

Smithsonian *Young Benefactors*

October 2008

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Dear %%FIRST_NAME%% %%LAST_NAME%%,

On September 7th, over 500 Young Benefactors, guests and friends gathered for a successful 2nd Annual Smithsonian Young Benefactors Cup despite hurricane Hanna, which delayed us for a day. I hope everyone enjoyed the afternoon and thank you to those who came out to help raise funds for the YB Culture4Kids Fund.

With fall upon us, the Smithsonian is filled with many grand openings and new exhibits. I hope everyone has the opportunity to visit the National Museum of Natural History's recently opened Sant Ocean Hall. Mark your calendars – December 6th we will celebrate our 19th Jolly Holiday and plans are underway for our 19th Annual Young Benefactors Gala this Spring. Membership has its benefits, so stay tuned!

Last, but certainly not least, we would like to thank YB Coordinator Jaclyn Reimann for all her energy and dedication to the Young Benefactors over the past year. Many of you have seen her at many of the Happy Hours and YB events, always with a smile and happy to greet both new and returning faces. Please join me in wishing her well in her new position working in Special Events at the National Museum of American History. Best of luck, Jaclyn!

Sincerely,



Katharine Reishman

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.

Voices to Access Volunteer Project

Saturday, October 18, 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

Katharine Reishman,
Director
Phone: 202-633-8604
Email: ReishmanK@si.edu

Ticketing Box Office
Phone: 202-633-3030

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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 fall 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.

YB Second Saturday Tour

Saturday, October 11, 12 noon

Location: [Smithsonian American Art Museum](#)

8th and F Streets, NW, Washington, DC

Metro: Chinatown/Gallery Place (Green, Yellow, and Red lines)

FREE for Members Only

["Georgia O'Keeffe and Ansel Adams"](#)

"Georgia O'Keeffe and Ansel Adams: Natural Affinities," which opened on September 26, 2008, examines the friendship of two artists who were attracted to the distinct landscape of the American southwest and were committed to depicting its essence with modernist sensibilities. This exhibition, the first to pair these artists, celebrates their mutual appreciation of the natural world and reveals the visual connections between O'Keeffe's paintings and Adams' photographs.

Georgia O'Keeffe is one of the most compelling American artists of the 20th century. Her representations of the beauty of the American landscape are unmatched and serve as a stark response to the often chaotic images seen in the modern art world. Ansel Adams, photographer and noted environmentalist, created images which became symbols of wild America. His powerful black and white images are the icons for the national parks of the Sierra Club and primordial nature of the environment itself.

Space is limited! Email ybsecsat@yahoo.com by **October 8th** 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:

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

YB New Member Dinners

Monday, October 6, 6:45 to 9 p.m.

NEW Location: [The Melting Pot](#)

1220 19th Street, NW, Washington, DC

Metro: Dupont Circle (Red Line)



Calling All New Members!

The Young Benefactors Leadership Committee invites you to attend our New Member Dinners now at The Melting Pot. 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 The Melting Pot, the YBs will enjoy a prix fixe menu of a salad and two fondue courses for \$20 (plus tax and gratuity), wine specials, and use of a private room.

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 (15 to 30 people per dinner). Therefore, we require that all interested attendees RSVP. Seats for each 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 a 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.

Happy Hour – Co Co. Sala

Tuesday, October 14, 6 to 9 p.m.

Location: [Co Co. Sala](#)

929 F Street, NW, Washington, DC

Metro: Chinatown/Gallery Place (Red, Green, and Yellow Lines)

Metro Center (Blue, Orange, and Red Lines)



Nonmembers Welcome! \$10 Suggested Donation for the YB Culture4Kids Fund

This month the Young Benefactors head to Co Co. Sala, one of DC's newest dessert boutiques. Described by the Washington Post as "moody and romantic," this spot has no problem combining fun and delicious food. In addition to a terrific atmosphere, YBs will enjoy \$6 beer, \$7 wine, and a special on one of their signature cocktails.

Be sure to bring your friends as our monthly happy hours provide nonmembers with a great venue for learning about our organization. And, as your mixing and mingling, don't forget to make a donation to

the YB Culture4Kids Fund (suggested amount \$10), which provides local youth with access to the diverse, educational experiences offered by Smithsonian Summer Camp and Discovery Theater.

For more information, please contact yb@si.edu.

YB Spotlight

Openings, Events, and Exhibitions of Interest

[Take Five! with The Time Green Quintet](#)

Kick back and Take Five with live jazz, cool drinks, and stunning art every third Thursday at the Smithsonian American Art Museum! Enjoy their expanded hours from 5 to 8 p.m. On October 16, The Tim Green Quintet takes center stage for a jazz performance unlike any seen before at Take Five! [Click here](#) for additional information.

Recommended Resident Associate Events

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

[Marvelous Mosaics](#)

Tuesdays, October 14-December 9, 6:30 p.m.



This class guides you through the mosaic-making process, from the initial design to the final grouting and assemblage of the works. Each student creates two wall pieces, using different techniques and very few tools. A list of supplies is mailed prior to the first session. Some supplies are provided.

[Purchase Tickets](#)

[La Dolce Vita: Chocolate, Grappa, and Wine](#)

Thursday, October 16, 6:45 to 8:45 p.m.



Spend a delectable evening learning about chocolate's fascinating history. Consider its origins in the New World, its journey to Europe, and its blissful transformation from a grainy, bitter, brew into today's sweet confection.

Food historian Francine Segan describes the fascinating role Christopher Columbus and Casanova played in chocolate's history and how decadent 17th-century European high society experienced chocolate. The emphasis is Italian chocolate, as you learn how Italy's favorite chocolate – gianduiotti – first appeared at the Carnival of Turin in 1865. Experience the unusual ways Italians enjoy chocolate today through guided tastings of Italian chocolates that usually are not available in the United States. Grappa – a type of brandy – and wines are offered that are especially suited to be savored with chocolate.

[Purchase Tickets](#)

[A World of Butterflies](#)

Monday, October 27, 6, 7, and 8 p.m.



Enter the world of beautiful butterflies as Nate E. Erwin manager of the exhibition Butterflies + Plants: Partners in Evolution, talks about how butterflies and plants have evolved and diversified together for millions of years. Then proceed to the exhibition, which features colorful murals, videos, and photographs that provide background for your visit to the Butterfly Pavilion to see more than 300 live butterflies fluttering about and alighting on plants such as jasmine and verbenas.

Erwin is director of the Natural History Museum's Insect Zoo and a frequent guest on Late Night with David Letterman.

[Purchase Tickets](#)

[In Search of Dracula, King of Vampires](#)

Wednesday, October 29, 7 p.m.



Over the centuries, vampires have undergone many transformations – from the “gentleman” vampire of the 19th century, portrayed most notably in Bram Stoker’s Dracula, where the nobleman-vampire was an old man with hairy palms and perpetually bad breath, to the suave and seductive creature of the 20th century played by such well-regarded actors as Bela Lugosi and Frank Langella and popularized on TV shows like Buffy the Vampire Slayer.

This evening, Leslie S. Klinger traces the evolution of the vampire in popular culture, focusing on Bram Stoker. Stoker’s declaration that his novel was based on fact has been a source of controversy. Klinger uses film clips, recordings, contemporary travel books, and Stoker’s notes to reveal the secrets, inconsistencies, and falsehoods in Stoker’s work. He also illuminates Dracula’s reincarnations in comic books, parodies, and pastiches and on the stage and screen.

[Purchase Tickets](#)

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 www.youngbenefactors.org/contact.shtm.

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.

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