Pitchfork*, and *The Huffington Post*. A recipient of the Bruno Walter Memorial Scholarship, Cohler studied with New York Philharmonic Music Director Alan Gilbert at the Juilliard School. He regularly appears as a guest conductor with the Juilliard Orchestra and the Tokyo Philharmonic, and has additionally conducted the Dallas, Baltimore, Fort Worth, New World, and Danish National Symphonies. Mr. Cohler is a summa cum laude graduate of Harvard University, where he studied computer science.

DOUG COONEY | Writing National Reviewer | Doug Cooney is a screenwriter, playwright, novelist, lyricist and educator. He is the author of *The Beloved Dearly*, *I Know Who Likes You*, *Nobody's Perfect* and *Leading Ladies*, and has written screenplays and scripts for SONY Pictures, Nickelodeon, the Disney Channel and the Discovery Channel. Cooney's work has been honored by the National Endowment for the Arts, the MacArthur Foundation and the Kennedy Center's New Visions/New Voices, among others.

GEMA CORREDERA | Voice National Reviewer | Gema Corredera woos her audiences with an astonishing vocal range and a versatile interpretative style. She has the unique ability to masterfully integrate song, scat and improvisation. She takes her audiences on a soulful journey through different Cuban genres like bolero, rumba, and son, fused with jazz, flamenco, and opera. Corredera displays absolute mastery of her voice through intricate phrasing, improvisation, and singular virtuosity, while making it sound perfectly simple. CNN Music Radio Notes praised her as one of the "most renowned Cuban artists in the world". Her album, *Derramando Luz*, was nominated for a Cubadisco Award (Cuban Grammys) in 2013. Her follow-up CD, *Feeling Marta*, won the 2016 Cubadisco Award, and was touted by Mexico's principal newspaper, *La Razón*, as one of the best 25 Cuban records in 2015, while *Cubaencuentro* magazine in Spain recognized it as one of the ten best Cuban records of the year.

WILL COTTON | YoungArts Week Visual Arts Master Teacher | Will Cotton is internationally recognized for his utopian landscape paintings, drawings, and prints composed of sugary desserts, often inhabited by figures. Cotton's work has explored gluttony, beauty, and unquenchable desire. He is represented by Mary Boone Gallery in New York, and is included in numerous museum and private collections. Cotton served as the artistic director of the California Gurls music video for pop singer Katy Perry. Since 2002, Cotton has maintained a practice of hosting weekly drawing sessions at his studio during which he and a small group of friends draw from a live model.

CAREY CRIM | Writing National Reviewer | Carey Crim is a playwright and resident artist at The Purple Rose Theater Company. Her latest play, *Conviction*, was nominated for an Ovation Award for best new play, and will open at The Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre this November. Previous works include *Growing Pretty*, *Some Couples May...*, and *Wake*. *Wake* received a West Coast Premiere at the SeaGlass Theatre in Los Angeles where it was a critic's pick; Carey has recently adapted it for the screen, and filming will begin in 2017. A three-time finalist for City Theatre's short play competition, she won the competition in 2011, and was also a finalist for The Heideman Award and a two-time finalist in the Samuel French OOB Festival. Her work has received productions and/or workshops at Pasadena Playhouse, Primary Stages, Luna Stage, Asolo Rep Theatre, Ensemble Studio Theatre, City

Theatre, and Rubicon Theatre. Crim is a graduate of Northwestern University.

DR. LEONARD CRUZ | Dance National Reviewer | 1983 YoungArts Winner in Dance and U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts | Leonard Cruz has danced and performed with Kei Takei's Moving Earth, Shapiro and Smith Dance, Sally Silvers, and Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company. He has taught at Duke University, MIT, Webster University, and for four years at St. Mary's College of Maryland.

LUIS ALBERTO CUEVAS | YoungArts Miami Multidisciplinary Performance Discipline Coordinator | Luis Alberto Cuevas hales from the Dominican Republic via New York City. Cuevas attended the B.F.A. program at the New World School of the Arts and has worked with choreographers Peter London, Garth Fagan, Dale Andree, and Bill Doolin. Luis has had the privilege of performing with several companies including Gold Coast Theater Company, Momentum Dance Company, Feddrick Bratcher and Company, Teo Castellanos' D- Projects, CircX, with director Heidi Marshall in a World Premiere original musical, with Rosie Herrera Dance Theater and most recently, in Diane Paulus' *Donkey Show* as Puck/Dr. Wheelgood. As a Choreographer, Luis' work has been presented by New World School of the Arts, Miami Dade College, The Emerging Choreographers Series, The Florida Dance Festival, The New World Symphony, and Thomas Amour Youth Ballet with The Dranoff International Foundation. In 2012, his work was commissioned by Miami Light Project for their Here & Now program.

D

DAVID DANIELS | YoungArts Week Voice Master Teacher | David Daniels is known for his superlative artistry, magnetic stage presence and a voice of singular warmth and surpassing beauty, which have helped him redefine his voice category for the modern public. The American countertenor has appeared with the world's major opera companies and on their main concert and recital stages, and made history as the first countertenor to give a solo recital in the main auditorium of Carnegie Hall. The Chicago Tribune has called Daniels "today's gold standard among countertenors." *Gramophone Magazine* acknowledged his contribution to recorded excellence as well as his expansion of the repertoire for his voice type by naming him one of the "Top Ten Trailblazers" in classical music today. Daniels is Professor of Music at the University of Michigan and has been the recipient of two of classical music's most significant awards: Musical America's Vocalist of the Year and the Richard Tucker Award.

DEE DANIELS | Voice National Reviewer | With palpable authenticity, a towering four-octave range, and a powerful blues and gospel-tinged jazz vocal approach, Dee Daniels has built a sterling reputation among jazz fans and critics around the world for over three decades. Well represented throughout her career in performances and recordings with such jazz luminaries as Monty Alexander, Russell Malone, Cyrus Chestnut, Houston Person, Bucky Pizzarelli, John Clayton, Ken Peplowski, Kenny Barron, she has also performed and/or recorded with symphony orchestras and big bands globally.

EDWIDGE DANTICAT | YoungArts Week Writing Master Teacher | Edwidge Danticat was born in Haiti and moved to the United States when she was twelve. She is the author of several books, including *Breath, Eyes, Memory*, an Oprah Book Club selection; *Krik? Krak!*, a National Book Award finalist; and *The Farming of Bones*, an American Book Award winner. She is also the editor of *The Butterfly's Way: Voices from the Haitian Diaspora in the United States* and *The Beacon Best of 2000: Great Writing by Men and Women of All Colors and Cultures*. In 2009, she was awarded a MacArthur "Genius" Fellowship. Danticat earned a degree in French Literature from Barnard College, where she won the 1995 Woman of Achievement Award, and later an MFA from Brown University.

JOHN DAVERSA | Jazz National Reviewer | John Daversa is an internationally respected performer, composer, arranger, producer, band leader, educator and recording artist. He is a winner of the Herb Alpert Award and David Joel Miller Award, among others. In addition, he leads the John Daversa Small Band, and is currently the Depart-

ment Chair of Studio Music and Jazz at the University of Miami Frost School of Music.

NEIL DE LA FLOR | Writing National Reviewer | Neil de la Flor is a writer, photographer, teacher and former fashion designer. His first book, *Almost Dorothy*, won the Marsh Hawk Press Poetry Prize. He has also authored several other solo and collaborative works, and teaches composition and literature at Miami Dade College, Nova Southeastern University and Barry University.

SANTI DEBRIANO | Jazz National Reviewer | Panama-born bassist and composer Santi Debriano has played with Hank Jones, Freddie Hubbard and Cecil Taylor, among others. Since 1987, Debriano has appeared on more than 100 recordings, including eight as leader.

SUZAN DEGOOYER | Classical Music National Reviewer | Flutist Suzan DeGooyer is on the faculty of the New World School of the Arts, Miami Dade College, and the University of Miami's Young Musicians Camp. She has performed extensively with numerous South Florida orchestras and is currently a member of the Miami Symphony Orchestra.

MARYANN DELEO | Cinematic Arts National Reviewer | Maryann DeLeo is a producer and director, known for *High on Crack Street: Lost Lives in Lowell* (1995), *White Horse* (2008) and *Chernobyl Heart* (2003), which earned her an Academy Award for Best Documentary (Short Subject). She has also received two National Emmy Awards, a Cable Ace Award, and an Alfred I. DuPont – Columbia University Award.

RICK DELGADO HIRIBARNE | Cinematic Arts National Selection Panelist | 1992 YoungArts Winner in Cinematic Arts | Rick Delgado Hiribarne is a Director/DP/Photographer. He is the owner of Nufrontier Pictures and Section 16 Films focusing on hybrid film and photography productions that are acquired simultaneously, which sets him and his company apart from most production companies. With offices in Miami and LA, and clients including Victoria's Secret, Nickelodeon, and NASA, Delgado Hiribarne has been blessed to traveling the world, acquiring amazing and memorable images. A 1992 Young Arts alumni of Cuban and French descent, Delgado Hiribarne is fueled by caffeine and chocolate.

MARSHALL L. DAVIS, JR. | YoungArts Week Dance Master Teacher | Marshall L. Davis, Jr. began tap dancing at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center in Miami, Florida, and at age 13, he was named *1991 Star Search Teen Dance Champion*. He was featured with Harold "Stumpy" Cromer at the Guthrie Theater in the musical *Babes in Arms* and later joined the Broadway production of *Bring in Da' Noise, Bring in Da' Funk*, choreographed by Savion Glover and directed by George C. Wolfe. Davis has performed throughout Europe, Japan, Australia and North America. A protégé of the late Steve Condos of the "Condos Brothers," Davis is a recipient of Isaac Hayes' "Breaking the Barrier" award. For over a decade, he has taught tap as an adjunct professor at Queens College, and can be seen through motion capture performance in the animated film *Happy Feet Two*. Most recently, Davis worked as the associate choreographer to Savion Glover for the Broadway musical *Shuffle Along!*

OSCAR DIAZ, JR. | YoungArts Miami Voice Master Teacher | Oscar Diaz, Jr. received a Bachelor's of Music and Foreign Languages from the University of Texas at Arlington and also has completed work towards a graduate degree at Florida Atlantic University. Diaz has performed professionally for twelve years with the Florida Grand Opera, the Dallas Opera, and the Fort Worth Opera. He has been featured as a soloist in leading roles with the Arlington Opera and Coral Gables Opera. As an instructor of voice Diaz has built a reputation for achieving the highest musical standards possible in each of his students who have performed in operas throughout the world, and have also been a part of "Team Christina (Aguilera)" on NBC's Season 5 of *The Voice!* Present and past students have also performed leading roles with opera companies in the United States and abroad. Diaz is professionally affiliated with NATS (and was a South Florida chapter past president), NGPT, American College of Musi-

cians, New World School, Florida Opera, and MTNA.

JUSTIN DICIOCCIO | YoungArts Week Jazz Master Teacher | YoungArts Board Member | Justin DiCioccio is internationally recognized as one of the foremost jazz educators of our time. He was inducted into the Jazz Education Hall of Fame in 2002. DiCioccio served as program director and clinician for Carnegie Hall Jazz Education, and as Associate Dean of the Manhattan School of Music. He is a jazz consultant to Jazz at Lincoln Center and Wynton Marsalis, and designed, developed and directed the award-winning LaGuardia High School of the Arts jazz program, the first fully accredited secondary jazz program in the United States. He is the recipient of a citation from the mayor of New York for “Distinguished and Exceptional Service to Young Instrumentalists” and is active with the National YoungArts Foundation. He is a three-time recipient of the Presidential Scholars teaching recognition award by the U.S. Department of Education and in May 1998, the Commission Project, in partnership with the New York City Board of Education, created the JD Award for Outstanding Service to Music in New York City Schools. On March 1, 2010, he was confirmed as the State Department Appointed Cultural Envoy Jazz Ambassador to Tbilisi, Georgia.

MICHELLE DORRANCE | Dance National Reviewer | Michelle Dorrance, founder and artistic director of Dorrance Dance/New York, is one of the most sought after tap dancers of her generation and “one of the most imaginative tap choreographers working today” (The New Yorker). A 2012 Princess Grace Award Winner, 2012 Field Dance Fund Recipient and 2011 Bessie Award Winner, Dorrance performs, teaches and choreographs throughout the world. In 2015, Dorrance received a MacArthur “Genius” Fellowship.

OLYMPIA DUKAKIS | YoungArts Week Theater Master Teacher | Olympia Dukakis is an Academy Award winner for her performance in *Moonstruck*, a role that also earned her a Golden Globe Award, American Comedy Award, and the Los Angeles Film Critics Award for Best Supporting Actress. She has appeared on Broadway in *Rose* (Drama Desk Award Nominee), *Social Security*, *Who’s Who in Hell*, *The Aspern Papers*, and Off-Broadway in *The Milktrain Doesn’t Stop Here Anymore*, *The Tempest*, *Mother Courage and Her Children*, *Singing Forest*, *The Marriage of Bette and Boo* (Obie Award), *Curse of the Starving Class*, *Titus Andronicus*, *A Man’s a Man* (Obie Award), *Rose Tattoo*, *Three Sisters*, *The Cherry Orchard*, *The Seagull*, *Electra*, *Hecuba*, and *Peer Gynt*. Dukakis has appeared in more than 60 feature and short films, including *The Infiltrator*, *7 Chinese Brothers*, *Cloudburst*, *Mr. Holland’s Opus*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Dad*, *Look Who’s Talking I, II & III*, *Mighty Aphrodite*, *Jeffrey*, *Away From Her* and many others. Her television credits include *Big Driver*, *Sex & Violence*, *Forgive Me*, *Bored to Death*, *Last of the Blond Bombshells*, *Sinatra* (Golden Globe Nominee), *Joan of Arc* (Emmy Nominee), *Tales of the City*, *More Tales of the City* (Emmy Nominee), and *Further Tales of the City*. Dukakis has served as Associate Director of the Williamstown Theatre Festival, is a Founding member and Producing Artistic Director of the Whole Theatre in Montclair, NJ for 19 years. She is also a founding member of the Actor’s Company and the Charles Playhouse, both in Boston. She continues to teach acting at NYU and conduct master classes for professional theatre companies, colleges, and universities across the country. She has received Lifetime Achievement Awards from the Greek America Foundation and the Elliot Norton Awards, and was bestowed the National Arts Club Medal of Honor. In 2013, her star was placed on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

MICHELLE DUNN MARSH | Photography National Selection Panelist | YoungArts Week Photography AON Master Teacher | Michelle Dunn Marsh is a designer, editor and arts advocate. She is currently Executive Director at Photographic Center Northwest and is the founder of Minor Matters Books. Over the last two decades Dunn Marsh has served in executive and creative roles in the fields of art photography and publishing. Her professional experience includes 15 years with Aperture Foundation, senior editor of art and design at Chronicle Books and publishing consultant to Jim Marshall Photography, LLC, Museum of Glass and other cultural institutions. She is a part-time lecturer in the M.F.A. program at Parsons/The New School in New York City, and was a tenured professor in graphic design at Seattle Central Community College.

CARL DUPONT | Voice National Reviewer | Bass-Baritone Carl DuPont has been celebrated on stage for his “dramatic, dark tones” in a wide range of roles including Leporello in *Don Giovanni*, the title character in *Dennis Rodman in North Korea*, and Jim in *Porgy and Bess* at the Palacio de Bellas Artes in Mexico City. He has performed as a soloist with the Rochester Oratorio Society, Southwest Florida Symphony and the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra. An alumnus of Eastman School of Music, Indiana University and University of Miami’s Frost School of Music, DuPont currently serves as an assistant professor at the University of North Carolina in Charlotte.

EDOUARD DUVAL-CARRIÉ | YoungArts Miami Visual Arts Master Teacher | Haitian-born artist Edouard Duval-Carrié’s art reflects the culture and history of Haiti with references to the Vodou religion. His work is often overtly political, executed in attempts to embody his nation’s spirit and its troubles with an attitude that is neither detached nor ironic. He operates in a variety of media—altarpieces, lacquered tiles, and reliquaries—in addition to painting and sculpture. Duval-Carrié received a South Florida Cultural Consortium Visual Art Fellowship in 1995 and a Southern Arts Federation Visual Art Fellowship in 1996. His work has been shown in solo exhibitions in Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Colombia, France, Mexico and in several states in the U.S. Two of the artist’s works are displayed as public commissions in Miami: a 1996 piece for the Jefferson Reaves Rehabilitative and Health Center and *The Lady of Miami* at One Miami Riverwalk.

E

KENNETH EASTER | YoungArts Week Dance Master Teacher | Born and raised in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, Kenny Easter received his professional training in San Francisco and at the Boston Ballet. He has had a diverse ballet career performing with the San Francisco Ballet, Boston Ballet, Miami City Ballet, and Ballet Arizona, and in 2003 he joined the American Ballet Theatre. Easter was featured in the filming of *Swan Lake* with ABT in 2005 at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. He has also appeared in the ABT filming of *Don Quixote*. Most recently he appeared in the movie *Black Swan* with Natalie Portman, as well as the American Masters PBS film about the 75th Anniversary of American Ballet Theater. Easter serves as a guest teacher all over the U.S. and internationally including master classes for ABT in Paris and has served on faculty at the ABT Summer Program and the ABT Gillespie School in CA, as well as a faculty member for New York City Dance Alliance. He enjoys working with young dancers and seeks out opportunities to teach and inspire younger generations about the grace, power and discipline of the fine arts.

DAVE EGGAR | Classical Music National Reviewer | 1987 YoungArts Winner in Music and U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts | Three-time Grammy nominee Dave Eggar has performed throughout the world as a solo cellist, pianist and composer. He has appeared as a soloist in venues from Carnegie Hall to the Hollywood Bowl and has recorded, performed and arranged for artists such as Norah Jones, Paul Simon, James Taylor, Evanescence, Robert Redford, Tony Bennett, Harry Belafonte, Andrea Bocelli, Roberta Flack, Frank Ocean and Phillip Phillips. Eggar has received awards from SONY Records, ASCAP, *Time Magazine*, Leronard Bernstein Foundation, MacDowell Colony, and Yaddo for his work in classical music.

F

GARTH FAGAN | YoungArts Miami Florence Stern Memorial Dance Master Teacher | Garth Fagan forged his own dance language and technique, drawing from modern dance, Afro-Caribbean and ballet. He has choreographed for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, Dance Theatre of Harlem, the Jose Limon Company, New York City Ballet’s 50th Anniversary, Joseph Papp’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, the Duke Ellington street opera, and *Queenie Pie* at the Kennedy Center. Critics have called Garth Fagan “a true original,” “a genuine leader,” and “one

of the great reformers of modern dance.” Fagan is the founder and artistic director of the award-winning and internationally acclaimed Garth Fagan Dance, now celebrating its 45th Anniversary season. A Tony and Olivier award winner for his choreography in *The Lion King*, Fagan is a Chancellor’s Award-winning Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of the State University of New York, where he has taught for over three decades at the State University of New York at Brockport. In 2012, Fagan was added to the list of Irreplaceable Dance Treasures by the Dance Heritage Coalition, and is a Fulbright 50th Anniversary Distinguished Fellow

INNA FALIKS | Classical Music National Reviewer | 1996 YoungArts Winner in Music | Concert pianist, professor and Head of Piano at UCLA, Inna Faliks has performed on many of the world’s great stages with notable orchestras and conductors such as Leonard Slatkin and Keith Lockhart. Over her distinguished career, she has performed in major venues such as Carnegie Hall, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Paris’ Salle Cortot, Chicago’s Orchestra Hall, Moscow’s Tchaikovsky Hall, and at festivals including Verbier, Newport, Portland International, Music in the Mountains, Brevard, Taos, IKIF at Mannes, Bargemusic, and Chautauqua. Faliks co-starred in *Admission: One Shilling*, a play about the life of Dame Myra Hess, the great British pianist. Her original monologue-recital, *Polonaise Fantasie, Story of a Pianist*, was performed at the Ebell of Los Angeles. She is the founder and curator of the critically acclaimed, award-winning interdisciplinary series, *Music/Words*, which creates performances in collaboration with distinguished poets. Faliks has had multiple works composed for her by today’s leading composers.

