



1715 2nd Avenue
Rock Island, IL 61201
(309) 793-1213 • fax 793-1265

For immediate release

Contact: Susan Wahlmann, Performing Arts & Arts-in-Education Director, 309-793-1213 x105
swahlmann@quadcityarts.com

**LET THE ARTS REFRESH YOUR LIFE!
QUAD CITY ARTS ANNOUNCES THE 35th SEASON OF THE VISITING ARTIST SERIES!**

The 35th season of the Visiting Artist Series will bring 43 artists in 9 residencies to the Quad Cities, reaching more than 60,000 people in schools and community locations. Residencies will feature everything from jazz to musical theater to classical music and more.

The Visiting Artist Series brings artists of international acclaim to the Quad City region, offering community members the opportunity to see professional performances by nationally-touring artists. One- to two-week residencies provide in-depth and often repeated contact between the artist and audience. Artists give 45 minute educational performances in three schools or community sites each day, creating personal connections between the artists and the community.

Outreach performances occur mostly in schools, but also at business locations, social service organizations and public facilities. The series offers programs for workers in factories, members of civic organizations and after-school programs, senior citizens, the correctional center, the disabled and underserved youth, including alternative school students and youth at Arrowhead Ranch.

Each residency concludes with a public concert in a traditional concert hall. Most of these concerts are free, though donations are accepted at the door. This provides community members with the opportunity to hear and see a longer performance which reinforces what they have seen during the presentations during the week. Families often take this opportunity to enjoy together the artists the students have seen earlier at their own school.

The Visiting Artists are selected based on the quality of their work and the ability to interact with audiences of diverse backgrounds and ages. Artists are included in the development of each residency. We receive many letters throughout the year that the artists make a significant impact in the lives of area students - often inspiring them to take up the performing arts on their own. One school administrator commented "The Visiting Artist Series is very beneficial to area students. For many, it is their only cultural experience."

Quad City Arts is a nonprofit local arts agency dedicated to the growth and vitality of the Quad City region through the presentation, development and celebration of the arts and humanities. All Quad City Arts programs are partially supported by Festival of Trees, Quad City Arts Partners Annual Giving Program and operating grants from the Illinois Arts Council (a state agency) and the Iowa Arts Council, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs. Quad City Arts also receives significant support for the Visiting Artist Series from the following: National Endowment for the Arts, Arts Midwest's

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Performing Arts Fund, Iowa Arts Council, HNI Industries Charitable Foundation, Geneseo Foundation, Oscar Mayer Division/Kraft Foods, Scott County Regional Authority, Rock Island Community Foundation, Rauch Family Foundation I and the Davenport Noon Optimists Club .

Local car dealerships donate rental vehicles and hotels provide rooms. Performance space is provided by Augustana College, the Bettendorf Events Center, John Deere and Redeemer Lutheran Church. Additional support comes from service fees paid by school districts, Parent Teacher Associations, service clubs and businesses as well as paid subscriptions to VAnguard. GENESIS sponsors tickets for the public concerts.

The Ahn Trio and Manding Jata residencies are supported is supported by the Performing Arts Fund, a program of Arts Midwest funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art, with additional contributions from the Illinois Arts Council (a state agency) the Iowa Arts Council (a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs), General Mills Foundation, and Land O'Lakes Foundation.

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