



# STUDENTSLIVE BROADWAY EDUCATION COMPANY, IN CONJUNCTION WITH AKB48, ANNOUNCES THE FINAL BROADWAY SHOWCASE PERFORMANCE OF PASSPORT TO BROADWAY

StudentsLive- The Premiere Broadway Education Company offers international and domestic students of all ages the opportunity to experience, first hand, the best live, Broadway interactive theater education programs, taught by the best, highly trained Broadway specialists, our country has to offer. It allows these young students to experience the intensive training of a professional, successful and highly disciplined Broadway Artist and the myriad skills required in collaboration, interrelation, communication and human exploration. The goals are to expand and deepen students understanding and familiarity with Broadway. Through challenging music, dance, acting and "behind the scenes" studies physically, verbally and intuitively, we prepare them to be highly competitive in whatever career they choose to pursue.

**AKB48** (read "A.K.B. Forty-eight") is a Japanese girl group. It has achieved such popularity in Japan that it has been characterized as a social phenomenon. The group has 67 members, ranging in age from early teens to mid-20s. Produced by Yasushi Akimoto, it is one of the highest-earning musical acts in the world, with 2011 record sales of over \$200 million in Japan alone.

Featuring 6 members of **AKB48**- the pop sensation from Japan, the group will be studying and performing alongside Broadway Guest Artists <u>Tyrick Wiltez Jones</u> (*Hairspray/Finian's Rainbow*), <u>Carla Hargrove</u> (*Little Shop of Horrors*), <u>Patricia Durante</u> (*The Secret Garden*) <u>Cornelius Bethea</u> (*Chicago/The Scottsboro Boys*) and 10 American Musical Theatre Students performing a Customized Musical Showcase that includes a medley of Broadway-style classical and contemporary show numbers that includes "*I Won't Have to Anymore*" by Jonathan Reid Gealt and "*Ready*" by Joey Contreras tied together with an original book entitled: "*READY*".

#### **Passport to Broadway Creative Team:**

Amy Weinstein- Director/President of *StudentsLive* (Former Education Director for Tony Randall's National Actors Theatre), Michael Sansonia- Musical Director (*Pump Boys and Dinettes*), Michael Baxter- Choreographer (Resident Choreographer- St. Louis MUNY), Joseph Allocco- Musical Arranger & Bryan Campione- Associate Producer.

<u>WHEN</u>: WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2012 7:00-8:30PM (Suggested Arrival Time: 6:30 PM) <u>SHOW</u>: Approximately Twenty-Five Minutes - Talk Backs: Begin at 7:45pm and end at 8:30pm.\*\*

<u>WHERE</u>: PEARL STUDIOS (519 8th Avenue between 35th and 36th Streets) No photography or video of any kind is permitted at the final showcase. Private Invitation Only.

### **STUDENTSLIVE MISSION**

**StudentsLive's** mission is to create highly effective, interactive and innovative workshops and new audience development programs in partnership with the best theater our country has to offer: Broadway. We enrich audiences' access to and understanding of live theatre; creating and inspiring newer, better and wider audiences and artists alike; connecting and providing deeply engaging, experiential visits to Broadway shows by offering the highest quality education programming and services. We began partnering with producers to develop future audiences of critical thinkers who would return time and again to seek out quality theatre, and instill appreciation and love for the arts at an early age. Since 2000, **StudentsLive's** curriculum-based programs have attracted over 100,000 new audiences from the widest range of cultural, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds.

**StudentsLive** supports alternative learning, cross cultural and interdisciplinary opportunities for a wide range of new audiences and creating, developing, managing and implementing interactive Broadway Educational Workshops and Materials for support in classrooms worldwide. **StudentsLive** trains, hires, and organizes teams of Broadway artists and professionals to serve each audience's needs, and our programs enable a new generation of audiences to make the arts a permanent part of their lives in ways in which they can deeply explore its value, not just fill up a seats.

