



# Smithsonian *Young Benefactors*

March 2009

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Dear %%FIRST\_NAME%% %%LAST\_NAME%%,

The Young Benefactors have lots of exciting events planned for 2009, so be sure to keep checking our website and reading the upcoming newsletters!

First, we would like to welcome Development Associate/YB Coordinator, Kate Stilwill, who joined us two weeks ago. Most recently, Kate worked as the program coordinator at The Phillips Collection Center for the Study of Modern Art, where she oversaw the marketing of programs and audience relations, grant applications, research and reports. We are very excited to have her on board, and hope you will introduce yourself at future YB events.

Next, Save the Date for the YB Spring Gala, which will be held Saturday, May 16th at the Kogod Courtyard. Gala Co-Chairs, Lindsey Rosenthal and Jennifer Lee are busy at work making this event a spectacular affair! Stay tuned for more event details.

In addition, next month on Friday, April 3rd Discotheque Underground will be returning to the Ripley Center. As part of the Francophonie celebration, Discotheque Underground will feature some of the world's best DJs including, award-winning Swiss DJ Jay Style and French Guiana's Jr Le Saint. These talented mix masters have worked with big name DJs around the world and spinned in some of the most famous European dance floors. We thank our sponsor, Emperor Brand, who will be mixing up specialty cocktails, while you enjoy the beats of these mix masters. For tickets, [click here](#).

Last, and certainly not least, The 43rd Annual Smithsonian Kite Festival is seeking volunteers. If you would like to enjoy a day outside working with kids and take in the spectacular site of 1,000s of kites in the sky, this is an event for you! For volunteer information, [click here](#).

The Young Benefactors are always seeking volunteers, if you would like to receive volunteer notices via email, please send us an email at [yb@si.edu](mailto:yb@si.edu) and include "Seeking Volunteer Opportunities" in the subject line. You may also find occasions listed on the "Get Involved" page of the YB Website.

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](http://www.YoungBenefactors.org) or email [yb@si.edu](mailto:yb@si.edu).

*Voices to Access Volunteer Project*

Katharine Reishman,  
Director  
Phone: 202-633-8604  
Email: [ReishmanK@si.edu](mailto:ReishmanK@si.edu)

Ticketing Box Office  
Phone: 202-633-3030

2009 ANNUAL  
SPONSORS



Saturday, March 21, 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 American History Museum has now re-opened, you many now enter the museum through the main Entrance. If you arrive before the Museum opens, please check in through the Staff Entrance in the parking tunnel. 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 *Communities in a Changing Nation* exhibition.

For information or to sign up, e-mail [voicestoaccess@yahoo.com](mailto:voicestoaccess@yahoo.com).

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## *YB Second Saturday Tour*

Saturday, March 14, 12 noon

Location: [National Gallery of Art](#)

Constitution Avenue (Between 3rd and 7th Street, NW)

Metro: Judiciary Square (Red Line), Archives (Yellow or Green Line) or Smithsonian (Blue or Orange Line)

**FREE** for Members Only

### Italian Renaissance Art

The National Gallery of Art houses a powerful collection of compelling and moving Italian Renaissance Art. Italian Renaissance art reflects a time of change in growth and a new era in which a powerful Holy Roman Empire, wealthy families—newly rich from a new mercantile economy and powerful states were all competing to outwardly display their strength and positions.

The YB Second Saturday Tour will feature this high-style art filled with religious and secular themes of classic inspiration from this time. Highlights include the high Renaissance style of Leonardo da Vinci, the sensuality of Titian, and the classical balance and controlled movement of Raphael and Michelangelo.

Space is limited! Email [ybsecsat@yahoo.com](mailto:ybsecsat@yahoo.com) by March 12th 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:

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

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## *YB New Member Dinner*

Monday, March 9th, 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](mailto: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.

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## *YB Happy Hour*

Wednesday, March 18th, 6 to 9 p.m.

