



**September 2009**

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

Although the heat of summer is fading away, activities at the Smithsonian are just heating up! Don't miss September's exciting Resident Associate Programs. *Face the Nation* moderator Bob Schieffer, one of Washington's most respected journalists, will provide an insider's look at Congress in a day-long program. The timeless producer of improvisational based comedy, The Second City, is back! This year, The Second City celebrates its milestone 50th Anniversary, and the program will feature some of the best sketches, songs, and improvisations from The Second City's 50-year history!

On September 3, experience the Freer and Sackler Galleries after hours at *Asia After Dark*, an evening of art, dance, and creative fun. Continue to mix and mingle, and enjoy specialty cocktails at the Young Benefactors happy hour on September 16 at Darlington House, a historic Victorian row house turned restaurant in the heart of Dupont Circle. The Young Benefactors will be gathering in Darlington House's chic Library.

Mark your calendars for Thursday, October 22, when the Young Benefactors partner with the Wolf Trap Young Professional Society for an evening of camaraderie and acoustic rock. The evening includes dinner followed by a great night of live music by Ari Hest with special guest Elizabeth & The Catapult in the intimate Barns at Wolf Trap! For more information about the event, [click here](#).

Lastly, the Young Benefactors is not presenting a Smithsonian Young Benefactors Polo Cup this year. However, I hope you will take advantage of our exciting schedule of events that we have in store this fall!

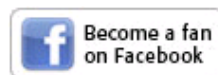
I look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,



Katherine G. Stilwill

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 volunteer opportunities listed on the "Get Involved" page of the YB Website.



**CONTACT US**

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***Voices to Access Volunteer Project***

**Saturday, September 26, 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)

## 2009 ANNUAL SPONSORS



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. This 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 new location is by the gift shop on the first floor, which is straight back from the Constitution Avenue entrance of the American History Museum. (Please note that there are two gift shops and we meet at the largest one on the first floor.)

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

## ***New Member Dinner***

**Monday, September 14, 6:45 to 9 p.m.**

**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.

## ***YB Second Saturday Tour***

**Saturday, September 12, 2009, 12:00 p.m.**

**Location:** [National Air and Space Museum](#)  
The National Air and Space Museum is conveniently located on the National Mall, between the Capitol building and the Smithsonian Castle. Bordered by Independence Avenue, Jefferson Drive, 4th and 7th Streets in southwest Washington, D.C.

**Metro:** The nearest Metro stops are L'Enfant Plaza on the Blue/Orange/ Green and Yellow Lines, and Smithsonian on the Blue/Orange Lines.

### Members Only! **FREE!**

The Air and Space Museum opened in July 1976 and maintains the world's largest collection of historic aircraft and spacecraft. Housing many of the icons of flight, unique exhibits include the original 1903 Wright Flyer, Charles Lindbergh's Spirit of St. Louis, Chuck Yeager's Bell X-1, John Glenn's Friendship 7 spacecraft, the Apollo 11 command module and a lunar rock sample that visitors can touch.

Since opening, the building on the Mall has been the most visited museum facility in the world, attracting on average more than nine million people annually; and our special tour will focus on the highlights of the over 50,000 artifacts housed in the museum.

Space is limited! Email [ybsecsat@yahoo.com](mailto:ybsecsat@yahoo.com) by September 9th to reserve your space. **Reservations will be taken by email at this address only and are required to attend.** Please note the Smithsonian Young Benefactor's will be meeting near the Information Desk.

Please provide the following information in your email:

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

## Happy Hour

**Wednesday, September 16, 6 to 9 p.m.**

**Location:** [Darlington House](#)  
1610 20th St NW  
Washington, DC 20009-1001  
(202) 332-3722

**Metro:** Dupont Circle (Red Line)



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

This month Darlington House, located in a multi level Victorian row house and known for its rustic Italian cuisine, is hosting the Smithsonian Young Benefactors in their Library.

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.

## SAVE THE DATE

[Ari Hest with special guest Elizabeth & The Catapult – WOLF TRAP](#)  
**Thursday, October 22, 6:30 p.m.**

The Young Benefactors partner with the Wolf Trap Young Professional Society for an evening of camaraderie and acoustic rock. Join fellow YBs and other young professionals for dinner in the Education Hall at the Center for Education at Wolf Trap followed by a great night of live music in the intimate Barns at Wolf Trap!

With their "jazzy, buoyant baroque pop songs" (*The Village Voice*), Elizabeth &



The Catapult deliver a fresh perspective to the stage.

