Subject: Happy 2011!
Date: Monday, January 03, 2011 10:16:07 PM

Passing the Torch Through the Arts
2011

Happy New Year!
Thank You & Best Wishes in 2011!

Theatre + Education+ Positive Action = Social Change

Welcome to 2011!

In 2010, the "Fire of Inspiration" spread far and wide and at the dawn of a new year *Passing the Torch Through the Arts* would like to share with our supporters gratitude for the many faces that have shaped our company.

Since the founding of the company in 2007, *Passing the Torch Through the Arts* has flourished in the Hudson Valley and we continue to be the only theatre company in the region that makes all performances free for students. As a professional company we have welcomed Broadway talent and experienced industry professionals to our ever growing family.

In 2011 our intent is to continue to serve the Hudson Valley community as our educational impact grows beyond the region. In January, we plan to start things off strong...

The Next Date to Save is January 15, 2011!

"Harry Belafonte: Hear the Music"

Unison Arts Center in New Paltz, NY

A Martin Luther King Jr. Day Performance

An original musical history play that is a tribute to the life and music of Harry Belafonte by Michael Monasterial of *Passing the Torch Through the Arts*. The play showcases Harry Belafonte's music and highlights his relationship with Dr. King and the major role he played in the Civil rights struggle. Three actors portray the major events of his life with humor, pathos and compassion.

Starring: Evelyn Clarke and Candi Sterling , with Bruce Berky on Music and Michael Monasterial as Harry Belafonte.

Saturday January 15, 2011
8:00 pm.
$21 at the door
$19 in advance
$18 for members

Unison Arts Center
68 Mountain Rest Road, New Paltz, NY 12561
Unison Contact info: info@UnisonArts.org - 845-255-1559

A sneak peak at what's next in 2011:

Passing the Torch Through the Arts is now the resident theatre company at the Howland Cultural Arts Center in Beacon, NY. We will be hosting every second Saturday starting in February!

We will be working with TransArt to develop their Cultural Center in Kingston, NY.

Our "Living History Series" continues as we spearhead this initiative in partnership with historic sites to make the past come alive through original productions of local Hudson Valley heritage.

The "Artist's Collective Project" is officially launched enabling local playwrights, directors and actors access to full production opportunities for their work in several local venues, a wide audience, all at a fraction of the cost!

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Before we move forward, we would like to acknowledge an incredible year with a glance at 2010:

January:

Original *Passing the Torch Through the Arts* play "Martin Luther King Jr. Speaks out on War" performed in Woodstock, NY in collaboration with the Haitian's People Support Project for an earthquake relief-Martin Luther King Jr. Day benefit. An adaptation of John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men" performed at Phoenix Academy in Shrub Oak, NY for a large audience of At Risk Youth.

February:

Original play "Why do we Celebrate African American History Month Anyway?" performed at New progressive Baptist Church - Kingston, NY and at the JFK Elementary school - Kingston, NY.

March:

Original play "Woman on the Move" featuring three contemporary notables and their humble beginnings: Oprah, Maya Angelo and Alicia Keys performed at the JFK Elementary School. Original production "Recidivism" a play about a father and son that meet in a County Jail cell performed at Phoenix Academy.

April:

Original play "Harry Belafonte: Hear the Music" received standing ovations at the historic Performing Arts of Woodstock to sold-out houses and a diverse audience ranging in age from 11 to 75.

May:

Original musical "Sam Cooke: Where you been baby?" about the life and music of the 1950's pop icon was performed Rosendale Theater.

July:

Performances linked to a joint fundraiser with the Haitian People Support Project yielded full houses and standing ovations and brought a racially mixed audience of all ages.

August:

An educational Theater Festival was produced as a joint fundraiser with the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon. This all day event resulted in a packed house and local businesses got involved.

September:

The autumn "Sam Cook: Where you Been Baby" kicked off all over the Hudson Valley.

October:

The Living History series at Mount Gulian Historic Site kicked off in Beacon. The company went global through live internet streaming of "Sam Cooke" performances at the Sanctuary for Independent Media in Troy.

November:

Through a Dutchess County Arts Coucil grant awarded in 2010, *Passing the Torch Through the Arts* began teaching Mythology using improvisation at the Kingston Miller Middle School.

December:

Passing the Torch Through the Arts partnered with the Stella May Gallery Theatre for a kickoff fundraiser event and finished strong with performances of "Sam Cook: Where you Been Baby" to bring 2010 to a climatic close.

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The Future and Beyond...

Now as we (us + YOU) turn of focus back to the future, we would like to channel all of the energy generated by another incredible year to propel the progression of our dreams in 2011. 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 2011 come catch the fire of inspiration!

www.passingthetorchthroughthearts.com

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