

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 15TH ANNUAL ARENA STAGE BENEFIT FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: ***CAMP WANNABEAPOLITIKI***

At the Mandarin Oriental, Washington D.C., April 23, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.

(Washington, D.C.) The Arena Stage Annual Benefit for Community Engagement is pure Washington, a unique blend of politics and entertainment. The evening, held entirely at the Mandarin Oriental, Washington, D.C., features an original comedy written for and performed by a bipartisan cast of notables from Congress, the District and the media, as well as other local celebrities. Patrons will also enjoy a sit-down dinner and presentation of the Arena Stage American Voice Awards and the American Artist Award.

*At Camp Wannabeapolitiki, a rustic but beloved super-secret summer camp for pols and pundits, the rookies learn the ropes from insiders and perfect their skills for navigating the waters inside the Beltway. This year, no sooner do the campers settle into the routine of inter-cabin rivalries and high jinks, crafts, athletics and seminars, than it is announced that the camp is going to close. The campers quickly realize that neither a special earmark nor underwriting from lobbyists is going to work. The rival cabins must cease their pranks and competitive ways, put aside their differences and work together to save their beloved camp the old-fashioned way – they'll put on a show! But can they do it? Will the camp be saved? These questions and more will be answered April 23 when Arena Stage presents *Camp Wannabeapolitiki*.*

Proceeds from the Benefit support Arena's education programs – educating, enriching, and exciting youth through theater. Every year, Arena enriches the minds and horizons of more than 20,000 students through performances, workshops, in-school artistic presentations, teacher development workshops and Camp Arena Stage.

Tickets for the Benefit start at \$450 and corporate sponsorships are also available. For ticket information contact Sarah Benvenuti at (202) 554-9066 ext.1266 or email events@arenastage.org.

The 15th Annual Arena Stage Benefit for Community Engagement is co-chaired by John and Linda Derrick and Mark and Merrill Shugoll.

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