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Ground UP Productions hosts the

ROOFTOP RENDEZVOUS

A soiree to benefit its production of *Barefoot in the Park*

Friday, June 19, 2009 at Scholastic Event Center

Ground UP Productions will host the ***Rooftop Rendezvous***, a swanky cocktail party benefiting the critically acclaimed theater company's summer production of *Barefoot in the Park*. The celebration will be held atop the Scholastic Event Center (557 Broadway at Prince Street) on Friday, June 19, 2009 from 6:00 to 10:00 pm.

Under the stars in SoHo, guests will be transported to the early 1960s with a scavenger hunt, photo booth, magic by Matt Wayne, face painting by Sammie and Tudie, Tarot card readings by Kristall O'Neill-Richardson, and swinging tunes performed by Apollo Run. They will also be treated to mouth-watering hors d'oeuvres and desserts from 24 Prince, Acme Bar & Grill, Out of the Kitchen, and Prince Street Café and Catering; beer from Brooklyn Brewery, Union Beer Distributors and Anheuser-Busch; wine provided by 36 West Bar & Grill and Barefoot Wines; and other beverages from Cheerwine and The Carolina Beverage Corporation.

Rooftop Rendezvous proceeds benefit Ground UP Productions' upcoming production of *Barefoot in the Park*, running July 8 through 25, 2009 at Manhattan Theatre Source, and its 2009 season. Benefit tickets are \$50 per person at www.groundupproductions.org. For more information, call (212) 358-3921. Group tickets are available. 60s-style dress is encouraged. Prizes will be given for the best dressed.

The ***Rooftop Rendezvous*** is Ground UP Productions' fourth annual benefit, following the company's successful Bluegrass Bash cruise around Manhattan in 2007 and the Ground UP Rock-Down last year.

Ground UP Productions produced the New York premiere of the smash hit musical *The People vs. Mona* by Jim Wann and Patricia Miller. The production was hailed as "good natured, down home fun" by the *New York Times*, "consistently inventive" by the *New York Post* and a "hootin' good time" by *Variety*. The company has also produced the world premiere of Jason Chimonides' *The Optimist* ("deliriously entertaining" – *New Yorker*) as well as the acclaimed revivals of *Baby with the Bathwater*, *Proof* and *Burn This*. For additional information, visit www.groundupproductions.org.



Apollo Run (Band) can reference Jeff Buckley, Tom Waits, and Arthur Lee in the same refrain, while throwing in some blues for good measure. They have a sound that brings to mind not only the great music of the past, but also the infectious sound represented by more recent acts as varying as Muse, Gogol Bordello, Beirut, and Sufjan Stevens. Apollo Run is a music hall chameleon. Their sound—a haunting piano, urgent guitars, and, on top, John McGrew's tenor, at times both innocent and corrupted, matched seamlessly by the harmonies provided by both Graham Fisk and Jeff Kerestes—can mimic the grieving tempo of a New Orleans funeral march, flutter sweetly like a stroll down a country lane, or drive to the beat of a thousand angry voices. For more information, visit www.myspace.com/apollorun or www.apollorun.com

Kristall O'Neill-Richardson (Tarot Card Reader) is a New York-based Tarot Card Reader who has worked at parties for *Allure*, *Vogue*, *W* Magazine, Mr. Chow and Employees Only. She began reading cards at age six, after being introduced to Tarot by her maternal grandmother. Kristall blends a modern psychological approach applied to everyday living as well as the mystical. Her readings are complemented by homemade organic essential-oil based perfume spritzers to alleviate stress and maintain well being.

Sammie and Tudie (Clowns) have been called the "cutest couple in clowning". Working as a comedy duo since 1991, Sammie and Tudie have been featured in books, films, and magazine articles and are the resident entertainers at Theater Ten Ten in New York and Victorian Gardens at Wollman Rink. They have performed storytime at Dylan's Candy Bar. Sammie is a highly skilled balloon artist and Tudie is one of the top facepainters in NYC. For more information, visit www.imaginationplayhouse.com.

Matt Wayne (Magician), regarded as 'The Celebrity Magician', has been entertaining celebrities, socialites and the elite crowds internationally for over a decade. Catering his magic performances exclusively to red carpet and gala events, Matt has entertained thousands with his unique approach to magical conjuring. With performances for celebrities such as Steve Martin, Al Pacino, Ray Toro, Gerard Way and countless others, he has entertained for corporations such as Trump International, AT&T, General Electric and Manpower. Amongst his performance credits, Matt also has an international product line of DVDs available in stores. During the 2006 year he toured extensively in Asia with his show and graced stages with Kathy Griffin and the Harlem Globetrotters. He currently is the producer behind Emmy Award-winner, Ted Greenberg and his Off-Broadway comedy show entitled, 'The Complete Performer.' Also being a working television and film actor, he can currently be seen on FLNs, 'Wingman' series.

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