

Greetings from Exploring the Arts! We have much to celebrate this fall, and we hope you will share in our pride at the news below. We are grateful to our generous donors and dedicated program partners and inspired by the enthusiasm and hard work of all who help us meet our mission each year. Thank you all!

GRAND OPENING!

On the morning of September 21st Principal Donna Finn held a ribbon cutting ceremony and press conference to mark the official opening of Frank Sinatra School of the Arts' permanent home, a brand new building designed by Polshek Partnership Architects and located at the Kaufman Astoria Studios Complex in Queens. Tony and Susan attended along with NYC Schools Chancellor Joel Klein; Nancy Sinatra and daughter, AJ Lambert; Quincy Jones; George Kaufman; Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney; Senator George Onorato; Assembly Members Michael Gianaris and Catherine Nolan; City Councilmen Peter Vallone Jr. & Sr., Queens Borough President Helen Marshall; and NYC School Construction Authority President, Sharon Greenberger.



Above: Peter Vallone Sr., Principal Donna Finn, Chancellor Joel Klein, AJ Lambert, Borough President Helen Marshall, Nancy Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Susan Benedetto



Above: In celebration of this great day, the school's street corner was temporarily named in Tony Bennett's honor.

Far Right: Quincy Jones congratulates his friend

Right: NYC Schools Chancellor Joel Klein praises the school's many achievements



GALA 2009 A SUCCESS!

Hours after the ribbon cutting, we held our 3rd Annual Gala at Cipriani Wall Street and raised over \$1.7 million dollars for arts education, making this our most successful fundraiser to date! The event honored longtime ETA-supporter and renowned philanthropist, John Kluge, on the occasion of his 95th birthday. President Bill Clinton made a surprise appearance to speak in support of arts education and present the Honoree's award. The very funny Nathan Lane hosted the evening's program, which included an art exhibition and performance by students from Frank Sinatra School of the Arts, along with unforgettable live performances by k.d. lang and ETA's own Tony Bennett. Among those in attendance were Governor Mario Cuomo, Joy & Regis Philbin, Emma & Bruce Willis, Quincy Jones, Nancy Sinatra, Alan & Marilyn Bergman, Dr. Ruth Westheimer, and Carol Alt.



Above: President Bill Clinton & Honoree John Kluge



Above: Tony Bennett & k.d. lang perform



Clockwise from Far Left:

ETA Co-Founders Tony Bennett & Susan Benedetto on the red carpet; Susan & Tony pose with Emma & Bruce Willis; Gala Host Nathan Lane presents Tony's street sign



We would like to acknowledge the support of **Patsy's Italian Restaurant** (only two locations: at 236 West 56th Street in Manhattan and at the Atlantic City Hilton Casino, www.patsys.com) which was erroneously listed in our Gala program.

www.exploringthearts.org