



Dear Artist:

Thank you for your interest in the Maryland Chapter of Young Audiences/Arts for Learning (YA). We carefully select our roster of artists. Artists/ensembles are chosen on the basis of artistic excellence and their ability to effectively communicate with students and teachers.

Our roster has been selected for the 2008-2009 school year. **The artist application process for the 2009-2010 school year is open. Completed applications should be submitted to Young Audiences/Arts for Learning by December 1, 2008.**

The relationship between YA and each artist/ensemble is that of an independent contractor. Artists are responsible for providing their own instruments, costumes, props and set pieces as required for each program. Artists provide their own means of transportation to each scheduled program.

In order to become a YA roster artist/ensemble, please:

1. Familiarize yourself with our organization and programs. Visit the program section of our website at www.yamd.org and download our 2007/09 Arts Education Resource Guide and 2006 Annual Report.
2. Complete the **YA Artist Application** (page 5) and mail it to:

Donna Sherman
Program Coordinator
Young Audiences/Arts for Learning
927 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

Include any additional information with the application (i.e. reviews, photos, etc.) that will provide us with a fuller picture of your work. We suggest performance-based artists submit either a video or audio of a recent performance. Keep in mind that while support materials will enhance your application, materials submitted will not be returned to you. You are required to submit a resume and names of 3 references.

3. Send a list of dates/locations where you/your ensemble will be performing. We may want an opportunity to view your program before scheduling a formal audition.
4. After you've completed steps 1 through 3, our staff will review your materials starting in January. Following this review, you may be contacted for an informal interview. After completion of the interview, you may be asked for a formal audition. If you are asked to audition, your program will be scheduled at a school. Artists/ensembles are not compensated for an audition. The audience during an audition will consist of students, teachers, and Young Audiences program and education staff members as well as members of YA's Program Committee.
5. We evaluate your program based on artistry, educational content, and your ability to effectively communicate with students and engage them in the subject matter. If, upon evaluation, YA staff recommends modifications, we ask for your cooperation in revising your program.
6. The observers during your audition will meet after your audition to decide upon a recommendation. You will receive notification of the results within two weeks of your audition. If your program is approved, your artist/ensemble will receive accreditation for two years from our Young Audiences chapter, and you will be invited to join the roster. A greater number of artists/ensembles are auditioned than we can place on the roster, and

many excellent programs are not admitted to the roster each year. We choose programming that is best suited to our needs, so again, please be sure to familiarize yourself with our Arts Education Resource Guide.

7. When designing a program for submission, please remember that Young Audiences offers three main program formats:

a. **Performance:** Performance (assembly) programs are 45 minutes in length, and are a blend of performance and discussion with opportunities for student participation interspersed throughout. Performance programs may have a maximum audience of 250. Participation may consist of discussion with audience members or direct involvement with performance activities. Use your imagination about ways of involving members of the audience.

b. **Workshops:** Workshops involve smaller groups (usually 25 or fewer students), and are generally 45 minutes to an hour in length. Workshops provide opportunities for artists to have frequent, one-on-one interaction with students. Materials/content of program must be organized to fit into the class period, with flexibility to handle questions, etc. Please note that workshops are not lectures, but hands-on, active learning opportunities to experience your art form by doing.

c. **Residencies:** Residencies are defined as 3 or more contacts (usually 45 minutes each time) with the same group of students. Performing Arts Residencies begin with a kick-off performance and usually end with a culminating student performance or sharing event. Visual Arts Residencies may end with an art opening. All residencies require a planning meeting and evaluation meeting between the artists, the YA education director, and teachers from the school site. You will be compensated for this time.

Please note: Our organization schedules programs on request from schools, libraries, and other community organizations. We cannot guarantee that you and/or your ensemble will receive a specific number of scheduled programs or a minimum level of income in any given time period. Every effort will be made to see that you and/or your ensemble is kept as busy as you would like to be.

Thank you for your interest in the Maryland Chapter of Young Audiences/Arts for Learning! We look forward to receiving your application.

