



CONTACT: Lauren Lampa/Katrina Limbaugh
THE TREISTER MURRY AGENCY
(305) 531-5720
lauren@tma-pr.com
katrina@tma-pr.com

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR ADVANCEMENT IN THE ARTS' youngARTS MAGAZINE RECEIVES 2006 APEX AWARD FOR PUBLICATION EXCELLENCE

MIAMI, FL (July 27, 2006) – The National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts (NFAA), a not-for-profit organization that identifies emerging artists and assists them at critical junctures in their educational and professional development, announced today that the December 2005 issue of its *youngARTS* magazine earned the 2006 APEX Award for Publication Excellence. The official publication of NFAA, *youngARTS* is dedicated to informing readers about NFAA news, activity and alumni, as well as important opportunities and resources for young artists that will help them launch their careers.

"We are honored that APEX has selected *youngARTS* for this prestigious award," said NFAA president Bill Banchs. "NFAA strives to nurture young artists and provide them support and confidence to grow in their passion, and this award reinforces that we are on the right track in giving them the information they need."

youngARTS magazine received the award in the Custom-Published Magazine & Journals category. With more than 5,000 total entries, the APEX Awards are based on excellence in graphic design, editorial content and the success of the entry in achieving overall communications effectiveness and excellence. *youngARTS* is published by True North Custom Publishing, based in Chattanooga, TN.

NFAA identifies and rewards exceptional student artists from across the U.S. in the fields of dance, film and video, classical, pop and jazz music, photography, theater, visual arts, voice and writing. Each year, NFAA invites up to 135 artists to participate in NFAA ARTS Week, which takes place every January in Miami. This once-in-a-lifetime experience consists of performances, master classes, workshops, readings, exhibits and enrichment activities with renowned artists and arts educators. In addition to drawing national recognition, every student who participates in NFAA ARTS Week gets the chance to be nominated as a Presidential Scholar in the Arts and receive a cash award ranging from \$500 to \$10,000.

The next issue of *youngARTS* will be distributed in mid-August. For more information about, or to subscribe to, the magazine, call 1-800-970-ARTS (2787) or visit www.NFAA.ARTSawards.org. For information on marketing opportunities through the magazine, contact Erika White at (800) 624-7496 or erika.white@truenorthcustom.com.

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ABOUT NFAA:

Dedicated to empowering the arts for America's future, the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts (NFAA) is a non-profit organization founded in 1981 by businessman and visionary Ted Arison. NFAA's mission is to

identify emerging artists and assist them at critical junctures with their educational and professional development; and to raise the appreciation for, and support of, the arts in American society.

Arts Recognition and Talent Search (ARTS) is a program of the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts (NFAA). The NFAA ARTS program is sponsored, in part, by: Carnival Cruise Lines; The Coca-Cola Company; Gibson Guitar Corporation; Baldwin Piano; Gibson Baldwin Music Education; The Gibson Foundation; The Jacques and Natasha Gelman Trust; The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts; and SunTrust.

ARTS Week 2007 is being sponsored, in part, by: American Airlines, The National Endowment for the Arts, the State of Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Arts Council; and the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs; the Cultural Affairs Council; the Tourist Development Council; and the Mayor and the Miami-Dade County Board of Commissioners.

For more information about NFAA and ARTS, visit the website www.NFAA.ARTSawards.org.