

Smithsonian *Young Benefactors*

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CONTACT US

Dear YB Member,

It's April, and for many of us that means digging through all those papers we received in January in order to file by the April 15th tax deadline. As you evaluate your spending over the past year, you may be desperately searching for any forgotten deductions. While that weekend getaway is not tax deductible, a donation to the Young Benefactors is!

As many of you may know, the mission of the Young Benefactors is to assist the Smithsonian Institution in the advancement of its fundraising goals. However, what you may not know is that there are many ways to achieve this mission. The traditional method that everyone thinks of is to donate cash, but there are many other ways to help out. You can help by:

- Asking your company to make a charitable donation to the YBs on your behalf;
- Asking your company to match your donation or membership dues to the Young Benefactors;
- Donating or soliciting a company to donate an item for our annual Silent Auction;
- Volunteering at a fundraising event;
- Or, donating to the YB Culture4Kids Fund at the next YB Happy Hour.

All of the funds raised by the Young Benefactors support The Smithsonian Associates – the continuing education and cultural arm of the Smithsonian - and the YB Culture4Kids Fund, which provides funds for local school children to attend Smithsonian Summer Camp and Discovery Theater performances.

With this knowledge in hand, you can become a philanthropist overnight and rest assured knowing your efforts helped a child attend his/her first live theater performance.

Finally, don't forget to attend our monthly Happy Hour, Second Saturday Tour, Voices to Access Project, and New Member Dinners to meet other YBs while giving back to this great Institution.

Encourage your friends to join! Please forward this newsletter and bring a friend to our monthly Happy Hour events. For membership or event information, go to www.YoungBenefactors.org or email yb@si.edu.

Sincerely,

Katharine Reishman, Director



Jaclyn Reimann, Coordinator



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2008 ANNUAL SPONSORS



YB Second Saturday Tour

Saturday, April 12, 12 p.m.

Location: Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden
Intersection of Independence Ave. and 7th Street, NW,
Washington, D.C.
Metro: L'Enfant Plaza Metro Station (Smithsonian Museums exit,
Green, Yellow, Blue, or Orange lines)

Members Only! FREE!

"The Cinema Effect: Illusion, Reality, and the Moving Image Part I: Dreams" and "Directions – Amy Sillman Third Person Singular"

This month the Young Benefactors meet at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden to view two of this museum's latest additions. The day begins with a docent led tour of an exhibition by New York-based painter Amy Sillman, whose works are described as intimate, psychological, and full of humor and pathos. Remarkably analytical and intellectual, her works investigate into the forms and qualities of painting as a medium.

Next, an interpretive guide will speak with the group before we view the moving image artwork of *Dreams*, which addresses film's ability to transport us out of our everyday lives and into a dream world. *Dreams* is one part of a two-part exhibition that features moving-image artworks by a range of influential and emerging international artists whose works use film, language, and technology to explore the ever-increasing impact of the cinematic on our perceptions and the ways in which the very boundaries between "real life" and make-believe have become at least blurred, if not indecipherable. The second part, entitled *Realisms*, will open in June.

Space is limited! Email ybsecsat@yahoo.com by April 9 to reserve your space. **Reservations will be taken by email at this address only and are required to attend.** The Smithsonian Young Benefactors are planning to go to lunch following the event. Attendees will be responsible for their own lunch and any applicable gratuities. All are invited to attend.

Please provide the following information in your email:

- "April Tour Reservation Request" in the subject line
- Your name and your YB Member ID

YB New Member Dinners

Monday, April 14, 6:45 to 9:00 p.m.

Monday, April 28, 6:45 to 9:00 p.m.

Location: [Tallula](#)

2761 Washington Blvd, Arlington, VA – 202.778.5051

(Clarendon Metro, Orange line)

See [Menu](#)

Calling All New Members!

The Young Benefactor Leadership Committee invites you to attend our New Member Dinners at Tallula. These dinners provide a perfect opportunity to meet other new Young Benefactors as well as current members and chairs of our committees. There is no charge to attend the dinner; however, attendees are responsible for their food and drink costs along with any applicable gratuities.

At Tallula, you will enjoy use of their semi-private Wine Room, discounted beer and wine specials, complimentary platters of "Amuse Yourself" items, and separate checks.



Reservation Policy: New Member Dinners are designed to provide new members with an opportunity to meet each other and learn about the organization in a small group setting (10 to 15 people per dinner). Therefore, we require that all interested attendees RSVP. Seats for each monthly dinner will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. If the available seats have been filled for the dinner you request, your name will be placed on the waitlist, and you will be confirmed for a seat at a future dinner.

To RSVP: Send an email to ybnewmembers@yahoo.com with the following information: "New Member Dinner" (Subject Line), your name, email, phone, date of dinner you would like to attend, month/year you joined, and your YB member ID.

