



# Young Audiences Western New York

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## ***STUDENT ARTISTS HOST PUBLIC RECEPTION AND CELEBRATION***

**BUFFALO, NY (12/16/10)** – On Tuesday, December 21, Community Action Organization of Erie County, Inc. will present *Hot Chocolate Showcase 2010*, a public reception featuring photographs, videos, and performances by young artists of McKinley High School. The event will be hosted in the lower gallery of CEPA Gallery from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., and will be on display through January 21.

The reception will highlight the work of student participants of the *21<sup>st</sup> Century Program* at McKinley, which provides an after school environment wherein students can receive academic tutoring, a hot meal, and participate in a variety of enriching arts experiences.

Available everyday after school, the *21<sup>st</sup> Century Program* provides students with the opportunity to work with professional teaching artists from CEPA Gallery, Squeaky Wheel, and Young Audiences of Western New York. The yearlong program utilizes the arts to enhance students' learning and life skills, providing the tools for them to become successful, contributing members of their communities.

"It's exciting to see the enthusiasm students have for writing about their own lives," said Sunnylee Mowery, Arts & Education Director for Young Audiences WNY. "They have gained tremendous confidence in elevating their work through performance."

Admission to *Hot Chocolate Showcase 2010* is free and the event is open to the public. CEPA Gallery is located at 617 Main Street in Buffalo, and the reception will take place in CEPA's Underground Gallery. CEPA Gallery is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturdays from noon to 4 p.m. Parking is available on Washington Street.

This program has been made possible by the support of a 21st Century CLC grant awarded through the New York State Education Department. More information is available by contacting Morgan Williams-Bryant at 716.881.5150 x4314 or [mbryant@caoec.org](mailto:mbryant@caoec.org).

**ABOUT YOUNG AUDIENCES:** Founded in 1962, Young Audiences WNY programming is designed around the fact that an arts-rich education provides a child with the ability to look beyond facts and figures; to creatively meet new challenges as they arise. Plus, the arts make learning fun. Introducing curriculum-supportive, arts-based learning provides a varied and compelling environment—engage even the most reluctant learners and give day-dreamers a classroom as rich as their imagination.

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