



**City Lights Youth Theatre honors Joel I. Klein, Chancellor,
NYC Department of Education, as we celebrate our
15th Anniversary on April 10th, 2006**

New York, NY, March 3, 2006- City Lights Turns 15! City Lights Youth Theatre will celebrate 15 years of providing quality theatre-arts education to New York City youth, ages 3-19, on April 10th at our Annual Benefit Gala. This year, City Lights commemorates our In-School Drama Immersion Program as we pay tribute to a great leader in education, Joel I. Klein. As Chancellor, Mr. Klein took on the challenge of leading New York City's public school system after serving in the highest levels of federal government and in the corporate world. He oversees more than 1,400 schools with over 1.1 million students, 140,000 employees, and a \$15 billion budget. Through a comprehensive reform program called *Children First*, Klein aims to transform the troubled system, ensuring that every child will graduate with the skills needed to become a fully engaged member of society. It is our pleasure to honor his accomplishments, in addition to celebrating our own commitment to provide young people from diverse backgrounds the opportunity to participate in theatre experiences in order to develop confidence, responsibility, teamwork, and a greater sense of self and community.

Highlights of the evening include an introduction by Mr. Klein's long-time friend David Boies of Boies Schiller & Flexner LLP, performances by Michael Cerveris of *Sweeney Todd*, Judy McLane of *Mamma Mia!*, the City Lights kids, as well as an Auction. Benefit Co-Chairs and Benefit Committee members for this event include Jonathan Alter and Emily Lazar, Roger Altman and Jurate Kazickas, Brian and Judy Bedol, Peter Bonventre and Donna Olshan, Tom and Meredith Brokaw, David Clossey and Dena Kleiman, David Corvo and Michele Willens, Charles and Eileen Dubroff, Robert and Sandi Friedman, Steve and Myrna Greenberg, Mickey Kantor and Heidi Schulman, Donald Kilpatrick and Karen Lavine, Margo Lion, Millie Harmon Meyers, Rick Morris and Lisa Caputo, Frank and Colleen Quinn, Jack Rosenthal and Holly Russell, Ralph Schlosstein and Jane Hartley, Ron Weintraub and Margo Howard. Corporate sponsors for this event currently include Allen & Company, Bank of Scotland, Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, CBS Corporation and Sony Corporation of America.

City Lights Youth Theatre's mission is to provide young people from diverse backgrounds the opportunity to participate in theatre experiences in order to develop confidence, responsibility, teamwork, and a greater sense of self and community. City Lights programs engage New York City youth ages 3-19 in the creation and performance of theatre through after-school and weekend classes, full-scale productions, and in-school residencies. Through the Scholarship Fund, at least 50% of students who attend City Lights are provided with full and partial need-based financial aid. The funds raised at the Annual Benefit Gala go directly towards the Scholarship Fund and City Lights Programming, ensuring that hundreds more NYC youth will benefit from the life-changing experiences which are fostered in our classes and productions. Please call 212-262-0200 or visit our website at www.clyouththeatre.org for more information on our programs.

Event Details:
When: April 10th, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Renee Dumouchel
Marketing Associate 212-262-0200

Where: The Copacabana, at 560 West 34th Street (at 11th Avenue)
Cocktails and Auction: 6pm
Dinner and Entertainment: 7PM

To purchase tickets, contact Nikki Hinds, Development Director at 212-262-0200 or
development@clyouththeatre.org.
To donate to our Auction, contact Renee Dumouchel, Marketing Associate at 212-262-0200 or
assistant@clyouththeatre.org.

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