



The Thompson Family Foundation gifts \$5MM to Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM)

Sept 20, 2018/Brooklyn, NY—The Thompson Family Foundation has generously granted \$5MM to the Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM), one of the nation’s leading performing and cinema arts organizations. The gift supports the organization’s cinema, community, archival, and educational programming, with half of the funds earmarked for current programming. The remaining \$2.5MM will serve as an endowment gift for future programming.

BAM President Katy Clark said, “BAM is deeply grateful for the support of The Thompson Family Foundation, which has done so much for New York’s cultural sector and the enrichment of its residents’ lives. We are delighted that the Foundation has shown great confidence in our adventurous programming and our desire to reach a broad audience of community members, artists, students, and other arts patrons.”

“The Thompson Family Foundation is committed to supporting arts and cultural organizations in New York that deepen the public’s relationship with the performing and visual arts” noted Alan Siegel, a Thompson Family Foundation director. “We are pleased to support the fine and important work of BAM’s community and educational departments as well as their cinema and archival programs”.

Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM), the oldest performing arts center in the United States, is recognized internationally for its innovative programming of film, dance, music, theater, opera, and visual arts. Its mission is to be the home for adventurous artists, audiences, and ideas. BAM presents leading national and international artists and companies in its annual Winter/Spring Season and highlights groundbreaking, contemporary work in the performing arts with its Next Wave Festival each fall. BAM Rose Cinemas feature new, independent film releases year-round, and BAMcinématek features a curated, daily repertory film program. BAM’s archives tell the 158-year history of BAM and contain hundreds of thousands of playbills, posters, press clippings, production reports, photographs, video and audio recordings, and more. BAM Education connects learning with creativity, engaging imagination by encouraging self-expression through in- and after-school programs for students and teachers and offerings for audiences of all ages. In addition, BAM places a special emphasis on its commitment to the community. From discounted tickets and transportation for special needs groups, to special programs for local residents, to opportunities for local arts organizations and businesses, BAM is committed to strengthening its community. BAM attracts an audience of more than 750,000 people each year. The institution is led by President Katy Clark and Executive Producer Joseph V. Melillo. Visit BAM.org.

The Thompson Family Foundation was established in 1986 by the late Wade F.B. Thompson, co-founder and CEO of Thor Industries. The foundation strongly supports New York City arts and cultural organizations, as well as education, health and medical research, preservation and conservation, and human services.

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