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Mrs. Michelle Obama

welcomes you to

**The Turnaround Arts
White House Talent Show**



Wednesday, May 25, 2016

PROGRAM

"Everyday People"

Produced by Playing for Change

Remarks by

Mrs. Michelle Obama

Performances by

Turnaround Arts: Hawai'i

Kalihi Kai Elementary, Honolulu
Kamaile Academy Public Charter, Waianae
Waianae Elementary, Waianae

Turnaround Arts: California

Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary, Los Angeles

Turnaround Arts: Bridgeport, CT

Barnum School
Hall School
Hallen School
Tisdale School
Roosevelt School

Turnaround Arts: New York City, NY

Ebbets Field Middle School
East Flatbush Community Research School
P.S. 284 Gregory Jackson Community School
P.S. 165 Ida Posner

Turnaround Arts: Des Moines, IA

Warren G. Harding Middle School

Turnaround Arts: Minnesota

Bethune School, Minneapolis
Northport Elementary, Brooklyn Center
Northside Elementary School, St. James

Turnaround Arts: Chicago, IL

Chalmers School of Excellence
Herzl School of Excellence
Johnson School of Excellence
Dvorak School of Excellence

Turnaround Arts: Washington, DC

Turner Elementary
Moten Elementary
Noyes Elementary
Bunker Hill Elementary
Savoy Elementary

Turnaround Arts: New Orleans, LA

ReNEW Cultural Arts Academy

Visual Arts Contributions by

Turnaround Arts: Broward County

Broward County, Florida

***Triumphant!* The Turnaround Arts National Portrait Project**

Contributions by

Turnaround Arts Students
from Local Programs around the Country

Damian Woetzel and George Stevens, Jr.

Directors

Kathy Fletcher

National Program Director, Production Organizer

Program subject to change

Participating Turnaround Arts Local Programs

Turnaround Arts: Hawai'i is run by the Hawai'i Arts Alliance, a statewide non-profit organization that works to build the state's creative capital through equal educational opportunities. The Hawai'i Arts Alliance is a member of the Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education Network and is the State Captain for Americans for the Arts. The Turnaround Artists that have worked throughout the state of Hawai'i since it became a part of the program in 2015 include Paula Fuga, Jack Johnson, Jake Shimabukuro, and Alfie Woodard.

Turnaround Arts: California is an independent non-profit organization established to administer the statewide program. It was initiated as a part of the Turnaround Arts program in 2014 with financial support from the California Arts Council and architect Frank Gehry. The California cohort of Turnaround Arts schools spreads from the north end of the state to the southern border, with schools throughout the central valley and in both urban and rural settings. The Turnaround Artists that work throughout the state of California include Carla Dirlikov Canales, Jesse Tyler Ferguson, Frank Gehry, Rashida Jones, Jason Mraz, Tim Robbins, Russell Simmons, Chad Smith, Kerry Washington, Ledisi, and Forest Whitaker.

The Turnaround Arts: Bridgeport program is a part of Bridgeport Public Schools, which serves just over 30 schools in Connecticut's largest city. Turnaround Arts: Bridgeport grew from the success and experience of Roosevelt School, one of eight schools that participated in the pilot phase of Turnaround Arts starting in 2012. The talented students from the Roosevelt School were invited by the First Lady to perform for her at a White House event in 2014. With the support of the Bridgeport community, Turnaround Arts: Bridgeport is excited to help realize the public schools' mission of readying all its students to graduate college-ready and prepared to succeed in life. The Turnaround Artists that work in the Bridgeport community include David Blaine, Chuck Close, Thom Mayne, Tracy Reese, and Bernie Williams.

Turnaround Arts: New York City was announced in the fall of 2015. It is managed through a partnership between the private sector Fund for Public Schools, the New York City Department of Education, and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. The Fund for Public Schools is dedicated to building public-private partnerships in support of the New York City Department of Education and its 1,800+ schools. The Turnaround Artists that work in the New York City community include Paula Abdul, Marc Anthony, Misty Copeland, and Edward Norton.

Turnaround Arts: Des Moines program is a part of Des Moines Public Schools, the largest school district in Iowa, with more than 33,000 students. Turnaround Arts: Des Moines sprang from the success of Findley Elementary, a pilot school in the Turnaround Arts national network in 2012 that saw significant gains in achievement through the arts. With Findley's success as a model, Turnaround Arts: Des Moines now works in a cluster of schools in a high-needs community that is investing in renewal and economic opportunity. The Turnaround Artists that work in the Des Moines community include the Silk Road Ensemble, Kal Penn, Forest Whitaker, and John Lloyd Young.

Turnaround Arts: Minnesota is run by the Perpich Center for Arts Education, a state agency serving all Minnesota schools. Created in 1985 by the state legislature, the agency seeks to advance K-12 education throughout the state by teaching in and through the arts. Turnaround Arts: Minnesota has been a part of the program's network since 2013 and represents an expansion of Perpich's core areas of expertise, as well as deeper involvement in a subset of the state's highest-needs schools. The Turnaround Artists that work throughout the state of Minnesota include Clarence Greenwood (Citizen Cope), Sarah Jessica Parker, and Doc Shaw.

Turnaround Arts: Chicago is managed by the Academy for Urban School Leadership (AUSL), a city-wide education management organization that focuses on turning around schools. Turnaround Arts: Chicago, which came into the program in 2014, is being implemented in four elementary schools with a total of 1,400 students—all within the North Lawndale neighborhood, which has one of the highest poverty, youth and gang violence rates in Chicago, but also a rich cultural and civil rights history. The Turnaround Artists that work in the Chicago community include Josh Groban, Kerry James Marshall, Irvin Mayfield, and Kevin Moore (Keb' Mo').