Location: [The Rookery](#)

2519 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Metro: Foggy Bottom/GWU (Orange and Blue lines)



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

YB members and guests will enjoy \$6 rail drinks, and free appetizers prepared by the Rookery's acclaimed chef, David Scribner. Established in Foggy Bottom last year, the Rookery has been featured in the Washington Post, the Examiner, and W Magazine.

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 support for local area schoolchildren to attend the educational and cultural programs presented by The Smithsonian

Associates, such as, Smithsonian Summer Camp and Discovery Theater performances.

For more information, please contact [yb@si.edu](mailto:yb@si.edu).



## Save the Date

### Discotheque Underground

Friday, April 3rd, 8:30 p.m.

Location: S. Dillon Ripley Center, Concourse  
YB Members \$25; Non-Members \$30

Two outstanding DJs transform the Smithsonian's underground Ripley Center concourse into an international nightclub.



Dance to the electro-house beats of Swiss DJ Jay Style and French Evaa Pearl. These talented mix masters have spun discs on some of the most famous European dance floors. Evaa Pearl, known as the Cinderella of mix, has played in popular night spots like the Locomotive in Paris, Platinum in Tunisia and the biggest clubs of Marrakesh in Morocco. Last summer, Jay Style performed in Paris for former French soccer player Zinedine Zidane, and more than 8 million listeners tune in to his show each week on the French radio station Fun Radio. We thank our event sponsors: Emperor Brands LLC and Heineken.

There will be an open bar, and light hors d'oeuvres will be served.

[+ BUY TICKETS](#)

## YB Spotlight

### Openings, Events, and Exhibitions of Interest



#### [Louise Bourgeois, Hirshhorn Museum & Sculpture Garden](#)

February 26–May 17, 2009

This is the first major survey since 1995 of works by the French-born artist Louise Bourgeois (born 1911). Bourgeois has worked through most of the avant-garde artistic movements of the 20th century, from Surrealism to Conceptual art, but has always remained uniquely apart, powerfully inventive and often at the forefront of contemporary practice. The exhibition features early drawings, prints, and paintings, as well as sculptures—created using a variety of modern and traditional techniques—that explore Bourgeois's core themes of femininity, sexuality, and isolation,

while demonstrating that she continues to defy convention in her 90s.



#### [Comic Art Indigène, National Museum of the American Indian](#)

March 6–May 31, 2009

Storytelling has long been a part of Native American culture. Comic Art Indigène examines how storytelling has been used through comics and comic-inspired art to express the contemporary Native American experience. Under the larger definition of narrative art, comic art is more related to Native American art traditions than one might expect. The earliest surviving example of such narrative art is rock art. The historic examples used in the exhibition, such as photographs of rock art, ledger art, and ceramics, are meant to link Native American art traditions with

contemporary voices.

Making comics and producing art inspired by them is a method of reclaiming the narrative art form of comics and Native American culture from those who would dismiss an art for the masses. Stories of humor, adventure and the fantastic depicted through pictures have always been an indigenous practice, and Native American scribes today grapple with the same topics emboldened with millennia-old cultural traditions, blended with new methods of expression and life in the 21st Century.



### [The Tale of Shuten Dōji, Arthur M. Sackler Gallery](#)

March 21–September 20, 2009

During the Edo period (1615–1868), many artists in Japan illustrated scenes from dramatic folk tales of how the hero Minamoto Yorimitsu (948–1021) conquered the monster Shuten Dōji. Images of this popular legend appeared in works commissioned for elite patrons as well as in widely available printed books. This exhibition explores modes of visual narration through the museum's exceptional collection of works that illustrate tales surrounding the demon Shuten Dōji. Presented together for the first time are two sets of handscrolls, a pair of screens, sketches for a set of fan paintings by Kawanabe Kyōsai (1831–1889), and book illustrations by renowned Japanese painter Hokusai (1760–1849) and other artists, all in the collections of the Freer Gallery of Art and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, together with paintings from private collections.



