



Featured Artist: Michelle Obama & The White House

Sep 8, 2010

With the recent concert held at the White House featuring works choreographed by Alvin Ailey, George Balanchine, Paul Taylor, Twyla Tharp, and break dancers Super Cr3w; 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue is starting to establish itself as a serious performing arts presenter in D.C. with Michelle Obama serving as artistic director. Hopefully video will soon be posted of the event on the Whitehouse.gov website, but for now [you can read about the event](#) on the New York Times.



Young dancers participate in a workshop in the East Room of the White House, prior to the White House Dance Series: A Tribute to Judith Jamison performance, Sept. 7, 2010. Students from around the country participated in the 90 minute workshop and then attended the performance honoring Jamison's career in dance. (Official White House Photo by Chuck Kennedy)

In addition to an impressive line-up of music, theater, and poetry performance; workshops take place with the artists

and students from around the country. It's wonderful seeing the performing arts held with such high regard, and especially within such a dynamic intersection of civic, concert, and learning spaces. A great example of this can be seen in last years series of talks and performances presented in celebration of the music of the American civil rights movement. See below for a few excerpts from the [many videos viewable online](#).

The Freedom Singers perform "(Ain't Gonna let Nobody) Turn me Around"

Music That Inspired the Movement Student Workshop

John Mellencamp performs "Keep Your Eyes on the Prize"