

Arts for Learning/Miami Provides Students Hands On Training in Art Careers, with support from UBS and Knight Foundation

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June 19, 2013, Miami, FL- On June 24, 2013, Arts for Learning/Miami (A4L) will launch the second year of ArtWorks, a high school career readiness program. With the tag line "Hired to Create. Inspired to Succeed." ArtWorks will provide 30 high school students the opportunity to pursue their interests in the arts while learning essential work skills through six-week paid summer art internships. Once hired as an ArtWorks intern, A4L assigns each student to a discipline-specific job in the field of dance, theatre, or visual arts. Each year, ArtWorks will add new art forms to expand the artistic repertoire of the job offerings, which could include: architecture, arts administration, fashion, filmmaking, graphic design, lighting/sound design, music, or photography. Students also participate in Art Basel Miami Beach, via tours, workshops or volunteering. The program is open to all students, regardless of their artistic experience.



ArtWorks students collaborating on a visual project under the direction of Carlos Noguera Master Teaching Artist during summer 2012.

ArtWorks will be launching its second programming year thanks to the continued support of UBS and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation through its Knight Arts Challenge. Recognizing ArtWorks's innovative approach, and potential community impact and outreach, Knight Foundation awarded A4L a \$225,000 grant over three years to extend the program beyond its initial pilot. The Knight Arts Challenge is a community-wide contest funding projects that bring South Florida together through the arts. Last summer, A4L established ArtWorks with seed funding from UBS; as a result, the program began transforming Miami's Wynwood Arts District into a dynamic job training campus for students from the surrounding neighborhoods. UBS has generously continued its support with a \$75,000 award to match fully the first year of the Knight Arts Challenge Grant. The UBS funding will also expand the program beyond the summer so that students may participate in ArtWorks during the academic year.

A4L Executive Director, Sheila Womble, states that "ArtWorks invests in students' artistic development while helping them hone essential career skills. The interns must organize events, plan exhibitions and performances, attend writing workshops, blog, and participate in a Power Hour event where they practice their networking skills with business professionals. They do all of this while also focusing on art making. It is intense. The students gain an understanding of all that it takes to be successful."

Lori Feinsilver, UBS's head of community affairs, said, "UBS is proud to partner with Arts for Learning to support the city of Miami, one of our nation's most dynamic and vibrant communities. Through our sponsorship of Art Basel in Miami Beach and the ArtWorks initiative, we're excited about this opportunity to help our talented young people fulfill their artistic potential and gain valuable career skills."

"Miami-Dade students need to know that the arts provide not just an inspiration but a rewarding career path," said Dennis Scholl, vice president for arts at Knight Foundation. "We're excited by Arts for Learning's efforts to both teach skills and demonstrate careers that will ensure South Florida's future success."

To prepare for the summer, A4L interviewed 70 prospective 10th, 11th and 12th grade student applicants from Miami Edison Senior High, Miami Northwestern Senior High, Design and Architecture Senior High, and New World School of the Arts. A4L also recruited students from the local All Kids Included: Youth Arts in the Park program, which primarily serves students with disabilities. During the school year, ArtWorks will engage ten students through a visual art internship; school year interns will receive academic credit in lieu of financial compensation for work completed. During 2013-14, student applicants apply for the ArtWorks program through Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

During the summer ArtWorks component, The Bakehouse Art Complex will house the visual art and theatre interns; the Light Box at Goldman Warehouse, which is the location of A4L's administrative offices, will house the dance interns. During the year-round pilot expansion of the program, the visual art internship will be offered and housed at the Lewis Arts Studio in the West Grove, where A4L currently runs after-school and summer programming for middle and elementary school students.

For more information on the ArtWorks program, kindly contact Ivy Bennett, Program Director, at 305.576.1212 *36 or email ivy@a4lmiami.org.

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Arts for Learning (A4L) is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing teaching and learning through the arts and community cultural resources. As a leading source of arts integrated programs in Miami, A4L connects the arts to other subjects to support academic achievement and child development. A4L's comprehensive services include teacher and artist professional development, arts-integrated instruction, student studio programs, community art programs, student internships, and mentoring. A4L educational endeavors develop life and communication skills, build self-esteem, support literacy and problem solving, and encourage students to become self-directed learners. A4L partners with Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, and Young Audiences – A4L's national affiliate. A4L also serves as the South Florida Wolf Trap, a regional program of Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning. A4L's services are delivered to more than 6,000 children and youth in approximately 50 schools, preschools, after-school programs, and summer camps throughout Miami-Dade and Broward.

Art for Learning's programming is made possible by individuals like you and by support from CHASE, City of Miami, City of Miami Beach Cultural Affairs Program, Edward S. Moore Family Foundation, The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, Jonathan D. Lewis Foundation, Joseph H. and Florence A. Roblee Foundation, Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, and the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, Miami Salon Group, TD Charitable Foundation, The Children's Trust, UBS, and Young Audiences, Inc.

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