#### **STUDENTSLIVE PROFILE**

Since 2000, **StudentsLive's** Award-Winning live interactive education programming have attracted over 100,000 participants from as far away as Guam, The UK, Italy, and from all across the United States. The League of American Theatres and Producers and Theatre Development Fund have awarded StudentsLive grants six years in a row for Outstanding Education Programs on Broadway. StudentsLive's programs are now attracting adult groups and tour internationally in collaboration with presenters all across the world.

Guest Speakers and workshop participants at our high profile Exclusive Student Matinees and Workshops on Broadway have included:

Judge Judy - Geraldine Ferraro - Johnnie Cochran - Tommy Hilfiger - Lee Gifford - Susan Lucci - George Hamilton Reba McEntire - Chazz Palminteri - Bernadette Peters - Joey Fatone - Scary Spice

**StudentsLive's** programs have been recognized as vital to New York City's arts and education initiatives by Mayors Michael Bloomberg and Rudolph Giuliani, and have received letters of support and praise from Former President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Hilary Clinton. Programs have also been covered and written about in national and local print and electronic media by The New York Times, The Jane Pauley Show, Court TV, Variety, The Daily News, The New York Post, ABC, CBS, NBC, Fox, UPN, and NY1.

Past/current shows and select Broadway partnerships have included a wide range of National Actors Theatre Productions including *The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui* starring Al Pacino and *Judgment at Nuremberg* starring Maximillian Schell, Broadway Productions of *A Class Act, Annie Get Your Gun, The Civil War, Def Poetry Jam, The Exonerated, Metamorphoses, Flower Drum Song, Baz Lurhman's La Boheme, I Am My Own Wife, Movin' Out, Peter Pan (National Tour with Cathy Rigby), Wonderful Town, Seussical, Little Women: The Musical, Cookin', Sweet Charity, Avenue Q, The Phantom of the Opera, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels (National Tour, Broadway League Grant 2006), Rent, Grease, Spring Awakening (Broadway League Grant 2007), Chicago, In the Heights, Wicked (Broadway and 2013 National Tour productions) & Zarkana.* 

#### **PASSPORT TO BROADWAY MISSION**

The *StudentsLive* Passport to Broadway Program (<a href="www.passporttobroadway.com">www.passporttobroadway.com</a>), allows students the opportunity to experience, first hand, the best live, Broadway interactive theater education programs, taught by the best, highly trained Broadway specialists, our country has to offer. The program allows students to experience the intensive training of a professional, successful and highly disciplined Broadway Artist and the myriad skills required in collaboration, interrelation, communication and human exploration. The goals are to expand and deepen students understanding and familiarity with all areas of Broadway Theater and to enhance their studies in human behavior, culture, intention and expression. Through challenging music, dance, acting and, most importantly, the unique art form of "putting it all together", taught by the best professionals on Broadway, *StudentsLive* prepares students to be highly competitive in whatever career they choose to pursue as well as prepare for the best universities and career opportunities possible.

Through *StudentsLive's* Passport to Broadway Program, *StudentsLive* provides international and domestic students of all ages with the invaluable resources and insights to becoming a serious actor/performer in New York. During the course of *StudentsLive's* time with the students, they broaden their knowledge of the importance of performance studies combining choreography, voice, and acting to achieve the skills of a "triple threat" and increase their competitive ability and skills in the Broadway Industry. At the end of the course the students perform a live, original "Broadway Show" for a select and invited audience of top-tier Broadway Professionals. In this intensive, students will also be exposed to the invaluable and often inaccessible resources New York Broadway Theater has to offer.

## **Press Contact: Bryan Campione**

<u>Phone</u>: (212) 220-6000 <u>Email</u>: <u>info@studentslive.net www.passporttobroadway.com</u>

Facebook: StudentsLive Broadway Education Programs Twitter: StudentsLiveBEP and PassportToBway

\*\*Please take note that the publicity company working with this Japanese singing group, will be shooting a TV special for JAPANESE cable broadcast as well as a DVD release about their experience in the United States. This will be broadcast and distributed in JAPAN only. By attendance at the event, you are aware that you may be photographed/filmed as part of this TV special, you hereby grant your permission that your likeness may be included as a part of our audience in filming of this TV special project without compensation, credit or reference. No photography or video of any kind is permitted at the final showcase.