RALPH FARRIS | YoungArts Miami Interdisciplinary Master Teacher | A founding member and artistic director of the string quartet of ETHEL, Ralph Farris is a Grammy-nominated arranger, an original Broadway orchestra member of *The Lion King* and the former musical director for The Who’s Roger Daltrey. He has worked with Leonard Bernstein, Martin Scorsese, Depeche Mode, Natalie Merchant, Harry Connick Jr., Allen Ginsberg, Yo-Yo Ma, and Gorillaz. A three-time Tanglewood Fellow and a graduate of Walnut Hill School for the Arts, Farris earned Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees from The Juilliard School, earning the school’s William Schuman Prize. He has received composition commissions from NYU’s Aquila Theatre, flute/marimba visionaries Lawler + Fadoul, dance mavericks Monkeyhouse, and Las Vegas darlings Jarrett & Raja.

BETH ANN FENNELLY | YoungArts Week Writing Master Teacher | Poet Laureate of Mississippi, Beth Ann Fennelly currently teaches in the MFA Program at the University of Mississippi, where she was named Outstanding Teacher of the Year. She is the recipient of grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, a 2006 United States Artist Fellowship, a Pushcart Prize, and a Fulbright Scholarship to Brazil. Fennelly has published three poetry books: *Open House*, *Tender Hooks*, and *Unmentionables*, and a book of nonfiction, *Great with Child*, all with W. W. Norton. *The Tilted World*, a novel she co-authored with her husband, Tom Franklin, was published by HarperCollins in 2013. *Heating & Cooling: 52 Micro-Memoirs* will be published by Norton in fall 2017. Fennelly lives in Oxford, MI with her husband and their three children.

DAVID FERNANDEZ | Jazz National Reviewer | 1992 YoungArts Winner in Jazz | David Fernandez has toured with such artists as Chayanne, Jon Secada, Gloria Estefan, Nestor Torres, Darryl Tookes, and KC and the Sunshine Band. He has released two albums: *Symmetry* and *Transition Project*. Fernandez is an Adjunct Professor of Saxophone at Miami Dade College.

JASON FERRANTE | Voice National Selection Panelist | Tenor Jason Ferrante’s opera and concert career includes performances at New York City Opera, Wexford Festival, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, The Kennedy Center, Wolf Trap and opera companies around the world. He is on the guest voice faculty for Young Artists Programs at Arizona Opera, Nashville Opera, Pensacola Opera and Florida Grand Opera, and holds a BM and MM from The Juilliard School.

DIONNE D. FIGGINS | YoungArts Miami Multidisciplinary Performance Assistant Choreographer | Dionne D. Figgins began her career as a member of the Dance Theatre of Harlem, under the direction of Arthur Mitchell, dancing lead roles in *Serenade*, *Four Temperaments*, *Agon*, and *Concerto Barocco*, all by George Balanchine. She has also appeared as a guest artist with Complexions Contemporary Ballet. Broadway Credits include *Hot Feet*, *Memphis*, *Leap of Faith* and *Motown the Musical*. Regional credits include *Sophisticated Ladies*, *The Wiz*, *Ray Charles Live*, *Smokey Joe's Cafe*, *Trip of Love* and *Chicago*. Film/TV credits include: *Across the Universe*, *Walk Hard*, *The Princess and the Frog*, *She's Gotta Have It* (Netflix), Starz dramas *Flesh and Bone* (Yasmine) and *Power*, *Glee*, *House*, and The Academy Awards, to name a few. She is the co-founder of Broadway Serves, a non-profit organization whose mission is to engage theater professionals to community service opportunities locally, nationally, and abroad. She is a proud member of AEA and SAG- AFTRA.

NAOMI FISHER | Visual Arts National Selection Panelist | YoungArts Miami Visual Arts Co-Director | 1994 YoungArts Winner in Visual Arts | Miami-born artist Naomi Fisher explores the chaotic opposition between nature and the structured forces of culture and civilization in her work. Her paintings, photographs, and videos have been exhibited internationally in such venues as the Palais de Tokyo, Kemper Museum, Kunsthau Baselland and the Deste Foundation. Fisher graduated *summa cum laude* with a B.F.A. in Photography from the Maryland Institute College of Art in 1998. She is a co-founder of the artist-run gallery Bas Fisher Invitational (BFI) in Miami, Florida.

DEBORAH FLEISHER | Classical Music National Reviewer | YoungArts Week Classical Master Teacher | Harpist Deborah Fleisher is a graduate of the Curtis Institute and received an Artists Diploma from The Peabody Conservatory. Currently performing throughout South Florida, she is in great demand as a chamber musician and soloist. Fleisher has been appointed to the Lynn University Conservatory faculty, and teaches at the Hot Springs Music Festival and the Miami Summer Music Festival.

JOHN FORTÉ | YoungArts Week Interdisciplinary Master Teacher | John Forté is a Grammy-nominated recording artist, filmmaker, and activist. First recognized for his work with the multi-platinum hip hop group The Fugees, Forté has released several solo and collaborative projects. He is the Music Supervisor for CBS' *Brooklyn D.A.*, and the composer of the inaugural anthem for the Brooklyn Nets. He was the subject of the 2013 documentary film, *The Russian Winter*, which chronicled his post Presidential commutation concert tour across Russia. Committed to reforming America's broken criminal justice system fights, he is active with Schools Not Prisons Tour.

PETER FRANCIS | YoungArts Week Jazz Discipline Coordinator | Peter Francis earned a DMA in trumpet performance at the University of Miami, where he was a teaching assistant in the studio music and jazz department. He has performed and toured across the United States and in over a dozen countries with a variety of international performing artists, including Celia Cruz, Chayanne and Luis Enrique. Francis has also performed with Natalie Cole, the Manhattan Transfer, the Four Tops, the Temptations, the O'Jays, the Funk Brothers, Chaka Kahn, Patti Austin, Clarence Clemons, Stephen Marley, Tito Nieves and Cheo Feliciano. He is currently a music professor at New World School of the Arts and Miami Dade College.

JESSICA FREITES | YoungArts Week and YoungArts Miami Writing Discipline Coordinator | A certified Sound Healing Practitioner, Jessica studied violin and piano for over a decade, spent another decade dedicated to the creative business side of music, and also frequented open mics for years as a spoken word artist. As an educator, she encourages students to make connections between their thoughts, emotions, and external environment in order to heal, empower, and create with intention. She currently teaches creative music workshops for children as a resident artist with Arts for Learning Miami and VSA Florida, and is a music mentor for Guitars Over Guns.

G

VANESSA GARCIA | Writing National Reviewer | Vanessa Garcia is a multidisciplinary artist, working as a novelist, playwright, and journalist. Her debut novel, *White Light*, was one of NPR's Best Books of 2015. Her plays, including *The Cuban Spring* (Carbonell Award nominee for Best New Play, 2015) and *The Crocodile's Bite* (a short included in numerous anthologies such as Smith & Kraus' *Best Ten Minute Plays of 2016*; *City Theatre Anthology 2015*; and *Writer's Digest Annual Award Anthology, 2015*) have been produced around the world. As a journalist, feature writer, and essayist, her pieces have appeared in publications including *The LA Times*, *The Miami Herald*, *The Washington Post*, *Narrative.ly*, *The Wilson Quarterly*, and *The Huffington Post*. She holds a Ph.D from the University of California Irvine in Literary Journalism, an M.F.A. from the University of Miami in Fiction, and a B.A. from Barnard College, Columbia University in English/Art History.

CHRISTY GAST | Visual Arts National Reviewer | Artist Christy Gast's work across media reflects her interest in economics, the environment and the role of content in giving meaning to the experience and form of the work. Gast is based in New York, and her work has been exhibited at MoMA/PS1, Performa, Artist's Space, Harris Lieberman Gallery, Regina Rex, as well as the Pérez Art Museum Miami, Bass Museum of Art, de la Cruz Collection, Locust Projects, Casa Lin, and Gallery Diet in Miami; the American University Museum in Washington, D.C.; L.A.C.E. and High Desert Test Sites in California; Centro Cultural Matucana 100 Galería Patricia Ready in Santiago, CL; and the Kadist Foundation in Paris. She has received grants and awards from the Art Matters Foundation, Funding Arts Network, South Florida Cultural Consortium, Tigertail, Hayward Prize, Dame Joan Sutherland Fund, and the Joan Sovern Sculpture Award from Columbia University.

DR. AMINA GAUTIER | Writing National Reviewer | Dr. Amina Gautier is the author of three award-winning short story collections: *At-Risk*, *Now We Will Be Happy* and *The Loss of All Lost Things*. These collections have garnered numerous awards including the Flannery O'Connor Award, the First Horizon Award, the Eric Hoffer Legacy Fiction Award, the International Latino Book Award, the Independent Book Publishers Award, Prairie Schooner Book Prize in Fiction, the Florida Authors and Publishers Association President's Book Award, and Elixir Press Award. Gautier's stories have appeared in numerous literary journals, including *Agni*, *Callaloo*, *Glimmer Train*, *Iowa Review*, *Kenyon Review*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Southern Review* and *StoryQuarterly*. Gautier has been the recipient of grants and fellowships from Breadloaf Writer's Conference, Callaloo, Dora Maar, Hawthornden, Hurston/Wright Foundation, Key West Literary Seminar, Kimmel Harding Nelson Center, the MacDowell Colony, the Ragdale Foundation, the Sewanee Writer's Conference, Ucross and the Vermont Studio Center.

BEN GELLER | Classical Music National Reviewer | Violist Ben Geller is currently in his third season as Principal Violist of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. He performs regularly as a soloist in the orchestra and as a chamber musician in the Charlotte area. Originally from Rockford, IL, he studied at Butler University with Larry Shapiro and formally took up viola with Michael Isaac Strauss as well as a Jazz Minor with Mark Buselli. He went on to pursue his Masters at The Juilliard School where he studied with Toby Appel. Following graduation, Geller was awarded a fellowship to the New World Symphony in Miami, FL where he performed for almost two seasons. In addition to his work in the Charlotte Symphony, Geller teaches and performs at the Eastern Music Festival in Greensboro, NC and coaches string programs in Charlotte area schools.

PAMELA GIAROLI | Cinematic Arts National Reviewer | Pamela Giaroli studied photographic arts at the University of Westminster. She actively collaborates with artists Yara Travieso and Maxi Cohen, and has successfully shown her video work at Tribeca Performing Arts Center, Bric Arts Mediahouse, Streb Mechanics, and The Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. Her latest project will premiere at Bric Arts Mediahouse in January 2017. Directed by Yara Travieso, *La Medea* is a black-comedy disco-pop variety show that is simultaneously a live musical, a television show, and a feature film. Giaroli aims to empower women in male dominant fields like film production and home improvement. She uses traditional Japanese woodwork to make furniture and sculptures, and designs and

builds interiors for homes and offices, and collaborates with architects and artists, strategizing and building sets in theaters. Giaroli also plays percussion for Batala New York, a women only Afro-Brazilian band.

RUDI GOBLEN | YoungArts Miami Classical Interdisciplinary Master Teacher | Rudi Gobeln is a writer, dancer, and actor, and an acclaimed B-Boy. His crew Flipside Kings has toured in and out the country competing in, judging, and winning various events. In 2003, he joined Teo Castellanos' D-Projects, a collective of culturally trained artists who create provocative contemporary performances. Since then, he has toured internationally with D-Projects in *Scratch & Burn* and *FAT BOY*, and has trained and worked with DV8 Physical Theater, Cirque De Soleil, and is a founding member of, Rosie Herrera Dance Theatre, Campostion Hybrid Theater Works and interactive performance troupe Circ-X. Goblen is a recipient of the 2008 Future Aesthetics Artist Regrant (FAAR) funded by the Ford Foundation in conjunction with the Future Aesthetics Cohort, and the 2013 Miami-Dade County's Choreographers Fellowship Award. He currently teaches and tours nationally and internationally with his one-man shows, *Insanity Isn't*, *Fair Welling*, and *PET*, all of which were originally commissioned by Miami Light Project.

JAKE GOLDBAS | Dance National Reviewer | 2007 YoungArts Winner in Jazz | Percussionist Jake Goldbas has taken the music scene by storm with a diverse array of artists including legends Dave Brubeck, Candido Camero, Patti Austin, Gil Goldstein, Joshua Redman, Stefon Harris, and Christian McBride. He has performed at the world's most distinguished venues from Carnegie Hall to Madison Square Garden. A respected educator and clinician, Goldbas leads a band for Jazz at Lincoln Center's new education program Jazz For Young People. In this year's season, his band will perform forty concerts in eleven different New York City schools. Along with his wife, Kate Christopher Goldbas, he is co-creator of an interactive concert series that reaches audiences with developmental disabilities and the elderly. Goldbas earned both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees at the Manhattan School of Music (MSM) as a recipient of a Presidential Scholarship. In 2010, he was nominated for a Grammy Award with Bobby Sanabria and the MSM Afro Cuban Orchestra on the album *Kenya Revisited Live!!!* Goldbas was also named the Best American Musician of 2012 by The Keep an Eye Jazz Competition in Amsterdam.

ANA GONZALEZ | Dance National Reviewer | YoungArts Week Dance Master Teacher | Miami native Ana Gonzalez began her professional career as a soloist with the Charleston Ballet Theatre. After Charleston, she moved to New York City where she performed and taught as a member of the internationally acclaimed Stephen Petronio Company. Gonzalez has also worked with Jamie Bishton Dance, Ben Munisteri Dance Projects, and Doug Varone and Dancers, and worked as a teaching artist in the New York City public schools. She returned to Miami where she served for several years as Visiting Instructor in dance at Florida International University and a guest choreographer at New World School of the Arts. This is Gonzalez's tenth year working with YoungArts.

MARK GOULD | YoungArts Week Classical Music Master Teacher | Mark Gould is one of the best known trumpeters of his generation. He was principal trumpet of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra from 1974-2003, and has been on the faculty of The Juilliard School since 1982. In 2004, he joined the faculty of the Manhattan School of Music, where he currently is the Chair of the Brass Department. Gould has been very active as a trumpet soloist and conductor, having conducted and performed as soloist with the Seattle Symphony, San Diego Symphony, Colorado Philharmonic, Buffalo Symphony, The Juilliard Wind Ensemble, The Waterloo Festival, The Caramoor Festival, and the Vermont Mozart Festival Orchestra. In 2005, Gould was appointed the Music Director of the Brass Band of Battle Creek, America's premiere brass band. He also founded and directs The Manhattan School of Music Brass Orchestra and co-founded/directs The Scranton Brass Orchestra. He is the Director of The New York Trumpet Ensemble with whom he has recorded six albums.

SHALITA GRANT | Theater National Reviewer | 2006 YoungArts Winner in Theater and U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts | After graduating from Juilliard in 2010, Shalita Grant made her New York stage debut in Shakespeare in the Park. She made her Broadway debut in the spring of 2013 in *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, and re-

ceived a Tony nomination and Theatre World Award for her performance as Cassandra. Grant is currently a series regular on the CBS hit show NCIS: New Orleans playing Special Agent Sonja Percy.

RICHARD GUAY | YoungArts Miami Cinematic Arts Co-Director | Richard Guay has worked in the film industry for 25 years as a producer, writer, studio executive, and in many other roles. Now with more than 15 feature-length film and documentary credits, Guay began his career as a production auditor for filmmakers like John Sayles, Woody Allen, and Jonathan Demme. Guay has been nominated for three Independent Spirit Awards and a WGA Award, and has served as a production executive for Orion Pictures, Film Finances, United Artists, and New Regency.

ERIC GUNNISON | Jazz National Reviewer | Pianist and composer Eric Gunnison has toured and recorded with artists including Carmen McRae and the Dizzy Gillespie All-Stars. Active for more than 30 years as a sideman and studio musician on piano, synthesizers and other keyboards, Gunnison has also been a member of the adjunct faculty of the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music and on the faculty of the Colorado Conservatory for the Jazz Arts since 2000.

ALEJANDRO GUZMÁN | YoungArts Miami Visual Arts Master Teacher | Alejandro Guzmán is known for orchestrating and participating in ritualistic group performances featuring “performance sculptures” that he roughly constructs from disparate found materials. The actors in his ceremonies dance around or within the wheeled vessels made of commonplace items such as wood, fake flowers, mirrors, cut paper, plastic, and knitted yarn patterns, activating the space with a range of expression—from sexual exultation to discontent. Guzmán has exhibited in venues throughout New York City, including solo exhibitions at Taller Boricua, AD Projects, and Clayton Gallery & Outlaw Museum, as well as group shows at the Queens Museum of Art, 55 Delancey Street, HammerSpace, and Low Lives. Guzman has shown nationally in venues such as Galleria Sin Titulo in San Juan, Puerto Rico, the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, and the Toledo Museum of Art.

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LA TANYA HALL | Voice National Selection Panelist | La Tanya Hall has worked with some of the world's most celebrated artists, including Steely Dan, Diana Ross, Bobby McFerrin, Michael McDonald, Quincy Jones, Rob Thomas, Michael Feinstein, Patti Labelle, Harry Belafonte and Aretha Franklin. She has also appeared as a solo artist in her own right with the American Composers Orchestra, The Denver Symphony, and the St. Louis Symphony.

RUSSELL HALL | YoungArts Miami Jazz Master Teacher | Russell Hall is a jazz bassist who composes, educates and performs domestically and internationally. He started playing the double bass at the age of 14 when he was invited to attend Dillard Center for the Arts as part of the jazz ensemble. While at Dillard, Hall took part in the internationally acclaimed Essentially Ellington Jazz Competition where the ensemble placed first from 2011-2012 and second in 2010. At the tender age of 17, jazz ambassador Wynton Marsalis called him “A Jazz Star of The Future” in a profile in *Jet Magazine*. Hall is a graduate of the prestigious Julliard School and can currently be seen at some of New York's most renowned jazz venues such as Jazz At Lincoln Center, Small's, Smoke, The Blue Note, The Jazz Standard, and Ginny's Supper Club.