Voices to Access Volunteer Project

Saturday, April 19, 10:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: [National Museum of American History](#)

14th Street & Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC

Metro: Federal Triangle or Smithsonian Metro (Blue and Orange lines)

The Voices to Access Project provides cassette recordings of the *Smithsonian* magazine and other printed materials to more than 800 people monthly who are visually impaired. YB members volunteer in the packaging and mailing process, allowing the Smithsonian to offer the recordings free to those who need it. It is a wonderful way to give back to the Smithsonian while meeting other YB members in a small group setting. The group may go to lunch afterwards.

Since the museum is now closed for renovation until summer 2008, you will receive instructions on how to enter the museum upon signing up. The Voices to Access Project takes place in the Accessibility Office (Room 2100A) on the second floor. The office is situated near the end of the *Communities in a*

Changing Nation exhibition.

For information or to sign up, e-mail voicestoaccess@yahoo.com.

Save the Date

Catwalks and Cocktails with REISS

REISS

Wednesday, April 23, 6 to 9 p.m.

Location: 1254 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC
Metro: Foggy Bottom/GWU (Blue and Orange lines)

Members Only! FREE!

Join the Young Benefactors at the REISS store in Georgetown for an evening of fashion, cocktails, and music by DJ Dirty Hands of Fly Lounge. The event will include a Fashion Show of REISS's newest line, makeup consultations by PR @ Partners Salon, and of course, shopping! Best of all, REISS will donate a percentage of all the night's sales to the Young Benefactors and the YB Culture4Kids Fund.

Save the date and keep on the look out for an electronic invitation for this exclusive Young Benefactors event!

Grapes with the Apes – A Wine Tasting at the National Zoo

Thursday, April 10, 6 to 9 p.m.

Location: Smithsonian National Zoological Park
3001 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC
Metro: Woodley Park/Zoo/Adams Morgan Metro or Cleveland Park Metro Station (Red line)

This spring the Friends of the National Zoo (FONZ) Young Professionals host **Grapes With the Apes** to toast wildlife conservation! Young Benefactors will receive the FONZ member price to sample wines and hors d'oeuvres from a variety of wineries and area restaurants and enjoy live jazz and blues music by Ready, Set, Go!, animal demonstrations, and exclusive access to the Zoo's Great Ape House.

The ticket price includes all wine samplings, food, entertainment, and a commemorative glass. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Zoo's conservation efforts. For additional information, [click here](#).

Tickets are \$40 for FONZ and YB members and \$55 for non-members. To order, please visit www.ticketmaster.com, search for Grapes With the Apes, and enter the code **"grapes08"** to receive the member price. You may also purchase tickets at the Zoo's Visitor Center, by phone at 202-397-SEAT, or at the event entrance (as long as it is not sold out).



grapes



apes

YB Spotlight

News, Openings, Events, and Exhibitions of Interest

[The Smithsonian Institution's Board of Regents appoints the 12th Secretary of the Smithsonian](#)

On Saturday, March 15, the Smithsonian's Board of Regents announced the unanimous election of Dr. G. Wayne Clough, president of the Georgia Institute of Technology, to the position of Secretary. Roger Sant, chairman of the Board of Regents, said that Clough will usher in a new era at the Smithsonian, "bringing a unique combination of academic achievement, talent, leadership skills and experience in public service, science, management, and development." Clough will officially assume the position on July 1st. In the interim, Acting Secretary Cristián Samper will continue in this role. Upon Secretary Hough's arrival, Samper will return to his former position of Director of the National Museum of Natural History.

[RECOGNIZE! Hip Hop and Contemporary Portraiture at the National Portrait Gallery](#)

Since its inception in the late 1970s, hip hop has become hugely influential in America. While images of hip hop performers are as pervasive in our culture as the music itself, some visual artists have created powerful images that both celebrate and explore the complexity of this creative form. The six artists and one poet whose work is featured in *RECOGNIZE!* have approached hip hop culture through the lens of portraiture, and, in combination, their contributions highlight its vitality and beauty. The temporary exhibition, which can be viewed until October 26, includes photography, painting, graffiti, film, and poetry and installation.

[Color as Field: American Painting 1950-1975 at the Smithsonian American Art Museum](#)

Come view the first ever full-scale examination of the sources, meaning, and impact of the Color Field movement. Color field painting is characterized by pouring, staining, spraying, or painting thinned paint on to raw canvas to create vast chromatic expanses. The works showcased in this exhibition constitute one of the crowning achievements of postwar American abstract art. Now through May 26th, visit the American Art Museum to view paintings by such major figures as Gene Davis, Helen Frankenthaler, Morris Louis, Kenneth Noland, and Jules Olitski.

[Shine a Light at the Udvar-Hazy Center IMAX Theater](#)

Starting on April 4th, Oscar winning director Martin Scorsese gives you backstage access to one of the most legendary rock bands of all time: The Rolling Stones. Join Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Charlie Watts, and Ron Woods on stage and behind the scenes at concerts in New York City's Beacon Hall. Experience performances of classic favorites as well as songs that have never before been presented live. The film also features guest performances by Christina Aguilera, Buddy Guy, and Jack White.