Sincerely,

Young Audiences/Arts for Learning

MARYLAND CHAPTER: YOUNG AUDIENCES/ARTS FOR LEARNING POLICIES

Young Audiences is a professional, non-profit, arts-in-education organization. These policies introduce you, the artist, to our standards for professional artists/ensembles. YA and its artists are involved in a joint enterprise to provide high quality arts education programs throughout Maryland. Mutual understanding and execution of our joint and individual obligations are essential to future success.

The relationship between YA and the artist/ensemble is that of an independent contractor. The artist is responsible for providing his/her own instruments, costumes, props, and set pieces as required for each performance. Visual artists may charge a reasonable materials fee (to be determined in advance) on a per workshop basis. Artists provide their own means of transportation to each program location. Young Audiences offers its artists these advantages:

- Association with an organization which has established a national and local reputation for excellence in arts-in-education programming. In 2004, our chapter celebrated 50 years of bringing artists into schools.
- Payment handled in a professional and timely manner.
- Scheduling/Program logistics handled by full-time professional staff.
- Professional development and support in developing and refining effective arts-in-education programs.
- Evaluation and assessment of programs by YA staff and educators/artists of the YA Program Committee.
- Promotion of artists/ensembles through brochures, school contacts, showcases, festivals, media exposure and website.
- Professional staff in a central office located in Baltimore who handle scheduling and contracting of programs, accounting, fundraising, and marketing.
- Guidance in developing and refining effective educational programs.
- Funding from various government and private sources to subsidize program costs, particularly for underserved areas.

(Note: In 2007 Young Audiences raised \$140,000 which was used to subsidize YA programs in schools. Any program funding previously received by artists from the Maryland State Arts Council, AiE grants, or other sources will revert to Young Audiences)

Young Audiences expects cooperation from roster artists and ensembles on these matters:

1. Accreditation will follow procedures outlined in the "Letter to Prospective Artists". The obligation of this agreement could be from one to two years.
2. If you make any permanent changes in ensemble personnel, YA must be notified immediately and must approve these changes. Changes may be cause for re-audition.
3. Substantial changes in program outlines must be reviewed and approved by YA and may be cause for re-audition.
4. The terms of agreement by you, the artist, and YA will apply for either one or two years, depending on when you are invited onto the roster. Agreements tend to start July 1 and end June 30.
5. All performances/workshops/residencies for accredited YA programs in Maryland must be arranged through our chapter.
6. The artist or ensemble is required to prominently display the Young Audiences sign at each site and to refer to its affiliation with Young Audiences during each performance. Each artist/ensemble will be given a sign upon acceptance of their contract. A \$30 fee will be imposed on artists/ensembles who do not display the sign without

advance warning to the Young Audiences office. (The schools fill out evaluations, which does take note of the use of Young Audiences' sign.) Also, any funding sources will be noted on the contract and must be announced during the program.

7. Artists/ensembles will be asked to donate all or part of a program each year for promotional or fundraising purposes.

8. YA does not guarantee its accredited artists/ensembles a specific number of programs or income level.

9. Reliability is essential. The reputation of YA and its artists is that of a professional organization and depends not only on the quality of programming, but on presenting our services in an organized, reliable fashion. Schools have little flexibility in accommodating schedule changes, and YA and its artists are expected to keep their commitments to schedules dates and times. If a program is missed due to artist/ensemble error, a fee reduction may be given to school at the artist's expense.

10. Performers are required to begin their programs at the scheduled time, not earlier or later. To allow ample time for check-in at the school office and set-up, expect to arrive at least 20 minutes before your performance or workshop time.

11. Payments to artists for engagements will be made approximately two weeks following completion, providing that any paperwork that is required is turned in promptly.

12. Artists/ensembles will be paid a travel stipend for programming that occurs outside of their home county at the Federal reimbursement rate.

13. The artist or ensemble contact must call the YA office under the following circumstances:

- a. Illness or other serious incapacitation, which is sufficient to prevent programming.
- b. Use of a substitute in an ensemble (if used in more than two consecutive programs).

