

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****CONTACT:** Katherine Loewen**PHONE:** 716.881.0917 **EMAIL:** [communications@yawny.org](mailto:communications@yawny.org)**M&T FIRST FRIDAYS @ THE GALLERY FEATURES  
WOODEN CITIES, CONTEMPORARY CLASSICAL MUSIC ENSEMBLE**

**BUFFALO, NY (April 22, 2015)** – Young Audiences is pleased to host and participate in a wide-range of community events that promote creative learning through the arts. Young Audiences will feature a free public arts education program at Albright-Knox Art Gallery's M&T First Fridays @ The Gallery. Young Audiences' teaching ensemble Wooden Cities will perform their program "Classical to Contemporary." District Council Member Michael J. LoCurto sponsors this performance.

**WHAT:** Young Audiences' teaching artist ensemble, Wooden Cities will perform "Classical to Contemporary" at M&T First Fridays @ The Gallery

**WHERE:** Albright-Knox Art Gallery, 1285 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, NY

**WHEN:** Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 pm

**COST:** Free

"It is my pleasure as council member that I have the opportunity to support artists like Wooden Cities at the Albright Knox Art Gallery, through arts education provider, Young Audiences of Western New York," Mr. LoCurto said, "The arts are needed in our community, not only for their pleasure, their cultural richness, and historical value, but also for their role in teaching young people about the possibilities of their creative minds. I am looking forward to seeing how Wooden Cities creates an entryway to classical music for our young people. I look forward to being there May 1st."

As part of their program "Classical to Contemporary," the contemporary classical musical group Wooden Cities will present a range of classical music from both the past and today. Wooden Cities will pair performance aspects with information about the individuals who composed each piece and the time period in which they lived. Families will enjoy thinking about the questions, "What is classical music? Who made it? Why is it important to me?"

Wooden Cities is both an ensemble and a collective of performers and composers seeking to help increase the performance and awareness of contemporary classical music in Western New York through unique, educational presentations. Formed in July of 2011, the group served as a vehicle for Director Brendan Fitzgerald to present John Zorn's game piece "Cobra." Since that time the group has grown to include more than a dozen performers and is constantly seeking new works by new composers while continuing to present some of the essential, yet underrepresented composers of the twentieth century.

**ABOUT YOUNG AUDIENCES:** *Young Audiences of Western New York's mission is to make the visual, performing, and literary arts a part of young people's lives in order to enhance their development as creative and productive human beings. They provide services in Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans, and Wyoming counties. Every day, they fulfill their mission through performances, workshops, and residencies in educational, cultural, and community centers. Young Audiences of Western New York celebrated 50 years of service in 2013.*

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**ARTS FOR LEARNING**

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