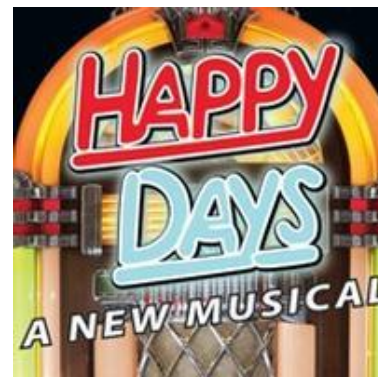


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 1, 2011

Goodbye Gray Skies, Hello Blue *HAPPY DAYS* rules at spring benefit for arts nonprofit Fundraiser to benefit Columbia Center for Theatrical Arts (CCTA)



Happy Days are back on May 16, 2011 as the **Columbia Center for Theatrical Arts (CCTA)** hosts its **SPRING FUNDRAISER at Toby's Dinner Theatre in Columbia**. Based on the hit television series, *HAPPY DAYS* reintroduces one of America's best loved families, the Cunninghams, and the days of 1959 Milwaukee complete with hula hoops, and sock-hoppin'. Doors open at 5:30pm for dinner, a silent auction, *Happy Days* Trivia Contest and the show at 7:30pm.

Proceeds from the event will help support CCTA and its Outreach efforts to under-resourced communities. CCTA serves approximately 40,000 children annually with quality classes, workshops, camps and theatrical productions. Its nationally-recognized Teen Professional Theatre offers a challenging summer intensive for advanced young performers; and CCTA's Outreach Programs makes arts accessible and affordable to children who are often excluded from mainstream programming -- youth from low and moderate income families, kids with special needs, as well as non-English speakers. Most recently CCTA embarked on a new theatrical journey, partnering with Loyola University to work with Autistic and other special needs youth through theater arts. The pilot program begun in 2009 delivers speech and social therapies in an environment that is fun and stimulating.

CCTA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded by Toby Orenstein at the invitation of visionary developer Jim Rouse. Its mission is to educate through the arts with creative, thoughtful and inspirational theatre programming for children from every walk of life.

Individual tickets are \$60 and a variety of sponsorship opportunities are available. For additional information contact the CCTA office at 410-381-0700 or info@CCTArts.com.

HAPPY DAYS- A New Musical is based on the Paramount Pictures Television Series "Happy Days", created by Garry Marshall. Music and Lyrics by Oscar winning composer Paul Williams. Directed by Gordon Greenberg. Music Arrangements and Music Supervision by John McDaniel. Choreographed by Michele



6655 Dobbin Road, Unit #4 . Columbia, MD 21045 . 410-381-0700 . info@CCTArts.com . www.CCTArts.com



Touching the hearts and minds of students
Throughout the Baltimore-Washington region!

THE COLUMBIA CENTER FOR THEATRICAL ARTS is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 1972 by Toby Orenstein at the invitation of visionary developer Jim Rouse. For over 35 years CCTA has *educated through the arts* by creating theatrical experiences that inspire thought, action, creativity and change.



CCTA's programs can be divided into three main areas:

The Conservatory offers performing arts-based programs designed to nurture and develop the whole child. These include *Tots and Kids on Broadway* musical theatre classes; *After School Programs* at area schools; annual *Workshops*; three *Performing Arts Camps*; and the nationally-recognized *Teen Professional Theatre*, recipient of five grants from the National Endowment for the Arts.



Our **Theatrical Arts Productions** offers professional performances that are related to school curriculum and reflect current social issues and concerns. They are enjoyed by thousands of students each year from throughout the Baltimore-Washington area. Favorites include *Ben Carson, M.D.*; *The Diary of Anne Frank*; *Miss Nelson is Missing*; *Charlotte's Web*, *Holes*, *The Ugly Duckling* and many more!



CCTA's **Outreach Programs** are designed to make theatre arts available and accessible to the neediest student in our region. Programs include the *Ben Carson Project* which brings students from the Baltimore City Public School System to performances of CCTA's original play *Ben Carson, M.D.*; the *After School Project* offering free theatre classes for low and moderate income students in both Howard County and Baltimore City; a *Performing Arts Camp* for Baltimore City youth; and *Broadway Kids*, a partnership with Loyola University that utilizes theater to deliver speech and social therapies to children with special needs.



CCTA is supported in part by Maryland State Arts Council, an agency dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive, and the Howard County Arts Council through a grant from Howard County. For a complete list of sponsors, please visit our website at www.CCTArts.com.

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