

# Investing in the arts is a matter of 'wildcatting'

Alecia Lawyer, founder of the River Oaks Chamber Orchestra, went to New York last week to tell students at the Juilliard School about being a cultural entrepreneur.

Juilliard, where Lawyer earned a master's degree in oboe, is one of many schools encouraging students to create niches in the arts world after they graduate. Juilliard teacher Greg Sandow has called the River Oaks group "one of the most successful entrepreneurial projects in classical music."

Lawyer was the first speaker in a new series giving students first-person perspectives. Before the presentation, she told the Chronicle she would describe her group's efforts to modernize and personalize the concert-going experience, especially by presenting classical music in a way that's inviting to newcomers.

Another key point: "As an artist, you cannot ... expect a community to invest in your idea or group without being invested yourself in the community through your own time and talents (especially non-musically) and even with your own money."

Lawyer called her presentation "Wildcatting in the Arts." The title, she said, might need explaining in New York.

Steven Brown



River Oaks Chamber Orchestra

## Alecia Lawyer

magazine with reviews of local performances. The nonprofit umbrella organization also has

The Dance Card, a performance listing service that has been published for years

## Catch Acosta on film

Few who saw him early

Molly Glentzer



virtual visit this week in a screening of that company's production of the Cervantes classic. It comes to several Houston cinemas at 7 p.m. Wednesday, with Marianela Nuñez as Kitri.

It's the first event of the "live cinema season" in a new partnership between the Royal Opera House and Arts Alliance Media that will bring screenings of several other ballets and even more operas to 500 U.S. theaters.

In the Houston area, they'll be shown at the Marq\*E Stadium 22, 7600 Katy Freeway, and Memorial City Mall, 303 Memorial City Way.

Next up: Puccini's "Turandot" Oct. 24 and Oct. 27. Later screenings include the ballets "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" and "The Nutcracker" as well as the operas "Tosca" and "Les Vêpres Siciliennes." See the full schedule at [FathomEvents.com](http://FathomEvents.com).

Tickets are \$15 at the box offices and screen vision.com/roh.

celebrating. The World Monuments Fund has put his Chinati Foundation in Marfa on its 2014 Watch List.

The fund works to preserve architectural and cultural heritage sites around the world. For 2014, it has designated 67 sites in 41 countries. Chinati is one of six sites named in the U.S. Also on the list are Frank Lloyd Wright's Wisconsin home Taliesin, George Nakashima's house and workshop in Pennsylvania, Eero Saarinen's St. Louis arch and the Cloisters and Palisades in New York.

Recognizing the significance of modern heritage sites is the first step in preserving them. Many require innovative conservation because they were made with unconventional and innovative materials. Being designated by the World Monuments Fund will also help Chinati galvanize support from other sources.

Wish we were there: The foundation's exhibits are free this weekend, and Sunday brings a sunrise viewing opportunity of Judd's 100 works in mill aluminum and 15 outdoor works in concrete at the remote site. Learn more at [chinati.org](http://chinati.org).

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