



**KANSAS CITY
YOUNG AUDIENCES**

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Kansas City Young Audiences celebrated its 45th Year of providing arts education to youth on May 13, 2006, with an event featuring Honorary Chairman Michael Stern, Musical Director of the Kansas City Symphony.

The evening celebration took place at The InterContinental Hotel (formerly The Fairmont) and featured dinner, awards and a silent and live auction called by Bill Shapiro, host of KCUR's *Cypress Avenue*. The auction included works of art from local and national artists including Rita Blitt and Ken Ferguson. Guests had the opportunity to bid on an 18th-century farm house in France, a week in Telluride, Colorado, and a vacation at a 1920's home in the Adirondacks on Lake George. Many of Kansas City Young Audiences' teaching artists donated their time and talent to be auctioned off for private or corporate special events.

Awards: The KCYA Distinguished Educator Award was presented to Dr. R.D. Mallams, principal of Thomas Hart Benton Elementary School in Independence, MO, for his strong support of arts in the classroom. Susansylvia Scott received The Lighton Prize for excellence as a teaching artist, and previous honoree, Adele Hall, presented The Trudy Award to David H. Hughes, Jr., for his work to support arts in the Kansas City community.

The Gala Chairman was C. Stephen Metzler. Underwriting producers of this event were Mr. and Mrs. Landon Rowland, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Townsend, American Century Foundation, and DST Systems Inc. Sponsoring directors included the Muriel McBrien Kauffman Foundation and H&R Block.

Kansas City Young Audiences, organized in 1961, is the largest provider of arts education in the Kansas City area and serves nearly 190,000 children every year. KCYA also manages the Arts Partners program and the Community School of the Arts, where children can take classes in music, dance, drama, creative writing, and the visual arts after school, on Saturdays, and throughout the summer.

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