

## Encore Presents its Heart to Heart Awards to Paul Libin and Laura Penn at its Annual Spring Benefit

Setting the stage for the May 9th Annual Heart to Heart Awards Presentation and Benefit was the lovely Penthouse Floor at Mutual of America. These awards are given to acknowledge the work of individuals, groups and corporations who have made contributions to the betterment of New York City, especially the Times Square/ theater community. This year's Heart to Heart recipients were Paul Libin, Executive Vice President of the Jujamcyn Theaters, and Laura Penn, Executive Director of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC). The program commenced with a gracious welcome from Benefit Chairpersons George and Christine Stonbely and President of Encore's Board of Directors, William Flynn, followed by an invocation from the Reverend John Duffell of Church of the Blessed Sacrament. Serving as the Master of Ceremonies for the evening was Robert Wankel, President of The Shubert Organization.

**Paul Libin** is a name synonymous with the theater community, having begun his professional career in the theater as an actor to now serving as Executive Vice President of the Jujamcyn Theaters. Throughout his illustrious career, Mr. Libin has worked as a director, lighting designer, technical director, stage manager, company manager, managing director and general manager. In 1958, Mr. Libin produced his first play in New York and went on to produce more than 250 Broadway and Off-Broadway shows and productions on tour.

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Charlotte St. Martin, Executive Director of The Broadway League, presents a 2013 Heart to Heart Award to Paul Libin, Executive Vice Present of the Jujamcyn Theaters.



Laura Penn, Executive Director of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, accepts a 2013 Heart to Heart Award from Joseph Benincasa, Executive Director of The Actors Fund.

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#### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Encore Community Services is to provide care and service to the elderly of the Clinton/Times Square/Midtown communities, and to any elderly person who comes to us; to assist those who are vulnerable and frail, poor and homeless, homebound and lonely, frequently desperate, most often ignored; to help them with their daily needs that they might live as independently as possible, with dignity and decency, in a non-institutional manner, in a safe and caring environment . . .

(Board of Directors, 1982)

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The Encore Connection is a publication of Encore Community Services, a nonprofit, nonsectarian agency serving the needs of the elderly. Encore provides in-home and congregate meals, recreational, educational and social activities, shopping and escort services, benefit and entitlement counseling, crisis intervention, mental health services, friendly visiting, weekend meals and housing for the homeless and low-income seniors. These services are provided at the Encore 49 Residence, 220 West 49th Street, the Encore Senior Center, located at St. Malachy's, The Actors' Chapel, 239 West 49th Street, and the Encore West Residence, 755 Tenth Ave., between 51st and 52nd Streets.

Encore Community Services: 212-581-2910 ECS Administrative Staff: 646-726-4299 Encore Senior Center: 212-581-2910 Encore 49 Residence: 212-581-3490 Encore West Residence: 212-991-3727 www.encorecommunityservices.org

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#### From the Desk of ...



Sr. Elizabeth Hasselt Executive Director

What a pleasure it is to finally say "happy springtime" to all our Encore friends who receive news of Encore through the "Encore Connection." Some of us here at Encore were thinking that spring might never come, but eventually the warmth of the sun and the fullness of the trees make their welcome appearance! Thank

goodness...now it is here and it is delightful to experience such lovely weather!! Take a moment or two – and enjoy. And, of course in hindsight, the winter was not too difficult, especially when we constantly worry about winter storms and being certain the homebound elderly receive their meals, no matter what the weather brings. The three vans which convey the meal deliverers with their multiple hot or frozen meals for the homebound never missed a day!

On a positive note, Encore hosted its Annual Heart to Heart Awards Benefit on May 9<sup>th</sup>, at one of the best locations in the City at Mutual of America, and happily recognized the achievements of two special, most gracious honorees: Paul Libin, Executive Vice-President of Jujamcyn Theaters, and Laura Penn, Executive Director of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society. This year Encore also had the assistance of a professional auctioneer, Christine Erickson, who, through the generosity of Christie's, provided a superb performance. And, of course, Encore remains ever so grateful to George and Christine Stonbely, who again ably served as Chairpersons for this annual event. We simply cannot thank them sufficiently for their assistance and support in multiple ways.

On another positive note, Encore has re-located all of its offices, which formerly were located in St. Malachy's Rectory into a renovated space a block west to 350 W. 49 St. (just east of 9th Avenue) and also into an office space at the Encore 49 Residence, at 220 W. 49th St. The Encore Senior Center remains at the lower level of St. Malachy's, and will continue to rent this space. Please note: Encore continues to utilize the 239 W. 49th Street address, as our mailing address since that is listed on all legal documents. As we move into the spring-summer mode, we continue to plan for the future, and we will keep you apprised as we move forward. We thank you all for your interest in Encore and for your support which means so much to all of us at Encore, certainly to our seniors who enjoy and benefit from our services and programs, as well as the staff and our supportive and generous Board!