### [Inventing Marcel Duchamp: The Dynamics of Portraiture, National Portrait Gallery](#)

March 27–August 2, 2009

This groundbreaking exhibition casts new light upon Marcel Duchamp (1887-1968), one of the most influential artists of the recent past. This show demonstrates that Duchamp harnessed the power of portraiture and self-portraiture both to secure his reputation as an iconoclast and to establish himself as a major figure in the artworld. In the process, he played a key role in the reinvention of portraiture, exerting a transformative influence from the early 20th century to the present. The exhibition showcases approximately 100 never-before-assembled portraits and self-portraits of Duchamp ranging from 1912 to the present, including works by his contemporaries Man Ray, Alfred Stieglitz, Francis Picabia and Florine Stettheimer as well as portraits by a more recent generation of artists, such as Andy Warhol, Jasper Johns, Sturtevant, Yasumasa Morimura, David Hammons, Beatrice Wood and Douglas Gordon.

For other new and upcoming events at the Smithsonian, [click here](#).

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## *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.

### [Francophonie 2009: Celebrating Cultural Diversity in the French-Speaking World](#)



The Smithsonian Associates and the Francophonie Committee of Washington are proud to present Le Festival de la Francophonie 2009, running through April 3.

Films from Around the World: Wed., March 4, 11, 25; April 1, 7 p.m.; Sun. March 15, 29, 2pm.; Wed., March 18, 8 p.m.

Performances: Fri., March 13, 7:30p.m.; Thurs., March 19, 10:15 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.; Sat., March 21, 7:30 p.m.

[BUY TICKETS](#)

## [Kora Master Mamadou Diabaté](#)

Friday, March 13, 7:30 p.m.



In a riveting solo performance, Mamadou Diabaté performs on the kora, the ancient 21-string West African harp. Diabate was born in Kita, Mali, a city long known as a center for the arts and culture of the Manding people of West Africa. He comes from a family of griots, or jelis, as they are known among the Manding—a people known for their historians, genealogists, storytellers, and musicians.

Diabate, along with a handful of remaining kora players, is keeping the kora tradition alive.

[→ BUY TICKETS](#)

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The 17th Annual Environmental Film Festival focuses on the challenges to our planet's oceans and sea life. The Festival runs Wednesday March 11th- Sunday, March 22nd. For a complete listing of events, please [click here](#).

## [Wild Ocean 3D](#)

[IMAX Screening Presented in Collaboration with Earthwatch Institute and the Giant Screen Cinema Association](#)

Thursday, March 19, 7:00 p.m.



A 2009 Earthwatch Film Award Winner

Each year an unbelievable feeding frenzy takes place in the oceans of South Africa as billions of fish migrate up the KwaZulu-Natal Wild Coast. Wild Ocean 3D (U.S., 2008, 40 min.), an explosive documentary about man and nature, reveals startling giant-screen images of breaching whales, feeding sharks, diving gannets, and massive bait balls. The migration has provided a food source for life in the ocean and for the people living along the shore. Years of overfishing are threatening this invaluable natural resource.

The film shows how business, government, and the local people have joined forces to protect this vital ecosystem. It immerses audiences in an epic underwater struggle for survival and depicts the economic and cultural impact the migration has on the coastal communities.

The screening is followed by a discussion among Philippe Cousteau Jr., oceanographer and president and CEO of EarthEcho International; Clapperton Mavhunga, assistant professor of science, technology, and society at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Edward Wilson, president and CEO of Earthwatch Institute; and Wild Ocean directors Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas, who were nominated for an Academy Award for directing Pulse: A STOMP Odyssey. The panel will take questions from the audience.

[→ BUY TICKETS](#)

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In order to purchase tickets online, you will need to login to our website. Only current Young Benefactors members are able to purchase tickets at the member rate for both Young Benefactors and Resident Associate programs/events.

If you have not yet used your Temporary Login, which is linked to your Smithsonian account, please use the information that appears below:

%%\$temp\_login%%

%%\$temp\_password%%

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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 <http://youngbenefactors.org/ticketing/contact.aspx>.

For more information on the Young Benefactors of the Smithsonian Institution, visit [www.YoungBenefactors.org](http://www.YoungBenefactors.org).

For more information on the Smithsonian Resident Associate Program, visit [www.ResidentAssociates.org](http://www.ResidentAssociates.org).

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