

Contact: Nora Weinreich
Phone: 305-235-5222
E-mail: Norawein1@gmail.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CITIZENS INTERESTED IN ARTS 2014-2015 SEASON AND CHAMPION OF ARTS AWARD HONOREES

CITIZENS INTERESTED IN ARTS, INC (CIA) IS A 501©3 NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION COMMITTED TO PRESERVING THE VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS IN SOUTH FLORIDA, AND IS ORGANIZED SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING GRANTS TO QUALIFIED MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA ARTISTIC COMMUNITY. THIS ORGANIZATION IS UNIQUE IN THAT IT IS TOTALLY RUN BY VOLUNTEERS. YOU HEARD IT - NO MONEY IS SPENT ON STAFF.

FOR \$150 A YEAR FROM ITS 200 MEMBERS AND FUNDRAISING LUNCHEONS THE ORGANIZATION, **LAST YEAR, AWARDED 32 GRANTS FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$82,500.** LAST YEAR'S GRANTEEES WERE: Alhambra Music, Inc., Art and Culture Center of Hollywood, Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida, Bass Museum of Art, Beaux Arts, City Theatre, Inc., Festival Miami 2014, Florida Grand Opera, FIU School of Music, Florida Youth Orchestra, GablesStage, Greater Miami Youth Symphony, Karen Peterson and Dancers, Miami Children's Chorus, Inc., Miami City Ballet, Miami Momentum Dance Co. Inc., Miami Theater Center, Michael-Ann Russell JCC, Milagro Center, New World Symphony, Orchestra Miami, Perez Art Museum Miami, Performing Arts Center Trust, Inc., Sunday Afternoons of Music, Thomas Armour Youth Ballet, and The Unconservatory.

CIA'S MAIN FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON IS CHAMPION OF ARTS AWARD WHERE OUTSTANDING MEMBERS OF THE ARTS COMMUNITY WILL BE HONORED. THIS YEAR THE HONOREES WILL BE MARK STEINBERG AND DENNIS EDWARDS ON JANUARY 14TH 2015 ABOARD **Oceania Cruises on their newest ship RIVIERA.**

Dennis Edwards and Mark Steinberg have been actively involved in Miami arts, health and political communities for over 29 years. They are full-time volunteers who operate their own charitable foundation and participate in numerous community organizations. Their current focus is on creating opportunities for young artists, and providing a pathway to success in life through the study of the arts. Dennis currently serves on the Boards of the New World School of the Arts Foundation, which he chaired for four years, and the Thomas Armour Youth Ballet, where he is Vice-President. Mark is currently on the Board of the Florida Cultural Action Alliance, where he is a past-President. He is on the Executive Committee of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Miami Recognition Dinner and is a member of the GLBT Fund Committee of the Miami Foundation.



Mark Steinberg/Dennis Edwards

CIA'S 2014-2015 LIST OF EVENTS

October 9th, 2014 – Lunch and Demonstration – Chaplan School of Hospitality, FIU 3000 NE 151st Street, North Miami – lunch prepared by students \$45pp

November 19th, 2014 – World Erotic Art Museum (by bus) - lunch at Milos – Bus leaves from Aventura Towne Center at 11:15 a.m., \$75pp

December 10th, 2014 – New World School of the Arts, 25 NE 2nd Street, Miami – Tour, observe the Students in action, lunch and entertainment. Grantees will receive their grants and scholarships at this event. Lunch @ 11:30 followed by tour. \$45pp

January 14, 2015 – Champion of the Arts – Board **Oceania Cruises on their newest ship Riviera**, Port of Miami, Pier 7 10:15 a.m - \$100 pp plus **underwriting sponsorship opportunities available**. For further information about Champion of Arts, contact: Lenore Toby-Simmons, lenoreT18@aol.com

February 11, 2015 – Bruncheon, Entertainment and Bazaar –Balmoral Condominium 9801 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach–11:30a.m. \$45

March 11, 2015 – FLAGLER MUSEUM PALM BEACH – High Tea – Transportation from Aventura Towne Center, \$75pp

For information regarding events, other than Champion of the Arts, contact: Hollis Freimark, hihollis@aol.com