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Michael Chabon to Host MacDowell Colony National Benefit

Artists and art lovers will come together in a celebration of creativity and enjoy an evening of special performances of works by MacDowell Fellows



MacDowell Fellows writer, illustrator and playwright Brian Selznick and interdisciplinary artist Dan Hurlin at last year's gala event. Photo by Steve Tucker

WHEN: Monday, May 7, 2018 – 6 p.m. cocktails, 7:30 p.m. program and dinner

WHERE: Gotham Hall, 1356 Broadway, New York, NY

WHAT: A star-studded group of artists will perform and read from works by MacDowell Colony Fellows at the National Benefit in Gotham Hall in New York City. Pulitzer Prize

winning author and Chairman of MacDowell's Board of Directors **Michael Chabon** will host the evening, which will feature performances from *Hamilton's* **Javier Munoz**, and MacDowell Fellows **Joseph Keckler** and **Shaina Taub**. The evening will also feature readings from Fellow **Tayari Jones' An American Marriage**. Fellow **Susan Blackwell** will serve as emcee. Executive Director **Cheryl A. Young** will be honored for her 30 years of creative leadership at the nation's first artist residency program. The evening's Honorary Chairs are **Susan Davenport Austin, Mary Carswell, Robert MacNeil, and Thomas Putnam**.

The MacDowell Colony National Benefit will bring together artists, patrons, and leaders in the arts and business worlds. The event raises critical operating support for the residency program, which brings artists together from a variety of disciplines, often leading to exciting new artistic directions and enriching new collaborations. All proceeds from the National Benefit support Fellowships for residencies for the more than 300 artists who come to the Colony each year from all corners of the globe.

WHO: Susan Blackwell, Michael Chabon, Eisa Davis, Ato Essandoh, Tyler Jensen, Tayari Jones, Joseph Keckler, Robin Macatangay, Javier Munoz, David Petersen, Victor Rosario, Shaina Taub, Andréa Burns and the NYC Master Chorale. More entertainment will be announced in the coming weeks.

SCHEDULE: 6 p.m. cocktails, 7:30 p.m. program, 8 p.m. dinner

COMMITTEE: Christine Fisher and Anne Stark Locher, co-chairs

SPONSORS: First Republic Bank, Bloomberg Philanthropies

CONTEMPORARY for 111 YEARS:

Composer Edward MacDowell and pianist Marian MacDowell, his wife, founded [The MacDowell Colony](#) in 1907 to nurture the arts by offering creative individuals of the highest talent an inspiring environment in which to produce enduring works of the imagination. Each year, MacDowell welcomes more than 300 architects, composers, filmmakers, interdisciplinary artists, theatre artists, visual artists, and writers from across the United States and around the globe, about 50 of whom work in the visual arts. More than 14,500 residencies have been awarded since its founding. Recipients have included **Ayad Akhtar, James Baldwin, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Ellen Driscoll, Louise Erdrich, Osvaldo Golijov, Cathy Park Hong, Dee Rees, Colson Whitehead, and Julia Wolfe**. Pulitzer Prize-winning author **Michael Chabon** is the chairman of MacDowell's Board of Directors.

MacDowell NOW, comprised of events in numerous disciplines, is an inaugural celebration of The MacDowell Colony's new Chelsea programming space.



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