Ari Hest brings an impressive vocal range to acoustic rock and this "captivating live performer" (*The Boston Globe*) returns with a new album of fan-selected songs, *Twelve Mondays*.

Ari Hest with special guest Elizabeth & The Catapult  
Thursday, October 22, 2009

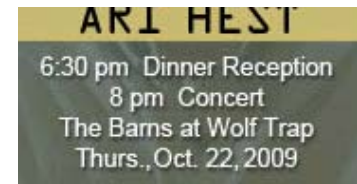
6:30 pm Dinner Reception | Education Hall, Center for Education at Wolf Trap

8:00 pm Concert | The Barns at Wolf Trap

\$35 per person (includes dinner and concert ticket)

Buy your tickets today! Call (703) 255-4030 or register online: <https://community.wolftrap.org/NetCommunity/SSLPage.aspx?pid=345>

Reservations are required; seating is limited. **Please RSVP on or before Friday, October 2, 2009.** All patrons must have a ticket. Program, schedule and artists are subject to change. No refunds.



## Smithsonian Spotlight

Openings, Events, and Exhibitions of Interest

### [Bon Appetit from Julia's Kitchen](#)

National Museum of American History

Thirty beautiful copper pots and pans have been reunited with Julia Child's kitchen at the National Museum of American History. Child donated the entire kitchen—including everything from her knife collection to her beloved "big Garland" commercial gas range—in 2001. The kitchen is about to become even more famous, as a replica of it stars in the new movie *Julie & Julia* with Meryl Streep and Amy Adams. Visit Julia's kitchen in the [interactive online exhibit](#), try out a [recipe of the week](#), or visit the museum in person.



For more information visit: [http://americanhistory.si.edu/juliachild/flash\\_home.asp](http://americanhistory.si.edu/juliachild/flash_home.asp)

### [Asia After Dark: PEACOCK SHOCK](#)

Thursday, September 3, 6:30-10:30 pm

Freer Gallery of Art

Experience the Freer and Sackler Galleries after hours! At Peacock Shock indulge your senses in Asia and participate in an evening of art, dance, and creative fun in the Freer Gallery of Art. Dress in your favorite peacock colors and prepare to be "shocked" by the beauty of Freer's crown jewel, Whistler's Peacock Room, named a "masterpiece of American art" by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Learn a bit of Freer history. Take part in our text-message scavenger hunt hosted by The Pink Line Project. Sip a specialty drink, The Golden Peacock, and sample delicious food from Bangkok Joe's and Mie N Yu in Georgetown and Asia Nine in Chinatown. Saunter into the Freer courtyard and watch new wave dance by Boogie Bots, contestants from MTV's *America's Best Dance Crew*, and dance the night away to DJs Yellow Fever as they spin fusion beats. Short films from the DC Asian Pacific American Film Festival will also play continuously in the Meyer Auditorium. And look out for the Freer Gallery's founder Charles Lang Freer—you might just get to have your photo taken with him. Asia After Dark is a ticketed event held three times a year in the summer, fall, and spring.



For more information visit: <http://www.asia.si.edu/asiaafterdark/090309.asp>

### **Ramp It Up: Skateboard Culture in Native America**

National Museum of the American Indian

June 12, 2009 - November 1, 2009 (new closing date)

Ramp It Up celebrates the vibrancy, creativity, and controversy of American Indian skate culture. Skateboarding combines demanding physical exertion with design, graphic art, filmmaking, and music to produce a unique and dynamic culture. One of the most popular sports on Indian reservations, skateboarding has inspired American Indian and Native Hawaiian communities to host skateboard competitions and build skate parks to encourage their youth. Native entrepreneurs own skateboard companies and sponsor community-based skate teams. Native artists and filmmakers, inspired by their skating experiences, credit the sport with teaching them a successful work ethic. The exhibition features rare and archival photographs and film of Native skaters as well as skatedecks from Native companies and contemporary artists.

[Watch the Native Skate Jam webcast](#), live from the Potomac Atrium July 3–5

For more information visit: <http://www.nmai.si.edu/subpage.cfm?subpage=exhibitions&second=dc&third=current>

### **Staged Stories: Renwick Craft Invitational 2009**

The Renwick Gallery

August 7, 2009 - January 3, 2010

*Staged Stories: Renwick Craft Invitational 2009* presents the work of ceramic artist Christyl Boger, fiber artist Mark Newport, glass artist Mary Van Cline, and ceramic artist SunKoo Yuh. These artists depart in significant ways from long-standing craft traditions by discarding the baseline rationale of crafts, their functionality, to create narrative artworks that confound old categories in the world of contemporary craft. As the exhibition title suggests, theatrical elements, including props, costumes, and narration, bind together these varied works.

