



Young Audiences Western New York

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YOUNG AUDIENCES ANNOUNCES THE 6TH ANNUAL ARTS ABILITIES CONFERENCE

BUFFALO, NY (10/17/13) – Young Audiences of Western New York in conjunction with Arts Partners for Learning will host the 6th Annual Patricia Cotsen Arts Abilities Conference. Arts and cultural community representatives, educational program leaders, teachers and after school providers are invited to learn about best practices in arts and cultural education through workshops led by community organizations participating in the Arts Partners for Learning initiative.

When: Friday November 15, 2013, 8:30am- 4:30pm, followed by happy hour

Where: Hotel Lafayette and the Central Library in Buffalo, NY

Registration: Early Bird Registration is \$40 regular, \$20 for teaching artist, and \$10 for students. Tickets will be \$50 regular, \$30 for teaching artist, and \$20 for students after October 31, 2013. Complimentary tickets are available for volunteers. Please email communications@yawny.org. For more information, visit <http://aplwny.org/events/>



The theme for this year's conference is "Creative Content: Community Collaboration Towards Rigor and Relevance," which intends to address the growing need for cultural organizations to partner with schools and teachers in ways that are designed to focus on Common Core standards. The conference will feature presentations and sessions that address aspects of the Common Core Learning Standards, which are based on international standards and were designed to better prepare students for college and careers. These standards are now in place throughout New York State and in 45 other states in the U.S.

Featured presentations include:

- Amber Dixon, executive director of the new Buffalo Center for Arts and Technology and former interim superintendent of Buffalo City Schools
- Long Live TOY: Defending Children's Theatre in the Nickel City, a documentary film that profiles a children's theater company in Buffalo with a panel featuring the producer and leaders from Theatre of Youth
- Additional workshops with APL partners, including Young Audiences, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, and the Buffalo Central Library

The 6th Annual Arts Abilities Conference is made possible with support from the Marks Family Foundation, New York State Council on the Arts, and the Fund for the Arts, a coalition of eight regional funders. The Conference was named for Patricia Cotsen a long-time devoted Young Audiences board member and community advocate when she passed away in 2009.

ABOUT YOUNG AUDIENCES: Young Audiences of Western New York's mission is to make the visual, performing, and literary arts a part of young people's lives in order to enhance their development as creative and productive human beings. They provide services in Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans, and Wyoming counties. Every day, they fulfill their mission through performances, workshops, and residencies in educational, cultural and community centers. Young Audiences of Western New York is celebrating 50 years of service in 2013.

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ARTS FOR LEARNING

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