



Young Audiences Western New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Melissa Buckley, Director of Development
melissa@yawny.org or 716/881-0917

SECOND ANNUAL “YOUNG AUDIENCES GOES TO TOWN” FUNDRAISER ANNOUNCED

*Featured performers LehrerDance & Nels Ross; Leslie Zemsky and Elizabeth Licata
among honorees for arts and education support*

August 7, 2012 – Buffalo, NY – Young Audiences of Western New York is pleased to announce its second annual “Young Audiences Goes to Town” celebration to benefit arts learning programs.

The event is on Wednesday, October 10, 2012, from 6:00-9:30 p.m. at the Town Ballroom, 681 Main St., Buffalo, NY. Beginning with an elegant cocktail party, the event features Young Audiences’ annual awards presentation, honoring outstanding achievement in the fields of art and education. The later half of the evening features a performance by contemporary dance company LehrerDance.

The honorees are Marvin Askew, executive director, Buffalo City Ballet; Elizabeth Licata, editor in chief, Buffalo Spree; Gilda and Jerry Raiken, long-time Young Audiences board members; and Leslie Zemsky, director of fun, Larkin Square, president, board of directors, Buffalo Fine Arts Academy, and artist. The event is chaired by Young Audiences board members Jonathan Mahoney and Kathleen Shaw.

“We are excited to again offer this event, which so perfectly encapsulates the mission of Young Audiences,” said Cynnie Gaasch, the Western New York affiliate’s executive director. “Our generous supporters and teaching artists mingle with new and old friends from the community, sharing the joy that the arts can bring—and emphasizing their importance in education. Our honorees have all made major contributions in the arts or arts education, epitomizing the vision of Young Audiences.”

Attendees will enjoy a delicious appetizer buffet and passed hors d’oeuvres by Current Catering, while juggler Nels Ross works the crowd. Young Audiences has again planned a silent auction filled with outstanding donated items, many of them participatory, such as delivery of home-cooked meals, concerts and sports events. There is also a wine raffle and other valuable prizes.

This annual fundraiser supports Young Audiences’ schools based programs. Now in its 50th year, Young Audiences is lead provider of arts-in-education programs in the eight counties of Western New York. Expanding to an ever-widening range of partners and venues, Young Audiences partners with schools, after-school programs, cultural organizations, human service agencies, and the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library. The programs engage young people in creative learning with outstanding professional artists.

Tickets are \$50/person general admission; \$150/person for patron table tickets; and \$1,200/patron table (8 people). To learn more or purchase online, guests may go to www.yawny.org/town.

Young Audiences also seeks support in the form of sponsorships and donations, including bottles of wine, restaurant gift certificates and silent auction items. For more information, those interested may visit www.yawny.org/town or call 881-0917.

The lead sponsor is WNED TV-AM-FM. Major sponsors include The Buffalo News, Buffalo Spree Magazine, the Hooper Family Foundation, M&T Bank, National Air Cargo, and JCharlier Communication Design. Event sponsors are Block Club, the Buffalo Teachers Federation, Courier Capital Corporation, Hyatt’s All Things Creative, Larkin Square, the Arthurs Malof Group at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, National Fuel, and Zenger Printing.

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ARTS FOR LEARNING

1 Lafayette Square, Buffalo, New York 14203
(716) 881-0917 fax (716) 408-3279 info@yawny.org www.yawny.org