# GOOD NEWS AND RECENT HAPPENINGS

# Encore West Reopens its Garden Area for its Senior Residents

Encore West residents celebrated the long-awaited reopening of the building's garden area, located in the rear of Encore West, with a party on Thursday, June 6. Having been closed for over a year due to construction on an adjacent building that faced the garden area, tenants can now enjoy the beautiful outdoor garden and seating areas from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. With the onset of the warmer months ahead, tenants can take advantage of their own private oasis for some summertime reading, relaxing or just to enjoy a little quiet time from the hustle and bustle of the city.



Encore West residents enjoy the recently reopened building's garden, at 755 10th Avenue.

#### Seniors Enjoy A Hidden Harbor Boat Tour

Senior residents of Encore West and Encore 49 and a few lucky staff members set sail aboard the Circle Line for a two-hour narrated Harbor Boat Tour of the Brooklyn and Staten Island Waterfronts on the morning of June 13th. These harbor tours are sponsored by the Working Harbor Committee, a New York State nonprofit organization whose mission is to bolster awareness of the working harbor's history and its continuing importance to the area's economic vitality. Touring places that are normally hidden from the eyes of most area residents and visitors, this particular tour navigated up the River to the Verrazano Bridge to Hoboken, including Red Hook, Brooklyn, Staten Island, New Jersey, The Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island before returning to Pier 16. For more information about the different harbor tours, visit www.WorkingHarbor.org.



Encore 49 residents and staff stand ready to board the Circle Line for a two-hour Hidden Harbor tour.

#### **Shopping Online and Searching the Internet Never Looked So GOOD!**

When shopping online for your summer essentials, from flip flops and bathing suits, to barbeque grills and utensils, please use the **GoodShop** site. You can help raise money for Encore every time you do if you designate Encore Community Services as your charity. You will find a plethora of stores including: Macy's, Bloomingdale's, Home Depot, Gap and many others who will allocate a percentage of a sale to a designated nonprofit.

It's simple to use and there are no usernames or passwords to create. Just designate Encore Community Services as your charity, click on the store's logo from the GoodShop site, and then shop as you normally would. Every time you place an order, you'll support Encore. It's that easy!

Another simple way to help raise money is to use **GoodSearch**, powered by Yahoo, as your search engine any time you search the



internet. It will designate a portion of its advertising revenue to charities that are registered at GoodSearch. Since Encore is already registered, you simply go to <a href="www.GoodSearch.com">www.GoodSearch.com</a> and type in Encore Community Services into the Who Do You Want to Help? box, and then utilize the GoodSearch "search box" to search the web.

The more people who use GoodSearch with Encore as its designated charity, the more money Encore can raise. Please pass along this

information to friends, family and colleagues. It's a simple, painless and free way to raise needed funds for Encore's programs and services. You can also download the GoodSearch toolbar to your web browser or make GoodSearch your homepage so that you won't forget to utilize GoodSearch as your search engine.



#### Heart to Heart Awards

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Encore extends its thanks to our friends and supporters

The recipient of many awards, including nine Tony Awards, Mr. Libin is also the former Chairman of The Broadway League and a member of the League's Executive Committee, the owner of The Circle in the Square Theatre and President of the Circle in the Square Theatre School. Mr. Libin was the Producing Director of Circle in the Square Theatre for thirty years and served as President of the League of Off-Broadway Theatres for thirty years, as well.

Mr. Libin is currently President of Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, a trustee of The Actors Fund, Actors' Equity Pension Fund, Treasurers' Pension Fund, and an Adjunct Professor of Theatre Arts at Columbia University.

In 2003, Mr. Libin was awarded the Eugene O'Neill Medallion and in 2004 he received the Eugene O'Neill Foundation Tao House Award. As a long-time friend and supporter of Encore Community Services, Encore was delighted to honor Mr. Lbin with its Heart to Heart Award presented to him by Charlotte St. Martin, Executive Director of The Broadway League and a former Heart to Heart Award recipient.

**Laura Penn** joined the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC) as its Executive Director in 2008, after a twenty-five year career in LORT management. During her tenure at SDC, Ms. Penn has begun forging partnerships with key industry constituents, focusing on improving the Union's communications capabilities and expanding its reach and scope within the industry. She has led negotiations for Broadway and LORT management and continues to spearhead challenge-specific initiatives to educate and empower SDC members and partners within the industry.