[Smithsonian Craft Show at the National Building Museum](#)

The nation's most prestigious juried exhibition and sale of contemporary American craft takes place April 10 through April 13. Come to the historic National Building Museum in Washington, DC to discover delightful, one-of-a-kind and limited edition craft objects in twelve different media: basketry, ceramics, decorative fiber, furniture, glass, jewelry, leather, metal, mixed media, paper, wearable art, and wood. Admission is \$12 for YB and RAP members and \$15 for non-members and can be paid at the door.

[China: An Incomparable Journey](#)

China: An Incomparable Journey is a series of more than 20 lectures, seminars, studio arts classes, performances, and local tours that celebrate and illuminate the past, present, and future of China. Presented by The Smithsonian Associates, this programming series, which occurs March 26th through June 26th, exposes Washington area residents to the unique richness of Chinese culture on the eve of the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. For information on individual programs and tickets visit ResidentAssociates.org.

Recommended Resident Associate Events

As a Young Benefactors Member, you receive member discounts to the nearly 1,200 Resident Associate programs offered each year. Below is a list of my favorite programs for April. Visit ResidentAssociates.org or grab a copy of the monthly *Smithsonian Associate* catalog for a complete program listing and ticket information.

[Landscape Artist April Gornik's Romance in Blue with Informal Wine Reception](#)

Friday, April 4, 7 p.m.



Artist April Gornik is recognized for her romantic, mysterious landscapes. She offers a glimpse into her creative process through a visual overview of her oeuvre followed by a discussion of her work with Eric Denker, a senior lecturer at the National Gallery of Art. This evening celebrates *Blue Moonlight*, the Smithsonian Art Collectors Program's new commission by Gornik, who generously donated her creative efforts to produce the lithograph. The print, in a signed and numbered limited edition of 100, is available for viewing and purchase at the reception following the program.

Tickets are free for Young Benefactors and Resident Associates members (ticket required).

[The Galapagos Islands: World's End](#)

Monday, April 7, 6:45 to 9 p.m.



The Galapagos Islands, more than 600 miles west of South America, offer some of the best opportunities in the world to view wildlife. Naturalist Kitty Coley explores the islands' unique natural history and amazing diversity of life, including flamingos, penguins, the world's only sea-going iguana, the famous giant Galapagos tortoises, tree-size members of the daisy family, and a variety of seabirds like the blue-footed booby and the waved albatross. Coley's discussion weaves together the intriguing history of evolutionary biology connected with the Galapagos, the islands' volcanic origins, and the ground-breaking observations made by Charles Darwin during his visit in 1835.

Coley is a geologist, naturalist, and birder who has led expeditions for and consults for the National Geographic Society.

[Creating a Home Wine Collection with Tasting](#)

Monday, April 28, 6:45 to 9 p.m.



Popping the cork on a bottle of vintage wine from your own cellar to share with friends is one of life's pleasures and one of the best reasons to start a home wine collection. Knowing the how-tos is very important to ensure that it will be populated with the right variety and stored with the utmost care. In this enlightening evening, Mark Slater, master sommelier at Citronelle restaurant, will talk about how to identify the wine you like and want to collect, finding a reputable wine dealer, the purchasing and storing of wine, information-gathering strategies, and pairing your wine with food.

A selection of the wines, chosen by Slater as representative of the variety needed to begin collecting, is available for tasting.

[FRANCOPHONIE 2008](#)

March - April



The Smithsonian Associates and the Francophonie Committee in DC join together again to celebrate the cultural diversity of the French-speaking world. Surrounding the International Day of the Francophonie, we present a series of concerts and films showcasing the talents from 10 different countries. Visit <http://francophoniedc.org/index.html> for tickets and more information.

[Introductory and Continuing Calligraphy](#)

Mondays, April 21 through June 16, 6:30 p.m.



Add a personal touch to invitations, placecards, and letters, with a calligraphic font learned in this class for both beginning and intermediate students. Students learn about the development of the Roman alphabet and study the Foundational and uncial scripts. Continuing students learn the Italic and Gothic alphabets or may choose their own course of study in one or more of the four alphabets. All students receive a basic set of supplies. Continuing students may wish to purchase additional supplies to be discussed in class.

Please share your thoughts and/or questions. The YB Committees value your input and welcome all volunteers -- Contact information and Committee descriptions are available at YoungBenefactors.org.

For more information on the Young Benefactors of the Smithsonian Institution, visit www.youngbenefactors.org.

For more information on the Smithsonian Resident Associate Program, visit www.residentassociates.org.

You have received this email because you subscribed to the service or submitted your name and e-mail address to be added to the distribution list for the young professional membership group of the Smithsonian Institution. If you no longer wish to receive this e-mail, please visit www.youngbenefactors.org/email.htm to unsubscribe or send an email to CustomerService@ResidentAssociates.org.