14. It is an artist's responsibility to contact school/organization within one week of the visit. The purpose of this call is to touch base about the date, time and content of the program, confirm directions to the site and make sure they are prepared for your technical requirements.

15. Please inform the YA office regarding availability for the upcoming season, as well as any personnel or program outline changes by May 1, preceding each new school year.

16. Please contact the YA office if you should encounter any difficulties in a school performance or workshop situation.

17. YA cannot and will not take responsibility for any injury or damage caused or occurring during a YA program. The artist/ensemble agrees to take full responsibility for, and hold YA harmless against, any and all injuries or damage to property, which may occur during the preparation for and the performance of or subsequent to a YA program, whether or not directly, or indirectly caused by the artist/ensemble. All artists are considered independent contractors and YA strongly *recommends* that each artist/ensemble holds personal liability insurance. More schools are starting to ask about this coverage, and you are not covered under the Young Audiences, Inc. policy. YA can help you find out more information on obtaining liability insurance if you are interested.

18. Young Audiences strives to make its programs accessible to all schools, regardless of their resources or geographic location. This means we expect artists to be willing to travel to all counties in Maryland.



YA ARTIST APPLICATION

Please type or print application.

Thank you for your interest in the Maryland chapter of Young Audiences/Arts for Learning. The Young Audiences staff reviews completed applications each February. Following a review, you may be contacted by the staff regarding the status of your application.

Each application requires the following:

- Completed YA Artist Application,
- Resume for each artist (include work history, education),
- Three references (name, address, phone and email for each reference),
- Performance artists are strongly recommended to submit an audio or video sample of a recent performance (showcasing their artistry).

A. APPLYING ARTIST OR COMPANY INFORMATION

Name of Artist or Ensemble: _____

Contact Person (if different from above): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Social Security Number: _____ Date of Birth _____

B. DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

(This section is VOLUNTARY and used for statistical evaluation only)

African American White/Caucasian Asian Hispanic/Latino Senior American Indian Other

C. ARTISTIC INFORMATION

What is your artistic medium? _____ How long have you been working in your artistic medium? _____

Have you presented your art form in schools? _____ If yes, how long? _____

Also if yes, please provide the contact information for the last three schools you have presented at:

_____ W

Why do you, personally, have a commitment to arts education?

When are you available during the school year? _____

For ensembles:

How many members are a part of your group? _____

How many years have you been together? _____

D. PROGRAM

Please indicate the type of program* you wish to offer through YA:

Performance Workshop Artist in residence program

* Please complete an application for each program you would like to offer through YA.

E. SUPPORT MATERIALS

Please indicate the support materials you have included with this application.

(Note: A resume and 3 references are required.)

Newspaper articles Audiocassette or CD Videotape Slides Photographs Other (please specify): _____

Return completed application to:

Young Audiences/Arts for Learning, 927 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, MD 21202



YOUNG AUDIENCES PROGRAM TEMPLATE

ARTIST: _____

PROGRAM TITLE: _____

APPROPRIATE GRADE LEVELS: _____

EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR THIS PROGRAM (PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

- _____ PA system
- _____ Backstage area
- _____ Near electrical outlets
- _____ Tables (#) _____
- _____ Performance/Teaching space (size) _____ x _____
- _____ Dressing area
- _____ Chairs
- _____ Non-carpeted floor
- _____ Sink accessible
- _____ Other (please specify): _____

Outline your plan for accomplishing the learning goals of this program by describing the program objectives. Feel free to use your own program plan format in place of this one, but be sure to address the questions below in your plan.

PROGRAM/RESIDENCY GOALS: By the end of the performance/residency, what do you want students to know, understand, and be able to do?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES: What activities will be completed during the performance/residency to meet program goals? What interactive experiences will you complete with students?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Describe the beginning, middle and end of your program. (For performances, please provide a script. For residencies, please provide a detailed residency plan.)