

Contact:
Christine Kite
PGF-USA Communications Manager
212.317.1470/ ckite@pgfusa.org



PRINCESS GRACE FOUNDATION-USA ANNOUNCES 2011 AWARDS WINNERS IN THEATER, DANCE & FILM

Jon M. Chu receives Princess Grace Statue Award

NEW YORK, NY – (August 15, 2011) The Board of Trustees of the **Princess Grace Foundation-USA (PGF-USA)** and its **Chairman, Hon. John F. Lehman**, announced today the winners of the 2011 **Princess Grace Awards**. The Awards for theater, dance and choreography, and film continue the legacy of Princess Grace (Kelly) of Monaco, who anonymously helped emerging artists pursue their artistic goals during Her lifetime. This year's 21 Awards winners will travel to New York City as guests of the Princess Grace Foundation-USA, where they will receive their Awards at the annual black-tie **Princess Grace Awards Gala, on November 1, 2011 at Cipriani 42nd Street**. This year's Awards Gala will be highlighted by the unveiling of a unique tribute to Princess Grace by **Montblanc**.

The Princess Grace Foundation-USA, a public charity, was formed after the death of Princess Grace in 1982. They present scholarships, apprenticeships, and fellowships to assist artists at the start of their careers. The Foundation has cultivated a diverse group of nearly 600 artists to date who continue to advance the spectrum of performing arts with innovative, cutting-edge, and vibrant theater, dance, choreography, film, playwriting and design. Since the Foundation's inception, more than 700 Awards have been given to recipients, totaling more than \$8.5 million.

At the Gala, **The Montblanc Collection Princesse Grace de Monaco** will be premiered in the U.S.- a spectacular, new tribute collection to one of the most remarkable individuals of all time, celebrated for Her iconic, timeless style; Her artistic talent as an Oscar©-winning actress and Her unrelenting commitment to helping others. **The Montblanc Collection Princesse Grace de Monaco** is a continuation of the privileged relationship the brand has enjoyed with the Principality of Monaco in recent years. Consisting of fine jewelry pieces, timepieces and writing instruments, the Montblanc Collection is true to Princess Grace's enduring style and sophistication. Feminine and elegant, the pieces from this collection are some of the most exquisite ever crafted in **Montblanc's Ateliers**, rich in details and inspired by this icon's spirit and attention to style.

For the third year in a row, celebrated artist **Alex Soldier**, known for his mastery of precious miniatures, has created an objet d'art to symbolize the Princess Grace Awards. The Award symbolically combines the three art forms lauded by the Foundation: theater, dance, and film by using precious metals and Swarovski crystal accents. The sculpture is made for each recipient to wear as a pin, a special reminder of their Award for the world to see.

PRINCESS GRACE STATUE AWARD

Past winners of the Awards who distinguish themselves in their artistic disciplines since receiving their initial Princess Grace Awards are eligible to win the coveted **Princess Grace Statue Award**. It includes a \$25,000 unrestricted cash gift and a special Bronze Statue of Princess Grace created by Dutch artist Kees Verkade. This year's *Statue Award* winner is **Jon M. Chu**.

Jon M. Chu won his original Princess Grace Award, a Film Scholarship at University of Southern California, in 2001. He is the director of **Step Up 2 The Streets** (2008), and **Step Up 3D** (2010). Combined, these two films have grossed over 300 million dollars theatrically. In 2011, his third film, **Justin Bieber: Never Say Never**, garnered rave reviews and claimed the title as the highest grossing concert-themed film of all time in the U.S. and the third highest grossing documentary of all time. Jon M. Chu is the creator, writer and director of **The League of Extraordinary Dancers (The LXD)**, which is the number one original program for Hulu. He is currently in production on the next film in the G.I. Joe franchise, to be released next summer.

PRINCESS GRACE AWARDS

Each year, the Foundation presents the **Princess Grace Awards** to artists who show excellence and promise in the areas of theater, dance, and film. Students are eligible for scholarships; emerging artists working in companies qualify for apprenticeships and fellowships. A playwriting fellowship is available for individual artists through a residency at New Dramatists in New York City, which includes the opportunity to have the winning play be licensed and published by Samuel French, Inc. In addition to these, the Foundation also gives honorable mention grants to applicants through Honoraria.

