

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release



Contact: Solonje Burnett-Loucas
Director of Development & Communications
212.926.4100 ext. 309
sbloucas@hsanyc.org

HSA Celebrates the Holidays in Harlem

New York, NY - December 1, 2011 - The Harlem School of the Arts invites children and their families to greet the season with a program of holiday cheer featuring Music, Dance, Theatre, and Visual Arts. The month of December highlights exciting presentations including the Ajkun Ballet Company's Nutcracker, Visual Arts Winter Exhibition, and the HSA 2011 Holiday Shows.

Ajkun Ballet Theatre Nutcracker | December 9 & 10

Friday Evening at 7:30pm
Saturday Family Matinee at 2:00pm

HSA Theater presents Ajkun Ballet Theatre's production of The Nutcracker featuring our very own HSA Little Leaps II class. Great holiday performance for the whole family.

Tickets: \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door | Senior/Student discounts \$8 with ID

Visual Arts Winter Exhibition | December 15

Thursday Opening Reception at 6:00pm

Experience original artwork from the students of the HSA Visual Arts Department, showcasing class offerings of Art Basics, Clay Creations, Drawing, Fashion Illustration, Introduction to Film, Manga Mania, Graphic Design, and Photography. Work will also be on display from special guest Haile Rubie and students of the Visual Arts Prep Program.

Free Admission.

HSA 2011 Holiday Show | December 16 & 17

Friday Evening at 7:30pm
Saturday Family Matinee at 2:00pm
Saturday Evening at 7:30pm

This year's performances will feature the HSA Children's Choir singing carols under the direction of Robert Hughes (HSA Choir Director), a reprise of the dance students' performance of "Sweet's Sweet Suite" originally performed at the Apollo Theater at the 2011 Bessies, Jazz Trio including scholarship students Matthew Whitaker (piano) and Dominique Gervais (percussion), a very special slide presentation of the artwork featured in Project Runway, as well as vocalist Busisiwe Zamisa's rendition of "Ave Maria". With three performances to attend, don't miss this chance to support HSA's rising stars!

Tickets: \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door | Senior/Student discounts \$8 with ID

About The Harlem School of the Arts

For nearly a half-century, the Harlem School of the Arts (HSA) has transformed the lives of tens of thousands of young people ages 2-18 through world-class training in the arts. HSA stands unique among community arts institutions in New York City, as the sole provider of arts education, in four disciplines (music, dance, theater and visual arts), under one roof, in our award-winning 37,000 square foot facility.

HSA's mission empowers young people through the arts, mainly from under-served communities in Harlem, to find and develop the artist and citizen within themselves. Our environment teaches discipline, stimulates creativity, builds self-confidence and adds a dimension of beauty to our students' lives. HSA boasts an impressive alumni base of Tony-award winning actors, celebrated operatic voices and jazz musicians, visual artists and dancers, and individuals who cite HSA as the platform from which they launched careers in law, business and other professional fields. The School's reputation for artistic rigor and excellence attracts constituents from all five New York City boroughs, Westchester County and New Jersey. We are especially proud to be among the pioneering cultural institutions that have been instrumental in the rebirth of Harlem. To learn more about the Harlem School of the Arts please visit www.hsanyc.org.

###