



Young
Audiences
New York

Young Audiences New York Honors Three Visionary Leaders for their Commitment to Arts Education for New York City Children

*Three distinctive leaders across vastly different fields all agree:
NYC Children need the arts to be successful when they grow up!*

*Dan Glaser, President and CEO, Marsh & McLennan Companies;
Brian Terkelsen, CEO, MediaVest USA; and
Kenny Leon, Artistic Director, Kenny Leon's True Colors Theatre Company*

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New York, NY [MARCH 4, 2015] —Young Audiences New York presented its 2015 Children's Arts Award to three distinguished leaders from the professional services, media and theatrical industries. Emmy® Award winning actor Richard Thomas ("The Americans") served as Master of Ceremonies at the annual awards dinner at Cipriani Wall Street.

Young Audiences New York 2015 Children's Arts Award honorees are:

- Dan Glaser, President and Chief Executive Officer of Marsh & McLennan Companies
- Brian Terkelsen, Chief Executive Officer of MediaVest USA
- Kenny Leon, Artistic Director of Kenny Leon's True Colors Theatre

These leaders were chosen for their deep personal understanding of the important life skills learned through the arts. Even though they represent three very different industries, they share a common bond in their convictions to provide more arts education to NYC children.

New York City Comptroller Scott M. Stringer, who office last year released the eye opening "State of the Arts" report detailing gaps in arts education for the City's children, said, "New York is home to some of the finest museums, theaters and cultural institutions in the world. ...we have a unique opportunity to make arts education equal for all...to move our city forward."

Young Audiences New York is dedicated to providing children from all walks of life with an arts education that nurtures their creativity and helps them develop important life skills. The arts help children strengthen their imagination and critical thinking and teach them perseverance, collaboration, problem-solving and self-assessment.

“I’m honored to be recognized by Young Audiences New York. This amazing organization helps young people from different backgrounds and with diverse perspectives find their creative spark,” said Dan Glaser, President and CEO of global professional services firm Marsh & McLennan Companies. “Thanks to Young Audiences New York’s programs, young people throughout New York City are being introduced to the power of the arts and inspired to conceive new and better ideas that will create a better tomorrow. Support of Young Audiences New York is a great investment in our children and in our world. ”

“Integrating the arts into my life from an early age had a profound effect on me, both personally and professionally,” said Brian Terkelsen, CEO, MediaVest USA. “I deeply believe in the work that Young Audiences New York does with the leaders of tomorrow, and I’m thrilled and honored by this recognition.”

This was a wonderful night, celebrating and embracing youth, the future and the arts," said Kenny Leon, Artistic Director of Kenny Leon’s True Colors Theatre in Atlanta Georgia.

Young Audience New York’s 2015 awards dinner will be attended by more than 725 supporters of arts education. Please see www.yany.org/benefit2015/supporters for a complete list of sponsors.

Additionally, the three 2015 honorees are featured in “The Chance to Create,” a video highlighting their insights about the important role arts education plays in preparing children for success. The production of this video was generously donated by Linda Yaccarino, Chairman, Advertising Sales and Client Partnerships, NBC Universal. The premiered at the Benefit, and can also be seen at www.yany.org/video.

In commenting on the evening’s importance, Board Member and Principal of PS 46 in Harlem, George Young, said: “There is simply no substitute for the experience and exposure that the arts provide children.

“The arts help to equip New York City children with essential life skills needed to become civically active and responsible citizens, innovative and productive members of our economy, inspiring public servants and happy and successful adults.”

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About Young Audiences New York

As an arts in education pioneer in New York City, we draw on our 63 years of experience to bring music, dance, theater, visual and digital arts programs to children. In partnership with public schools and community organizations, we provide arts education to children from kindergarten through the twelfth grade and their families.

Young Audiences wants all children in our city to experience extraordinary art—both as creators and as audience members. After all, this is New York City, and what better way is there for children to develop important 21st Century skills—and experience joy too—than through arts education?