

HSA Dancers' Knock Out Performance at the Bessie Awards

Talented Harlem School of the Arts dance students took to the stage at the Apollo Theater to perform at the 2011 Bessies: The New York Dance and Performance Awards on Monday, October 24. Hailed by Brian Seibert of the New York Times as "a knockout number by students of the Harlem School of the Arts," the dancers performed an original piece entitled "Sweet's Sweet Suite," choreographed by Aubrey Lynch II, HSA Dance Director.

The ceremony was hosted by Bebe Neuwirth. Lucy Sexton, new director of the Bessie Awards said this was the first time since 1997 that the awards were covered by the New York Times. The renowned award ceremony recognizes work from New York City's wide-ranging dance world including choreography, design, composition, and performing to innovative artists from various disciplines of dance.

Awards were granted to legendary dance artists Tricia Brown (Lifetime Achievement), Frederic Franklin, CBE (Service to the Field of Dance), and Violeta Galagarza (Special Achievement in Dance), and Karen Brown (Sustained Achievement in Performance). Guest presenters included Charles Atlas, Carmen de Lavallade, Virginia Johnson, Ralph Lemon, Sylvia Waters, Tere O'Connor, and David White.

"Since joining HSA as Director of the Dance Program, I have simply fallen in love with the dancers and young artists. They work hard and



PHOTO: GIULIANA MACKLER

are beautifully inspiring," says Aubrey Lynch. "The audience cheered from the moment the dance began, and they roared with applause at the end. It just proves what is possible if you set expectations high and call on the greatness of our young people." The students will perform

"Sweet's Sweet Suite" again at the 1199SEIU Funds Gala on Monday, December 5th, as well as the 2011 HSA Holiday Show, Friday December 16 at 7:30 pm and Saturday, December 17 at 2 pm and 7:30 pm. To purchase tickets visit www.hsanyc.org.



BOARD CHAIR CHARLES J. HAMILTON, JR.
WITH HERB ALPERT AND LANI HALL

Over \$1 Million in 3 Months Herb Alpert Foundation Matching Grant Success

In April 2011, the Herb Alpert Foundation offered HSA a challenge to raise more than \$1 Million in 3 months with a 2-to-1 matching grant. Thanks to over 250 individuals, corporations and foundations, HSA successfully completed the challenge, raising \$700,000 in new funding to receive the full \$350,000.

This extraordinary 3-month campaign was just the catalyst HSA needed to reinvigorate its fundraising efforts. Gifts ranging from \$10 to \$150,000 came in from our generous HSA family, with 100% participation from the board under the leadership of our new President & CEO.

The Alperts strongly believe that the arts play a fundamental role in all of our lives. Their foundation supports arts education for youth particularly in underserved communities all across the country and has invested a total of \$850,000 in HSA since April 2010. "I was delighted to spend time at HSA and observe classes in music, arts and dance. The kids were phenomenal and the teachers are very

committed to these programs. It's imperative that their good work continues in the years ahead," Herb Alpert commenting on his visit to HSA in 2010.

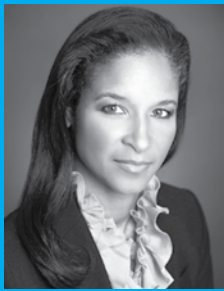
We are forever grateful to the Alperts and the Herb Alpert Foundation for their extraordinary generosity when we needed it most and for investing in the future of the Harlem School of the Arts.

For many decades the Harlem School of the Arts has provided young people with opportunities to find their creative voice and spirit, and the Alperts are hopeful that through their investment, others will step up to help sustain this important resource for the Harlem community.

—Rona Sebastian
Herb Alpert Foundation President

CEO CORNER

Anniversary Reflections



As I approach the completion of my first full year as President and CEO of the Harlem School of the Arts, I would like to share with you the triumphs of this year and invite you to join HSA on this incredible journey. Ours is an extraordinary success story in the making.

With the support of a dynamic Board of Directors, we have committed ourselves to a path of strength and stability. Mayor Bloomberg and Department of Cultural Affairs Commissioner Kate Levin have remained committed to the long-term health of the School. HSA has reaffirmed its mission, renewed fundraising support, reduced operating expenses by over 30%, revitalized community partnerships, increased enrollment and implemented innovative marketing strategies to reach the families that need us most.