Ms. Penn is an active member of the Broadway Coalition of Unions and Guilds (COBUG) and is a member of the Tony Administration Committee and Freehold Studio/Theatre Lab, as well as a nominator for the Astaire Awards. As a founder of the annual event, Broadway Salutes, which celebrates Broadway artists, Ms. Penn continues to serve as its Co-Chair.

Before joining SDC, Ms. Penn was the Managing Director of Seattle's Intiman Theatre for fourteen years. Under her leadership, Intiman received the 2006 Regional Theatre Tony Award. She has served as an advocate and catalyst for civic dialogue and community building in the Puget Sound, and she received the "Seattle Distinguished Citizen" Medal from Mayor Paul Schell in 2001. Prior to working at Intiman, Ms. Penn was Associate Managing Director at Seattle Repertory Theatre and worked with Bob Alexander and the Living Stage Theatre Company at Arena Stage.

Ms. Penn has served on a variety of boards and councils, including: member of the Board of Leadership Tomorrow, Fellow of the World Affairs Council, member of advisory committees for Arts Corps, as well as a site evaluator for the National Endowment for the Arts. Ms. Penn previously served as a Vice President of the League of Resident Theatres, held a two-term appointment as Chair of the Seattle Arts Commission, and was a steering committee member of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce's Forum on Race.

Presenting the Heart to Heart Award to Ms. Penn was Joseph Benincasa, Executive Director of The Actors Fund.

This year's benefit also featured a "Live Auction," successfully raising over \$7,800 for Encore's Home-Delivered Meals Program, which provides hot and nutritious meals to homebound seniors. Our appreciation is extended to Christine Erickson of Christie's who served as the evening's auctioneer, to our many benefactors who contributed auction prizes, and to Clear Channel Spectacolor for providing ad space on its Digital HD LED screen on 47th and Broadway. Benefactors who contributed \$500 will have their names or the names of their designated loved ones appear on the digital billboard in Times Square.

Encore extends its thanks to our Heart to Heart honorees, our Benefit Chairpersons, George and Christine Stonbely, all our program participants, guests and our generous benefactor, Mutual of America, for making the evening such a memorable occasion.



William J. Flynn, Chairman Emeritus of Mutual of America, with grand-daughters, Meghan Welsh (center) and Carris Flynn.

#### Heart to Heart Awards

## **OUR PICS**



James J. Claffey, Jr., President of the Theatrical Stage Employees, Local One and Rabbi Jill Hausman of The Actors Temple.



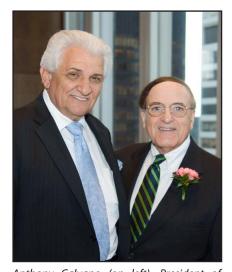
From left, Claire Gozzo, Executive Director Sr. Elizabeth Hasselt, and Encore Board Member Joe Sirola.



Patricia White (on left), President of the Theatrical Wardrobe Union, Local 764, congratulates Heart to Heart Honoree, Laura Penn, Executive Director of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.



Successfuly bidding on four tickets to a Yankees vs. Texas Rangers game during the Benefit's Live Auction was Keith Kaval... a Yankees fan, indeed!



Anthony Calvano (on left), President of Landmark Signs and George Stonbely, Chairman of SPECTACULAR Ventures and Heart to Heart Benefit Co-Chair.



Benefit Co-Chair, Christine Stonbely, and her son Peter Stonbely.



Encore Board Members William K. Flynn (on left) and Bob Esposito.

#### **BULLETIN BOARD NEWS**



If you're like hundreds of New Yorkers who love street fairs, then come join Encore at the 39th Annual Americana Jazz Festival on Saturday, October 26 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Vendors will line 52nd Street, from Seventh Avenue to Fifth Avenue, selling a variety of clothing, jewelry and delicious food for you to enjoy. Encore is the official sponsor of this Street Fair which helps raise money for



Encore's many fine programs. The 52nd Street Fair is always a great way to spend a leisurely Saturday afternoon, so come browse, eat and join in the fun. Don't forget to stop by Encore's booth to say hello.

#### A GOOD DEED CAN HELP AN ENCORE SENIOR

Many of our seniors do not own burial plots and are too poor to purchase one. Your family may have purchased a plot years ago which it may no longer need. Please consider deeding a burial plot to Encore. If you would like to donate a plot or would like to make a monetary gift for burials or cremations, please call Sr. Peggy at 646-726-4299, ext. 105. Thank you.

