

## Appraisal of Diversity Activities | **UW World Series at Meany Hall**

*Since its founding, the UW World Series at Meany Hall has been dedicated to presenting internationally acclaimed artists in music, theater and dance - while offering innovative educational programs to children and adults throughout our region.*

—UW World Series Mission Statement

### **Student Access**

The World Series carefully selects its performing artists to provide a well-rounded and internationally diverse program. The UW World Series recognizes that as the world's many cultures become increasingly connected and interdependent, the more imperative it becomes for people from all backgrounds to understand one another. At the UW World Series, we truly believe that the arts provide some of the best ways for people to connect with the myriad of cultures that comprise our world.

By giving people opportunities to see and learn about different cultures, we seek to foster a greater understanding of, and appreciation for, the world's diversity. The UW World Series recognizes its important responsibility in sharing the world's performing arts with our community, and to those ends is committed to presenting a truly diverse schedule of visiting artists.

The World Series' commitment to student involvement is made clear in the Series' mission statement. The World Series seeks to provide as much access as possible to students of a wide variety including K-12, College, and members of the community. To this end, we offer discount (\$10) tickets to all UW students and other Seattle pre-professional dance students dance students, as well as 50% discounted ticket prices to all students. In addition, the World Series provides master classes, in-school residencies (often in public schools with no music programs in place), free performances that target public and low-income schools and programs, community forums and pre-show lectures for ticket holders.

### **Relationships with External Communities**

Aside from providing numerous educational opportunities for members of the community, the UW World Series also actively seeks out partnerships with groups within the community to enrich the Series' programs. In the past, the Series has partnered with members of the Hungarian, African-American, Senegalese, and Japanese communities, and many more, to provide knowledgeable lectures and panel members. The Series is also collaborating with the Henry Art Gallery and UW Dance program in a project that fuses performance (dance) and visual (scenery) art of the Trisha Brown Dance Company. The UW World Series is currently partnering with the greater Jewish community in a commissioned project for the Paul Taylor Dance Company to choreograph a piece that celebrates the 350 years of Jewish life in America.

### **Staff and Faculty**

The UW World Series seeks to build a variety of relationships within the various University departments and faculty. The Series continues to partner with the UW Dance Program, School of Music, and the Simpson Center for the Humanities. This includes membership on UW World Series' Programming committee (Dance and Music). MFA candidates in the UW Dance program, faculty and graduate students within the division of Ethnomusicology, and faculty in the School of Music all participate in presenting pre-

show lectures. The Series is also proud to note that 20% of its board members are also members of the UW faculty and staff.

### **Curriculum and Research**

In many of its offerings, the UW World Series has taken advantage of the opportunities for learning in developing forums that correspond with the performances. Such forums have included such topics as Russian Arts and St. Petersburg, Contemporary Africa in Timbuktu, and cultural and environmental issues relating to the Ba'Aka people of Central Africa.

### **Climate**

The UW World Series approaches its program from a curatorial standpoint, making choices that are a fusion of past successes while taking the risks of current innovation. This reflects the UW mission of valuing the “preservation of knowledge through its libraries and collections, its courses, and the scholarship of its faculty,” while advancing “...new knowledge through many forms of research, inquiry and discussion.”