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# **Calling All Teen Artists!**

# EACH, Young Audiences Immersive Teen Arts Program Now Accepting Applications

PRINCETON, NJ; August 21, 2013 — Young Audiences of New Jersey & Eastern Pennsylvania, the region's leading arts-in-education organization, is now accepting applications for the Emerging Artists Creativity Hub (EACH). EACH is a teen arts program designed specifically for young artists, ages 13-17, who are interested and gifted in the arts. It is intended for students to study and work in the arts far beyond the typical high school curriculum. In partnership with The College of New Jersey (TCNJ), this 10-week program is held each semester on Saturdays from 11am-3pm at the Arts and Interactive Multimedia Building on The College of New Jersey's Ewing campus.

Now in its fourth year, EACH offers teenaged visual and performing artists from diverse economic and social backgrounds, a transformative arts education experience. Bright and dedicated young artists study and work in all different arts forms with professional teaching artists from the Young Audiences' roster. EACH encourages students to take creative risks and explore their lives as inspiration for their work.

The goal of EACH is to help young people acquire knowledge, understanding of, and skills in the arts. Students will create individual artworks and collaborate with their fellow students on group projects. Students will also have the opportunity to experience great works of art by visiting cultural institutions like the American Museum of Natural History and Grounds for Sculpture. The program culminates in a community event that is open to all.



Maureen Heffernan, Young Audiences' Director of Arts and Education and an adjunct professor at TCNJ shared, "It's a great opportunity for young artists who want to learn to work in collaboration with artists from other disciplines to create original work."

Students participating in EACH emerge better prepared to pursue the arts in college and later on in the professional world. "EACH worked magic for a talented yet skeptical teenager like me," expressed Elmi Ventura Mata, a former EACH student who moved from El Salvador to New Jersey when he was nine. Elmi now attends The Cleveland Institute of Art as a Gund Scholar and is a recipient of a prestigious Governor's Award as well as numerous scholarships including one from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. "I am an emerging New Jersey artist, thanks in part to EACH."

Applications are due on Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup> and classes begin on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. Space is limited and scholarships are available. Interested applicants may call toll-free to 866-500-9265 or email Adam Nicolai at <a href="mailto:anicolai@yanj.org">anicolai@yanj.org</a>. More information about EACH and other Young Audiences programs can be found by visiting <a href="www.yanj-yaep.org">www.yanj-yaep.org</a>.

The Emerging Artists Creativity Hub is made possible in part by funding from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation and the ongoing support of the School of the Arts and Communication at The College of New Jersey.

#### **About Young Audiences**

Founded in 1973, Young Audiences New Jersey & Eastern Pennsylvania is the premiere arts-in-education resource in the region, providing high-quality performances and artist-in-residence programs to nearly 500,000 children pre-kindergarten through 12th grade annually. Young Audiences' extensive professional artist roster represents all art forms—from dance and theater to music, language and visual arts.

The Young Audiences program, Arts for Learning, brings arts-based literacy programs to elementary school teachers, helping them improve student reading and writing. This arts-integrated approach helps students learn literacy concepts and skills using dance, music, theater



and visual arts as teaching tools. Young Audiences' programs are accessible to all socio-economic, ethnic, cultural, and geographic communities, and are designed to strengthen the arts in schools, meet local and state curriculum standards, involve families in arts activities, and enrich cultural life in New Jersey and Pennsylvania communities.

Young Audiences New Jersey & Pennsylvania is the first arts education organization designated as a major service organization by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, and, as part of the national network of Young Audiences, Inc. was awarded the National Medal of Arts by President Clinton. Projects like this and the 4,000 programs provided annually by Young Audiences are made possible in part through a grant from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State and Pennsylvania Council of the Arts. Additional funds come from the National Endowment for the Arts, foundations, corporations and generous individuals. To learn more, visit <a href="https://www.yanj-yaep.org">www.yanj-yaep.org</a>. To be "social" with us, join us on Facebook.

## About the School of the Arts and Communication at The College of New Jersey

As one of TCNJ's seven schools, the School of the Arts and Communication offers a creatively stimulating and intellectually challenging environment and through its Center for the Arts serves the regional arts community as an advocate and champion for the arts.

## **Photo Captions:**

Picture 1: Young Audiences' Director of Arts and Education, Maureen Heffernan engaging one on one with EACH student.

Picture 2: Larry Capo, President & CEO of Young Audiences, admiring EACH students artwork at their community event.

Picture 3: EACH student working on a self-portrait project.