We have enhanced our already exciting programs with new classes and offerings to engage the entire community, from early-childhood classes for our youngest artists ages 2-3 to an expanded curriculum for our HSA Children's program for students ages 4-18, including a new discipline, Musical Theatre. We offered rental space to established and emerging artists from Broadway show producers to contemporary dance companies with the help of a generous grant from New York State Council of the Arts. For adults looking to get fit at HSA or try an instrument, we offer open adult classes. We successfully launched an innovative partnership with Harlem Children's Zone serving hundreds of children as their arts partner. And for the entire family, we are presenting a Family Enrichment Series (see page 3) of concerts, performances and exhibitions.

This year, what I am most proud to be able to say is we provided financial aid to 100% of our neediest families and awarded merit scholarships for our most gifted and talented students to be able to continue their training at HSA. HSA is a richly diverse community of families whose economic needs should not interfere with the benefits their children can gain from the arts. Our environment teaches discipline, stimulates creativity, builds self-confidence and adds a dimension of beauty to our students' lives, empowering them to become the creative thinkers and innovative leaders of tomorrow. HSA is an extraordinary and engaging place where everyone can discover the power of Art!

On a personal note, this journey has been one of the most rewarding of my life. The opportunity to work with all of our students, parents, faculty, staff and you, our supporters, has allowed HSA to reestablish its proper place in our community. And now the future, thanks to you, looks very bright indeed.

Sincerely,

Yvette L. Campbell
President & CEO

PHOTO: LISA HANCOCK PHOTOGRAPHY



MATTHEW WHITAKER BACKSTAGE
WITH STEVIE WONDER

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Matthew Whitaker, 10 year-old piano prodigy, received an invitation from the Committee of International Piano Festival by People with Disabilities (CIPFD) to be a guest performer with the Asia International Piano Festival by People with Disabilities 2011 in Sakai City Osaka, Japan from December 8-10. Matthew also had the honor to open for Stevie Wonder at the Apollo Theater's 50th Anniversary Gala this past June.



MAYOR BLOOMBERG, COUNCILMAN ROBERT JACKSON
AND OTHER ELECTED CITY OFFICIALS. PHOTO: ED REED

Dorothy Maynor Place Street Naming Save the Date April 21, 2012

This summer Mayor Bloomberg signed a bill into law, forever transforming Saint Nicholas Avenue between 141st and 145th Streets into Dorothy Maynor Place. Ms. Maynor, the founder of the Harlem School of the Arts, deemed this street the cornerstone of world class arts education in Harlem, over 47 years ago.

President and CEO Yvette L. Campbell spoke at the bill signing at City Hall saying, "Since its inception in 1964, the Harlem School of the Arts has transformed the lives of over 50,000 young people and counting by providing arts education to nearly 2,000 young people annually. We are still guided by Ms. Maynor's original belief that arts education stimulates the child both emotionally and intellectually, strengthens the family through its commitments to a child's development, and gives pride of ownership to a community...without Dorothy Maynor's vision, St. Nicholas Avenue might be a very different place today. We are forever grateful to her."

We invite you to join us in commemorating Ms. Maynor's dream. **SAVE THE DATE for Saturday, April 21, 2012!** HSA, the City of New York and the entire Harlem community will celebrate the renaming of St. Nicholas Avenue after the pioneering singer and educator who

founded and headed the school for many years, Dorothy Maynor (1910-1996). An internationally acclaimed, concert soprano, who through her will and determination, forged a path for the acceptance of African-American classical singers on opera and concert stages throughout the world. Her career success in the concert realm was highlighted by path-breaking performances at Constitution Hall and at the inaugurations of both Presidents Harry S. Truman and Dwight D. Eisenhower.

She may be even better remembered for being the first African-American to serve on the Board of the Metropolitan Opera and for her visionary founding of the Harlem School of the Arts, one of the country's preeminent community arts schools, and the only such school to offer all the arts disciplines in New York City: music, dance, theatre and visual arts. She brought a gift to Harlem—her fervent belief in world-class arts training for all.

Please mark your calendars now to celebrate her legacy to this community and to the entire City of New York. For further details, visit www.hsany.org to register for our e-newsletter and stay connected.

Ride for Team HSA in TD Bank Bike Tour

For the first time ever, the Harlem School of the Arts is a participating non-profit in the TD Bank Five Boro Bike Tour on Sunday, May 6, 2012. The TD Bike Tour is the largest recreational cycling event in the United States. It allows people of all ages and abilities to see New York City in a way they never have before, traveling 42 miles with 32,000 cyclists car-free across the city. The tour starts in Battery Park in Lower Manhattan and ends with a festival in Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island.

