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MEDIA ALERT * * * MEDIA ALERT * * * MEDIA ALERT

**NATIONAL YOUNGARTS FOUNDATION CELEBRATES
THIRD ANNUAL YOUNGARTS AWARENESS DAY
WITH FREE ALUMNI PERFORMANCE DIRECTED BY CALEB TEICHER
AT MILLENNIUM STAGE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.**

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2016 at 6:00PM

WHAT: The [National YoungArts Foundation](#) (YoungArts) will kick off its 2017 season on **Tuesday, September 27**, with the third annual **YoungArts Awareness Day** campaign, which promotes the arts as a viable and rewarding career path, celebrates the outstanding achievements of YoungArts alumni, and encourages emerging artists [to apply to the organization's 2017 program](#).

This year's festivities include an interdisciplinary performance directed by **Caleb Teicher** (2011 YoungArts Winner in Dance) at **Millennium Stage** at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. Five emerging artists, all YoungArts alumni, will present **A Very Brief History of the United States**—a whirlwind experience of our nation's watershed moments, from the Revolutionary War, to the birth of jazz, to the Civil Rights Movement and modern politics. Confirmed participants include **Julius Rodriguez** (2014 Winner in Jazz), **Alex de Castro** (2013 Winner in Voice), **Josh Dietz** (2014, Winner in Visual Arts) and **Eliana Pipes** (2015 Winner Writing), in addition to Caleb Teicher himself. Together, these artists will work across artistic mediums to celebrate the power of improvisation, creativity and collaboration.

[YoungArts Awareness Day](#) underscores the impact the organization has had on artists ages 15 to 18 to achieve their goals and build a strong professional network. Taking place on the heels of National Arts in Education Week, the day serves as a platform for acclaimed YoungArts alumni to inspire young artists to apply to become a part of the next class of YoungArts Winners by **October 14, 2016** at www.youngarts.org/apply.

Other YoungArts Awareness Day celebrations include [MouthWater](#), a multi-generational exhibition curated by **Robert Chambers**, featuring work created by established visual arts alumni—including Hernan Bas (1996 Winner in Photography and Visual Arts), Naomi Fisher (1994 Winner in Visual Arts), Daniel Arsham (1999 Winner in Visual Arts), as well as recent YoungArts Winners and

emerging talent, including Sebastian Ruiz (2014 Winner in Visual Arts), Mikayla Brown (2015 Winner in Visual Arts) and Nadia Wolff (2016 Winner in Visual Arts), among others. The exhibition will be on view at the YoungArts Gallery in Miami through November 21, 2016.

YoungArts also encourages alumni, master teachers and the public to share how the arts have made an impact on their lives with the hashtag **#MyArtStory**.

WHO: **Caleb Teicher**, award-winning tap dancer and founding member of Dorrance Dance (2011 YoungArts Winner in Dance)
Julius Rodriguez, pianist, drummer and composer (2014 Winner in Jazz)
Alex de Castro, singer, dancer and actress (2013 Winner in Voice)
Josh Dietz, painter (2014, Winner in Visual Arts)
Eliana Pipes, playwright (2015 Winner in Writing)

For interviews, please contact julia.an@finnpartners.com / 212-715-1694.

WHEN, **A Very Brief History of the United States**
WHERE & Millennium Stage
TICKETS: [The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Grand Foyer](#)
2700 F Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20566

Tuesday, September 27 at 6:00pm
Admission is free and open to the public

A live stream of the show will be available on the Kennedy Center's website at <https://www.kennedy-center.org/Video/Upcoming>.

MORE INFO: For media tickets, please contact julia.an@finnpartners.com / 212-715-1694.
youngarts.org/youngarts-awareness-day

ABOUT THE NATIONAL YOUNGARTS FOUNDATION

The National YoungArts Foundation (YoungArts) was established in 1981 by Lin and Ted Arison to identify and nurture the most accomplished young artists in the visual, literary, design and performing arts, and assist them at critical junctures in their educational and professional development. Through a wide range of annual programs, regular performances, and partnerships with some of the nation's leading cultural institutions, YoungArts aspires to create a strong community of alumni and a platform for a lifetime of encouragement, opportunity and support.

YoungArts' signature program is an application-based award for emerging artists ages 15 – 18 or in grades 10 – 12 from across the United States. Selected from a pool of more than an average of 11,000 applications (in 2015, the organization received a record-breaking number of more than 12,000 applications), YoungArts Winners receive valuable support, including financial awards of up to \$10,000, professional development and educational experiences working with renowned mentors—such as Debbie Allen, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Rebecca Walker, Plácido Domingo, Frank Gehry, Neil Patrick Harris, Jeff Koons, Wynton Marsalis, Salman Rushdie and Carrie Mae Weems—and performance and exhibition opportunities at some of the nation's leading cultural institutions, including the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (Washington, D.C.), The Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York), The Museum of Modern Art (New York) and New World Center (Miami). Additionally, YoungArts Winners are eligible for nomination as a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts, one of the nation's highest honors for high school students who exemplify academic and artistic excellence.

YoungArts Winners become part of a thousands-strong alumni network of artists, which offers them additional professional opportunities throughout their careers. YoungArts alumni who have gone on to become leading professionals in their fields include actresses Viola Davis, Anna Gunn, Zuzanna Szadkowski and Kerry Washington; Broadway stars Raúl Esparza, Billy Porter, Andrew Rannells and Tony Yazbeck; recording artists Josh Groban, Judith Hill and Chris Young; Metropolitan Opera star Eric Owens; musicians Terence Blanchard, Gerald Clayton, Jennifer Koh and Elizabeth Roe; choreographers Camille A. Brown and Desmond Richardson; visual artists Daniel Arsham and Hernan Bas; internationally acclaimed multimedia artist Doug Aitken; *New York Times* bestselling author Sam Lipsyte; and Academy Award-winning filmmaker Doug Blush.

Carnival Foundation is the YoungArts National Premier Sponsor.

For more information, visit youngarts.org, facebook.com/YoungArtsFoundation or twitter.com/YoungArts. To watch a brief video about YoungArts, click [here](#).