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THE CENTER FOR ARTS EDUCATION March 2006 News Brief

INTERNSHIPS HELP NYC PUBLIC SCHOOL ARTS STUDENTS GAIN COMPETITIVE EDGE

This month, 45 artistically talented students in CAE's **Career Development Program (CDP)** will begin internships with some of New York's top employers, exploring the many arts-related careers available in the City's \$13.4 billion arts industry. These juniors and seniors hail from a variety of neighborhoods throughout the City including the South Bronx, Jamaica, Corona and Sunset Park. Interns have been matched with corporate and non-profit organizations according to their artistic interests and are each assigned an on-site mentor. This semester's interns include an aspiring choreographer from Brooklyn working at New York City Ballet; a young filmmaker working with the award-winning PBS series *P.O.V.*; and a technology major working with video game developer gameLab. Other students will be learning the ropes in fields such as architecture, graphic design, music, fashion and theater administration. CDP concludes in June with student presentations and an awards ceremony.

ACCLAIMED ENSEMBLE HELPS EDUCATORS USE DANCE AS A TEACHING TOOL

The **Looking at Student Work** professional development series (LASW) resumes **Thursday, March 16**, from 4-7 PM, with an exclusive workshop featuring a live performance by the celebrated **Chamber Dance Project**. This session will take place in Studio 4 at Trisha Brown Dance Studios, 625 W 55th Street, between 11th and 12th Avenues. LASW is designed to help classroom teachers, teaching artists and arts specialists develop skills, create new protocols for observing student artwork and use the arts as tools in teaching English, math, social studies, and other core subjects. This spring's series marks the first time CAE will create a "laboratory" workshop, where teachers and teaching artists can view the work of a professional performance troupe. This series also supplements the NYC Department of Education's Blueprints for Dance and Theater. Subsequent sessions in April, May and June will feature live performances by **Hilary Easton Dance Company**, as well as two local theater troupes.

SEE THE BEST OF ARTS EDUCATION IN ACTION

Throughout the spring semester, CAE will continue to host site visits to New York City public schools where guests can witness exemplary arts education programs in action. Site visits offer an opportunity to glimpse the full range of CAE-funded programs in different stages of implementation, as well as a diversity of grade levels and arts disciplines. **Members of the media interested in joining an upcoming site visit should contact CAE's Communications Department for further information.**

MARCH: ANIMATION, RAP, AND THEATER BRING SPECIAL EDUCATION AND ELL CLASSES TO LIFE AT LOWER EAST SIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL

On **Monday, March 27**, from 12:00 - 2:30 pm, CAE will host a site visit to MS 131, a Title 1 middle school in Chinatown that has been incorporating the arts into its literacy, American history and math studies. This unique curriculum is part of an effort to raise the academic achievement of the entire student body, targeting students with disabilities and English Language Learners, 20% of whom are recent immigrants from China. This cross-disciplinary program was created using a CAE Partnership grant, which funds a two-year collaboration between the school and teaching artists from Working Playground. Visitors will be treated to a preview of the

projects students are working on for the school's upcoming arts festival in the following classes:

- A special education class, entitled "Secrets of Early US History," that explores American history with the aid of stop-frame animation, collage, sculpture, poetry writing and rap. Students are in stations that rotate from week to week allowing each an opportunity to create a rap about the subject matter, use the camera, and practice rapping the soundtrack in anticipation of recording at a professional sound studio.
- An English language arts class that introduces students to narrative and autobiography through visual art. The final project will depict a "transition of a character" using stop-frame animation. During the class, students work on collage elements and practice run-throughs of shot-lists based on their animation.
- A theater class for developmentally delayed and physically challenged students. During the class, students will be working on a dramatization of the legend of Aladdin and learn about designing props and stage blocking.

APRIL: BRONX HIGH SCHOOL LOOKS TO ANCIENT GREECE FOR DRAMATIC APPROACH TO ENGLISH & SOCIAL STUDIES

Fannie Lou Hamer Freedom High School, located in the South Bronx, has recently completed developing a program that integrates English and social studies with the visual arts and theater. Funded by a CAE Leadership in Practice grant to develop and share "best practices" in arts education, Fannie Lou has partnered with The Studio Museum of Harlem to design a ninth and tenth-grade curriculum utilizing performance and mask-making to explore Greek mythology and the role of women in ancient Greece.

On **Tuesday, April 4**, from 11 am - 2 pm, visitors will see video footage of students performing scenes from the Greek tragedy *Medea*, a play performed by each of the school's English classes, as well as interviews with students reflecting on their experiences. Subsequently, visitors will get to see students taking part in the school's newest interdisciplinary curriculum, which features poetry writing and the folktales of India.

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Since its founding in 1996, The Center for Arts Education (CAE), led by Chairman Laurie M. Tisch, has awarded more than \$30 million in private and public funding to support arts education partnerships and programs. CAE is a not-for-profit organization committed to restoring, stimulating and sustaining the systemic return of arts education created by two decades of progressive, system-wide cutbacks in funding for the arts in New York City's public schools. The Center for Arts Education received the 2002 Governor's Arts Award from New York State Governor George E. Pataki for outstanding contributions to the cultural and education life of New York State. To learn more about CAE's activities, log on to www.cae-nyc.org.

CONTACTS:

Heather Mangrum, Director of Marketing and Public Relations
212-971-3300 x308 heather@cae-nyc.org

Wendy Weisman, Communications Associate
212 971 3300 x307 wendy@cae-nyc.org