



Metropolis hosts the Guatemalan National Children's and Youth Choirs in October.

Ensemble, approximately 15 students and Kristen Gurbach Jacobson, Outreach Manager and Head of the Dance Studio Program, brought two dance students. In October, 55 Guatemalan choir students will stay with host families in Arlington Heights and perform at Metropolis.

The Metropolis groups performed *Gloria* by Vivaldi and *La Musica de Notturna di Madrid* by Boccherini with the Guatemalan National Youth Choir. Though MYS performed at the nearly sold-out Guatemalan National Theatre, which seats 2,000 people, the purpose of the trip was not only for MYS students to perform in world class venues. Students witnessed how music and dance transcends cultural barriers.

"The trip showed the kids that music and dance can tell a story and send a message, regardless of language," said Collins. "Kids are kids no matter where. Music is music no matter where."

Another unforgettable facet of the trip was the bonds the children formed. The group had "chemistry, and really clicked well," said Mendoza. At the last performance at an ancient chapel, MYS and the choir spontaneously and tearfully broke into the song "Amigos Para Siempre", or "Friends Forever," even though it wasn't on the program.

"They had non-stop wide eyes and open hearts. They wanted to experience as much as possible and share everything they had. To see them collaborate with the Guatemalan Children's Choir and truly experience how to be themselves with the art, music and dance and when exchanging their culture," said Jacobson. "Those interactions were amazing."

"They had non-stop wide eyes and open hearts. They wanted to experience as much as possible..."

For full story and photos, check online at www.MetropolisArts.com/newsletter

METROPOLIS PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE
111 WEST CAMPBELL STREET • ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS 60005
BOX OFFICE: 847 577 2121 • GROUP DISCOUNTS: 847 577 5982 x241
MetropolisArts.com



Metropolis youth play in renowned performance halls, entertaining, awing, and impressing art-lovers around the world.



MYS RECEIVES INTERNATIONAL ACCOLADE, GAINS "FRIENDS FOREVER"

The Metropolis Youth Symphony (MYS) and Outreach dance students are internationally adored, having traveled to Guatemala this July. But, surprisingly, the most influential part of the trip wasn't the performance in a world class venue, such as the Guatemalan National Theatre, which seats 2,000 people or the star-struck Guatemalan fans, eager for a chance to meet them. "It went well beyond us going to share our art with them," said Board President and MYS parent Phil Collins. "It was a thousand times more powerful than we anticipated. It was more than kids going to perform — it was a cultural exchange and experience for our kids. They built relationships that will last a lifetime."

About a year ago, MYS conductor Javier Mendoza was guest faculty at the Colegio Internacional Montessori (CIM) in Guatemala and decided to take MYS there. The orchestra has a history of traveling; performing at Carnegie Hall and in Sydney, Australia for the 2000 Olympics. This year, Mendoza brought the MYS Chamber

Jersey Boy

“honored,” Thanks Fans



On Monday, July 21, *Jersey Boys* star Michael Ingersoll delighted and awed the sold-out crowd in an exclusive cabaret show, “The Long Road Home.”

Michael was more than happy to return home to the Metropolis Stage, where he starred with his wife as Jordan in 2006’s *I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change*. As Nick Massi of the Four Seasons, he’s performed in the national tour of the Tony award-winning Best Musical, *Jersey Boys*, over 600 times.

Michael sang some of his favorite classics and entertained with stories from the road, such as performing with Tony Bennet at the Emmy’s and chatting on Jay Leno. His wife, Angela Ingersoll, and *Jersey Boys* co-stars Jarrod Spector, Drew Gehling and John Hickman, made guest appearances to the audience’s delight. Michael’s show was such a success that Metropolis invited him back for two more performances, August 18 & 25, which both sold out so quickly they added another two, on October 6 & 13.

Michael’s amiable nature was clear on stage but became even more apparent at the Meet-n-Greet after the show.

“Michael was incredibly personable,” said Randal Ann Klaproth, Development Associate. “He was very gracious and made sure to shake hands and talk to each of our Marquee Members. These were his fans and he was honored that they had come to see his cabaret performance. He is genuinely down to earth and charming!”

Marquee Members enjoyed the opportunity to talk with Michael about his performance, get his autograph and take pictures with him.

“It was a terrific night at Metropolis. I’m sure everyone there had an outstanding time. I certainly did. The concert was fantastic – all of it – and the reception was perfect. A job well done!” said Judy L’Amoureux, Marquee Member. And everyone did have an outstanding time.

