



World Children's Festival 2011 to Feature Top Teen and Tween Performers

**12-Year-old Singing Sensation Cymia ("Kid Nation")
to Help Kick Off Festival, June 17-19 on The National Mall**

May 24, 2011

(WASHINGTON DC) – Top national teen and tween entertainers will perform at the 4th World Children's Festival (WCF) on The National Mall, the largest international celebration of children's creativity and imagination. Held every four years since 1999 as the "Olympics" of children's creativity and co-creation, the Festival will feature some of the world's most talented children, eminent educators and field experts, and scientist and technologists convening to nurture children's creativity and develop their empathy in a global community setting.

Twelve-year-old singing sensation [Cymia](#), known for her hit single "Kid Nation" and who recently signed with Cash Money Records, will help kick-off three full days of performances during the Festival, June 17-19, 2011. A New Orleans native, Cymia is gifted not only as a singer, but as a dancer and actor, as well.

Among other top performers featured during the Festival will be youth entertainers from the Washington, DC metropolitan area and elsewhere in the United States, such as:

- [A+ Dropouts](#) (Ashburn, VA) – Voted one of the top-12 teen bands in America in 2010.
- [Becca Levy](#) (Washington, DC) – 14-year-old pop rock star.
- [Great Wall Youth Orchestra and Chorus](#) (Oakland, CA) – Chinese instrument playing and singing by kids ages 8-18.
- [Stephanie Marie 11-11](#) (Howell, NJ) – Teenage songwriter/recording artist of "I'm That Girl."
- [Lucas Takeshishi Stratmann](#) (New York, NY) – 13-year-old violinist virtuoso.
- [Southshore Drill Team](#) (Chicago, IL) – Precision drilling by kids ages 8-21.

A complete list of performers can be found at www.worldchildrensfestival.org

Choreographing the opening ceremony will be Shizumi Shigeto Manale, choreographer and movement coordinator for the recent production of "Madame Butterfly" at The Kennedy Center, and producer of the documentary film, "Pictures from a Hiroshima Schoolyard." Said Manale, "The young singers, musicians and dancers performing at the World Children's Festival will help create a complete synesthetic experience for children from all over the world. Their dazzling performances will demonstrate the power of creativity in helping children shape a peaceful future, especially when there is so much unnecessary suffering in this world."

The kick-off ceremony is scheduled for Friday, June 17 at 10 am. Performances are scheduled for June 17-19, 10 am-5 pm daily.

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About the World Children's Festival

Held every four years since 1999 as the "Olympics" of children's creativity and co-creation, the World Children's Festival (WCF) has evolved into the largest international children's celebration of children's creativity and imagination, and a permanent quadrennial event in our Nation's Capital. The core WCF delegates are 8- to 12-year-old U.S. and international winners of the 4th Arts Olympiad, an art and sport program endorsed by the U.S. Olympic Committee; the "DC Ambassadors" selected through the Arts Olympiad in DC public schools; and 6- to 16-year-old musicians and performers selected by online voting or distinguished juries. Eminent educators and field experts ranging from Olympians and professional artists to scientists and technologists host workshops and activities to nurture children's creativity and develop their empathy in a global community setting. Free and open to the public, the WCF attracts more than 15,000 attendees with workshops and activities suitable for children ages 4 to 84.

For more information, visit www.worldchildrensfestival.org.

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