Subject: Welcome to 2010!
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Passing the Torch Through the Arts
2010

Happy New Year!

Where We've Been...Where We're Going

Theatre + Education+ Positive Action = Social Change

It's the first work week of 2010!

As we leave 2009 behind, we here at *Passing the Torch Through the Arts* would like to share with our supporters and friends our gratitude for the many faces that have shaped our company and reflect on the wonderful achievements.

Since the founding of the company in 2007, *Passing the Torch Through the Arts* has produced 27 productions (80% original material) and worked with many youth organizations in the Hudson Valley. Hundreds of tickets to our performances have been donated and we continue to be the only theatre company in the region that makes all performances free for students. In just three short years we have grown from a community theatre to a professional company welcoming Broadway talent and experienced industry professionals to our family.

In 2010 our statement of intent is comprised of many projects designed to serve the Hudson Valley community as our organization continues to grow.

Project Green Tomorrow:
Hudson Valley Youth Renewable Energy Expo

In 2010, we are proud to announce the launch of *Project Green Tomorrow: Hudson Valley Youth Renewable Energy Expo*, an exciting opportunity for high school students to compete for college scholarships by developing an invention or innovation that reduces the carbon footprint of their school. We have already received great interest from the political sector from officials such as State Assemblymember Kevin A. Cahill and the Glickenhaus Foundation has become our first official sponsor of this event. We look forward to announcing more supporters throughout 2010

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The Bullying Program

As we continue our work with At-Risk Youth and further our affiliation with youth organizations, this new drama therapy program is designed to stop violence in schools and is titled:
Who's Running Things?
Stop the Cycle of Violence Through Responsibility

Structured as a workshop, it will be presented to various elementary and middle schools in the region, to be implemented with OLWESUS programming or delivered as an independent classroom presentation that utilizes the theatre to stop bullying. We urge all community activists interested in bringing the program to their district to contact us. We are here to serve the youth of YOUR community!

In the Works

On our action list is the Touring Project, an initiative where we will partner with various restaurants, hotels and tourism organizations to expand entertainment options for Hudson Valley tourists. Prospective organizations for performance based collaborative projects include the historic Bardavon and the Poughkeepsie Public Library.

Currently in development is the adoption of a new home base in Poughkeepsie. In addition to a professional work space, acting industry workshops will be offered through a performing arts school that breaks through the existing traditional model. As this exciting dream evolves, workshops will be planned for 2010 in various venues throughout the region. Dates, workshop titles and instructors are coming soon!

A Stunning Debut

Eight year-old Maya Monasterial made her theatre debut in "Harry Belafonte" in August, while Eva, the second daughter of Artistic Director Michael Monasterial made her debut on the planet on October 25, 2009.

Our Growing A-list Team!

In 2010, we welcome new team players including first board members:
Terry Lewis of Woodstock
and Esther Taylor Evans of Stone Ridge.

We would also like to recognize our working team, as they get ready for another great year:

Executive Director: Patricia Gallio
Community Outreach: Tyease Levers
Director of Sales: Johanna Austin
Media Relations Director: Candi Sterling
Managing Director/Youth Coordinator: Soyal Smalls
Playwright/Producer: Brian C. Petti
Theatre Director: Mary Ellen Nelligar
Actor/Vocal Specialist: Brett Owen

Special Thanks To:
Arts Society of Kingston, Vindora Wixom, Catherine MacKenna, Lew Gradner, Ron Moorehead, Richard Wixom, Karen Rich and Sarayana Designs responsible for the successful 2009 launch of our new website.

2009 Summary: All the Highlights!

It was a busy year for *Passing the Torch Through the Arts* as we had 20 major news articles in various publications including Ulster Publishing, Hudson Valley Press, Daily Freeman and Poughkeepsie Journal. We have had a multi-generational audience of thousands and radio spots included interviews on "Finding Out with Pete and Ellen" featuring actors Candi Sterling, Brett Owen, and playwright/producer Brian C. Petti. Artistic Director Michael Monasterial along with Brett Owen also had a National Public Radio interview on WAMC's "The Roundtable with Sarah LaDuke."

We kicked of the year with a special Martin Luther King Jr.day performance by Michael Monasterial of "I Have A Dream" at the city of Kingston Barnes & Noble. The coming months featured a variety of performances such as "King and Kennedy" by Michael Monasterial and an adaptation of literary classic "Of Mice and Men" at Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center in Poughkeepsie, SUNY New Paltz, the Muddy Cup in the City of Beacon for high school students and the Howland Cultural Arts Center for children at the Beacon community arts center.

In February, *Passing the Torch Through the Arts* sent three lucky youths from the Boys and Girls Club to see a Broadway show. "Giordano Bruno" (an educational history play for a mature audience) by Sidney Norinsky was produced in April at the Arts Society of Kingston. Then we returned to SUNY New Paltz to perform "Two Whores" by Michael Monasterial in May.

Summertime was marked by our successful Playwrights Lab at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon, an interactive nine-week event that brought together writers, actors, directors and lovers of the theatre. Works presented at these readings include "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead" by Tom Stoppard, "Boston Marriage" by David Mamet, "The Weir" by Connor McPhereson, "Medal of Honor Rag" by Tom Cole, "The Seagull" by Anton Chekov and "April in Leningrad" by Nina Shengold.

In the celebratory spirit of the 2009 Quadricentennial, we produced Henry Hudson's "Turbulent Voyage" by Paul Cooper at the Arts Society of Kingston. "The Harry Belafonte Story: Hear the Music" was performed at SUNY New Paltz and the Howland Cultural Arts Center. Additional highlights include participation in the Strawberry Festival in New York City and hosting a private dinner theatre performance and follow-up discussion for "The Next Economy: Multi-Cultural, Innovative and Green" symposium.

The Future and Beyond...

Now as we turn of focus back to the future, we would like to channel all of the energy generated by this incredible past year to propel the progression of our dreams in 2010. As we do this, *Passing the Torch Through the Arts* will keep our mission at the center of all endeavors:

To inspire the youth of Hudson Valley by strengthening and developing an infinite resource: their creative and collective consciousness.

Thank you and we wish everyone a wonderful start to 2010!

www.passingthetorchthroughthearts.com

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