HSA has slots for 20 bike riders who identify HSA as the charity they support via their participation in the Bike Tour! Signing up through HSA reserves a coveted spot for you near the starting line, as well as a pre-event breakfast and post-ride lunch. You also get the chance to pre-register before general registration begins. Each year the event is

sold out within days for regular registration, so secure your spot today! It's a great opportunity to support HSA, see the city from a new vantage point, and stay in shape. For more information on how to register for Team HSA visit www.hsany.org/biketour.php.

**Can't Ride for Team HSA?
Donate Today!**

Harlem School of the Arts depends on the generosity of our supporters to help us provide our students with world-class arts education and the best in faculty. Give the gift of the arts to deserving students today with the **enclosed donation envelope**.

Faculty Highlight

Meet Maria Ahn

One of Harlem School of the Arts' newest faculty members, Maria Ahn is the cellist for the visionary Ahn Trio. Born in Seoul, Korea, raised in New York City and Juilliard trained, Maria tours extensively with the Ahn Trio around the globe. Showing promise of her talent early on, Maria performed as a soloist with the New York Philharmonic and Philadelphia Orchestra as a result of winning both orchestras' Young People's Auditions soon after her family moved to the United States.



FACULTY MEMBER MARIA AHN

Maria is the guiding force behind the unique sound of the Ahn Trio. The Trio has released six critically acclaimed albums on EMI Classics, SONY & Warner, respectively, and is in high demand for performances as well as master classes and workshops worldwide. HSA is proud to welcome Maria Ahn to our impressive faculty roster. Maria joined the HSA Music Department as a cello instructor this September.

On October 13, the Ahn Trio was invited to perform at the White House for a very special State Dinner hosted by President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama for South Korean President Lee Myung-bak and wife Kim Yoon-ok. Sisters Angella Ahn (violin), Lucia Ahn (piano), and Maria Ahn, (cello), took the stage in front of various dignitaries, business leaders and celebrities to provide music for the evening, along with singer Janelle Monae.

"President Obama stood up as soon as we played the last piece to show his enthusiasm for our music. It was very surreal and exciting!" says Maria Ahn. To meet more of our world-class faculty members, visit www.hsanyc.org/faculty.php.

Family Enrichment Series

The Harlem School of the Arts invites you and guests of all ages to experience the HSA Family Enrichment Series, every Saturday at noon at HSA and on select evenings throughout the year when we welcome the entire community to come inside and enjoy the arts.

Our talented students, guest artists, and renowned HSA faculty will participate in the series' calendar of events, free to the community throughout the year. Families will be given the opportunity to discover the power of art through musical concerts, dance performances, theatrical scenes, master classes, interactive art projects, storytelling, and more—often featuring celebrity artists—in all four disciplines. These special events will enable our facility to become a dynamic cultural community arts center where high-quality performances, workshops, lectures and exhibitions are experienced by thousands of Harlem families and visitors.

To date, we have screened **Disney's The Lion King**, presented a master class with Uruguayan sculptor, Pablo Atchugarry and hosted a thrilling recital by Kelly Hall-Tompkins, one of New York City's most in-demand violinists. Upcoming guests include iconic Harlem photographer Kwame Braithwaite, Complexions Dance Company, and the incomparable Carmen de Lavallade.

Our goal is to inspire, enrich, and engage our community by presenting extraordinary art in all its forms, while bringing the heart of our building, HSA's Gathering Space, to life. Join us!

Family Enrichment Series Events

- DEC 9-10** Ajkun Ballet Theatre Nutcracker
Featuring Little Leap II Dance Class
- DEC 15-JAN 31** HSA Visual Arts Students Winter Exhibition
- JAN 7** Master Class with Camille Brown
Q&A to follow
- JAN 21** Third Street Music School Philharmonia Orchestra
Directed by Sibylle Johner (HSA Orchestra)
- FEB 7** Kwame Braithwaite Photography Exhibit
50 Years of Ancestors & Icons
- FEB 9-11** Readings of African-American Plays
Followed by Q&A with the artists

For upcoming series events visit www.hsanyc.org

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The Harlem School of the Arts acknowledges with deep appreciation the support of our donors. It is only with their commitment and incredible generosity that we are able to ensure the future sustainability of HSA's mission and our ability to continue to transform the lives of young people through the arts.

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In this issue:

01

Bessie Awards
Herb Alpert Grant Success

02

CEO Corner
Street Naming

03

Faculty Highlight: Maria Ahn
Family Enrichment Series

Holidays in Harlem

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