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Solid Gold Gala a Golden Success

METROPOLIS GOES FOR THE GOLD every year with our productions, education programming and outreach programs. This year, we celebrated the people who support us time and time again with the Encore 2008 Solid Gold Fundraising Gala.

With everyone from Mayor Arlene Mulder and Village Trustees to local business owners in attendance, we raised over \$40,000, making the Solid Gold fundraiser a complete success.

The Encore Gala at the end of every season is always the biggest fundraiser of the year. A black-tie event, the evening includes live and silent auctions, the announcement of the new season along with dinner and dancing in the Metropolis Ballroom. This year, a duet from the FOCIT Flourish in the Footlights class for young adults with special needs performed alongside a duet from the subscription show *Musical of Musicals the Musical*.

A unique aspect of Encore 2008! was the *Band of Gold* drawing. A limited number of participants had the chance to win a custom-designed yellow-gold white diamond ring at a value of \$2100, donated by Keswick Jewelers and designed by Mariusz Bialas. Bialas’ beautiful designs have also served clientele Pope John Paul II and Mike Tyson, among others. Lucky Metropolis donor Tiana Brazzle walked away with the one-of-a-kind piece of jewelry. Other items auctioned off that evening included a trip to the Tony Awards, Cubs and White Sox tickets, concert tickets, autographed baseballs and jerseys, a holiday lighting package, a private movie screening and many other one-of-a-kind items generously donated by local businesses and friends of Metropolis.

Metropolis would like to acknowledge those individuals and organizations that made tremendous contributions to make Encore 2008! an overwhelming success.

For full story and photos, check online at www.MetropolisArts.com/newsletter



We also extend a gracious thanks to our **SPONSORS**: Arlington Park, GreatStreet Realty Partners, Pfingsten Partners LLC, Century 21 Advisors, Midwest Bank, Sylvia’s Flowers and Home, Metropolis Ballroom and Barefoot Wine.

Metropolis Calendar

SEPTEMBER IS METROPOLIS MONTH

As a thank you to our Arlington Heights residents, we’re celebrating with great events and discounts! **\$5 DISCOUNT** for all Arlington Heights residents for September performances of *Damn Yankees*. (Limit four per family)

SEPTEMBER 2, 2008 • 5 P.M. – 7 P.M.

Arlington Heights’ Business Appreciation Reception
Refreshments and tours: A little way to say thanks for the community’s support.

SEPTEMBER 15, 2008 • 9 A.M. TO NOON

Education Day
Free classes for kids ages 1–5, free chances to learn and thrive.

SEPTEMBER 25, 2008 • 7:30 P.M.

OCTOBER 1, 2008 • 1:30 P.M.
Senior Day
20% off show tickets, Q&A after the Sept. 25 show – it pays to be 62+.

SEPTEMBER 25, 2008 • 7:30 P.M.

SEPTEMBER 26, 2008 • 8 P.M.
Post-show Talk Backs – *Damn Yankees*
Talk about backstage with the actors and crew of your new favorite show

SEPTEMBER 27, 2008 • 6 P.M.

Marquee Night – *Damn Yankees*
Pre-show reception, post-show meet-n-greet, during-show enjoyment.

SEPTEMBER 28, 2008 • 5 P.M.

Sunday Soiree – Sold out!
Ladies only – enjoy a performance, hors d’oeuvres, shopping and more.

OCTOBER 22, 2008 • 6 P.M.

2nd Annual Stakeholders’ Meeting
Ask questions, share ideas, help expand the arts in our community and have a say in the direction of Metropolis.

Become a Marquee Member

“Metropolis has shown the Arlington Heights community the importance of artistic expression.” –Mayor Arlene Mulder

Metropolis is a quintessential component of the Arlington Heights community, bringing in live entertainment, educational and outreach programs and special community involvement events. You can be a part of this outstanding organization. Become a Marquee Member by donating \$1,000 or more and you’ll receive two invitations to Marquee Nights at each subscription show, invitations to special events such as the Michael Ingersoll Meet-n-Greet, pre-show receptions, The Wrap Party and the Stakeholders’ Meeting. You’ll also receive recognition on the Lifetime Giving Donor Wall and other benefits.

To become a Marquee Member or renew your membership, contact Randal Klaproth at **847 577 5982 x242** or rklaproth@metropolisarts.com.