



For Immediate Release: October 4, 2012

**AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS
2012 NATIONAL ARTS AWARDS
Monday, October 15, 2012**



Previous celebration of the National Arts Awards. Courtesy of Americans for the Arts.

WHO

Event Host: **Americans for the Arts**

Event Chair: **Maria Bell**

Event Co-Chairs: **Jody Allen, Sarah Arison, Edythe and Eli Broad, The Steven A. and Alexandra M. Cohen Foundation, Isabella and Theodor Dalenson, Julie and Edward J. Minskoff**

Performance: **YoungArts**

WHEN & WHERE

Monday, October 15, 2012, Cipriani 42nd Street, New York City – Invitation Only

6:30 p.m. Cocktail reception

7:30 p.m. Seated dinner and presentations

9:00 p.m. Dessert and performance by YoungArts, presentations continue

WHAT

Each October, more than 400 of the nation's top opinion leaders from the communities of art, culture, business and philanthropy, come together in New York City to recognize the achievements of those who have exhibited outstanding leadership in the arts, arts education, advocacy, and philanthropy, and to address the importance of supporting such issues nationwide. Held during National Arts and Humanities Month, on Monday, October 15, 2012, the evening will include a cocktail hour followed by a seated dinner with a special performance by **YoungArts** graduates. Artists Committee member and Vanity Fair Photographer at Large, **Todd Eberle** will be taking one-of-a-kind Polaroid portraits, the proceeds of which will benefit Americans for the Arts. Artwork by world-renowned visual artist **Julie Mehretu** will also be on view throughout the evening.

2012 National Arts Awards Honorees

Legendary investor and Microsoft co-founder, **Paul G. Allen** will receive the *Eli and Edythe Broad Award for Philanthropy in the Arts*; author, filmmaker, and co-founder of YoungArts and the Presidential Scholars in the Arts Program **Lin Arison** will receive the *Arts Education Award*; Tony Award®-winning stage, film, and television actor **Brian Stokes Mitchell** will receive the 2012 Award for *Outstanding Contributions to the Arts*; Grammy® nominated singer **Josh Groban** will receive the *Bell Family Foundation Young Artist Award*; and acclaimed painter and artists' rights advocate **James Rosenquist** will receive the *Isabella and Theodor Dalenson Lifetime Achievement Award*. Americans for the Arts also announces **AXA Art Insurance Corporation** to receive the 2012 *Corporate Citizenship in the Arts Award*.

2012 Award Presenters

The evening's presenters will include: celebrated dancer, choreographer, and former National Arts Awards honoree for Outstanding Contributions to the Arts **Mikhail Baryshnikov**; celebrated soprano singer and musical ambassador **Renée Fleming**; noted philanthropist, art patron, collector, and founding trustee of the Agnes Gund Foundation **Agnes Gund**; Miami-based collector and founder of The Margulies Collection at the Warehouse **Martin Margulies**; American actress, musician, and dancer **Bebe Neuwirth**; and world-renowned American sculptor **Richard Serra**. Honorees will receive an award designed in 2009 by celebrated artist **Jeff Koons**, Americans for the Arts' Artists Committee member and former National Arts Awards honoree of Artistic Achievement.

2012 Benefit Committee

John Baldessari, Bill Bell, Melva Bucksbaum and Raymond J. Leary, Paula and James Crown, Todd Eberle and Richard Pandiscio, Gail and Alfred Engelberg, Emily Wei Rales and Mitchell P. Rales, Agnes Gund, Justine and Jeff Koons, Marin Mazzie, Audra McDonald, Tobias Meyer and Mark Fletcher, Gael Neeson and Stefan Edlis, Nora C. and James M. Orphanides, and Mrs. Lily Safra.

Expected Guests

Artists: John Baldessari, Jenny Holzer, Julie Mehretu, Richard Serra, and Frank Stella; **Architect** Kulaput Yantrasast; **Actresses:** Angela Lansbury, Allyson Tucker, and Victoria Rowell; **Authors:** Walter Mosely and Paul Muldoon; **Business/Philanthropy:** Sam Bonnier, Lisa Robb, and Jonathan and Wendy Spector; **Dancers:** Pierre Dulaine, Graham Lustig, Yvonne Marceau, and Lisa Rinehart; **Director** Abel López; **Interior Designer** Anna-Johanna Bonnier; **Musicians:** Deborah Drucker and Lee Rocker, and Herbie Hancock; and **Collectors, Dealers, and Art World Luminaries:** William Acquavella, Roland Augustine, Douglas Baxter, Irving and Jackie Blum, Mary Boone, Ted and Isabella Dalenson, Richard Edwards, Sidney B. Felsen and Joni Moisant Weyl, Mark Fletcher, Lance Goldsmith, Marian Goodman, Marguerite Hoffman, Justine Koons, Liz Margulies, Tobias Meyer, John and Amy Phelan, Carol Stringari, Phillipe Vergne, Adam Weinberg, and Bjorn Wetterling.

2012 Sponsors

Acquavella Galleries, The Herb Alpert Foundation, AXA Equitable, The Bell Family Foundation, The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation, The Steven A. and Alexandra M. Cohen Foundation, Isabella and Theodor Dalenson, Gagosian Gallery, Julie and Edward J. Minskoff, and YoungArts.

For more information visit artsusa.org/go/naa.

Americans for the Arts is the leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education in America. With offices in Washington, D.C. and New York City, it has a record of more than 50 years of service. Americans for the Arts is dedicated to representing and serving local communities and creating

opportunities for every American to participate in and appreciate all forms of the arts. Additional information is available at www.AmericansForTheArts.org.

For more information regarding tickets for the event, please contact: Tel: 202-371-2830, E: naareservations@artsusa.org

For more information on Americans for the Arts, please contact: Catherine Brandt Vacovsky, Tel: 202-712-2054, E: cvacovsky@artsusa.org

For press requests and further information on the National Arts Awards, please contact: Concetta Duncan, [FITZ & CO](http://FITZ%20%26amp%20CO), Tel: 212-627-1455 x232, E: concetta@fitzandco.com