DAYNA HANSON | YoungArts Week Dance Master Teacher | Dayna Hanson is a choreographer, director, and performing artist based in Seattle, WA. She has toured her work throughout the U.S. and Europe, at venues including On the Boards, The Fusebox Festival, Miami Light Project, PuSh Festival, REDCAT, and Noorderzon Festi-

val. Her films have screened at festivals worldwide, and her debut feature film, *Improvement Club*, premiered in the Narrative Competition at South by Southwest 2013. Among a range of honors, she received a 2006 John Simon Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, and a 2010 United States Artists Foundation Oliver Fellowship in Dance, as well as grants from NEFA/National Dance Project, MAP Fund, National Performance Network and others. With Gaelen Hanson, she co-directed the dance theater company 33 Fainting Spells from 1994-2006, performing at Dance Theater Workshop, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Walker Art Center and dozens of other venues. Hanson is co-director of Base, a nonprofit dance and performance space in Seattle.

FRANCESCA HARPER | YoungArts Week Dance Master Teacher | 1987 YoungArts Winner in Dance and U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts | Francesca Harper is an internationally acclaimed multi-faceted artist. She has choreographed works for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Ailey II, Tanz Graz, Hubbard Street II, Dallas Black Dance Theater, and her own company, The Francesca Harper Project, which was founded in 2005. Her TV appearances include Boardwalk Empire, David Letterman, and The Oprah Winfrey Show, and she served as ballet consultant for the feature film, *Black Swan*, by Darren Aronofsky. Harper has appeared in the Broadway productions of *Fosse*, *The Producers*, *All Shook Up*, *The Frogs*, and *The Color Purple*, and as Helene in *Sweet Charity* and as Judith in *Sophisticated Ladies*. She is an adjunct professor at New York University, an Associate Professor at Barnard College, and continues the vital role of teacher and choreographer for The Ailey School, Fordham University's BFA Program, and the Susan Batson Studio. Most recently she was invited to develop a new character, Jazz Vocalist Cecilia Robertson, aka Ceci for the interactive show *Sleep No More*.

BARRY HARRIS | YoungArts Miami Jazz Master Teacher | Barry Harris is an internationally renowned Jazz Pianist, Composer and Teacher. Harris is the recipient of an Honorary Doctorate from Northwestern University. He has received the Living Jazz Legacy award from the Mid-Atlantic Arts Association, and an American Jazz Masters Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts. In addition, Harris received the Manhattan Borough President Award for Excellence. This award was given for recognition of his devoted public service and in honor of excellence in the field of music. He received the 1999 Mentor Award for his work with youngsters at the Manhattan Country School in New York City.

JIMMY HEATH | YoungArts Week Jazz Master Teacher | Jimmy Heath has long been recognized as a brilliant instrumentalist and a magnificent composer and arranger. He has performed with nearly all the jazz greats of the last 50 years, from Howard McGhee and Dizzy Gillespie to Miles Davis and Wynton Marsalis. During his career, Jimmy Heath has performed on more than 100 record albums including seven with The Heath Brothers and twelve as a leader. Jimmy has also written more than 125 compositions, many of which have become jazz standards and have been recorded by other artists including Art Farmer, Cannonball Adderley, Clark Terry, Chet Baker, Miles Davis, James Moody, Milt Jackson, Ahmad Jamal, Ray Charles, Dizzy Gillespie, JJ Johnson, and Dexter Gordon. Heath has also composed extended works—seven suites and two string quartets. Heath was Professor of Music at the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College. He maintains an extensive performance schedule and continues to conduct workshops throughout the United States and abroad.

MATTHEW HEBERT | Design Arts National Reviewer | Matthew Hebert received his BA in Architecture from the University of California, Berkeley and his M.F.A. at California College of the Arts. He has taught at several schools, including the University of Wisconsin – Madison, CalArts and The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He is currently Assistant Professor of Furniture at San Diego State University.

ROSIE HERRERA | Dance National Selection Panelist | Rosie Herrera is a Miami-based dancer and choreographer and the artistic director of Rosie Herrera Dance Theater. She is a 2010 MANCC choreographic fellow, a 2011 Miami Dance Fellow, a 2013 Princess Grace Choreographic Fellow and a proud artistic associate of the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts. Her company, Rosie Herrera Dance Theater, is known for its diverse ensemble

of artists comprised of some of Miami's most brilliant performers and creators ranging in genres from theater, performance art, opera, drag, and contemporary ballet.

MICHAEL HETTICH | Writing National Reviewer | Michael Hettich was born in Brooklyn, NY and has published over a dozen books and chapbooks of poetry. His work has appeared widely in journals and anthologies and he has collaborated with artists and musicians throughout Florida and nationally. Hettich is the winner of three Florida Individual Artists Fellowships. *Systems of Vanishing* won the 2013 Tampa Review Prize for Poetry. *The Measured Breathing* won the 2011 Swan Scythe Press Award. *Flock and Shadow* was selected as a national Book Sense Spring 2006 Top Ten Poetry Book and he received the Tales Prize for *Swimmer Dreams* in 2005. He is married to Colleen and has two children, Matthew and Caitlin.

DAVID HILLIARD | Photography National Selection Panelist | David Hilliard uses his unique, multi-paneled technique to produce expansive photographs, both figuratively and literally. His sweeping images depict subtle moments of love, family, adolescence, friendship and the nuances of masculinity, with a quiet yet powerful resonance. The multiple panels act as short films; a single work captures the passage of time before our very eyes. Hilliard received his B.F.A. from Massachusetts College of Art & Design and his M.F.A. from Yale University. He has exhibited around the world and is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship as well as a Fulbright Grant. Hilliard's work can be found in numerous international collections, including the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Los Angeles County Museum of Art; Whitney Museum of American Art; Portland Art Museum; DeCordova Museum; the University of Salamanca, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. He lives and works in Boston.

CHINAKA HODGE | Writing National Reviewer | Chinaka Hodge is a poet, screenwriter, and educator from Oakland, CA. She is a founding staff member of Youth Speaks/The Living Word Project, the nation's premiere youth literary arts organization. In her tenure at Youth Speaks, Hodge pioneered programming for Brave New Voices, the (inter)National Teen Poetry Slam Festival. Hodge has also worked in similar capacities at Get Lit: Words Ignite Los Angeles, First Wave at UW Madison, and at Urban Word, NYC. In her 15 years of service to the growing field of youth spoken word, Hodge has mentored thousands of young people in the performed literary arts. Hodge is currently Associate Director of Program and Pedagogy at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts.

GERRI HOULIHAN | YoungArts Miami Dance Master Teacher | Gerri Houlihan began her professional training at the Juilliard School in New York studying with Antony Tudor, Alfredo Corvino and members of the Martha Graham and Jose Limon dance companies. Since 1977, Houlihan has taught and choreographed for such institutions as Connecticut College, the American Dance Festival, the Bates Dance Festival, the Harvard Summer Dance Center, Companhia de Lisboa in Portugal, Meredith College and Florida State University. From 1984-1987, she directed her own school and company- the Boston Dance Project. From 1988-1999, Houlihan was on the faculty of the New World School of the Arts in Miami, FL. During that time, she was also the Artistic Director of Houlihan and Dancers. She is the 2005 recipient of the Balasaraswati/Joy Ann Dewey Beinecke Endowed Chair for Distinguished Teaching, and received her M.F.A. degree in 2007 from the Hollins University/American Dance Festival M.F.A. program.

CHUCK HUDSON | YoungArts Week Voice Master Teacher | Based in New York City, Chuck Hudson has directed opera productions at major international companies including Cape Town Opera (South Africa), Cincinnati Opera, Florida Grand Opera, Minnesota Opera, Sacramento Opera, Austin Lyric Opera, Hawaii Opera Theatre, Opera Cleveland, Seattle Opera, San Francisco Opera Center, Wolf Trap Opera, Opera Santa Barbara, among others. In addition to directing professional artists, Hudson continues to focus on his work with artists in training. He was a co-creator of Seattle Opera's Young Artist Program where he directed productions as well as created and instructed specialized classes on Acting and Movement for singers. Hudson also uses his enormous experience as a performer, director, and coach in his many Master Classes and private coaching at various Professional Artist

Training Programs for singers and actors. He is also in great demand as a private audition coach in New York City, coaching both opera and musical theater performers.

MARIKA HUGHES | YoungArts Week Interdisciplinary Master Teacher | YoungArts Los Angeles Multidisciplinary Performance Music Director | Marika Hughes is a native New Yorker, a cellist, a singer, a storyteller on *The Moth* and was an actor in *Family Album* (by Stew of Passing Strange) which premiered at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, summer 2014. Hughes has performed and/or recorded with Whitney Houston, Lou Reed, Anthony Braxton, Stevie Wonder, David Byrne, Adele, Taylor Mac, and D'Angelo among many others. She has performed on The David Letterman and Jimmy Fallon shows as well as Saturday Night Live. For the last 10 years Hughes has been a volunteer for Triad Trust; taking her on repeated trips to South Africa and Haiti as a music and self-care educator. Hughes happily leads her band, Bottom Heavy, whose debut album, *New York Nostalgia*, was released in early 2016 to very warm reviews.

BABA ISRAEL | Writing National Reviewer | YoungArts Week Interdisciplinary Master Teacher | As a theatre and hip hop/spoken word artist, Baba Israel has toured across the U.S., Europe, South America, Australia, and Asia, performing with artists such as Outkast, Philip Glass, Rahzel, Lester Bowie, Vernon Reid and Bill Cosby. His debut solo show *Boom Bap Meditations* was supported by the Ford Foundation and the Hip Hop Theatre Festival and toured the U.S. and Europe. His recent show *The Spinning Wheel* was supported by the BRIC Fireworks residency. As an arts educator, Israel has worked as a cultural ambassador with the State Department, delivering workshops and performances across South East Asia, the South Pacific, Gambia, and Turkey. In addition, he is also the co-founder and Artistic Director of Playback NYC Theatre Company, and Co-Artistic Director of The Performance Project based at the University Settlement. He holds a M.F.A. in Interdisciplinary Arts from Goddard College

JAVON JACKSON | Jazz National Selection Panelist | 1983 YoungArts Winner in Jazz | Javon Jackson came into international prominence as a member of Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers and has toured and recorded with artists including Elvin Jones, Freddie Hubbard, Ron Carter, Cedar Walton, and Les McCann. He has developed a formidable career as a leader and his current musical group, The Javon Jackson Band, incorporates many styles including jazz, funk, R&B, and rock. Additionally, Javon is highly sought after in jazz education as a clinician and lecturer, conducting master classes at universities throughout the U.S. and abroad. In 2013, he accepted the position of Director of the Jackie McLean Institute at the University of Hartford.

NAOMI JACKSON | Writing National Reviewer | Naomi Jackson is author of *The Star Side of Bird Hill*, published by Penguin Press in 2015, which was nominated for an NAACP Image Award and the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award in Debut Fiction and long-listed for the National Book Critics Circle's John Leonard Prize and the Center for Fiction's First Novel Prize. It won Late Night Library's Debut-litzer prize, was named an Honor Book for Fiction by the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, and was selected for the American Booksellers Association's Indies Introduce and Indies Next List programs. She studied fiction at the Iowa Writers' Workshop, and traveled to South Africa on a Fulbright scholarship, where she received an M.A. in Creative Writing from the University of Cape Town. Jackson is the recipient of residencies and fellowships from Bread Loaf, MacDowell Colony, Djerassi, Kelly Writers House, Hedgebrook, and the Camargo and Point Foundations. Jackson has taught at the University of Iowa, University of Pennsylvania, City College of New York, and Oberlin College and begun an appointment as Visiting Writer at Amherst College in fall 2016.

CAT JIMENEZ | YoungArts Los Angeles Photography Director | Cat Jimenez is the Co-Founder of the Month of

Photography Los Angeles (mopla.org) and Executive Director of the Lucie Foundation (luciefoundation.org). She studied photography at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California and has curated photography exhibitions in Los Angeles, Mexico, Guatemala, and the Philippines.

LONI JOHNSON | Visual Arts National Selection Panelist | YoungArts Miami Visual Arts Co-Director | Loni Johnson is a visual artist born and raised in Miami. She graduated from the New World School of the Arts and received her B.F.A. from SUNY Purchase College in New York. Johnson was on the faculty of New World from 2006 to 2012, and in 2012, she became the Prevention Coordinator of The A-List Company. She is also involved with the Miami-based youth organization Voices United. Loni was one of the featured artists at the 5th Annual Spoken Soul Festival and, in 2013, participated in PRIZM Art Fair during Miami Art Week.

BILL T. JONES | YoungArts Week Dance AON Master Teacher | Bill T. Jones is a multi-talented artist, choreographer, dancer, theater director and writer. He has received major honors ranging from the Human Rights Campaign's 2016 Visibility Award, to the 2013 National Medal of Arts, a 1994 MacArthur "Genius" Award and a 2010 Kennedy Center Honors. Jones was honored with the 2014 Doris Duke Performing Artist Award, recognized as Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French government in 2010, inducted into the American Academy of Arts & Sciences in 2009 and named "An Irreplaceable Dance Treasure" by the Dance Heritage Coalition in 2000. His ventures into Broadway theater resulted in a 2010 Tony Award for Best Choreography in the critically acclaimed *FELA!*, and a 2007 Tony Award for Best Choreography in *Spring Awakening* as well as an Obie Award for the show's 2006 off-Broadway run. His choreography for the off-Broadway production of *The Seven* earned him a 2006 Lucille Lortel Award. In 1982 he formed the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company (then called Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane & Company) with his late partner, Arnie Zane. Jones is currently Artistic Director of New York Lives Arts, an organization that strives to create a robust framework in support of the nation's dance and movement-based artists through new approaches to producing, presenting, and educating.

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NAEEM KAHN | YoungArts Miami Design Master Teacher | Born and raised in Mumbai, Naeem Khan grew up in a world surrounded by culture, architecture, art, history and design. As a boy, he cultivated a vast knowledge of textiles under the watchful eyes of his grandfather and father, both of whom designed intricate clothing worn by Indian royal families. Khan ultimately moved to the United States as a teenager to become a designer and launched his career as an apprentice for legendary American designer Halston at the age of 20. Khan eventually merged this design philosophy with the knowledge he gained from his family's business to nurture his own unique style, and the Naeem Khan design aesthetic was born. Khan launched his eponymous collection in 2003 and began selling at Bergdorf Goodman, Neiman Marcus and Saks Fifth Avenue. Since then his collections have adorned glamorous women around the world, including Beyoncé, Taylor Swift, Jennifer Lopez, Emily Blunt, Lea Michele, Penélope Cruz, Katy Perry, First Lady Michelle Obama and Queen Noor of Jordan, among others. In 2008, he was inducted as a member of the prestigious Council of Fashion Designers of America.

PARIS KAIN | YoungArts Week Interdisciplinary Master Teacher | Paris Kain is a multi-media artist born and raised in New York City. After spending the night in the Kings Chamber of the Great Pyramid of Giza, Kain was immediately drawn to ancient history and sacred geometry, which have taken him around the globe. Abraxas, the Mythological/Gnostic deity of coexisting duality, with its paradoxical concepts, has served as great inspiration for him and have been assimilated into his studio art, film, photography, sound design, and jewelry design. He additionally translates similar arcane philosophies from various cultures into his artistic vision and relationship to shapes. His work has been featured in *The New York Times*, *TIME Magazine*, *W Magazine*, *New York Magazine*, *Purple Magazine*, *American Vogue*, *Vogue Italia*, *British Vogue*, *Vogue Paris*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *The Last Magazine*, and *Nowness.com*.

TANYA KALMANOVITCH | Classical Music National Selection Panelist | Tanya Kalmanovitch is a musician, writer and ethnomusicologist based in New York City. Trained at the Juilliard School, her work as a violist bridges classical, jazz and experimental improvised music, and has been profiled in *Jazz Times*, *DownBeat*, the *Globe and Mail*, and *The New York Times*. She performs and teaches regularly in North America and abroad, and is a faculty member at the New England Conservatory in Boston and Mannes College The New School for Music in New York. Kalmanovitch's research in theoretical psychology and ethnomusicology has explored the history of science, postcolonial identities and musical globalization and has been published in *The American Psychologist*, *World of Music* and *New Sound*.

MORLEY KAMEN | Voice National Reviewer | From Carnegie Hall to the Nomad Women's Festival in the Sahara Desert, Morley Kamen has brought her unique blend of jazz, folk and soul to the world's stage. Awarded as Songwriter of the Year from ASCAP and heralded as Emerging Artist of the Year by the New York Times, Kamen has penned songs for TED Women, Acumen, V-Day, Think Global School, and GOAL – South Africa. Kamen was the voice for Ralph Lauren's fragrance commercial Romance. Her music has been placed on several major network television shows as well as human rights documentaries. Kamen uses music as a tool for conflict resolution and dialogue facilitation when working with youth from international conflict zones and TEDWomen calls her song her song, Women of Hope their "anthem."

MITCHELL KAPLAN | YoungArts Week Writing Master Teacher | Mitchell Kaplan is co-founder of Miami Book Fair International and serves as the Chairperson of its Board of Directors. He also serves on the steering committee of the Florida Center for the Literary Arts, Miami-Dade College's literary center. Kaplan recently served a two-year term as President of the American Booksellers Association (ABA) and continues an active involvement with the organization. He also serves on the Board of the American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression.

HUGH KENNEDY | Theater National Reviewer | Panelist | 2004 YoungArts Winner in Theater and U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts | Hugh Kennedy was a company member at the Guthrie Theater where he performed in over 15 productions, including the Acting Company's national tour of *Romeo & Juliet*. At age 24, he played the title role in *Hamlet* at the Jungle Theater, and then played in Anthony Tassa's *Macbeth Arabia* in Dubai. Hugh has worked with three Tony award-winning directors: Dominique Serrand in the Moving Company's *Love's Labour's Lost*, Wendy Goldberg in *Mothers & Sons* at Philadelphia Theater Company, and Roger Rees in *The Primrose Path* at the Guthrie. He recently starred as Black Stache in *Peter and the Starcatcher* at TheatreSquared and Arkansas Repertory Theater. He can be seen on-screen in upcoming projects directed by George Clooney and Roman Coppola. An Ivey Award-winner for his role in the world premiere of *Buzzer*, Hugh is a proud Presidential Scholar of the Arts and YoungArts Alumnus.

ANTOINE KHOURI | Voice National Reviewer | Antoine Khouri is a producer, conductor, composer, pianist, and double bassist based in New York. Throughout his professional career, Khouri has closely studied with many high level and respected educators. He has performed with Ed Calle, Black Violin, Bobby McFerrin, Alicia Keys, and others. As an educator, his extensive knowledge of music ranging from Classical to Contemporary provides for a fresh approach to his teaching. He received a Bachelor's Degree from Florida State University in Music Education with an emphasis in String Education, a Master's Degree from the University of Miami Frost School of Music in Media Writing, and a Master's Degree from FIU School of Music in Performing Arts Production. Khouri is the New Music Director at Medgar Evers Preparatory School in Brooklyn, NY where he teaches 6-12 grade.

JURAJ KOJS | YoungArts Miami Interdisciplinary Master Teacher | Juraj Kojs is a composer, sound and multimedia artist, performer, producer, researcher and educator living in Miami, FL. His compositions received awards at Europe—A Sound Panorama, *Miami New Times* Best Of Award, Eastman Electroacoustic Composition and Performance Competition and the Digital Art Award. Kojs's commissions include The Quiet Music Ensemble, Mi-

ami Light Project, Deering Estate Chamber Ensemble, Meet the Composer, Harvestworks, Miami Theater Center, Deering Estate, and Vizcaya Museum & Gardens. His research articles appeared in journals including *Organized Sound*, *Digital Creativity*, *Leonardo Music Journal*, *Journal of New Music Research* and *International Journal of Arts and Technology*. The director of the Miami-based Foundation for Emerging Technologies and Arts (FETA), Kojs holds a Ph.D. in Composition and Computer Technologies from University of Virginia and is an Assistant Professor of Professional Practice at University of Miami's Frost School of Music.

