



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 3, 2018

2018 CLASS OF TEXAS YOUNG MASTERS TO BE PRESENTED AT AUSTIN'S ZACH THEATRE ON APRIL 16

Event Will Feature Performances and Work by Joe Ely, Conspirare, Dallas Black Dance Theatre, Cruz Ortiz, Allen Robertson, and Texas Young Masters Alumni

WHO: [Texas Cultural Trust](#) and [Texas Commission on the Arts](#)

WHAT: Texas Cultural Trust and Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) will present the 2018 class of Texas Young Masters during an awards ceremony on April 16th at ZACH Theatre with honorary chair First Lady Cecilia Abbott and event chairs Ashley Covert, Gerardo Interiano, Maya Smart, and Natasa Valocchi.

Texas Young Masters is a joint initiative between the Trust and TCA, which recognizes 8th through 11th grade students who demonstrate artistic excellence in dance, theater, film, music, media, and literary and visual arts. Every biennium, the program grants 15 students with \$10,000 multi-year awards to enhance and build their professional artistic studies and provide access to developmental opportunities before college.

The 2018 class of Texas Young Masters will be recognized during the vibrant ceremony on April 16, 2018, which will feature performances by Texas Young Masters alumni. The evening program will highlight performances by the GRAMMY award-winning choral ensemble [Conspirare](#), [Dallas Black Dance Theatre](#), an original composition by composer Allen Robertson and artwork by and discussion with [Cruz Ortiz](#). To close the show, Texas' legendary singer-songwriter and guitarist [Joe Ely](#) will delight guests with a taste of Texas country honky-tonk and rock and roll.

The list of 2018 Texas Young Masters recipients can be viewed [here](#). For more event information and to purchase tickets, please visit <https://txculturaltrust.org/young-masters/event>.

WHEN: April 16, 2018

WHERE: ZACH Theatre, 202 South Lamar Boulevard, Austin, Texas 78704

2018 TEXAS YOUNG MASTERS SPONSORS:

The 2018 Young Masters program was made possible through the generous support of Dr. Ernest and Sarah Butler, Texas Women for the Arts, The SermoonJoy Organization, Neiman Marcus, Wayne Fisher, Jeanne and Mickey Klein, Judy and Kirk Robison, Alturas Foundation, Covert Auto Groups, Kathleen and Ben Keating, Karen and Charles Matthews, Locke Lord LLP, and RWM Foundation. [As of 4/3/18]

ABOUT TEXAS CULTURAL TRUST:

The Texas Cultural Trust is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to be the leading voice for the arts in education, advocacy, and economic impact in Texas, spotlighting the artistic excellence of our state. This mission is achieved through the Trust's five initiatives that quantify, promote, and advance the investment in the creative future of Texas. Programs of the Texas Cultural Trust include Art Can, Texas Medal of Arts Awards, Texas Young Masters, Arts & Digital Literacy, and Texas Women for the Arts. For more information about the Texas Cultural Trust, please visit www.txculturaltrust.org. Community support to underwrite Texas Young Masters scholarship grants is also being received through the Trust's online fundraising campaign. To support, please visit <https://txyoungmasters.causevox.com/>.

ABOUT TEXAS COMMISSION ON THE ARTS:

The mission of the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) is to advance our state economically and culturally by investing in a creative Texas. TCA supports a diverse and innovative arts community in Texas, throughout the nation and internationally by providing resources to enhance economic development, arts education, cultural tourism and artist sustainability initiatives. For more information on TCA and its programs, please visit www.arts.texas.gov.

MEDIA CONTACT

Diana Cantu
Giant Noise
tct@giantnoise.com
512-382-9017