

CALENDAR / EVENTS LISTING

ASTORIA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER ANNOUNCES YOUTH AUDITIONS (ages 11-15, must reside in Queens) FOR FREE MUSICAL THEATRE PROGRAM – A PRODUCTION OF HONK, JR.!

What: On March 22, 2008, the Astoria Performing Arts Center (APAC) will be holding auditions for a junior musical featuring Queens residents between the ages of 11-15. "Honk, Jr.!" is based on the Hans Christian Andersen story of the ugly duckling. Auditions are open to all Queens residents between the ages of 11-15. Past experience is not required, only enthusiasm and a desire to perform. Youth selected to be in the show will participate in free musical theatre classes and rehearsals led by a professional director/choreographer and musical director every Saturday beginning March 29th and three public performances on the weekend of June 6th. Auditions will be held at the Variety Boys & Girls Club of Queens. Those auditioning should come prepared to sing, dance, and have fun! For an audition appointment, call (718) 393-7505 or email info@apacny.org

For more information, visit www.apacny.org

Where: Variety Boys & Girls Club of Queens, 21-12 30th Rd., Astoria, NY 11103

When: **Saturday, March 22th, 2008, by appointment. Call 718-393-7505 or email info@apacny.org**

Why: This is APAC's first junior musical. With the support of Council Member Peter Vallone Jr., the NYC Dept. of Cultural Affairs, the Aviation Development Council, and the NYC Dept. of Youth & Community Development, 'Honk, Jr.!' gives local youth a free and exciting educational experience through the lessons of performance. Working with a professional director/choreographer and musical director, the cast will develop their skills as performers, enhance their self confidence, and make new friends. Then, they will present a fantastic show for the general public! The junior musical is a natural addition to APAC's youth programming portfolio, which includes Summer Stars (6 years running, musical theatre program) and the Astoria Playmaking Program.

Contact: For press inquiries, please contact **Taryn Drongowski**, Executive Director for APAC, at **917/566-0969** or e-mail taryn@apacny.org.

About APAC: Founded in 2001 by actress Susan Scannell, the Astoria Performing Arts Center is an Off-Off Broadway theater company that complements mainstage productions with community programming, including writing and performance programs for Queens youth and senior citizens. APAC's 2004 production of *Is There Life After High School?* was recognized with an Off-Off Broadway Review Award. APAC's 2006 production of *Forever Plaid* was honored with three New York Innovative Theatre Award nominations, in the categories of Production, Direction, and Choreography. Most recently our production of *A New Brain* received a NY IT Award nomination for Outstanding Scenic Design. For more information about APAC, including a downloadable media kit, visit www.apacny.org.