ADAM KOLKER | Jazz National Reviewer | Two-time Grammy nominee Adam Kolker is a multi-talented performer, composer, and arranger. He has performed and recorded with Latin Jazz artist Ray Barretto, and has appeared with groups including the Village Vanguard Orchestra, Fred Hersch, Bruce Barth, Judi Silvano, Lucia Pulido, and his own groups with John Abercrombie and Billy Hart. He has recorded with Bruce Barth, John Hébert, Marty Ehrlich, David Berkman, The Story, and Yard Byard. Kolker's albums include *Crazybird*, with Tim Hagans; *Sultanic Verses* with Bruce Barth, Billy Hart, and Ray Barretto; *Change of Time* which received 4 1/2 stars in *Downbeat* Magazine and was voted one of the Top albums of the Decade; *Flag Day*, with John Abercrombie, John Hébert and Paul Motian which received universal acclaim; *Reflections*, with John Abercrombie; and *andThem* a quartet with Scott Wendholt, Ugonna Okegwo, and Victor Lewis. Kolker has two releases scheduled for spring 2017.

KATHERINE KRAMER | National Reviewer | YoungArts Week Multidisciplinary Master Teacher |Katherine Kramer is a jazz tap artist, performer, choreographer, and educator. She has enjoyed performing and collaborating at prestigious venues nationally and internationally, as well as within the intimate confines of a living room. Her awards include a Fulbright, an Artist's Innovation Award (Montana), and an NPN Creation Fund Grant. She has developed the Whole Body Music method of training for both dancers and musicians, which explores the complex interface between music and dance. She is pleased to have worked with YoungArts for the past 10 years.

ALLEN KRANTZ | Classical Music National Reviewer | Allen Krantz is an acclaimed composer, solo guitarist and chamber musician. He has performed throughout the country in venues such as Carnegie Hall, Saratoga Performing Arts Center, and the Phillips Collection in Washington, with his diverse programs often featuring original compositions. Krantz heads the guitar program of The New School Institute at Temple University.

JONATHAN KREISBERG | Jazz National Reviewer | Combining timeless melodicism with forward-thinking lines and textures, Jonathan Kreisberg continues to attract a growing international fan base with his music. As a guitarist, his sound and technique has influenced the next generation of players and has arguably contributed to the evolution of the instrument in jazz. He has performed/performs as a sideman in the groups of Dr. Lonnie Smith , Joe Locke, Stefano DiBattista, Lee Konitz, Don Friedman, and Ari Hoenig. Kreisberg also has performed 20th century works with the New World Symphony under Michael Tilson Thomas and has led various groups including such notables as Larry Grenadier, Bill Stewart, Gary Versace, Will Vinson, Mark Ferber, Matt Penman, and Scott Wendholt among others. He has released 5 critically acclaimed albums on the Criss Cross and Mel Bay Labels, as well as *Trioing*, *Shadowless*, *One*, and *Wave Upon Wave* on his own New For Now Music label.

JOHN KRICKER | Classical Music National Reviewer | Native Floridian John Kricker has been an active freelance musician in South Florida for the past 30 years, performing on tenor trombone, bass trombone, and tuba. He is a member of the award winning Jaco Pastorius Big Band and is an active studio musician. A teacher at the New World School of the Arts since 2002, he is a graduate of the University of Miami's School of Music, from where he received both his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees. Throughout his career, he has performed in virtually every musical genre with stars including Luciano Pavarotti, Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Lou Rawls, Natalie Cole, Wayne Newton, Kenny Rogers, Arturo Sandoval, The Temptations, P Diddy, and many more. Kricker is also a frequent performer in a variety of South Florida orchestras, brass groups, ballet and opera companies, Broadway and theater shows, jazz and commercial ensembles, and wedding bands.

SHILPA KRISHNAN | Dance National Reviewer | Since the tender age of four, Shilpa Krishnan has lived, breathed, and dreamed dance. Growing up in a family that fostered and encouraged her talent, coupled with an eager and creative mind, her dancing career blossomed. Her devotion and passion for dance, and her desire to ensure her daughters follow the family legacy of dance, led her to establish Nrityalaya's American branch in Florida. Her dance lineage is filled with some of the greats -Swarnasaraswathi and Rajarajeshwari Kalamandir in Mumbai, and Shri Rajarathnam, a disciple of Vazhuvoor Ramiah Pillai and nattuvangam training under Guru Smt. Rajee Narayanan. She has co-produced *A Woman Speaks and Darkness to Light*, *Layakari*, *Saints Legends & Heroines*, *Kuravanji* and *Ashtanayika – Women in Love*. Based in Davie, FL, Krishnan is a YoungArts Master Teacher and teaches BharataNatyam at the Shiva Vishnu Temple of South Florida.

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SETH LABENZ | YoungArts Miami Design Master Teacher | Seth Labenz is a principal and co-founder of the New York / Miami design agency Topos Graphics and the creative director of the Miami publishing imprint Jai-Alai Books. Recent projects include the graphics and accompanying catalogue for *Unorthodox*, an exhibition curated by Jens Hoffman at The Jewish Museum, New York; publication of Rio Cortez's *I have learned to define a field as a space between mountains*, the inaugural winner of the Toi Derricote & Cornelius Eady Chapbook Prize, published by Jai-Alai Books; and a 10' x 120' video installation and event collateral for Tate Americas Foundation's triennial benefit.

MESHAUN LABRONE | Theater National Reviewer | Meshاون Labrone is an Actor/Writer from Miami, Florida. He has recently completed the US tour of his second solo show, *Power! Stokely Carmichael*, a theatrical portrait of one of the driving forces behind the philosophy of the 1960s Black Power Movement. In 2011, he received international recognition for his critically acclaimed One-Man show, *Right to Remain... Tupac Shakur* which explored the rapper's admiration for Shakespeare and drew parallels between The Young Black Male and Richard III. Labrone was a repertory theatre member of the Miami Theatre Center (2005- 2007) and has appeared in plays including *Two Trains Running* (M Ensemble), *Body and Sold* (The Kennedy Center) and *The Tin Soldier* under the direction of former Moscow Art Theatre Director, Slava Dolgochev. He earned his B.F.A. from Florida International University in 2005, and a TEFL certificate in Prague in 2006.

JOAN LADER | YoungArts Week Multidisciplinary Master Teacher | For over thirty years, Joan Lader has provided vocal training and rehabilitation for professional voice users. Lader received a B.F.A. from Penn State University in Theatre Arts with a Minor in Music. Trained as a Master's level speech pathologist, she specializes in working with singers and actors, and, in collaboration with New York's top otolaryngologists, rehabilitation of injured voices. Her extensive practice includes leading actors and singers from Broadway, film, opera, R&B, rap, rock, and pop. She has been a frequent guest lecturer at The Voice Foundation in Philadelphia, NYSTA, and NATS, and most recently, the Manhattan School of Music. A consultant at NYU, she also serves on the advisory board of the Manhattan School of Music. She is particularly proud to be involved with the National YoungArts Foundation, whose participants so often become the stars of tomorrow. In 2016, Lader was honored by the American Theater Wing and the Broadway League with a Tony Award for "Excellence in the Theater."

ALICIA LAI | YoungArts Week Alumni Speaker | 2014 National YoungArts Winner in Writing and Presidential Scholar | Alicia Lai's work has been featured at the Smithsonian Institute and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and published in *The Kenyon Review*, *National Poetry Quarterly*, *Lascaux Review*, among others. She has explored interests in arts policy as a Fellow at the National Arts Roundtable Conference in Sundance, as well as in intellectual property at Jones Day's Shanghai law firm. Lai is currently majoring in neuroscience with certificates in American studies and creative writing at Princeton University.

JESSICA LANG | YoungArts Week Interdisciplinary Master Teacher | 2017 Arison Award Honoree | Jessica Lang is a choreographer and the artistic director of Jessica Lang Dance. A recipient of a 2014 Bessie Award, Lang has created more than 95 works on companies worldwide including American Ballet Theatre, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet (2013 Manchester Theatre Award nominee), the National Ballet of Japan, and Joffrey Ballet, among many others. Lang made her Opera directorial debut creating Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* at the 2013 Glimmerglass Opera Festival. This season she choreographed San Francisco Opera's production of *Aida*, directed by Francesca Zambello. Her receipt of a Joyce Theater Artist Residency supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation helped launch her own company, Jessica Lang Dance (JLD) in 2011. JLD has been presented by major venues including The Kennedy Center, New York City Center, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, and BAM Fisher, and is touring to more than 29 cities in the 2016-17 season. Lang is a graduate of The Juilliard School under the direction of Benjamin Harkarvy, and a former member of Twyla Tharp's company, *THARP!*. She was a 2015 New York City Center Fellow and is currently a NYU Center for Ballet and the Arts Fellow.

ERIC LARSON | Classical Music National Reviewer | Double Bassist Eric Larson has been a member of the Houston Symphony since 1999. Mr. Larson pursued undergraduate studies at Boston University, where he received a Bachelor's Degree in Music Performance and received training from Edwin Barker and Hal Robinson. Larson has participated in several summer music festivals including the National Orchestral Institute, Tanglewood, Grand Teton, and the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival. Larson has performed with the Baltimore, Boston, and Philadelphia Orchestra's and was Principal Bass of the Symphony in C. An active chamber musician, Larson has worked with the East Coast Chamber Orchestra, and has collaborated with the Tang String Quartet. An avid teacher, Larson spent three years teaching at the Settlement Music School in Philadelphia, 12 years teaching double bass and coaching chamber music at the Boston University-Tanglewood Institute, and currently spends his summers teaching at the Texas Music Festival, and the Wabass Institute for Double Bass.

PASCAL LE BOEUF | Jazz National Reviewer | YoungArts Week Alumni Speaker | 2004 YoungArts Winner in Jazz and Music | Pascal Le Boeuf is a pianist-composer and electronic artist whose interests range from modern improvised music to cross-breeding classical with production-based technology. Le Boeuf was awarded a 2016 FROMM Commission from Harvard University, the 2015 ASCAP Foundation Johnny Mandel Prize, a 2015 New Music USA Grant in collaboration with RighteousGIRLS, Independent Music Awards in Jazz and Electronica, commissions from Lincoln Center in collaboration with HAL, and a 2015 New Jazz Works Commission from Chamber Music America, in collaboration with JACK Quartet. He composed music for the 2008 Emmy Award-winning movie *King Lines*, and won first place in the 2008 International Songwriting Competition. As a pianist, Le Boeuf has toured with R&B artist D'Angelo, British electronic group Clean Bandit, and regularly performs with Le Boeuf Brothers, Pascal's Triangle, Allan Harris, and Australian pop artist Meg Mac. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in music composition at Princeton University as a Naumburg Doctoral Fellow.

KARELLE LEVY | Design National Reviewer | YoungArts Week and YoungArts Miami Design Master Teacher | Karelle Levy was born in Paris and raised in Miami. She studied textile design at Rhode Island School of Design, which led to the beginning of knitting fabrics as wearable garments and costumes. As a performance artist, she cultivated the first pieces of knitted couture and ready-to-wear fashion collections called KRELwear. As Levy's textiles evolved, her art developed into large-scale, site-specific installations and two-dimensional works including set design for Chromatics at The Gusman Theater, installation at Clyde Butcher Gallery, Fat Village Project, David Castillo Gallery, and Blackall Studios London. Her awards include Best Local Fashion Designer in the *Miami New Times* (2005 & 2010), Style Wars National Champion (2008), and Gen Art Fresh Faces of Fashion (2004). KRELwear has also garnered praise in *The New York Times*, *Women's Wear Daily*, *Lucky*, *Ocean Drive*, *944 Magazine*, and the *Miami Herald*.

TOM LIPPINCOTT | Jazz National Reviewer | Eight- and six- string guitarist Tom Lippincott teaches jazz guitar at Florida International University and Broward College, and both jazz improvisation and jazz guitar at Miami Dade College. He has played throughout the world as a solo guitarist and in many different group configurations.

MARINA LOMAZOV | Classical Music National Selection Panelist | Ukrainian-American pianist Marina Lomazov has been praised by critics as “a diva of the piano” (*The Salt Lake City Tribune*), “a mesmerizing risk taker” (*Cleveland Plain Dealer*) and “dazzling” (*The New York Times*), performing extensively across North and South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia. The award-winning pianist is currently the Ira McKissick Koger Endowed Chair in Piano at the University of South Carolina School of Music, where she is Founder and Artistic Director of the Southeastern Piano Festival.

MICHAEL LOVELAND | Visual Arts National Reviewer | 1991 YoungArts Winner in Visual Arts | Inspired by the aesthetics of grassroots propaganda, from graffiti tags to homemade political posters and hand-painted business signs, Michael Loveland’s new body of work examines the power of the individual’s voice in society. Beginning with repurposed vinyl billboards and found graphics, Loveland obliterates the original image through processes of “painting out”—masking and erasure that allude to his extensive photo archive of removed graffiti. Loveland graduated from New World School of the Arts in Miami and earned his B.F.A. from the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore, and also studied and worked in New York for seven years before returning to Miami. Loveland’s work can be found in many private collections and is exhibited in galleries and museums in the United States and Europe, namely the Brooklyn Museum and the Pérez Art Museum Miami.

BRIAN LYNCH | Jazz National Reviewer | Grammy Award-winning trumpeter Brian Lynch has received wide acclaim during long tenures with Latin Jazz legend Eddie Palmieri and straight ahead master Phil Woods, and has been a valued collaborator with jazz, Latin, and pop music luminaries alike, from Benny Golson to Hector LaVoe and Prince. As a leader he has released over 20 critically acclaimed albums. His current band-leading projects include the *Unsung Heroes* and *Spheres of Influence* ensembles. He is Associate Professor of Jazz and Studio Music at the University of Miami Frost School of Music.

ROBERT L. LYNCH | YoungArts Week Interdisciplinary Master Teacher | Robert L. Lynch is President and CEO of Americans for the Arts. With more than 41 years of experience in the arts industry, he is motivated by his personal mission to empower communities and leaders to advance the arts in society, and in the lives of citizens. Under his 31 years of leadership, the services and membership of Americans for the Arts have grown to more than 50 times their original size, and Americans for the Arts has become a leader in documenting and articulating the key role played by the nonprofit arts and culture industry, and their audiences, in strengthening our nation’s economy. Bringing a national perspective to local arts issues, Lynch currently serves on the boards of the Independent Sector, the Arts Extension Institute, and the University of Massachusetts-Amherst College of Humanities and Fine Arts Dean’s Council. He has also served two terms on the U.S. Travel and Tourism Advisory Board, a position appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce. In 2014, he was awarded the Sidney R. Yates Award for Outstanding Advocacy on Behalf of the Performing Arts, and he was selected as one of the most influential executives in the nonprofit sector for the *NonProfit Times* Power & Influence Top 50 for the third consecutive year. Lynch earned a bachelor’s degree in English from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, and plays the piano, mandolin, and guitar. He lives in Washington, D.C.

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DAN MACKENZIE | Voice National Reviewer | Dan Mackenzie is an Emmy-nominated singer/songwriter/producer/composer signed to Secret Road. He is the winner of two ASCAP Foundation songwriting awards. Mackenzie’s

writing/producing credits include Joss Stone, Martin Sexton, Lisa Loeb, and Margot Bingham. He also has many TV and film credits, including *Dear Dumb Diary* (2013) and *Basmati Blues* (2015), a musical starring Brie Larson, Scott Bakula, Donald Sutherland and Tyne Daly.

DONNA MAKSYMOWICH-WASKIEWICZ | Dance National Reviewer | Donna Maksymowich-Waskiewicz began her Ukrainian dance career at age 2½ with the Ukrainian Dancers of Miami, an ethnic folk dance group that was formed in 1949, and also attended formal ballet classes during her grade school years. Maksymowich-Waskiewicz began choreographing new dances for the Ukrainian Dancers of Miami in the 1980s, based on traditional folk steps and customs, adding more ballet and classical technique. Troupe performances over the past 50 years have included three performances at Walt Disney's EPCOT, parades and festivals throughout Florida, and local television shows. In 1990, she was named Artistic Director of the company, and has steadily increased the group's visibility throughout the ethnic community in South Florida. She produces the group's annual "A Ukrainian Montage" which celebrates its 25th concert this season, showcasing Ukrainian folk dance, song and visual arts, and still performs as a featured dancer with the group.

JEREMY MANASIA | Jazz National Selection Panelist | New York City native Jeremy Manasia began playing piano at the age of seven, and by high school was performing with jazz greats including Red Rodney and Steve Turre. After studying at the Manhattan School of Music and abroad at the Royal Conservatory of Den Haag, Jeremy returned to New York, where he is a staple in the jazz community. Manasia regularly performs with his own trio, the Javon Jackson Band, and has appeared with Jimmy Cobb, Peter Bernstein, Victor Lewis and many others. He has released four albums, spotlighting his work as a composer, arranger, and bandleader. Manasia was a finalist in the Thelonious Monk International Piano Competition, and is on the faculty at the Manhattan School of Music, where he has won numerous Downbeat student music awards and Charles Mingus Competition awards for his teaching, as well as a Presidential Scholars Program Teacher Recognition Award.

RICKY J. MARTINEZ | Theater National Reviewer | Ricky J. Martinez is a spirited Cuban-American award-winning director and playwright. Martinez has been invited to direct for the MFA Playwrights' Workshop at the Kennedy Center's American College Theater Festival, and Stanford University's National Center for New Plays, James Madison University and the Forbes Center, Words A-Fire Festival in New Mexico, Ignition Fest at Victory Gardens, and was the Artistic Director at Miami's New Theatre. Martinez' risk-taking and collaborations with playwrights on more than 50 world premiere plays have led to Pulitzer Prize finalists/wins and ATCA's Steinberg finalists/wins. Nationally, Martinez is an active champion for new works, participating on the Executive Committee for the National New Play Network (NNPN), the Advisory Board of the Latino Theatre Commons, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) panelist (seven years), Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation, National Fund for New Musicals, PlayPenn, and San Antonio's Luminaria Festival. He is the recipient of the 2016 Margo Jones Award, presented by The Ohio State University Libraries and OSU Arts and Humanities

MARÍA MARTÍNEZ-CAÑAS | Photography National Reviewer | María Martínez-Cañas tests the limits of photography, using nearly every form of the medium—from analog to digital, color to black-and-white, camera-less to camera-based—to create photographs, collages, videos, and mixed-media installations through which she explores the mutability of identity and perception. Her work is in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art, National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, the Whitney, International Center of Photography and the Pérez Art Museum Miami, among others.

TARELL MCCRANEY | YoungArts Week Theater Master Teacher | 1999 YoungArts Winner in Theater | Award-Winning Playwright, Executive Producer, and the author of the source material for the Golden Globe nominated film, *Moonlight*, Tarell McCraney's theatrical works include the acclaimed trilogy *The Brother/Sister Plays: The Brothers Size, In the Red and Brown Water*, and *Marcus; or the Secret of Sweet*, as well as *Choir Boy, Head of Passes*,

and *Wig Out*. A 2013 MacArthur Fellow, McCraney is also the recipient of the 2014 Doris Duke Artist Award, and is a Steppenwolf Ensemble Member. Beginning in the fall of 2017, he will be the Head of Playwriting at the Yale School of Drama.