Turnaround Arts: DC is managed by the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), which consists of over 46,000 students. Turnaround Arts: DC emerged from the involvement and success of Savoy Elementary School, which was part of the Turnaround Arts pilot phase. In May of 2012, the First Lady made a visit to Savoy Elementary School with Turnaround Artist Kerry Washington, and just two years later, students from the school performed for her at the first ever Turnaround Arts White House Talent Show. The Turnaround Artists that work in the DC community include Elizabeth Banks, Yo-Yo Ma, Lil Buck, Esperanza Spalding, Kerry Washington, and Damian Woetzel.

Turnaround Arts: New Orleans is managed by ReNEW schools, a charter school management organization that provides "a rigorous, college preparatory education to historically underserved students." As a location of one of the program's eight original pilot schools in 2012, students from ReNEW Cultural Arts Academy (RCAA) joined the First Lady for a special White House screening of "Beasts of the Southern Wild" with the filmmakers in 2013. RCAA also performed at the Turnaround Arts White House Talent Show in May of 2014, where they second-lined their way onstage with the Turnaround Artists that work in the New Orleans community, Troy Andrews (Trombone Shorty), and Alfre Woodard.

The Turnaround Arts: Broward County program is a part of Broward County Public Schools (BCPS), the second largest public school system in Florida and the sixth largest in the country. BCPS serves more than 260,000 students and has a diverse student population, representing 204 different countries and 135 different languages. Broward County came into the Turnaround Arts program in 2015, and is mentored by Turnaround Artists such as Mike McCready, Carla Dirlikov Canales, and Cameron Diaz. Turnaround Arts: Broward County contributed to the set design for this afternoon's performance.

President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities

Created in 1982 by President Reagan, the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities is an advisory committee to the White House on cultural issues, working with federal agencies and the private sector to initiate and support key programs in the arts and the humanities. First Lady Michelle Obama serves as the Honorary Chairman of the Committee, and under the Obama Administration, the President's Committee has engaged as a leader in efforts to bring arts education back into school curricula across the country, particularly in underserved communities. The President's Committee is co-chaired by George Stevens, Jr., and Margo Lion; the Vice Chair is Mary Schmidt Campbell, and the Executive Director is Megan Beyer.

Turnaround Arts

Turnaround Arts is a national program created by the President's Committee in 2011 in coordination with the White House, the U.S. Department of Education, the National Endowment for the Arts, and several foundations and corporations. The program uses the arts to transform the nation's most underserved schools, providing a creative, rich education and improving academics, school culture and climate, and more. To do this, the program brings arts education resources into high-needs schools as a strategic tool for targeting larger school challenges and opportunities, integrating the arts into teaching methods for all subjects and bringing in arts supplies, musical instruments, local teaching artists, teacher training, and strategic planning, as well as high-profile artists who "adopt" schools to engage students and the school community.

Recent evaluation results show participating schools demonstrated an almost 23% improvement in math proficiency and a 13% improvement in reading proficiency on average. Half of the Turnaround Arts schools improved their attendance rates significantly between 2011 and 2014. More than half of Turnaround Arts schools dramatically reduced in-school and out-of-school suspensions, some by as much as 89%.

Turnaround Artists

Fifty of our nation's most accomplished artists—actors, dancers, musicians, visual artists, architects and designers—serve as Turnaround Artists, mentoring one or more schools for the length of the program. These artists visit classrooms, lead workshops, meet with parents and members of the school community, and stay in contact with their schools during the year. Their involvement helps drive fundamental changes in school morale and student engagement, as well as garnering visibility for the school's successes.

Turnaround Artists participating in this afternoon's program include:

Paula Fuga

Turnaround Arts: Hawai'i

Bernie Williams

Turnaround Arts: Bridgeport

Paula Abdul

Turnaround Arts: New York City

Keb' Mo' and Irvin Mayfield

Turnaround Arts: Chicago

Damian Woetzel and Lil Buck

Turnaround Arts: Washington, DC

Alfre Woodard

Turnaround Arts: New Orleans

*For more information on Turnaround Arts:
turnaroundarts.pcah.gov*



The Kennedy Center Partnership

The President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities is announcing a new partnership with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts to implement and expand Turnaround Arts. This strategic partnership represents an alignment of values to serve at-risk communities as well as a commitment to national arts education programs. The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities represent a powerful team that together will continue proven school-changing and life-changing work.

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

As America's living memorial to President Kennedy, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts produces and presents performances of music, dance, and theater; supports artists in the creation of new work; and serves the nation as a leader in arts education. With its artistic affiliates, the National Symphony Orchestra and Washington National Opera, the Center's achievements as a commissioner, producer, and nurturer of developing artists have resulted in more than 300 theatrical productions, and dozens of new ballets, operas, and musical works. The education programs of the Kennedy Center, including those of its affiliate VSA, the international organization on arts and disability, have become models for communities across the country and have unlocked the door to learning for millions of young people.

The President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities would like to thank:

Kurt Crowley: Pianist

Tony Kieraldo: Pianist

Carol Foster: Rehearsal Assistant

Claudia Schreier: Rehearsal Assistant

Tracy Straus: Rehearsal Assistant

Marissa LaRose: Stage Manager

iTheatrics: Rehearsal Assistant

for their contributions
in making the Talent Show possible.



