



Photo: Michael Murphee

Bo Diddley and 1,600 Adoring Fans

On December 15, 2006, HAI presented Bo Diddley to a matinee audience of over 1,600 New Yorkers at Brooklyn College's Whitman Hall. The diverse audience, ranging from school-age children to octogenarians, was riveted by Bo's stellar performance of inspirational blues and rock 'n' roll compositions, including *Wake Up, America*.

During one guitar and vocal arrangement, the audience was urged to stand up and clap their hands. At first only a small group rose but gradually, and with the deep steely voice of Bo encouraging more participation, the majority of those that could stand up, did. Those who were using wheelchairs raised their arms and clapped in rhythm, while a frail, elderly woman who required use of an oxygen mask struggled to rise to her feet. It was a fragile moment. The more Bo sang out for everyone to "stand up", the more people attempted to accomplish the task. It was clear that as a performer approaching his eighties, he wanted everyone to be fully committed to the moment, to the music and to the overall experience, regardless of actual or perceived disability. The resulting sea of clapping and waving hands was confirmation that Mr. Diddley knew just how to lift everyone's spirits.

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This January and February, HAI will provide Hope And Inspiration to an audience totaling 56,200 at 2,690 events.

hai HAI's **Cultural Events Program (CEP)** opens the world of concert halls, theaters and other venues to individuals who are culturally isolated due to mental or physical disability, age or frailty. Featured in January and February:

NEW YORK CITY BALLET * THE COLOR PURPLE * THE DROWSY CHAPERONE

▷ HAI's **Community Cabaret Series**, cosponsored by the New York State Music Fund, will present the great jazz mother and son team Bill Charlap and Sandy Stewart, direct from their engagement at the Algonquin's Oak Room. The two performances will be on Monday, February 26, at 2PM at the Staten Island Center for the Arts and Tuesday, February 27, at 2PM at FIT's Haft Auditorium. For ticket information please call (212) 575-7660.

▷ The **Omni*Bus** enables people who are bed confined and those using wheelchairs to enjoy life outside of institutions. January and February include trips to the New York Botanical Garden's Holiday Train Show, a Barry Manilow concert at Madison Square Garden and to South Street Seaport, among others.

▷ **Describe!** makes live theater performances accessible through audio description for visually impaired and blind individuals. On January 27 at 2PM, HAI will provide audio description of *The Scene* at Second Stage Theater.

▷ Members of **Tickets To Go**, HAI's senior discount ticket program, will attend *La Traviata* and *Die Zauberflote* at the Metropolitan Opera House, *Trockaderos de Monte Carlo*, the musical *Adrift in Macao*, the drama hit play *Translation*, and a Melba Moore concert.

▷ Through HAI's **STEP Program** New York City public school students will attend the Broadway shows *Company*, *Les Miserables*, *A Chorus Line*, *Hairspray*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Lion King*, *Mary Poppins*, *Spelling Bee*, *Wicked*, *Tarzan*, *Jersey Boys*, *Stomp*, *Spamalot*, and *The Producers*, among others.

hai In January and February, the **On-Site Performance Program** will be celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday, Chinese New Year and Black History Month in facilities throughout the five boroughs. Some of the many artists performing will be musicians Exodus Supreme, Norris, Susan Chang, African dancer Jerebean Gilkes, Chinese dancer Mary Yuen, and folklorist actress Christine Campbell.

hai During January and February, the **Youth Leadership and Education Program** will present HIV Prevention Workshops, *RESPECT*, *Peace by Peace* and *Take Ya Time* performances at various mental health facilities, homeless shelters and New York City public schools in the five boroughs.

hai HAI's **Arts Workshop Program** provides hands-on experiences led by professional artists in music, dance, drama, visual and media arts for people with disabilities. Arts Education continues in New York City schools this January with a wide array of art activities including capoeira (Brazilian dance and martial art forms) and yoga at PS 77 in Brooklyn, poetry with movement at PS 811, musical cabaret and composition with an inclusion program from PS 811 at Bayside High School in Queens, and drawing and painting at PS 146 in Queens and South Richmond High School in Staten Island.

hai On January 9, **The Gallery at HAI** opened its the third annual *Outsider Art: SURVEY 2007*, which will continue through April. *SURVEY* is presenting the work of fourteen contemporary Outsider artists from across the United States. Some have never shown their work in New York before, while others have participated in previous exhibits in *The Gallery at HAI*. Events are scheduled to coincide with *Outsider Art Week* at the end of January. On January 26, at 4PM, *The Gallery at HAI* will sponsor a Forum, "Who Are Today's Outsider Artists?". The public reception will follow at 6PM. Regular Gallery hours are from noon to 6PM, Monday through Saturday. Hours will be extended to 11AM to 7PM from Monday, January 22, through Sunday, January 28. To receive a flyer and additional information please call (212) 575-7696.

For more information please visit our website at <http://www.hospaud.org>

This January & February, HAI will reach a projected audience of 56,200 at 2,690 events...through the:

Cultural Events Program	4,000 at 80 events
On-Site Performance Program	17,200 at 360 performances
Arts Workshop Program	30,600 at over 2,140 hours of workshops
Prevention Education Program	4,400 at over 110 workshops