DR. RONALD C. MCCURDY | Jazz National Selection Panelist | YoungArts Board Member | Dr. Ronald C. McCurdy is a professor of music in the Thornton School of Music at the University of Southern California. He has released several albums and has authored and co-authored several books. He is a consultant to the Grammy Foundation educational programs, director of the National Grammy Vocal Jazz Ensemble and Combo and a consultant for the Walt Disney All-American Summer College Jazz Ensemble. McCurdy has also worked with many renowned jazz artists including Joe Williams, Rosemary Clooney, Dr. Billy Taylor, Wynton Marsalis, Terence Blanchard, Arturo Sandoval, and Lionel Hampton.

KERRY MCDERMOTT | Classical Music National Reviewer | A first violinist with the New York Philharmonic, Kerry McDermott joined as its youngest member at the age of 21, and has since appeared as soloist with them throughout North America. She has garnered prizes and awards in major competitions including the Montreal International Violin Competition and the International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, where she also received a special award for “Best Artistic Interpretation.” At age 17, McDermott became the youngest winner in the history of Artists International Auditions. She has performed on tour throughout Holland with Reizend Muziek as well as on North American tours with The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and the Muir String Quartet. Additionally, McDermott has also appeared at Chamber Music Northwest, Bravo! Colorado, Caramour, Marlboro, Tanglewood, Wolftrap, Mostly Mozart, Newport, Ravinia and on three continents with the New York Philharmonic Ensembles.

MICHAEL MCELROY | Theater National Selection Panelist | YoungArts New York Interdisciplinary Performance Director | 1985 YoungArts Winner in Theater | Actor Michael McElroy has appeared in numerous on and off-Broadway productions, including *Rent*, *Violet*, and *Next To Normal*. McElroy was nominated for a Tony Award for his performance in *Big River* and was also nominated for Drama Desk Awards for *Violet* and *Big River*. Founder and director of Broadway Inspirational Voices, he also received a Grammy nomination for their first album *Great Joy!*, and has performed with Mariah Carey, Harry Connick Jr., Gloria Estefan, Elton John, and Sting. McElroy earned his B.F.A. in Theater from Carnegie Mellon University and is the head of Vocal Performance in the New Studio on Broadway at New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts.

HOWARD MCGILLIN | Theater National Reviewer | Best known for his record-setting performance in the title role of *The Phantom of the Opera* on Broadway, Howard McGillin has appeared extensively in leading roles on Broadway and London’s West End. Seen last season on Broadway in *Gigi*, his other leading roles include *The Kiss Of The Spider Woman*, *She Loves Me*, *The Secret Garden*, *Anything Goes*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, and *Sunday in the Park with George*. On London’s West End, Howard starred in *Mack and Mabel* and *Anything Goes*. Two time Tony Award nominee, three time Drama Desk Award nominee, McGillin received the Theater World Award in 1986. Recent television appearances include *The Good Wife* and *Elementary*.

CAMPBELL MCGRATH | YoungArts Week Writing Master Teacher | YoungArts Miami Visual Arts Master Teacher | Campbell McGrath has published numerous collections of poetry, including *Spring Comes to Chicago*, which won the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award, *Seven Notebooks*, and *In the Kingdom of the Sea Monkeys*. He has won a MacArthur Foundation Genius Grant, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and the Academy of American Poets Prize, among others, and has taught at the University of Chicago, Northwestern University, and Florida International University.

RUTH MCKEE | Writing National Reviewer | Ruth McKee is a playwright whose work has been produced and

developed by Actors Theatre of Louisville, Alliance Theatre, Black Dahlia Theatre, Center Theatre Group, Cherry Lane Theatre, Ensemble Studio Theatre, HB Playwrights Foundation, The Road Theatre, and SPFNyc, among others. She has taught creative writing at Idyllwild Arts Academy, the California State Summer School of the Arts, UC San Diego, Cypress College, and most recently helmed the M.F.A. playwriting program at Indiana University. McKee is currently working as Co-Artistic Producing Director of Chalk Repertory Theatre, a LA-based site-specific theatre company of which she is a founding member.

AUGUSTO MENDOZA | YoungArts Miami Design Master Teacher | Augusto Mendoza is a graphic designer based in Miami, FL. His independent practice is well rooted in collaborative projects for publications, exhibitions and branding. Collaborators include cultural organizations, galleries and artist. Mendoza's design process is about simplicity. Defining concepts to communicate clear ideas that engage people.

ANA MENÉNDEZ | Writing National Selection Panelist | YoungArts Week Anthology Editor | YoungArts Miami Master Teacher | Ana Menéndez is the author of four books of fiction: *In Cuba I Was a German Shepherd* (2001), a *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year; the national best seller *Loving Che* (2004); *The Last War* (2009) and *Adios, Happy Homeland!* (2011). She has worked as a journalist in the United States and abroad, lastly as a prize-winning columnist for the *Miami Herald*. Her work has appeared in *Vogue*, *Bomb Magazine*, *The New York Times*, and *Gourmet Magazine* and has been included in several anthologies, including *The Norton Anthology of Latino Literature*.

JV MERCANTI | Theater National Reviewer | JV Mercanti currently serves as the Associate Director of Musical Theater for Pace University in NYC. He most recently directed the critically-acclaimed premier of *Songbird* at 59E59th Street. At Pace he has directed *Xanadu*, *The Pajama Game*, and *Angels in America: Part I*. He served as the Casting and Associate Director on the recent Broadway revival of *Romeo & Juliet* with Orlando Bloom, and also cast the Kevin Kline revival of *Cyrano de Bergerac*, co-starring Jennifer Garner. He spent many years as a casting associate for Roundabout Theatre Company, working on numerous Broadway, off-Broadway and West End productions. He received his M.F.A. from Rutgers University and B.A. from NYU's Gallatin School of Individualized Studies. His monologue book series, *In Performance*, is published by Applause Books.

ROSA MERCEDES | Dance National Reviewer | Barcelona native Rosa Mercedes has been hailed by Jennifer Dunning of *The New York Times* as "sexy and hypnotically precise." *Dance Magazine* praised her "virtuoso castanet work," and Tobi Tobias in *New York Magazine* described her as "a delight, with lots of sparkle and tremendous elegance." She has enjoyed an international critically acclaimed career as a principal dancer, masterful in all styles of Spanish dance, in many of the major theaters throughout the United States, Europe, South America, and Canada. She has an enormously successful career choreographing for opera with companies such as the Metropolitan Opera, Opera di Roma, Seattle Opera, Cincinnati Opera, Atlanta Opera, Dallas Opera, Opera Lyra Ottawa, Michigan Opera Theatre, Palm Beach Opera, and Florida Grand Opera. Mercedes gives master classes and workshops in Spanish dance throughout the United States and abroad.

AARON MERRITT | YoungArts Miami Classical Music Master Teacher | Praised by the Miami Herald for his "eloquent" and "cathartic" playing, Aaron Merritt enjoys a varied career of teaching and performing. He currently performs with Miami's Nu-Deco Ensemble, the Palm Beach Opera, and the Naples Philharmonic, and has performed with the Florida Grand Opera and New World Symphony under Michael Tilson Thomas from 2004-2008. He has performed across the United States, Austria and the Netherlands and he performs at the Colorado Music Festival in Boulder and the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music in Santa Cruz, California during the summer months. With his colleagues in the Sona String Quartet, Mr. Merritt has presented over one hundred educational concerts for underserved schools and communities in the Greater Miami area. He is Adjunct Professor of Cello at Miami's New World School of the Arts. His students have been laureates and participants at national

and international competitions, including the Sphinx and Tchaikovsky. Mr. Merritt studied at Indiana University (BM) and Rice University (MM). Principal teachers include Lynn Harrell, Emilio Colón and Helga Winold.

WALLY MINKO | YoungArts Miami Multidisciplinary Performance Musical Director | Grammy-nominated composer/producer/keyboardist Wally Minko has performed and recorded with stars like Tom Jones, Barry Manilow, and Deniece Williams, Pink, Toni Braxton, En Vogue, New Edition, Exposé, Jean-Luc Ponty, Jon Anderson of Yes, Gregg Rolie of Santana and many others. Minko's compositions and arrangements are commissioned frequently by the biggest stars in the business, including Jon Anderson, Arturo Sandoval, Wayne Bergeron, Gary Grant and Dan Fornero. He is the resident arranger for the Blackhawk Chorus 2015 and 2016 seasons and was Musical Director for the Presidential Scholarship Awards at the Kennedy Center in 2015. Minko is very active in the Los Angeles studio scene. He has also served as Music Director for countless artists, shows and productions. Minko teaches privately, and has been the Director of Music and Worship at Calvary Church in West Hills, CA for several years.

KENNETH NOEL MITCHELL | Theater National Selection Panelist | Kenneth Noel Mitchell is currently the Associate Chair of External Outreach and Administration for Tisch School of the Arts at New York University and the Head of Acting for the New Studio on Broadway. As an actor and director, his work has been represented in New York and regionally. He was the Artistic Director of American Stage, Theater Outrageous, and The Kaleidoscope Company under the auspices of the Asolo Theater Company.

ALICE MIZRACHI | YoungArts Week Interdisciplinary Master Teacher | Alice Mizrachi is a New York based interdisciplinary artist and educator working in the mediums of painting, murals, and installation. Her work explores the interconnectedness of individuals and community through the dual lens of compassion and empathy. Mizrachi has worked as an arts educator for nearly twenty years for organizations including BRIC Arts, The Laundromat Project, and The Studio Museum in Harlem. As a painter, Mizrachi maintains both a studio practice and an extensive body of work as a muralist. Her work have been featured in exhibitions at the Museum of the City of New York, the National Museum of Women in the Arts, the United Nations and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Washington D.C. She has been commissioned as a mural artist for projects in Amsterdam, Berlin, Tel Aviv, and across the United States. She has a B.F.A. from Parsons School of Design.

MARIBEL MODRONO | Dance National Reviewer | Maribel Modrono is a former Principal dancer with Miami City Ballet and Pittsburgh Ballet Theater. Modrono is now a certified Pilates, Ballet and Core Fusion teacher.

TRACEY MOORE | Theater National Reviewer | Tracey Moore is an associate professor at The Hartt School in Connecticut where she directs and teaches both musical theatre and acting. She appeared as Emma Goldman in the National Broadway Tour of *Ragtime*, with Richard Harris in *Camelot* at the Metropolitan Opera, and in several Off-Broadway productions. Moore is the author of the book, *Acting the Song*, due out in a second edition with an accompanying Student Companion Ebook, as well as several articles in *Dramatics*, *Teaching Theatre*, *The Chronicle of Higher Ed*, *Studies in Music Theatre*, and *The New York Times*.

MARK MOORMANN | Cinematic Arts National Selection Panelist | Mark Moormann is a producer, director and director of photography with documentary, commercial, music video, and television show credits. His documentary work includes the Grammy-nominated *Tom Dowd & The Language of Music* and *For Once In My Life*, winner of a SXSW Film Festival Audience Award, and an IDA Music Award. Mark's films have screened at major film festivals (Sundance, Toronto), museums (Experience Music Project in Seattle, Coca-Cola in Atlanta, and Skirball Cultural Center in L.A.), and large-scale events (George Lucas' Skywalker Ranch and Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame 25th Anniversary Show at Madison Square Garden). His recent work includes cinematography on the Showtime series *The Years of Living Dangerously*, and directing and producing the feature-length music documentary *The Record Man*.

JASON MORAN | YoungArts Week Interdisciplinary Master Teacher | 2017 Arison Alumni Award Honoree | Jason Moran, known as a “provocative thinker in current jazz,” according to Rolling Stone Magazine, has established himself as a risk-taker and innovator. A musician of diverse cultural interests, Moran is a devotee of the painter Jean-Michel Basquiat whose work continues to fuel his “Gangsterism...” series of compositions first heard on his debut’s instant classic “Gangsterism on Canvas.” He has performed and recorded with some of the best musicians and has always pushed boundaries. Moran’s ongoing visionary collaborations in the art world have brought him additional fans and respect. His music is in the collections of both the MOMA and Whitney Museum of American Art. He scored a ballet for renowned Alonzo King’s LINES Ballet, as well as scoring video works for contemporary American artists Glenn Ligon and Kara Walker. Additionally, Moran has worked with pivotal visual and performance artists such as Joan Jonas and Adrian Piper. Music education continues to play a central role in his life. Moran is on the piano faculty at Manhattan School of Music. He has been lecturer/instructor at Yale University, Dartmouth University, University of Pennsylvania, Eastman School of Music, The Kennedy Center, The New School, New York’s Museum of Modern Art, Banff Center for The Arts, Denmark’s VallekildeJazz Camp, Skidmore, and Stanford Jazz Workshop.

JOAN MORGAN | Writing National Reviewer | YoungArts Week Writing Master Teacher | YoungArts Miami, Los Angeles and New York Writing Faculty | Regional Anthology Editor | Joan Morgan is an award-winning journalist, author, and provocative cultural critic. A pioneering hip-hop journalist, she began her professional writing career freelancing for *The Village Voice*. Morgan went on to write for publications such as *Vibe*, *Spin*, *MS.*, *More*, *Interview*, and *Essence* (where she served as Executive Editor). She also authored a book titled *When Chickenheads Come Home to Roost*.

DIPIKA MOULI | Dance National Reviewer | 2007 YoungArts Winner in Dance | Dipika Mouli completed her arangetram in 2007 after 12 years of training and has performed throughout the United States and overseas. She actively promotes world dance forms in her community by providing foundational dance technique training to new dancers in the D.C. metro area. Most recently she was a traveling company member of Dakshina, a D.C. area fusion dance company combining elements of bharathanatyam and ballet/modern, and is currently working in higher education and earning a Master’s in Public Administration from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill.

NICOLE MUJICA | YoungArts Week Theater Discipline Coordinator | Nicole Mujica graduated from the University of Florida with degrees in English, Theatre and Education. She currently teaches drama at MA Milam K-8 Center and is the proud sponsor and director for District 4 Thespian Troupe 88685.

BETSY MULLINS | YoungArts Week Interdisciplinary Master Teacher | Betsy Mullins has explored yoga and meditation practices in Japan and Thailand, and now in Miami. In 2013, her life changed dramatically when a dear friend was diagnosed with severe kidney failure and Mullins volunteered to become an organ donor. Through the course of the transplant, yoga became an irreplaceable part of Mullins’ wellness plan. It was during this time that she met the teachers that would inspire her to take her practice even deeper and pursue a life of teaching. Mullins’ classes are a meditative mix of flowing movement and purposeful breathing, with plenty of opportunities to laugh. In addition to her work as a teacher, Mullins is currently working towards her certification in Ayurveda with the hope of helping her students and clients lead even healthier holistic lives.

DR. ISAI JESS MUÑOZ | YoungArts Week Alumni Speaker | 1997 YoungArts Winner in Voice and Theater | Lauded by the press for his “extraordinary blend of colorful voice and powerful stage presence,” tenor Isai Jess Muñoz has appeared with The New York City Opera, The New York Philharmonic, The American Symphony Orchestra at Carnegie Hall, Alvin Ailey Dance on Broadway, The Israel Philharmonic under Zubin Mehta, The Verbier Festival in Switzerland, and many more organizations around the world. Muñoz is a graduate of the Cincinnati Col-

lege-Conservatory of Music, The Manhattan School of Music, and SUNY Stony Brook. As a member of the voice and opera faculty at the University of Delaware, Dr. Muñoz enthusiastically works with a vast array of emerging professionals and celebrity clients performing on Broadway, in opera, and other varied areas of contemporary and classical commercial music. He serves as Chair of the Sacred in Opera Initiative of the National Opera Association which serves to study and disseminate the interplay between ideologies of world religions and opera.

ANDREA MURILLO | Dance National Reviewer | Andrea Murillo is a creator, performer and designer currently living in Brooklyn. Shortly after graduating from New World School of the Arts, she began touring with Martha Graham Dance Company, performing in *Lamentation*, *Serenata Morisca*, *Embattled Garden*, and *Steps in the Street*. In 2012 Murillo was cast in New York's *Sleep No More*, playing numerous roles, including Lady Macbeth. Murillo has worked in collaboration with Rosie Herrera, Miki Orihara, and Caterina Rago, and has performed with the Instituto Nazionale Dramma Antico in Sicily for their productions of *Le Baccanti* and *Prometeo*. Murillo has had the pleasure of collaborating and creating theatrical events for companies such as Espolon, Dos Equis, The Knickerbocker Hotel, and Lululemon Lab @ The New Museum. She is a YoungArts Master Teacher and a certified Gyrotonic Expansion System Teacher. Murillo is in pre-production for her dance film, *Conduit for a Dream*.

JOHN MURILLO | Writing National Selection Panelist | John Murillo's first poetry collection, *Up Jump the Boogie*, was a finalist for both the Kate Tufts Discovery Award and the PEN Open Book Award, and was named by *The Huffington Post* as one of "Ten Recent Books of Poetry You Should Read Right Now." Honors include a Pushcart Prize, two Larry Neal Writers Awards and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, *The New York Times*, and the Wisconsin Institute of Creative Writing, among others. His work has appeared or is forthcoming in a variety of publications and he currently teaches creative writing at New York University and at Hampshire College where he serves as Assistant Professor of Creative Writing and African-American Literary Arts.

N

PHILIP NEAL | Dance National Reviewer | YoungArts Week Dance Master Teacher | 1986 YoungArts Winner in Dance and U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts | Philip Neal is the Artistic Director of Next Generation Ballet and Dean of Dance for Patel Conservatory at the STRAZ Center in Tampa, FL. After a 23-year tenure with New York City Ballet, including 17 years as a principal dancer, Neal represents the George Balanchine Trust and the Jerome Robbins Rights Trust as a Répétiteur, staging the ballets of both legendary choreographers throughout the world. He has also successfully embarked on choreographic ventures, having crafted five original works for Richmond Ballet and participated in the New York Choreographic Institute & National Choreographers Initiative.

STEPHEN NEAL | Theater National Reviewer | Stephen Neal is a versatile actor/director based in South Florida. He has appeared in film and television, and has been cast in many of South Florida's best professional theatre productions, three of which earned Carbonell nominations for Best Ensemble. Neal was a New Theatre Company Member and was featured in their Shakespeare series, where he has played 18 characters in 13 productions, most notably, Prospero in *The Tempest*.

ANGÉLICA NEGRÓN | Classical Music National Reviewer | Puerto Rican-born composer and multi-instrumentalist Angélica Negrón writes music for accordions, robotic instruments, toys, and electronics, as well as chamber ensembles and orchestras. Her music has been performed at the Bang on a Can Marathon, the Ecstatic Music Festival and the 2016 New York Philharmonic Biennial, and she has collaborated with artists including Sō Percussion, loadbang, American Composers Orchestra, and Face the Music. Negrón is currently a doctoral candidate at The Graduate Center (CUNY), where she studies composition with Tania León. A teaching artist for New York Philharmonic's Very Young Composers Program and Lincoln Center Education, she works with learners of all ages on creative composition projects. Negrón was the 2014-2015 Van Lier Fellow at American Composers Orchestra,

and was recently selected as one of the recipients for NYFA's 2016 Artists' Fellowship Program.