The 2011 **Princess Grace Awards** winners (listed below) represent 20 colleges, universities, and not-for-profit theater and dance companies throughout the United States. The Awards winners exemplify both classical and experimental artistic disciplines and, while still considered emerging talent, already show exceptional promise in their areas of expertise. The Foundation's support assists their theater and dance studies, helps pay their artistic fees at non-profit theater and dance companies and helps support their thesis film projects. In addition to the Awards, the Princess Grace Foundation-USA extends general operating monies to companies hosting an Awards winner. This year's Princess Grace Awards winners are:

THEATER AND PLAYWRITING

CarlosAlexis Cruz

Theater Fellowship, *Grace Le Vine Award*
Miracle Theatre Group

Miriam A. Hyman

Theater Scholarship, *George C. Wolfe Award*
Yale School of Drama

Matt Jones

Theater Apprenticeship, *Robert & Gloria Hausman Award*
Alternative Theater Ensemble

Hana Sooyeon Kim

Theater Scholarship, *Fabergé Award*
University of California, Los Angeles

Sarah Rasmussen

Theater Apprenticeship, *Pierre Cardin Award*
Oregon Shakespeare Festival

Sadieh Rifai

Theater Fellowship, *Gant Gaither Award*
American Theater Company

Johnna Adams

Playwriting Fellowship
New Dramatists, Inc.

DANCE AND CHOREOGRAPHY

Alisa Alba

Dance Fellowship
The National Institute of Flamenco

Joseph Gorak

Dance Fellowship
American Ballet Theatre

Margaret Mullin

Dance Fellowship
Pacific Northwest Ballet

Jeffrey Van Sciver

Dance Scholarship, *Chris Hellman Award*
Dominican University/LINES Ballet

Casia Vengoechea

Dance Scholarship
The Julliard School-Dance Division

Frederick "Pete" Leo Walker

Dance Fellowship
North Carolina Dance Theatre

Zoe Scofield

Choreography Fellowship
DiverseWorks ArtSpace

Olivier Wevers

Choreography Fellowship
Spectrum Dance Theater

FILM

Valerie Bischoff

Film Graduate Scholarship
Columbia University

Emily Hyde

Film Undergraduate Scholarship
Pacific Northwest College of Art

Gina Marie Napolitan

Film Graduate Scholarship
California Institute of the Arts

Raul Paz Pastrana

Film Graduate Scholarship, *Cary Grant Award*
School of Visual Arts

Temra Pavlovic

Film Undergraduate Scholarship, *John H. Johnson Award*
California Institute of the Arts

Iva Radivojevic

Film Graduate Scholarship
CUNY Hunter College

HONORARIA

R. Davis McCallum

Theater Honorarium
The Public Theater

Jacqueline Burnett

Dance Honorarium
Hubbard Street Dance Chicago

Nigel Campbell

Dance Honorarium
Luna Negra Dance Theater

Chanel DaSilva

Dance Honorarium
Trey McIntyre Project

Shreyasi Das

Film Honorarium
Rochester Institute of Technology

Nick Twemlow

Film Honorarium
University of Iowa

SPECIAL PROJECT and WORKS IN PROGRESS AWARDS

Special Project Awards and ***Works in Progress Residencies at the Baryshnikov Arts Center*** are grants available to past *Princess Grace Awards* winners and Honoraria recipients for uniquely significant projects that advance their artistic development. This year's *Special Project Awards* and *Works in Progress Residencies* are:

SPECIAL PROJECT AWARDS

Rose Bond
Regina Garcia
Alex Ketley
Rashaun Mitchell

Jimmy Orrante
Alice Reagan
Amie Siegel
Karolina Sobeca

WORKS IN PROGRESS RESIDENCIES

Charlotte Brathwaite
Branden Jacobs-Jenkins
David Neumann

ABOUT THE PRINCESS GRACE FOUNDATION – USA

The Princess Grace Foundation-USA is a not-for-profit, publicly-supported foundation, headquartered in New York City and founded more than 25 years ago by Prince Rainier III of Monaco in honor of his wife, Princess Grace [Kelly]. The Foundation's mission, that mirrors Princess Grace's in Her lifetime, is to support emerging artists in theater, dance and film through the awarding of scholarships, apprenticeships and fellowships. Since the Foundation's inception, more than 700 Awards have been given to recipients, totaling more than \$8.5 million. Some notable Princess Grace Awards recipients in Theater include: 2008 Tony® Award winner for Best Direction of a Play, **Anna D. Shapiro**; Pulitzer and Tony® Award winning playwright **Tony Kushner**; and Academy Award® winner **Eric Simonson**. Film recipients include: **Stephen Hillenburg**, creator of *SpongeBob SquarePants*; **Greg Mottola**, director of *Paul*, *Adventureland* and *Superbad*; and **Cary Joji Fukunaga**, writer and director of *Sin Nombre* and *Jane Eyre*. Dance/Choreography Awards recipients include: Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater Artistic Director **Robert Battle**; American Ballet Theatre's **Gillian Murphy**, **Ethan Stiefel** and **Sarah Lane**; as well as choreographers **Andrea Miller** and **Dominic Walsh**.

For more information, please visit www.pgfusa.org.

For Gala ticket information contact Tamara Leuchtenburg at Event Associates at 212.245.6570, x15, Tamaral@eventassociatesinc.com.

For Gala Press/Red Carpet media inquiries contact Lauren Thayer at 203.228.5090, thayer@lisalori.com.

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