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120 CHILD/TEEN STARS: THE HOPE OF A CHANGING HOLLYWOOD

STUDIO CITY, Cal. --- A record 120 child and teen stars will be among the 400 individuals, producers, casting directors and filmmakers who have confirmed their attendance at the 33rd Annual Young Artist Awards on Sunday.

Meeting in the Empire Ballroom of the Sportsmen's Lodge Events Center in Studio City, the nominees, considered the best of Hollywood's younger stars, will be coming from all parts of the United States and Canada. All are credited in feature-length motion pictures and television shows during the calendar year 2011. And all will step in, if they haven't started already, as the future face of the entertainment industry.

The rash of cop shows, situation comedies and reality programs of today could be gone in the Hollywood of the future. And in their place more of the quality drama and educational fair. Some skeptics say it just may get worse before we see improvement. But whatever happens it is inevitable that change will come as will the names of its stars.

For a preview you only have to look at what is happening at this year's awards. Older teens and youngsters as young as six years old, many already old hands in Hollywood, will be vying for honors who in past years went to such stars as Jody Foster, Margaret O'Brien, Leonardo DeCaprio, Ricky Schroder and River Phoenix.

Headlining the entertainment portion this year will be performances by 9-year-old child prodigy Rio Mangini. A classical piano player, he has performed twice at Carnegie Hall. Also performing is 13-year-old Jenna Rose of New York, a pop singer with more than 25 million views on her music videos. Her newest hit single is Life Is a Party. Finally, there will be Brandon and Savannah. A brother and sister teen pop duo from Florida, their latest hit song is All the Runaways.

For more information on the non-profit Young Artist Awards go to the organization's web site: www.youngartistawards.org

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