RANDALL NEWSOME | Theater National Reviewer | Randall Newsome is an actor whose Broadway credits include Manhattan Theatre Club, Roundabout Theatre and more. His off-Broadway credits include Lesser America, NY Theatre Workshop, NY Summer Play Festival, and The Irish Repertory Theatre, and his regional theatre credits include Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre, The Goodman Theatre, McCarter Theatre, and Shakespeare Theatre of D.C. Newsome's film and TV credits include *Geostorm*, *A Walk in the Woods*, *Oliver Stone's W*, *Highlander II*, *Not Fade Away*, *Turn: Washington's Spies*, *Stan Against Evil*, *Boardwalk Empire*, *Person of Interest*, *Royal Pains*, *The Good Wife*, *Star-Crossed*, *L&O*, *Vampire Diaries* and *Unforgettable*. A former member of the DGA, Newsome's Assistant Director credits include *Barton Fink*, *Dennis the Menace*, *Highlander II*, *Primal Fear*, and *Tremors*. He holds an M.F.A. from the Alabama Shakespeare Festival's Professional Actor Training Program. He is a graduate of RBB&B Clown College, and toured with the 125th Edition of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Baily Circus.

ANDREW NORMAN | YoungArts Week Classical Music Master Teacher | 1998 YoungArts Winner in Classical Music | Andrew Norman is a composer of orchestral, chamber, and vocal music whose work draws on an eclectic mix of sounds and notational practices from both the avant-garde and classical traditions. His distinctive, often fragmented and highly energetic voice has been cited in *The New York Times* for its "daring juxtapositions and dazzling colors," in the *Boston Globe* for its "staggering imagination." Norman was recently named Musical America's 2017 Composer of the Year. He is the recipient of the 2004 Jacob Druckman Prize, the 2005 ASCAP Nissim and Leo Kaplan Prizes, the 2006 Rome Prize, the 2009 Berlin Prize, and a 2016 Guggenheim Fellowship. Norman's 30-minute string trio *The Companion Guide to Rome* was named a finalist for the 2012 Pulitzer Prize in Music, and his large-scale orchestral work *Play* was named one of NPR's top 50 albums of 2015, nominated for a 2016 Grammy in the Best Contemporary Classical Composition category, and recently won the Grawemeyer Award for Music Composition. Norman joined the faculty of the USC Thornton School of Music in 2013, and he is thrilled to serve as the new director of the L.A. Phil's Composer Fellowship Program for high school composers.

KURT NORTON | Cinematic Arts National Reviewer | Kurt Norton is a documentary filmmaker who co-produced and shot the award-winning film *Also Ran*. Norton also co-directed and co-produced *These Amazing Shadows* in 2011, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and aired on PBS. Most recently, he has produced the documentaries *Being George Clooney* (2016), *The S Word* (2016) and *The Legend of Swee' Pea* (2016).

NAVARRA NOVY-WILLIAMS | Dance National Reviewer | Navarra Novy-Williams was born in New York City, and received her early training from Elaine Kudo and Buddy Balou before graduating from The Juilliard School with a B.F.A. in Dance in 2006. She has danced with Les Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montréal (2006-2009), The Batsheva Ensemble (2009-2010), and Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet (2010-2015). During this period she performed work by George Balanchine, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Nacho Duato, Alexander Eckman, Mats Ek, Emanuel Gat, Johan Ingre, Jean Christophe Maillot, Hofesh Schechter, Richard Siegal, Jo Stromgren, Didy Veldman, Shen Wei and Christopher Wheeldon, among others. She is currently freelancing in NYC, working with the Metropolitan Opera Ballet, ZoelJuniper, and Mark DeChiazza. She has recently worked with Sonya Tayeh, Gregory Dolbashian, Francesca Harper, and Manuel Vignoulle M/Motions. She also teaches Gaga and Contemporary Dance/Improvisation.

HELEN MARIA NUGENT | Design Arts National Selection Panelist | Helen Maria Nugent is a Professor and founding Chair in Designed Objects at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), and has more than 20 years of teaching and leadership experience in higher education. She has spearheaded successful design partnerships with the Tacoma Museum of Art, CB2, Industreal, Danese Milano, Dupont Corian, The Future Perfect, and Spazio Rossana Orlandi. Nugent is a principal partner in HAELO Design, an independent, research-oriented studio that

pursues speculative and commercial design projects with a focus on furniture, objects, and exhibition design. She has served as a juror for the Core77 Annual Design Awards, the International Housewares Awards, the Kurtich Traveling Scholarships, and the College Arts Association Professional Development Fellowships. Born and raised in Scotland, Nugent studied at the Glasgow School of Art, receiving a B.F.A. with Honors in Environmental Art and a Master of Design.

O

NICOLA O'HARA | Dance National Reviewer | YoungArts Miami Dance Master Teacher | Nicola O'Hara, an Irish Dance Master, is the owner of the Breffni Academy of Irish Dance and a dance professor at the University of Miami. She is a native of Co. Donegal, Ireland and has performed and successfully competed throughout Ireland, England and the United States. Nicola has performed for the President of Ireland, appeared on television in both Ireland and England, and performed onstage with many outstanding musicians including Natalie MacMaster, Cephas & Wiggins and many more. She enjoyed a successful career as a Systems Analyst at MSMC after graduating Valedictorian from John Moores University, Liverpool, England, with a BSc. (Honors) in Business Information Systems in 1997. In 2004, O'Hara was awarded the title "Master of Irish Dance" and certification as a qualified Irish dance teacher (TCRG) and, 10 years later, she was elected as the first Secretary of the U.S.A. Branch of An Comh-dhail, The Congress of Irish Dance Teachers.

JEFF ONO | Visual Arts National Reviewer | Jeff Ono has been in numerous group exhibitions and has had solo exhibitions in New York, Los Angeles, London, and Padova, Italy. He received a Penny McCall Foundation award in 2004.

ILEANA OROZA | Writing National Reviewer | Ileana Oroza is a freelance editor based in South Florida. Until June 2016, she taught journalism at the University of Miami and served as the faculty advisor to *The Miami Hurricane*. She was previously Arts Editor, Foreign Editor, and Assistant Managing Editor at *The Miami Herald*.

P

JORGE "FABEL" PABON | Dance National Reviewer | YoungArts Week Dance Master Teacher | A senior member of the Rock Steady Crew and an honorary member of the Electric Boogaloos, Pabon is the co-founder of GhettoOriginal Productions Inc. With GhettoOriginal, he co-authored, co-directed and co-choreographed the first two hip hop musicals ever, *So! What Happens Now?* and *Jam on the Groove*. As an adjunct professor at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, Pabon teaches movement in the Experimental Theater Wing and also gives lectures, demonstrations, master classes, and participates in outreach programs and conferences internationally.

LEAH PAUL | Classical Music National Reviewer | Leah Paul is a professional flutist and composer based out of Los Angeles. She can be heard performing across genres on film scores, rock albums, and contemporary music concerts. Paul studied flute performance at the University of Michigan, graduating in 2002. Since then, she has established herself as a highly regarded composer and collaborator. In addition to her career as a professional musician, Leah is a sought after educator, working with the Harmony Project of Los Angeles, Education Through Music-LA, as well as a guest lecturing at the Longy School of Music and the Los Angeles Composer's Salon. Her third album, *We Will Do the Worrying*, was released in November of 2016.

ERIC PETERSON | YoungArts Week Design Discipline Coordinator, Graduate Assistants | Eric Peterson is an instructor for the Department of Architecture at Florida International University where he teaches introductory design studios for Architecture, Interior Architecture, and Landscape Architecture students and advanced design studios for Architecture and Furniture Design students. He manages a Fabrication Lab that teaches students how to build models, furniture, installations, fabrication prototypes and test assemblies using both traditional and computer actuated tools and equipment.

JORGE M. PÉREZ | YoungArts Week Visual Arts Master Teacher | Jorge M. Pérez is the founder, Chairman and CEO of The Related Group. In August of 2005, TIME Magazine named Mr. Pérez, one of top 25 most influential Hispanics in the United States, and in 2008, he published his first business bestseller, *Powerhouse Principles: The Billionaire Blueprint for Real Estate Success*. Pérez is deeply involved in supporting Miami's ongoing cultural renaissance, sponsoring programs like the Miami International Film Festival's Emerging Cuban Independent Film/Video Artists Program and The National YoungArts Foundation's Visual Arts Discipline. Most notably, Pérez donated \$40 million to the Herzog & de Meuron-designed Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM). He is also a member of the University of Miami's Board of Trustees, chairs the Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs Council, and is a director of the Miami International Film Festival. A lover of art and an avid collector, Pérez infuses each development with carefully selected pieces from master artists including Fernando Botero, Jaume Plensa, Julio LeParc, and Fabian Burgos.

GISELLE PIQUE | YoungArts Week and YoungArts Miami Visual Arts Discipline Coordinator | Giselle Pique is a South Florida native with over six years of experience in higher education administration. She is a passionate supporter of Miami's art community, and believes that creativity is an integral part of society. Pique earned a Bachelor's degree in Art History from Florida International University, and is working towards a Master's in Art in Media Studies at The New School for Public Engagement.

SYLVIA PLACHY | YoungArts Week Photography AON Master Teacher | Sylvia Plachy was staff photographer at the Village Voice between 1974 and 2004. At various other times she was on staff at New York Magazine, the New Yorker, Metropolis. She was born in 1943 in Budapest, left Hungary with her parents in the wake of the 1956 Revolution and immigrated to the US in 1958. She has had six books published. Her awards include the Guggenheim Fellowship, Page One Award for Journalism, Infinity Award, a Lucie and the Dr. Erich Salomon Preis. Her exhibition *When Will It Be Tomorrow* is traveling in Europe and another exhibit at the Boca Raton Museum is closing on January 8, 2017. She will be part of a show at the Laurence Miller Gallery opening January 7, 2017 in Manhattan and also at the Bronx Documentary Center opening January 14, 2017.

KYLE POOLE | YoungArts Miami Jazz Master Teacher | Kyle Poole is a drummer, bandleader, and composer. Based in New York City, he has performed with Paul Jeffery, George Cables, Jeremy Pelt, Mike Ledonne, Peter Bernstein, Frank Lacy, Stacy Dillard, Joel Frahm, and others. He was selected as semi-finalist for the 2012 Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz Competition. His band Poole and The Gang can be found performing in many of the top jazz clubs in NYC.

SASHA POTIOMKIN | Classical Music National Reviewer | Clarinetist Sasha Potiomkin has appeared as a soloist with Israel Camerata Orchestra, Tel Aviv Symphony, Brooklyn Philharmonic, and Houston Chamber Orchestra. He has given recitals in Ukraine, Israel, and the United States, and has also participated in the Tanglewood, Bellingham, Blossom, and Mozaic Festivals. In 2012, Potiomkin was appointed to Bass Clarinetist/Utility with the Houston Symphony.

Q

VICTOR QUIJADA | Dance National Reviewer | From the hip-hop clubs of Los Angeles, to a performance career with internationally acclaimed dance companies including THARPI, Ballet Tech, and Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, Victor Quijada has gained a rare perspective on a large spectrum of dance. In 2002, Quijada created his dance company, RUBBERBANDance Group, and has toured his work across North America and in Europe, Japan, and Mexico. He has created stage works for Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Pacific Northwest Ballet, and Scottish Dance Theatre, among others, and his award-winning short films have been screened around the world. From 2007 to 2011, Quijada was an artist-in-residence at the Cinquième Salle of Place des Arts in Montreal. In 2015,

he became an artist-in-residence at the newly founded Glorja Kaufman School of Dance at the University of Southern California. He is the recipient of two Princess Grace Awards; a 2010 Choreographic Fellowship, and a Works in Progress Grant.

MARCUS QUINIONES | YoungArts Week Multidisciplinary Master Teacher | Hawaii-born Marcus Quiniones has created, taught and performed in venues including the Guthrie Theater, Honolulu Theater For Youth, MU Performing Arts, Theater Amoeba, Ragamala Music and Dance Theater, The Children 's Theater Company of Minneapolis, Bishop Museum, Universities of Minnesota and Hawaii. His play *Circle Around The Island* was seen at the Guthrie Theater in 2007. Quiniones was the Assistant Director of Tony Kushner 's award-winning Guthrie production of *Caroline, Or Change*, and performed in the cirque-inspired *Ulalena* at the Maui Myth and Magic Theater in Lahaina, Maui. He graduated from the London International School of Performing Arts (LISPA), studying under its founder Thomas Prattki. Quiniones currently works in entertainment at Aulani, the new Disney resort on O 'ahu and studies hula with Hālau Mōhala 'Ilima.

R

ILANA REYNOLDS | Dance National Reviewer | Ilana Reynolds began her BA in dance at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst/USA, and finished her studies at Escola da Fundação de Dança in Salvador, Brazil. From 2004-2012, Reynolds danced professionally for choreographers Augusto Soledade and Letty Bassart in Miami, FL. Along with being a company dancer, she has been Rehearsal Director, Repertory Teacher and worked extensively with children. In 2008, Reynolds received two artistic scholarships through the State of Florida to work with choreographer Christine Brunel in Essen, Germany. Since then she has been working between the US and Europe. In 2013, she co-founded Lake Studios Berlin, a dance residency/research space. She teaches contemporary dance approaches to students and professionals in Germany and abroad, and currently is studying for her Master's degree in contemporary dance education at the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst Frankfurt am Main. In 2015, Reynolds became an awarded scholar of the Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes.

LEYDEN RODRIGUEZ-CASANOVA | Design Arts National Reviewer | Leyden Rodriguez-Casanova was born in 1973 in Havana, Cuba and currently lives and works in Miami, FL. He is currently one of the directors of Dimensions Variable. Select exhibitions include The Center for Architecture and Design, Miami, FL; Fatoria Habana, Havana, Cuba; Alejandra von Hartz Gallery, Miami, FL; ZONA MACO Arte Contemporaneo, Mexico City, Mexico; Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami, FL; Prosjektrom Normanns, Stavanger, Norway; Museo de Bellas Artes, Havana, Cuba; Bass Museum of Art, Miami Beach, FL; Abrons Arts Center, New York, NY; David Castillo Gallery, Miami, FL; Casas Riegner Gallery, Bogota, Colombia; Socrates Sculpture Park, Long Island City, NY. Selected collections include Sayago & Pardon Collection, San Diego, CA; Alfredo Hertzog Da Silva, Sao Palo, Brazil; Cintas Foundation Collection, Miami, FL; The Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), Miami, FL; Capri Palace, Capri, Italy; Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation (CIFO) Miami, FL; Frost Museum of Art, Miami, FL. Rodriguez-Casanova most recently opened a site-specific commission for Vizcaya Museum & Gardens in the fall of 2016.

CLAIRE ROSEN | YoungArts Miami Photography Master Teacher | Claire Rosen is an award-winning artist whose transportive imagery uses universal themes of dreams, fairy tales, and mythology to visually symbolize the many facets of the human condition. In 2012 and 2013, Rosen earned a place on the Forbes "30 Brightest under 30" list for Art & Design. She has been exhibited from New York to Los Angeles and London to Seoul and her work can be found in a number of public and private collections. Her fine art work has been included in a number of juried group shows at The Annenberg Space for Photography, Aperture Gallery, Center for Maine Contemporary Art (CMCA), Consensus, MOPLA, PhotoPlace Gallery, with four consecutive years on the Photoville Fence in Atlanta, Boston, Brooklyn, Houston & Santa Fe. Her book, *IMAGINARIUM: The Process Behind the Pictures*, published by Rocky Nook, covers the artistic practice of photography. Rosen is a brand ambassador for Dynalite, FujiFilm USA,

Hahnemühle USA, and liveBooks.

KUNYA ROWLEY | YoungArts Week Voice Discipline Coordinator | Kunya Rowley earned his BM in Opera Performance from the University of Florida/New World School of the Arts in 2010. Since then, he has continued down a path of musicianship, teaching voice privately and performing throughout the South Florida area. Some of Rowley's favorite roles include Flute in Opera Naples' production of Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Mitch Mahoney in Slow Burn Theatre's production of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. Other performance, non-profit, and teaching affiliations include Florida Grand Opera, the Second Avenue Jewish Chorale, and SoBe Arts. Rowley is also a creator with Mangrove Creative Collective, an organization which seeks to serve, engage, and energize the South Florida community by creating and developing innovative storytelling.

DEON RUBI | YoungArts Miami Design Master Teacher | Deon Rubi was born and raised in Buenos Aires, Argentina until relocating to Miami in 1995. She has always admired human intervention through space and the thoughtful creation of environments, which led her to study Set Design and Visual Communication in Buenos Aires. Using jewelry design as a starting point in 2012, her work has expanded to include objects, furniture, sculpture, and installation. Deon Rubi's work has been exhibited at the Miami Center for Architecture and Design, Noguchi Breton Gallery, Spinello Projects, Design Pub, and Museum of Contemporary Art North Miami (MOCA). Deon Rubi Jewelry has been a feature of the PAMM Shop since its opening in 2013, and has been carried by the ICA and Standard Hotel Shops. She is represented by Central Fine Gallery and currently working on a solo show opening September 2017.

JOSH RUSSELL | Writing National Reviewer | Josh Russell has published three novels, two chapbooks of very short prose, and more than sixty short stories, essays, and poems. Russell is the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowship in Prose, and the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference Shane Stevens Fellowship in the Novel. His novels have won the Independent Publisher Book Award Bronze Medal for Literary Fiction, and have been finalists for the Townsend Prize, the Binghamton University John Gardner Book Award, and the Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers Award. His shorter prose has been anthologized in *New Stories from the South*, *French Quarter Fiction*, *Not Normal*, *Illinois: Peculiar Fictions from the Flyover*, and *Thus Spake the Corpse: An Exquisite Corpse Reader*, and appears most recently in *Epoch*, *DIAGRAM*, *Western Humanities Review*, *Okey-Panky*, and *New World Writing*. He is currently professor of English and Director of the Creative Writing Program at Georgia State University.

S

CHRIS SAMPSON | Voice National Selection Panelist | Christopher Sampson is a performer, educator, producer, and arts administrator. He is the founding director of the Popular Music program and Vice Dean for Contemporary Music at the USC Thornton School of Music. As a professor of songwriting, Sampson's students have penned number-one hit songs and won Grammy awards and national songwriting competitions. They have placed songs in television shows and films, written musicals, secured recording contracts, and become among the most subscribed musicians on YouTube, working in multiple areas of the music industry including A&R, publishing, and administration. Sampson is also the songwriting instructor for the Grammy Foundation.

JUAN C. SANCHEZ | Writing National Reviewer | Playwright Juan Sanchez's works have been produced on stages throughout Miami and in Minneapolis, New York, and Los Angeles. Some of his theatre credits include *Paradise Motel*, *Buck Fever*, and *Red Tide*.

NANCY SAVOCA | YoungArts Miami Cinematic Arts Co-Director | Nancy Savoca is a director/writer whose first feature film, *True Love*, won the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival. She has been nominated for a Spirit Award for her directorial work and for a Best Director prize at the Los Angeles Latino Film Festival. Retro-

spectives of Savoca's work have been featured in The Museum of the Moving Image.

