

## Focusing on the Future



Photos taken by HAI staff

With its 40th anniversary year just fifteen months away, HAI has ratcheted up planning for celebrations of this milestone. More than 300 HAI consumers and staff from over one hundred mental health facility units participated in focus groups at HAI's loft, sharing their experiences and thoughts about how to celebrate HAI's first four decades of accomplishment. An anonymous survey form was distributed to participants in the focus groups. One participant wrote:

**"I have a neurological disorder where at times I don't feel comfortable in my own skin. ... I've had fears about traveling around the city but when HAI provides trips I participate and my positive emotions and enthusiasm comes out."**



Having just completed a successful engagement to rave reviews at the Oak Room of the Algonquin Hotel, Bill Charlap and Sandy Stewart performed two matinee Cabaret Concerts for HAI audiences. On February 26th and 27th at Staten Island College and FIT's Haft Auditorium, respectively, jazz pianist Charlap, and his mother, the songbird Sandy Stewart, performed for audiences totaling 1,000. The New York State Music Fund, established by the New York State Attorney General at Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, supported this and other events in the Cabaret Concert Series.

***"What a delightful afternoon I had listening to Sandy Stewart sing and hearing Bill Charlap play piano. Thanks to HAI, I got the opportunity to see them perform live. It is difficult to hear the American Song Book played on the radio. Thank you so much for the program. HAI enables me to attend events that I wouldn't be able to afford." - Gloria***

Over ...

**This March and April, HAI will provide Hope And Inspiration to an audience totaling 49,900 at 1,757 events.**

**lai** HAI's **Cultural Events Program (CEP)** opens the world of concert halls, theaters and other venues to individuals who are culturally isolated due to mental or physical disability, age or frailty. Featured in March and April:

**ALVIN AILEY II \* ADRIFT IN MACAO \* AMATEUR NIGHT AT THE APOLLO**

- ▷ HAI's **Community Cabaret Series**, supported by the New York State Music Fund, will present Broadway star Karen Mason on April 23rd at the Staten Island Center for the Arts at 2pm.
- ▷ HAI's **Community Performing Arts Series** will present Ailey II at the CitiGroup Theatre on Wednesday, April 11th at 2pm, and *BREAK! Urban Funk Spectacular* at Aaron Davis Hall on Monday, April 16th, at 7:30pm. For ticket information for any of these events please call (212) 575-7660.
- ▷ The **Omni\*Bus** enables people who are bed confined and those using wheelchairs to enjoy life outside of institutions. March and April events include trips to the MoMA, Museum of Natural History and a special mass for the disabled at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Saturday, March 31, at 10am.
- ▷ **Describe!** makes theater performances accessible through live audio description for visually impaired and blind individuals.
- ▷ Members of **Tickets To Go**, HAI's senior discount ticket program, will attend the New York Philharmonic, New York City Opera, Metropolitan Opera, *Mamma Mia*, *Hairspray*, *The Pirate Queen*, *Coram Boy*, Dionne Warwick, Paul Taylor Dance Company, *King Hedley II*, *In the Heights*, and *Our Leading Lady*, among other cultural events.
- ▷ Through HAI's **STEP Program**, New York City public school students will attend Broadway shows *The Lion King*, *Tarzan*, *Mary Poppins*, *Inherit the Wind*, *The Producers*, *Stomp*, *The Color Purple*, *Les Miserables*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, and *Blue Man Group*, among others. Funding is facilitated by a vendor agreement with the NYC DOE.

**lai** In addition to over 400 performances at health and social services facilities scheduled during March and April, the **On-Site Performance Program**, will present shows at NYC DOE District 75 schools as part of a performance series that includes 55 sites. These events provide education through the arts, and include artists such as Feraba, African dance and drums; Chinese Dance of New York; Jerbean Gilkes, Afro-Caribbean dance and music; and Exodus Supreme, Island music.

**lai** During March and April, the **Youth Leadership and Education Program** will present HIV Prevention Workshops, *RESPECT*, *Peace by Peace* and *Take Ya Time* performances at mental health facilities, homeless shelters and New York City public schools in the five boroughs. These performances are purchased through HAI's DOE vendor contracts. For more information, contact Patricia Reitkopf at preitkopf@hospaud.org or (212) 575-7681.

**lai** HAI's **Arts Workshop Program** provides hands-on experiences led by professional artists in music, dance, drama, visual and media arts for people with disabilities. An exhibit by participants of HAI arts workshops programs at FEGS and by participants from programs for the mentally retarded and developmentally disabled in Denmark, will open in early May at HAI.

**lai** **The Gallery at HAI** will continue exhibiting the third annual *Outsider Art: SURVEY 2007*, through April. *SURVEY* is presenting for sale the work of fourteen contemporary Outsider artists from across the United States and from HAI's workshops. The next exhibit in The Gallery will present art created in NYC DOE workshops from April 16th to 25th. A reception will take place from 2pm to 7pm on April 19th. An exhibit from *The Gallery at HAI* will be on view at *The Intuit Show of Folk and Outsider Art* in Chicago, Illinois, April 27-30.

For more information please visit our website at <http://www.hospaud.org>

**This March & April, HAI will reach a projected audience of 49,900 at 1,757 events...through the:**

<b>Cultural Events Program</b>	<b>5,000 at 100 events</b>
<b>On-Site Performance Program</b>	<b>22,000 at 400 performances</b>
<b>Arts Workshop Program</b>	<b>16,500 at over 1,100 hours of workshops</b>
<b>Prevention Education Program</b>	<b>6,400 at over 157 workshops</b>