This exhibition features works by the following four artists:

- Christyl Boger (b. 1959), who creates large-scale gilded ceramic figurines that incorporate contemporary props
- Mark Newport (b. 1964), who examines issues of masculinity through knitted superhero costumes
- Mary Van Cline (b. 1954), who uses plate glass and pate de verre to construct sculptural pieces that often incorporate black-and-white photographs
- SunKoo Yuh (b. 1960), who creates densely layered ceramic sculptures that explore complex issues of family, faith, and community with Eastern and Western imagery

For more information visit: [http://americanart.si.edu/exhibitions/archive/2009/craft\\_invite\\_2009/](http://americanart.si.edu/exhibitions/archive/2009/craft_invite_2009/)

### **SAVE THE DATE: Savor South African Wine**

October 15, 2009, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

National Museum of African Art

On Thursday, October 15, from 6:30 to 9:30 pm, the Smithsonian's National Museum of African Art will host "Savor South African Wine," an extraordinary wine reception, hosted in conjunction with South African Airways, to benefit the museum's exhibitions and public programs. Enjoy exotic cuisine from the continent, live music, have an opportunity to bid on sommelier selected South African wine baskets, beautiful jewelry, as well as an all-expense paid South African vacation for two valued at \$20,000. As an added perk, all attendees will be entered to win the grand door prize, two round-trip tickets to South Africa,



courtesy of South African Airways. Tickets are \$75 per person. For more information and to purchase tickets, please contact Kim Mayfield Williams at 202.633.4649 or [Kim@si.edu](mailto:Kim@si.edu).



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

## 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](http://ResidentAssociates.org) or grab a copy of the monthly *Smithsonian Associate* catalog for a complete program listing and ticket information.



### [West Side Story: A Musical Evening](#)

**Wednesday, September 16, 6:45 to 8:45 p.m.**

Fifty-two years after its opening, *West Side Story* still resonates with audiences. Over the years, there have been changes in this retelling of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* by author Arthur Laurents and composer Leonard Bernstein, set in the rough Hell's Kitchen section of 1950s Manhattan. The show's original concept was a love story between a young Italian Catholic boy and a Jewish girl; one working title was *East Side Story*. The idea evolved into a hard, uncompromising look at gang warfare and racial tension between the white boys of the Jets and the Puerto Rican boys of the Sharks, who resort to a "rumble" for turf domination.

In a music-filled lecture, **Jesse Parker** illuminates the creative process that went into the making of the musical and explores the various performance approaches—including the multilingual version now playing on Broadway.

Tonight won't be just any night if you linger a little to sing a song or two from the show!

Parker is the founder, conductor, and music director of Voices 21, artistic director of The Chesapeake Chorale, and music director of Chevy Chase United Methodist Church.

[+ BUY TICKETS](#)



### [What's Up on the Hill?](#)

#### **Congress Behind the Scenes**

**Tuesday, September 22, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

*Face the Nation* moderator Bob Schieffer, one of Washington's most respected journalists, sets the stage for this insider's look at Congress. The morning begins with Schieffer's overview of that institution—its power and its people. After a boxed lunch, listen as Sen. Christopher Dodd and other members of Congress serving on various committees discuss their roles and the issues they grapple with each day. There will be time for questions from program participants.

The day concludes with USA Today's Kathy Kiely, a veteran Congressional correspondent, providing a reporter's perspective on Capitol Hill.

[+ BUY TICKETS](#)



### [The Second City: Best of Show 50th Anniversary](#)

**Friday, September 25, 6:30 p.m.**

\*This performance is also available on [Friday, September 25, 9 p.m.](#)

The Second City is 50! The improv troupe celebrates its golden anniversary with a musical and comedic adventure that is an up-to-the-minute satire, coupled with material from its vast archive of

hilarity. The review features some of the best sketches, songs, and improvisations from The Second City's 50-year history and also guides the audience through the past year's most delectable political scandal, cultural milestones, and public disgrace. No topic or subject matter is off-limits.

Founded in Chicago in 1959, The Second City is a premier training ground for comedy's best and brightest, with an alumni list that includes Tina Fey, Stephen Colbert, Steve Carell, John and Jim Belushi, Dan Aykroyd, Bill Murray, Gilda Radner, Martin Short, and Mike Myers.

[+ 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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