JOANNE NORMAN SCHULTE | Classical Music National Reviewer | Joanne Schulte holds Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in organ performance from Indiana University. She has been an international recitalist and a soloist with the New World Symphony, the Florida Philharmonic, and the Pro Musica Society on National Public Radio and Television, and was senior organist at Historic Plymouth Congregational Church, director of music and organist at Naples United Church of Christ, and artist in residence at Vizcaya Museum and Gardens. Active in the American Guild of Organists as an officer and member since 1967, she served as Dean 1989-1991 and completed a three-year tenure as Dean in 2008. She is currently the Director of Organ Studies at Florida International University and artist-in-residence at Pinecrest Presbyterian Church. In addition, Schulte adjudicates competitions and serves as a teacher/performer for Pipe Organ Encounters. She is a member of the National AGO Committee on the New Organist.

TOM SCICLUNA | Visual Arts National Reviewer | YoungArts Week Interdisciplinary Master Teacher | Tom Scicluna lives and works in Miami, Florida. A 2012 South Florida Cultural Consortium Fellowship for Visual and Media Artists recipient, his recent exhibitions include *Research and Development: Concerning Belonging* (NSU Art Museum, Fort Lauderdale, FL), *New Work Miami 2013* (Miami Art Museum, Miami, FL), *Night Shift* (Bass Museum of Art, Miami Beach, FL) and *Rendez-Vous 08* (Musée d'Art Contemporain de Lyon, in conjunction with the Moore Space European Residency Program in Lyon, France).

VERNON SCOTT | Dance National Selection Panelist | A graduate of the Juilliard School, Vernon Scott has danced with companies including Feld Ballet, Elisa Monte, Stephen Petronio, Pilobolus, Lar Lubovitch, Mark Morris, and Mikhail Baryshnikov's White Oak Dance Project (also serving as Rehearsal Coordinator). He premiered his own work *Layers* for the company. He serves on non-profit boards such as The Martha Hill Dance Fund as President and is the Coordinating Producer of the recently completed documentary *Miss Hill: Making Dance Matter*. He is also Vice-President of Full Circle Productions, which produces 360° Dance Company, where he is the Director of Development and Special Events. He is overjoyed to keep a toe in the studio with coaching and setting the works of 360° Dance Company's Artistic Director Martin Lofsnes. Scott is currently Special Events Manager and Executive Assistant to the Artistic Director at Baryshnikov Arts Center.

NICOLE SEALEY | Writing National Reviewer | Born in St. Thomas, U.S.V.I., and raised in Apopka, Florida, Nicole Sealey is the author of *The Animal After Whom Other Animals Are Named*, winner of the 2015 Drinking Gourd Chapbook Poetry Prize. Her other honors include an Elizabeth George Foundation Grant, the Stanley Kunitz Memorial Prize from *The American Poetry Review*, a Daniel Varoujan Award, and the Poetry International Prize, as well as fellowships from CantoMundo, Cave Canem and the Poetry Project. Her work has appeared in *The New Yorker* and elsewhere. Sealey holds an M.L.A. in Africana Studies from the University of South Florida and an M.F.A. in creative writing from New York University. She is the Programs Director at Cave Canem Foundation.

SARAH SEDER | Dance National Reviewer | Sarah Seder studies the connection between physical, mental and emotional health. In the last decade, she worked in Seattle as a freelance dancer and choreographer, a co-director of Sapience Dance Collective, a Gyrotonica® instructor and a dance teacher. In her choreography, she collaborates with dancers and musicians to create performances that tell personal stories. Primarily a modern dance artist, she also draws from training in ballet, jazz, flamenco, musical theater, and swing. She is a graduate of Bard College, where she double majored in Dance and Psychology.

ANNA SEW HOY | Visual Arts National Reviewer | YoungArts Los Angeles Visual Arts Co-Director | Anna Sew Hoy lives and works in Los Angeles. Solo presentations of Sew Hoy's work have been mounted at the Hammer Museum; Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York; LAXART; Various Small Fires, Los Angeles; the San Jose Museum of Art; and

the California Biennial 2008, among others. Her work is in the collections of the Hammer Museum, SFMOMA, LACMA, and the Museum of Contemporary Art in San Diego. She was awarded a Creative Capital Grant for Visual Art in 2015 to support her project *Psychic Body Grotto*. She was awarded the California Community Foundation Grant for Emerging Artists in 2013, and the United States Artists Broad Fellowship in 2006. Sew Hoy received her M.F.A. from Bard College in 2008.

LIZ SHANNON | YoungArts Miami Guest Curator | Liz Shannon is a writer, curator, and academic with a PhD in the History of Photography from the University of St Andrews in Scotland. She has worked at institutions including Dundee Contemporary Arts, Scotland; the International Center of Photography, New York; and the Bass Museum of Art, Miami Beach. Shannon was formerly Exhibitions and Programming Director at Locust Projects and now works at Vizcaya Museum and Gardens in Miami.

EMILY SHELTON | Writing National Reviewer | Emily Shelton is a fiction writer. She received a Ph.D. in English from the University of Chicago, and has been a fellow and resident of the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, the MacDowell Colony, and Yaddo. She taught in the College Writing Program at Harvard University from 2005-2014.

JEAN SHIN | YoungArts Week Visual Arts Master Teacher | 1990 YoungArts Winner in Visual Arts and U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts | Visual Artist Jean Shin's solo exhibitions include the Smithsonian American Art Museum and The Museum of Modern Art. She has been commissioned to create permanent installations throughout New York City. Her honors include the New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship in Architecture/Environmental Structures and Sculpture, and a Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant.

WILLIAM SHORT | Classical Music National Reviewer | William Short was appointed Principal Bassoon of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra in 2012, and has served on the faculties of The Juilliard School, Manhattan School of Music, and Temple University since 2016. He has performed and taught at the Lake Champlain, Lake Tahoe, Mostly Mozart, Stellenbosch, Strings, Twickenham, and Verbier Festivals. Short received his Bachelor of Music from the Curtis Institute of Music, where he studied with Daniel Matsukawa and Bernard Garfield, and his Master of Music at Rice University's Shepherd School of Music, where he studied with Benjamin Kamins.

BRIAN SHUFF | YoungArts Week Writing Master Teacher | Brian Shuff is a writer and teacher based in Los Angeles, CA and Portland, ME. His first book, *About Grief*, was published in 2010 and has been translated and released throughout Korea and South America. In 2012, along with writer/actor Ron Marasco, Brian wrote and starred in *Gracenotes and Anvils* at the Odyssey Theater in Los Angeles. The run received multiple extensions and was named 'Critic's Choice' by the Los Angeles Times. He holds an M.F.A. in fiction writing from the Stonecoast Graduate Writing Program. He has taught at Loyola Marymount University and is currently a Teaching Artist at the The Telling Room, a nonprofit youth writing center in Portland, ME.

JANIS SIEGEL | YoungArts Week Visual Arts Master Teacher | Over the past four decades, the voice of Janis Siegel, a nine-time Grammy winner and a 17-time Grammy nominee, has been an undeniable force in The Manhattan Transfer's diverse musical catalog and has become one of the group's most recognizable trademarks. She also gained a reputation as a vocal arranger by writing five of the charts for the group and won a Grammy in 1980 for her arrangement of *Birdland*. In 1993, she and her Manhattan Transfer colleagues received their honorary doctorates from the Berklee School of Music and, in 1999, they were among the first class of inductees into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame. Siegel has also sustained a solo career that has spawned more than a half dozen solo albums and numerous collaborative projects. These days, you can find Siegel in the studio, producing and singing on a wide array of projects, touring with her trio, teaching, and working on her new show called *ELLA - A Life in Song*.

Her 11th and latest solo release is a Brazilian/jazz fusion called *Honey & Air* with her group Requite Trio. The Manhattan Transfer will also be recording a new CD, due out in fall of 2017.

FRANKLIN SIRMANS | YoungArts Week Guest Curator | Franklin Sirmans is the Director of the Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM). As a curator, writer, and editor, Sirmans has established himself as one of the leading voices in contemporary art. Before joining PAMM, he served as department head and curator of contemporary art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), and is the former U.S. Editor of *Flash Art* and Editor-in-Chief of *ArtAsiaPacific*. Sirmans is the 2007 recipient of the David C. Driskell Prize presented by the High Museum.

AUGUSTO SOLEDADE | Dance National Reviewer | 2008 Guggenheim Fellow Augusto Soledade is the Founder, Artistic Director, and Resident Choreographer for Augusto Soledade Brazzdance in Miami, FL. Soledade is a seven time recipient of Miami Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs Dance Miami Choreographers' Program. In 2012, Soledade was awarded the prestigious Knight Arts Challenge Grant in support of the Miami Dance Mecca Project, an initiative implemented by Augusto Soledade Brazzdance to boost Miami's reputation as an emerging center for contemporary dance. Also in 2012, he was awarded his second consecutive Individual Artist Fellowship from the State of Florida Division of Cultural Affairs.

AKIBA SOLOMON | YoungArts Miami Writing Master Teacher | Akiba Solomon is the Editorial Director of *Colorlines* and an NABJ-Award winning journalist from West Philadelphia. Online, she has written about culture and the intersection between gender and race for *Colorlines*, *Ebony.com*, and *Dissent*. As *Colorlines*' inaugural reporting fellow, Solomon reported on reproductive health access for women of color during and immediately after President Barack Obama's re-election campaign. In the fall of 2015 she was one of five journalists selected by the Foundation for Middle East Peace to travel to Israel/Palestine to experience the region's difficult political dynamics firsthand. In September 2014, shortly after unarmed Black 18-year-old Michael Brown was slain by White, then-officer Darren Wilson, she was one of few journalists allowed on a Black Lives Matter "freedom ride" from New York City to Ferguson, MO.

SOMI | YoungArts Week Voice Master Teacher | Vocalist and songwriter Somi was born in Illinois to immigrants from Rwanda and Uganda. *The Huffington Post* recently dubbed her "the new Nina Simone," while *NPR* describes her as "an ambitious artist [and] a tough act to follow." She is a TED Senior Fellow, an Association of Performing Arts Presenters Fellow and 2015 Artist-in-Residence at both UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance and Baryshnikov Arts Center. Last year, Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon invited her to perform at the United Nations to commemorate the International Day of Slavery. Somi's latest album *The Lagos Music Salon* on Sony Music/Okeh Records debuted at #1 on U.S. jazz charts and features special guests Angelique Kidjo and Common. She is currently working on her next album, and a jazz opera about Miriam Makeba. In her heart of hearts, Somi is an East African Midwesterner who loves family, poetry and freedom.

MAGGIE STEBER | Photography National Reviewer | YoungArts Miami Photography Co-Director | Maggie Steber's photos have appeared in *Life*, *The New Yorker*, *Smithsonian*, *People*, *Newsweek*, *Time*, and *Sports Illustrated*. Her work in Haiti won two major grants and culminated in the book *Dancing on Fire: Photographs From Haiti*. Steber has won numerous honors, including the World Press Foundation Award and the Leica Medal of Excellence.

DR. LEE STONE | Classical Music National Reviewer | Dr. Lee Stone has been teaching strings for over thirty seven years in the Arizona and South Florida and is presently Director of Orchestras at Coral Reef Senior High Mega Magnet School. Her orchestras have performed in Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Austria, and Prague in the Czech Republic. Stone has served as the State Chairperson for the Florida Orchestra Association's 11-12, 9-10, and 7-8 grade All-State Orchestras and currently is chairperson of the State Adjudication Committee and the Music

Performance Assessment Sight-Reading Committee. Lee annually adjudicates for the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts and various solo/ensemble and district FOA Music Performance Assessment evaluations. She serves as a clinician and guest conductor for various all-county and all-state orchestras and founded the University of Miami (UM) Honor Orchestra. She was awarded the Florida American String Teachers Association Teacher of the Year and is published in *Florida Perspectives* and the *Florida Music Director*.

SVET STOYANOV | YoungArts Miami Classical Music Master Teacher | Bulgarian-born percussionist Svet Stoyanov has presented thousands of concert performances worldwide, at venues featuring Carnegie Hall, The Ravinia Festival, The Kennedy Center, Benaroya Hall and Taipei National Concert Hall. Winner of the 2003 Concert Artists Guild International Competition, Svet's active career is focused on solo and chamber music performance, as well as music production and recording. Svet Stoyanov is an Assistant Professor and Program Director of Classical Percussion at the University of Miami, Frost School of Music.

ANGELA STRASSHEIM | Photography National Selection Panelist | NYC-based photographer and artist Angela Strassheim has been exhibited at numerous galleries and museums, including Musee de l'Elysee (Switzerland), the Wellcome Trust Collection (London), Minneapolis Institute of Arts, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Museum of Contemporary Photography and the Art Institute (Chicago), and is included in many public and private collections including Whitney Museum of American Art, Guggenheim Museum, and Yale University Art Museum. She was featured in the 2006 Whitney Biennale, and is published in *Regeneration, 50 Photographers of Tomorrow* (Thames & Hudson & Aperture), *Presumed Innocence* (DeCordova), *Role Models* (Scala), and *Traces & Omens, Noorderlicht* (Stichting Aurora Borealis). Strassheim has received the Women in Photography LTI/ Light-side Grant, Bush Fellowship, McKnight Fellowship, Jerome Fellowship, and was a 2008 finalist for the Les Rencontres D'Arles International Photography Award. She holds an M.F.A. from Yale University, a B.F.A. from Minneapolis College of Art & Design, as well as a certification in Forensic & Biomedical Photography.

MELINDA SULLIVAN | YoungArts Week Alumni Speaker | 2005 YoungArts Winner in Dance | Los Angeles based tap dancer and choreographer Melinda Sullivan has a diverse career in dance, television, and theatre. Best known from FOX's *So You Think You Can Dance*, she was the first tap dancer to make Top 10, and went on to appear as the first tap All-Star on Season 10, and was featured in Chloe Arnold's *Syncopated Ladies* on Season 11. Stage credits include Disney's *High School Musical* franchise, the 25th Anniversary tour of *Cats*, and Jason Samuels Smith's tap dance company Anybody Can Get It. TV/ Film credits include *Glee*, *As the World Turns*, *90210*, *How To Rock*, *The Goldbergs*, *Dancing with the Stars*, *G.I. Joe: Retaliation*, and *La La Land*. She is on faculty at the Colburn School in Los Angeles and the New York City Dance Alliance. Sullivan is the recipient of the 2012 Cappelletto Award for Choreographic Excellence, and was named among the "25 to Watch" in *Dance Magazine*.

ZUZANNA SZADKOWSKI | YoungArts Week Theater Master Teacher | 1997 YoungArts Winner in Theater and U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts | YoungArts Board Member | Zuzanna Szadkowski played Dorota in the CW's hit drama series *Gossip Girl*, and was voted #7 in Rolling Stone's "50 Reasons to Watch TV." She can be seen as Nurse Pell on Steven Soderbergh's *The Knick* on Cinemax, and as Priya on the fourth season of HBO's *Girls*. Her other television credits include *The Good Wife*, *Elementary*, *Guiding Light*, *The Sopranos*, *Law and Order*, and *Law and Order: Criminal Intent*. Her film credits include *Growing up and Other Lies* and *Butterflies of Bill Baker*. Szadkowski appeared in Nora and Delia Ephron's *Love, Loss and What I Wore* off-Broadway and on tour. Other theater credits include *Comedy of Errors* at The Public Theater, and *The 39 Steps* at Actors Theatre of Louisville. She received a Bachelor of Arts from Barnard College and a Master of Fine Arts in acting from the A.R.T./MXAT Institute at Harvard in 2005.

T

JOHN TAIN | Visual Arts National Reviewer | YoungArts Los Angeles Visual Arts Co-Director and Guest Curator | John Tain is a curator for modern and contemporary collections at the Getty Research Institute. His exhibitions include “Greetings from L.A.: Artists and Publics, 1950-1980” (2011-2012) which was part of the Pacific Standard Time initiative, and “In Focus: Ed Ruscha” (2013). His recent writings have been published in *Artforum*, *The Brooklyn Rail*, and *Flash Art*.

PAUL THRUSSELL | Dance National Reviewer | Paul Thrusell spent 14 years as a principal dancer in London and Boston. Highlights from his career include dancing for royalty, heads of state, and at the Gala des Étoiles. He trained at the Royal Ballet School, has danced Northern Ballet Theatre, and was a principal dancer for London City Ballet, Boston Ballet, and Milwaukee Ballet. As a principal dancer he performed numerous leading roles with choreography by Balanchine, McMillan, Cranko, Nacho Duato, Mark Morris, Paul Taylor and Rudi Van Dantzig. Thrusell has had works created on him by Twyla Tharp, Mark Godden, Christopher Wheeldon and Daniel Pelzig. In 1996 he danced at Vail’s International Dance Festival and that same year The Boston Globe named Paul in their list of Boston’s Top 10 of Dance. He re-staged Christopher Wheeldon’s *Corybantic Ecstasies* on Boston Ballet, and was a member of the faculty of Boston Ballet’s Summer Dance Program. Thrusell has taught master classes at Tulane University, The Boston Conservatory, Boston Ballet, Walnut Hill School and Boston College.

DEMONDRAE THURMAN | Classical Music National Selection Panelist | Musician Demondrae Thurman’s euphonium playing has been described in the press as “awe inspiring.” He has performed in Europe, Asia, and throughout North America, and has been a performer and teacher at many of America’s premiere colleges and universities, and is currently Professor of Low Brass and Conductor of the Wind Ensemble at Samford University. In addition to his solo career, Thurman is a member of the Sotto Voce Quartet, Brass Band of Battle Creek, and is in high demand as a euphonium specialist for symphony orchestras around the country. Thurman is a Miraphone Performing Artist and exclusively plays the Miraphone 5050 Ambassador “Edition” euphonium, which was designed specifically for him. He also plays the custom “Demondrae” model mouthpiece manufactured by Warburton Music Products, and is a Shires Trombone Performing Artist.

METTE TOMMERUP | Visual Arts National Reviewer | Mette Tommerup is a painter based in Miami. She ran the painting department at Florida International University as an assistant professor, and more recently, exhibitions have included *Tipping Points* at The Patricia and Philip Frost Museum, *Ping Pong Exchange Exhibitions* in Basel, Los Angeles, and Miami, and exhibitions at Emerson Dorsch Gallery in Miami. Her work has been included in *Miami Contemporary Artists* and *Man as Object: Reversing the Gaze* and her exhibitions have been reviewed in *Art in America*, *artnet.com*, and the *Miami Herald*. Tommerup is on the Art Basel Miami Beach junior host committee and participates in the ABMB Artist Studio Visits events annually. Tommerup received an M.F.A. from The School of Visual Arts in 1995.

CHAT TRAVIESO | YoungArts Week Design Discipline Coordinator | YoungArts Miami Design Director | 2003 YoungArts Visual Arts Winner | Chat Travieso is a Brooklyn-based artist, designer, and educator. His public art works have been commissioned by or organized in collaboration with the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, the Lower East Side Waterfront Alliance, The Architectural League of New York, Design Trust for Public Space, the NYC Department of Transportation, the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation, the Women’s Housing and Economic Development Corporation (WHEDco), the Elsewhere Museum, and the Cambridge Arts Council. He has worked as a teaching artist with the Center for Urban Pedagogy and Hester Street Collaborative. His work has been featured in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Designboom*, *The Atlantic’s CityLab*, and *BOMB Magazine* as well as the books *Pop-Up City: City-making In a Fluid World* (BIS Publishers, 2014) and *Supernew Supergraphics* (Unit Editions, 2014). He is a YoungArts winner in Visual Arts and a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts. Travieso attended the New World School of the Arts high school in Miami, FL. He received a B.F.A. from the Maryland Institute College of Art and an M.Arch from the Yale School of Architecture.

