



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Alliance of Resident Theatres/ New York celebrates the
A.R.T./New York Theatres with Tony Award-winner Cherry Jones and City and State Officials
on Thursday, December 12, 2013**

New York, NY, December 10th, 2013 The Alliance of Resident Theatres/New York, Inc.

[**A.R.T./New York**], the leading service and advocacy organization for New York City's 375+ nonprofit theatres, will celebrate the ***A.R.T./New York Theatres*** in a ceremony this Thursday, December 12th at 11am. The event will take place inside the second floor Mezzanine Theatre at 502 West 53rd Street.

The largest and most ambitious project in A.R.T./New York's organizational history, the A.R.T./New York Theatres are specifically designed for New York City's off and off off Broadway theatre companies, which depend on affordable, flexible space to produce work and attract audiences. The complex will include two theatres at the Archstone Clinton development project at 10th Avenue and 53rd Street in Manhattan. The 99- and 150-seat theatres will consist of fully-equipped, highly-flexible performance spaces featuring top quality audio-visual and technical systems. The project will seek LEED Silver status.

The capital campaign in support of the project—The Campaign for the A.R.T./New York Theatres—is a \$22.5 million project. “We are extremely grateful to the City of New York for contributing \$14.4 million to the project which will allow us to provide affordable, sustainable and, accessible performance spaces for our off off Broadway theatres,” explained Executive Director, Ginny Louloudes. Through the Department of Design and Construction's (DDC) *Design Excellence* program, internationally-renowned architect Toshiko Mori and theatrical consultants ARUP were selected to design the theatre spaces. A.R.T./New York also received \$400,000

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from the New York State Assembly for state-of-the-art equipment. A.R.T./New York is now raising the remainder of the monies needed to open the theatres, and create a Building Reserve Fund and a Rental Subsidy Fund.

“The two new theaters within the Archstone Clinton residential development will provide an extraordinary home for A.R.T. / New York’s member theatres to produce and present new work on Manhattan’s west side,” said Department of Cultural Affairs Commissioner Kate D. Levin. “With a cutting edge design by Toshiko Mori and the inspired leadership of Ginny Louloudes and her entire team, this facility is another example of the City’s commitment to creating affordable rehearsal and performance space through innovative public-private partnerships.”

“We’re delighted to celebrate the A.R.T./New York Theatres and offer a ‘sneak preview’ of the new theatre spaces that will soon be on the way for off and off off Broadway productions, which are the lifeblood of New York’s theater community. The terrific design for the new venues, by Toshiko Mori Architects, is a product of our Design and Construction Excellence program, which matches the world’s most talented architects to much-needed City projects. We look forward to working with our partners at the Department of Cultural Affairs and A.R.T./New York to build these exciting new spaces for live theater,” said David J. Burney, FAIA, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Design and Construction. Cherry Jones will host this special event and will be joined by Commissioner Kate D. Levin; State Assemblymember Linda B. Rosenthal; City Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer; Commissioner David J. Burney; Jeffrey R. Gural, Chairman of Newmark Grubb Knight Frank and the A.R.T./New York Board; actress Daphne Rubin-Vega; and Ms. Mori.

Mr. Gural, one of the city’s leading real estate developers, has served as Chairman of the A.R.T./New York Board of Directors since 2009, and earlier this year, he and his wife, Paula, pledged a lead gift of \$1,000,000 to the Campaign for the A.R.T./New York Theatres. Of the project, Mr. Gural commented, “Theatre is what makes New York City’s cultural scene what it is, and Paula and I are delighted to support A.R.T./New York, which works at a high level on behalf of all of the city’s theatre companies. We have experienced first-hand the passion, commitment, and creativity that our city’s artists bring to their work. We are particularly

excited that the A.R.T./New York Theatres are for all the smaller companies without permanent homes of their own, who can find a new home at this building. It's gratifying that our gift will be used to subsidize rents for these smaller companies, who will have access to fully equipped, world class performance facilities through this effort."

"Organizations like A.R.T New York add to the soul and cultural fabric of our City, and I am glad my office could contribute funding to help make this visionary project a reality," said Manhattan Borough President Scott M. Stringer. "It is so important for our City's small, non-profit companies to be able to showcase their talent in affordable, state-of-the-art theatres."

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ABOUT A.R.T./NEW YORK AND THE A.R.T./NEW YORK THEATRES

Established in 1972 and proudly entering its 41st year in 2013, the Alliance of Resident Theatres/New York, Inc. is the leading service and advocacy organization for New York City's nonprofit theatre field, comprising 375+ theatres and the six million New Yorkers who attend their performances annually. A.R.T./New York's mission is "to assist its member theatres in managing their companies effectively so that they may realize their rich artistic visions and serve their diverse audiences well." The organization represents 95% of all nonprofit theatre companies in New York City. A.R.T./New York has been led by Ginny Louloudes since 1991; most recently it received the 2008 Mayor's Award for Arts & Culture, the 2010 Tony Award for Excellence in the Theatre, and published an influential white paper, "Theatres for the 21st Century: A Report on Sustainable Business Models for New York City's Off and Off Off Broadway Theatres," in 2012.

A.R.T./New York has specialized in the complex field of New York City theatrical real estate since 1987, and is nationally renowned for its work on behalf of nonprofit theatre. It was among the first arts service organizations in America to create a revolving real estate loan fund for its members, which has to date lent more than \$3.5 million to 47 members. In 2000 and 2002, A.R.T./New York partnered with the City of New York on groundbreaking new real estate

ventures to create shared office and rehearsal space facilities in Manhattan and Brooklyn. Today, these highly successful projects are best practice models nationwide.

The building and design costs for the A.R.T./New York Theatres have been generously provided by the City of New York under the leadership of Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and Commissioner of Cultural Affairs Kate D. Levin, as well as the City Council under the leadership of Speaker Christine C. Quinn, Finance Committee Chair Domenic M. Recchia Jr., and Manhattan Borough President Scott M. Stringer. Support for the theatrical equipment was provided by New York State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver and Assemblymember Linda B. Rosenthal. The Dermot Corporation provided funds that paid for a substantial portion of a shared mechanical system.

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