GENERATIONS OF ARTISTS RETURN TO YOUNGARTS TO EXHIBIT DURING MIAMI ART WEEK

On YoungArts Campus:
*Education as the Practice of Freedom*
Curated by Jasmine Wahi of Project for Empty Space

At PULSE Contemporary Art Fair:
Salon Exhibit Features Works by 15 YoungArts Alumni

Bay Parc:
Nadia Wolff Installation Re-imagines the Black Caribbean Domestic Space

MIAMI, FL (November 8, 2018) – During Miami Art Week, the National YoungArts Foundation will present exhibitions that participate in timely conversations on education, climate change, migration, intersectionality, gender, race, cultural identity and contemporary beauty ideals.

At the **YoungArts Gallery, Education as the Practice of Freedom**, an exhibition curated by Project for Empty Space’s **Jasmine Wahi**, examines the purpose of education through the lens of intersectionality as inspired by bell hooks's book *Teaching to Transgress: Education as the Practice of Freedom*. The exhibition features 20 works—from painting and collage to mixed media and sculpture—by alumni from 1987 through today.
At PULSE Contemporary Art Fair, YoungArts Exhibition Manager Luisa Múnera combines 15 intergenerational alumni voices in a salon-style exhibition that represents the YoungArts ecosystem of support and reconnection over decades.

At Bay Parc Apartments, Nadia Wolff (2016 YoungArts Winner in Design Arts and Visual Arts & U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts) presents their installation A Place to be Held. The collage of works—including drawings, prints and sculptures—explores and re-imagines the Black Caribbean domestic space.

“YoungArts is not only committed to providing a platform for tomorrow’s artists, but also to ensuring those artists are supported as they become more established in their field,” said Lauren Snelling, YoungArts Senior Director of Alumni Programming. “By presenting expertly curated exhibitions and alumni projects during Miami Art Week, visionary works by YoungArts alumni are on view to some of the most discerning galleries and collectors in the world.”

**Education as the Practice of Freedom**
YoungArts Gallery, 2100 Biscayne Boulevard
Curated by Project for Empty Space’s Jasmine Wahi, the exhibition, featuring works by 20 YoungArts alumni from 1987 through 2018, examines ideas on transgressive education based on bell hooks’s book *Teaching to Transgress: Education as the Practice of Freedom*.

“I have always been impressed by the type of mentorship that YoungArts provides for young artists. It cultivates an environment that allows young people who already possess so much creative talent to push forward into a new realm of possibility,” says curator Jasmine Wahi, whose own practice focuses on female empowerment, social structures and intersectional identity. “I thought prompting YoungArts alumni to take a critical look at the idea of education was important given that the organization is dedicated to creating a space for young artists to realize their creative talents.”

Highlights on view include: Four works by Ameya Okamoto (2018 YoungArts Winner in Visual Arts & U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts) that present a multifaceted approach to the idea of education and learning, unlearning, and relearning; three hand sewn corsets by Sanna Legan (2018 YoungArts Winner in Visual Arts & U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts), of special importance in this moment where female-identified persons are contending with unrealistic beauty standards; and an embroidery piece by Alyssa Ackerman (2015 YoungArts Winner in Visual Arts), which reimagines a future where gender roles are struck down and “manliness” is redefined.

Free and open to the public, the YoungArts Gallery has hosted exhibitions by YoungArts master teachers, winners and alumni—including Olafur Eliasson, Daniel Arsham and Hernan Bas—since 2013.

Gallery Hours during Miami Art Week:

December 3, 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
December 4–7, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
December 8–9, 12 p.m.–5 p.m.

For more information on member access and events, contact YoungArts Development Manager Paola Ortega at 305.377.1140 extension 1802 or portega@youngarts.org.

YoungArts at PULSE
PULSE Contemporary Art Fair, 4601 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach (Booth S-224)
At the fourteenth edition of PULSE Contemporary Art Fair at Indian Beach Park, YoungArts will present a booth curated by YoungArts Exhibitions Manager Luisa Múnera featuring works by 15 YoungArts alumni. PULSE will be held from December 6–9, 2018.


For tickets and hours, please visit: pulseartfair.com/visitors.

Carnival Foundation is YoungArts' National Premier Partner. Support for Education as the Practice of Freedom is provided by Visual Arts Discipline Partner Related Group; Hearst Foundations; Wells Fargo; the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, and the Miami-Dade County Mayor and the Board of County Commissioners; and the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.

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, 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 through a blind adjudication process, 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, Frank Gehry, 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 winners Doug Blush and Tarell Alvin McCraney.

For more information, visit youngarts.org, Facebook or Twitter. To watch a brief video about YoungArts, click here.

**About PULSE Contemporary Art Fair**
Founded in 2005, PULSE Contemporary Art Fair is an established part of the annual art calendar and is recognized for providing its international community of emerging and established galleries with a dynamic platform for connecting with a global audience. PULSE offers visitors an engaging environment in which to discover and collect the most compelling contemporary art being produced today. For further information about PULSE Contemporary Art Fair, please visit http://www.pulseartfair.com

Image credits (L-R): Amal Haddad, HISTORY WILL NOT ABSOLVE YOU (2018); Ameya Okamoto, Intersectional Supper (2017); Cornelius Tulloch, Fruits of Our Mother’s Labor (2018)

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