YARA TRAVIESO | Dance National Reviewer | 2005 YoungArts Winner in Dance | Yara Travieso is a director, choreographer, performer, and filmmaker creating live performance, film, and installation. Yara is the recipient of several grants and residence opportunities including a 2014-15 National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures Grant through the Ford Foundation and the Surdna Foundation, and a 2015 Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Artist Residency. Her original works have premiered in NYC's Lincoln Center, BRIC Arts Media House, STREB Lab For Action Mechanics, Tribeca Performing Arts Center, Madison Square Garden, and The Juilliard School, among others.

SARAH TRUDGEON | Writing National Reviewer | Sarah Trudgeon received a 2015 Poetry Society of America Chapbook Fellowship for her collection *Dreams of Unhappiness*, selected and introduced by Don Paterson. Her poems have appeared in such publications as the *London Review of Books*, *The Nation*, *The Paris Review*, *The TLS*, and the anthology *Eight Miami Poets*.

GRETTEL TRUJILLO | Theater National Reviewer | Actress Grettel Trujillo was born in Cuba and graduated from the Superior Institute of Art in Havana, Cuba, in 1995. With more than 25 years of experience, Trujillo has performed in more than 30 plays, TV series, and films, and has been received the prestigious Hola (2002) and Ace (2005) awards. Trujillo has traveled extensively to different theater festivals around the world. A monologue specialist who is passionate about teaching, Trujillo also works as an acting coach.

NANCY TURANO | Dance National Selection Panelist | Choreographer/Master Teacher Nancy Turano is a former Principal Dancer and Rehearsal Director with Ballet Hispanico of New York and Buglisi Dance Theatre. Artistic Director of New Jersey Dance Theatre Ensemble since 1994, Turano has been acknowledged for creating innovative training and mentoring programs for dancers and choreographers in the NYC metro area including; MIP®, MIP2®, AIR® contemporary choreographic residencies and INKUBATE®, a site specific dance installation series. She received the NJSCA Governors Award 2011, and NJSCA Distinguished Teaching Artist Award 2012. Her choreography, *Carmen* and *Tango Octogenario*, were featured on PBS and at Lincoln Center. Turano has taught around the world at National Ballet of Sweden School, Vancouver Arts Umbrella, Bat Dor (Israel), Purchase College and NYU. She was founding Director of Harkness Youth Ballet at 92nd St. Y and on faculty of the Ailey School in NYC for 21 years.

TED TY | Cinematic Arts National Reviewer | Ted Ty has 24 years of experience in Feature Animation. At Walt Disney Feature Animation, his traditional hand-drawn work can be seen in films such as *The Lion King*, *Mulan*, and *Lilo & Stitch*, where he served as a Lead Animator. His CG career at Dreamworks Animation includes *Kung Fu Panda*, *Rise of the Guardians*, and *How to Train Your Dragon 2*. He was the senior animation instructor at CalArts for five consecutive years, and is currently the Animation Director at L'Atelier Animation Studio, where they recently completed their first feature, *Ballerina*.

U

IMANI UZURI | YoungArts Week Voice Master Teacher | Imani Uzuri is a vocalist and composer and has collaborated with a cross section of artists including Herbie Hancock, John Legend, Vijay Iyer, Sanford Biggers, Carrie Mae Weems, Wangechi Mutu, and Robert Ashley. In 2012, Uzuri released her critically acclaimed second album, *The Gypsy Diaries*, which was funded with a successful Kickstarter campaign. Uzuri was a 2015 Park Avenue Armory artist-in-residence, and in made her Lincoln Center's American Songbook series debut in March 2016.

W

TOMMY WALTON | Design Arts National Selection Panelist | Founder of Chicago's award-winning high fashion

design duo PriceWalton, Tommy Walton is a designer and teacher who blends the genres of fashion design, object design, culinary arts, and performance. While his work is often conceptual in nature, he also practices traditional methods of classic tailoring, bias-cutting, pattern-making, couture embellishment, and adornment. A teacher of 20 years at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, he won the Design Nexus Team Teaching Award in 2013 with Runway Meets Runway, an interdisciplinary class that was the first collaboration between SAIC's fashion, architecture, interior design, and designed objects departments. His television credits include Tommy Hilfiger's fashion competition, *The CUT* (CBS), *Check, Please!* (PBS/WTTW), *Project Accessories* (BRAVO), and *MasterChef* (FOX). By exploring new ways of critical thinking, teaching, making, and exhibiting, he continues to expand his "media-genic" repertoire as he develops his own brand of "edu-tainment."

RANJANA WARIER | Dance National Reviewer | Ranjana Warier was introduced to Indian Classical dances at the age of six. She is a 2012 and 2014 Knight Foundation Arts Challenge winner, a 2016 HistoryMiami resident artist, and a recipient of multiple grants from organizations including the Broward Cultural Council. She routinely promotes Indian art forms at various events, and her efforts to educate children on culture and history using dance as a medium has received wide recognition. Her choreographic work was commissioned by institutions including Florida Grand Opera, Town of Davie, Miami Book Fair, Young at Art, and Miami Children's Museums. Warier has an Engineering degree and a Master's degree in Computer Science. She was a nationally seeded chess player, and has won several prestigious tournaments. She is the Artistic Director of Rhythms School of Dance in South Florida, which offers lessons in Indian Classical dances.

JIL WEINSTOCK | Visual Arts National Reviewer | Jil Weinstock is currently the Curator and Director of Fine Arts at Children's Museum of Art New York. Born in Los Angeles, she received her B.F.A. from UC Berkley, a joint Master's in Visual Studies from UC Berkeley and the San Francisco Art College, as well as a Master's in Arts Education from St. Mary's College. For the past 15 years, she has worked as a curator, lecturer, arts educator, artist, and coordinator for many museums, universities, galleries, and schools. Exhibitions include shows at Berlin Cultural Arts Center, San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art and the Orari Galleria in Milan; publications include the *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, and *Art in America*. She has served as a guest arts critic at institutions including Yale University and Parsons School of Design. A practicing artist, she is represented by the Winston Wächter Gallery in NYC, and Walter Maciel Gallery in LA.

BILL WILLIAMS | Theater National Reviewer | Bill Williams has taught theater and directed plays in schools, colleges, and professional settings for over 40 years. He is currently an acting coach in New York City, and is a proud founder of Andy's Summer Playhouse—a theater for children by children—now entering its 47th season in Wilton, New Hampshire.

MARY WILSON | Voice National Reviewer | On the concert stage, Mary Wilson has appeared with many orchestras, including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, as well as at Carnegie Hall and the Hollywood Bowl. She is an exciting interpreter of Baroque repertoire and is regularly on the opera stage. Wilson has originated leading roles in North American and world premiere performances of *Dove's Flight*, *Glass' Galileo Galilei*, and Petitgirard's *Joseph Merrick dit Elephant Man*. A national finalist of the 1999 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, she has appeared most recently with Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Minnesota Opera, Boston Lyric Opera, Dayton Opera, Arizona Opera, Tulsa Opera, Southwest Opera, the Brooklyn Academy of Music and the Goodman Theatre. Wilson holds performance degrees from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota and Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri and is an assistant professor of voice at the University of Memphis.

KRISTINA WONG | Writing National Reviewer | Kristina Wong is a performance artist, comedian, and writer who has created five solo shows and an ensemble play that have toured throughout North America and the UK.

Wong has been a commentator for American Public Media's Marketplace, PBS, CNN, *Jezebel*, *xoJane*, *Playgirl Magazine*, *Huffington Post*, and a guest on Comedy Central's *The Nightly Show with Larry Wilmore* and FX's *Totally Biased with W. Kamau Bell*. She's been an actor on *General Hospital* and Nickelodeon's *Nicky, Ricky, Dicky, and Dawn*. She has received grants from Creative Capital, The Map Fund, Center for Cultural Innovation, the Durfee Foundation, National Performance Network, and Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. She has been awarded residencies from Ojai Playwrights Festival, New York Theater Workshop, Montalvo Center for the Arts, The Hermitage and the MacDowell Colony. Wong was a former instructor in the M.F.A. Creative Writing Program at CalArts.

JULES WOOD | Writing National Reviewer | 2010 YoungArts Winner in Writing | Jules Wood is a Los Angeles-based poet and recent graduate of UC Berkeley's English department, where she studied literature of the African Diaspora and served as Editor-in-Chief of the *Berkeley Poetry Review*. In 2017 she will attend the Iowa Writers' Workshop to complete her M.F.A. in poetry. Wood returns to Miami every year as a resident advisor for YoungArts Week.

AGUSTINA WOODGATE | Visual Arts National Reviewer | Agustina Woodgate's practice investigates the ways in which the poetic-politics of infrastructure organize public and private space. In 2011 she co-founded radioee.net, a nomadic, bilingual, online radio station, focusing on mobility, migration, and transportation as its core themes. In 2015 she co-founded TVGOV, a group that aims to direct governments towards preservation of territory, proposing an economic shift from an income tax to an Eco-Tax. Currently, she is working on large public commissions for the design of Tropical Park and Miami-Dade county sidewalks. Her projects have been commissioned by the 9th Berlin Biennial; Bienal de las Américas; ArtPort, Tel Aviv; PlayPublik, Poland; DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, Washington; The Bass Museum of Art and Storefront for Art and Architecture. She has been awarded a Knights Art Challenge, Florida Prize for best artist, South Florida Cultural Consortium Fellowship, and grants from NALAC, Art Matters, and Joan Mitchell Foundation.

TIM B. WRIDE | Photography National Reviewer | Tim B. Wride joined the staff at the Norton Museum of Art in November 2011. Since then he has mounted 11 exhibitions and coordinated many installations for The Norton. He has also grown the collection by more than 2,000 objects and has commissioned eight artists to create works specifically for the museum. Prior to his move to the Norton Museum, Wride was the founding director of a non-profit foundation that provided cash grants to artists and was a curator in the Department of Photographs at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) for 14 years. During his tenure at LACMA, he curated more than 25 permanent collection-focused exhibitions as well as larger survey and monographic shows.

ANTONIA WRIGHT | YoungArts Miami Interdisciplinary Master Teacher | Antonia Wright explores the various politics and comic facets of contemporary life through a multidisciplinary practice that blurs the boundaries between live performance, video, photography, sculpture, and poetry. Exhibitions include shows at Pioneer Works, The Faena Arts Center, The Margulies Collection at the Warehouse, The Cisneros-Fontanals Foundation, Vizcaya Museum and Gardens, Spinello Projects, Luis de Jesus Gallery, Aeroplastics, The National Gallery of Art, and Ping Pong. In April 2012, she became the first artist-in-residence at the Lotus House Shelter for women and children in Overtown, Miami. Wright's work has been presented in publications including *The New York Times*, *Artforum's Critics' Picks*, *Art In America*, *New York Magazine*, *Daily News*, *Miami Herald*, *El Nuevo Herald*, and *The Art Newspaper*. Wright graduated from the New School University in New York City with an M.F.A. in Poetry as well as at the International Center of Photography.

BETTY WRIGHT | YoungArts Week Voice Master Teacher | Betty Wright is a soul singer with deep gospel roots, and a seven octave range. Born singing gospel with her family group, The Echoes of Joy, Wright began singing R&B music in 1965 at the age of 11. In 1968, she released her first album, *My First Time Around*, and at 14, scored

her first national hit, *Girls Can't Do What Guys Can Do*. In 1971 her song, *Clean Up Woman*, became a Top 5 Pop and #2 R&B hit, and would later be sampled in Mary J. Blige's *Real Love* remix, SWV's *I'm So Into You*, Afrika Bambaataa's *Zulu War Chant*, and Sublime's *Get Out!* remix. In 1974, Wright scored big with the songs *Tonight is the Night* and *Where is the Love?*, which received a Grammy for Best R&B Song. She launched her own label, Ms. B Records in 1985 and made music history as the first woman to have a gold record on her own label, *Mother Wit*, which featured two of her biggest hits, *No Pain No Gain* and *After The Pain*. Wright was co-producer of two Joss Stone albums, and was featured as a Vocal Coach on *Making the Band 3*. Today, the mother of five mentors young singer/songwriters in the camp The MOST(Mountain Of Songs Today), and has been instrumental in the careers of artists including Beyoncé, Gloria Estefan, Jennifer Lopez, Lil' Wayne, Flo Rida, DJ Khaled, Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder, Chaka Khan, Alice Cooper, Bill Wyman, and more.

DARRIN WRIGHT | Dance National Reviewer | Darrin Wright is a Brooklyn-based artist from Los Angeles, California. His early training was in tap dance, which led to jazz with Ian Gary, learning about choreography and performance in high school with Janet Roston, and taking post-modern dance with Rudy Perez. In 1997, Darrin joined The Bella Lewitzky Dance Company as part of its farewell tour. He received his B.F.A. in Dance from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in 2002. Since graduation, Wright has had the pleasure of working with The Met Opera, Susan Marshall, Terry Creach, Jane Comfort, Bill Young/Colleen Thomas, Yanira Castro, Jack Ferver, Tami Stronach, Antonio Ramos, Leslie Cuyjet, Doug Varone, Amber Sloan, Nancy Bannon, Linsey Bostwick, Nina Winthrop, Lindsay and Jason Dietz Marchant. Wright teaches master classes in technique, composition, and improvisation throughout the country. In 2009, he received a Bessie Award for his work with a canary torsi's *Dark Horse/Black Forest*.

KIRSTEN WYATT | Theater National Reviewer | Kirsten Wyatt's Broadway credits include *Annie*, *A Christmas Story The Musical*, *Elf*, *Shrek*, *Grease*, *High Fidelity*, *The Pajama Game*, *Urinetown*, and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Favorite regional credits include Sally Bowles in *Cabaret*, Agnes Gooch in *Mame* (Connecticut Critics Circle Award), Charity in *Sweet Charity*, Miss Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls*, Paulette in *Legally Blonde*, Ellie Mae Chipley in *Show Boat*, and Tammy Faye Bakker in the world premiere musical of *Born For This: The Bebe Winans Story*. TV credits include *Blue Bloods*, *The Naked Brothers Band*, *As the World Turns*, and *All My Children*. She is a graduate of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and proud member of Actors Equity Association and SAG-AFTRA.

Y

JIA YAN YONG | Dance National Reviewer | Jia Yan Yong began studying and performing ballet with the Shanghai Little Swan Ballet Troupe while in China. After arriving in New York, she danced at the Joffrey Ballet School and recently graduated from Queens College with a double major in dance and graphic design, from where she received a Scholarship Award and an award for Excellence in Dance. Jia Yan Yong has studied under Yin Mei, Joseph Mills, Diane Sichel, and Patrick Widrig and also trained at NYCCC, learning a full range of Chinese dance. She has performed at the Queens Museum of Art, Downtown Dance Festival, City Center, Lincoln Center Out of Doors 2007, and Solstice in Times Square, and was also a guest instructor at Hunter College. She has been part of the teaching staff at NYCCC since 2002 and a full company member with Dance China NY since 2008.

Dr. ADALBERTO YANES | YoungArts Week Classical Music Discipline Coordinator | Dr. Adalberto Yanes holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts degree from the University of Miami in music composition. He has written for various mediums, including choral and orchestral. The winner of several awards for academic and musical excellence, Yanes was also a finalist for both the ASCAP Awards for Emerging Composers and the Fulbright Scholars Program. He has been a theory and composition teaching assistant for four years at the University of Miami.

DANIEL YANKIVER | YoungArts Week, YoungArts Miami and YoungArts New York Cinematic Arts Discipline Coordinator | Daniel Yankiver has been producing creative projects for over a decade. After finding his passion for filmmaking, Yankiver went to NYU where he produced award-winning short content. After school, he went on to produce films, music videos, documentaries, and commercials. Yankiver also runs a monthly screening series in Brooklyn called “Cinema Club” that has been operating on a grassroots level for almost five years. Yankiver is also one of the Founding Partners and an executive board member of Pictured, a start-up boutique distribution company that provides tailored solutions and strategies to maximize a film’s audience worldwide. He currently works with an array of filmmakers, dancers, performers, photographers, musicians, and other creatives on projects as a director, producer, cinematographer, and writer.

NICOLE YARLING | Voice National Reviewer | With a BA in Music from Baruch College, a Masters in Music Education from Columbia University and private training in composition, arranging, voice, and violin, Nicole Yarling currently serves as an assistant professor and Director of Popular Music at Florida Memorial University, where she recently received the honor of Teacher of the Year and Scholar of the Year in her division. As an adjunct professor, she conducts the R&B Ensemble at the University of Miami. As a mentor, she established Jazz Encounters, a concert series at radio station WDNA in Miami, and hosts two monthly jazz jams for young musicians in South Florida. In 2015, she was awarded the Jazz Hero Award by the Jazz Journalists of America.

MICHAEL YAWNEY | YoungArts Miami Theater Master Teacher | Michael Yawney is a director and playwright living in Miami, FL. He was the dramaturg and director Heather Woodbury’s 12-hour stand-up novel *As the Globe Warms*. In the past year, he directed the first production of Kenny Finkle’s *A Thousand Years* at FIU’s Alternative Summer Theater Festival, *Amahl and the Night Visitors* and Stravinsky’s *The Soldier’s Tale* for Orchestra Miami, as well as *Cardenio and The Liar* for FIU Theater. Michael Yawney’s play *1,000 Homosexuals* was developed in a residency at New York Stage and Film and premiered at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts (which had commissioned the work) in 2008. He co-curated the international Iranian Theater Festival in New York in 2011, which presented his production of Assurbanipal Babilla’s *Something Something Uber Alles*. Yawney received his M.F.A. in Directing from Columbia University and currently teaches theater at Florida International University.

TONY YAZBECK | YoungArts Week Alumni Speaker | 1997 YoungArts Winner in Theater | 2017 Gala Director | Tony Yazbeck recently concluded his run as J. M. Barrie in *Finding Neverland* on Broadway. He earned the 2015 Tony, Drama League, and Outer Critics Circle Award Nominations, and the Fred Astaire Award for his performance of Gabey in the critically acclaimed revival of *On The Town*. He recently collaborated with Hal Prince and Susan Stroman on *Prince of Broadway*, which premiered in Japan in 2015, and is now Broadway bound. Other Broadway credits include *Chicago* (Billy Flynn), Irving Berlin’s *White Christmas* (Phil Davis), *Gypsy* with Patti, *A Chorus Line* (Al), *Oklahoma!*, *Never Gonna Dance*, and *Gypsy* with Tyne Daly. Yazbeck also starred in *Kiss Me Kate* at the Royal Albert Hall in London, was seen in NBC’s *Smash*, and the feature documentary *Every Little Step*. He will next be seen in the upcoming season two of *Billions* on Showtime. Yazbeck also stars in his own song and dance show, *The Floor Above Me*, and his debut album was released in February 2016.