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Tampa Bay Association of Black Journalists Names Dalia Colón, WEDU PBS, Winner of Griot Drum Award



Dalia Colón, host of *WEDU Arts Plus*.

Tampa Bay, FL – The **Tampa Bay Association of Black Journalists** held its annual **Griot Drum Awards** ceremony at the Florida Aquarium on Thursday, November 9, 2017. The awards ceremony recognizes print, broadcast, and online media professionals for quality coverage of people of color in the Tampa Bay area.

Dalia Colón, host of ***WEDU Arts Plus***, a weekly arts and culture series produced by WEDU PBS, was honored with a Griot Drum Award during the ceremony for her ***WEDU Arts Plus*** segment featuring Tampa Bay artist **Princess Smith**. Known for her paintings that address tough social issues that can be difficult to put into words, the award winning segment explored the artist's work that some may consider graphic imagery to open a dialogue about stereotypes, gender and race.

WEDU Arts Plus airs on WEDU PBS Thursday nights at 8 p.m. and repeats several times during the week on WEDU's multiple channels. Programs are also available for viewing on mobile devices such as smart phone and tablets. Visit www.wedu.org/artsplus to watch past episodes.

All of WEDU's awards nominated and winning programs can be viewed on the WEDU PBS website at: www.wedu.org/awards.

ABOUT WEDU PBS ARTS PLUS

WEDU ARTS PLUS is a weekly arts and culture program produced by WEDU PBS. It is devoted to telling stories of the individuals and cultural organizations that make West Central Florida – Florida's Cultural Coast – such a vibrant region. These stories are combined with others from around the country to form an entertaining weekly series. WEDU ARTS PLUS is more than a television program. It is a celebration of the cultural assets of the WEDU PBS 16-county area, a way to bring communities together through the arts, and an opportunity to educate about and through the arts. WEDU Arts Plus debuted on February 28, 2013. The program features both local stories and segments from other PBS stations around the country. WEDU ARTS PLUS is broadcast to more than 5,000,000 people throughout WEDU's 16 county viewing area and is available to anyone, anywhere online. The program airs on Thursday nights at 8 PM and repeats several times during the week on WEDU's multiple channels. Programs are also available for viewing on mobile devices such as smart phones and tablets.

ABOUT WEDU PBS

WEDU is West Central Florida's PBS station reaching 16 counties through media platforms including on-air programming and online experiences that broaden horizons, transport and transform and open gateways to new ideas and new worlds. Financially supported by the community, the organization offers a wealth of award-winning inspirational, educational and enlightening content over a variety of multi-media platforms including: television programming, station website, www.wedu.org and various social media platforms, monthly member magazine *Premiere*, educational outreach activities and a myriad of special events. WEDU's focus on the local community has resulted in the station being regarded as a beacon of trust for men, women and children of every walk of life no matter their age, ethnicity or socio-economic status. WEDU is a treasured community resource; a window to the world for the homebound and a vital educational source for the youngest members of society. WEDU prides itself on its position in the Tampa Bay community as a leader, partner, informed citizen and a member of PBS, the most trusted institution in America (Marketing & Research Resources, Inc. M&RR, January 2017). For more information, program schedules or to support WEDU visit www.wedu.org; WEDU Public Media on Facebook and Twitter (@wedupbs) or call (813) 254-9338.

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