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## **Smithsonian Latino Center Announces the Young Ambassadors Program for High School Seniors**

For the third year, the Smithsonian Latino Center will be hosting up to 24 graduating high school seniors with an interest and commitment to the arts in Washington, D.C. The leadership development program, known as Young Ambassadors, includes a weeklong arts enrichment seminar at the Smithsonian Institution; discussions with leading artists, curators and scholars; and tours at various Smithsonian museums and cultural centers, such as the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Upon completion of the program in Washington, the students will return to their local communities for a paid, four-week internship at participating cultural organizations to gain practical experience in the cultural field and have a hands-on opportunity to promote Latino heritage. The program is open to students nationwide with possible placements in 12 cities across the United States and Puerto Rico. The program has been made possible by Ford Motor Company Fund, a longtime supporter of innovative leadership development programs for Latino youth. For the program guidelines and to download the application, visit [www.latino.si.edu](http://www.latino.si.edu).

Students interested in applying for the program must demonstrate passion for the arts, commitment to community service and academic achievement. The online application will be available from the Smithsonian Latino Center's Web site from Feb. 19 to March 24.

The Smithsonian Latino Center is a division of the Smithsonian Institution that ensures Latino contributions to art, science and the humanities are highlighted, understood and advanced through the development and support of public programs, scholarly research, museum collections and educational opportunities at the Smithsonian and its affiliated organizations across the United States and internationally.

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