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**'AN AFFAIR OF THE ARTS: DOWNTOWN DECO' PERFORMANCE AND GALA
TOASTS AMERICA'S BEST YOUNG ARTISTS**

**Famed Dancer and Choreographer Desmond Richardson and Celebrated Actress and
Director Liv Ullmann among the Distinguished Guests**

MIAMI, FL (October, 2009) – Mark your calendar for one of the most anticipated events of the South Florida social season! The annual *An Affair of the Arts* Performance and Gala, in support of YoungArts, the core program of the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts (NFAA). The event brings together the nation's finest young artists, the patrons who support them, and a cache of celebrities on **Saturday, January 16, 2010 at the Gusman Center for the Performing Arts and the Alfred I. Dupont Building**. The theme of this year's gala is Downtown Deco. SunTrust Bank is the Title Presenting Sponsor and chairing the event are prominent Miami arts philanthropists **Mary and Howard Frank**.

The evening includes performances at the Gusman Center by select YoungArts Alumni including famed dancer and choreographer **Desmond Richardson**. Richardson was a 1986 YoungArts winner in Modern Dance and a Presidential Scholar in the Arts. He is also one of the greatest dancers and choreographers of our time. A special tribute to Richardson, recipient of the YoungArts Alumni Award and distinguished Actress and Director **Liv Ullmann**, the recipient of this year's prestigious Arison Award, will be a highlight of the evening.

Following the performance at the Gusman Center, guests will move to the Alfred I. Dupont Building for the gala portion of the evening. The party begins with a cocktail reception, wine and cruise silent auction, and a drawing featuring a dazzling variety of luxury items and experiences. During the reception, guests will be surrounded by vignettes with incredible performances by the 2010 YoungArts finalists. Immediately following is a seated dinner. Table prices range from \$6,500 to \$50,000, preferred seating is available for \$1,000 and individual patron tickets are offered at \$650.



A program of the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts

For more information, please contact Megan Harmon at (305) 377-1140, extension 1302 or gala@youngarts.org. To learn more about the gala and the YoungArts program, please visit www.youngarts.org.

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About YoungArts:

YoungArts is the signature national organization that recognizes and supports America's most talented 17-18 year olds in the visual, literary and performing arts. YoungArts is the sole nominating agency for Presidential Scholars in the Arts. The foundation provides emerging artists with financial support and life changing experiences with internationally- renowned artists. YoungArts alumni go on to become leading professionals in their fields. Alumni include Emmy nominated actress Vanessa Williams, three-time Tony Award nominee Raúl Esparza, star of HBO's Entourage Adrian Grenier and Warner Brothers Recording Artist Josh Groban.