



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Young Audiences of Greater Cleveland to Change Name and Serve Northeast Ohio

Cleveland, OH – July 1, 2006 – Young Audiences of Greater Cleveland (YAGC) is changing its name to Young Audiences of Northeast Ohio (YANEO). YAGC has been providing arts in education services to the schools and organizations of six (6) counties in the greater Cleveland area since 1953. With its new name, YANEO will begin providing its services to 18 counties in Northeast Ohio, including Mahoning, Portage, Richland, Ashland, Wayne, Holmes, Erie, Huron, Ashtabula, Trumbull, Stark, and Columbiana.

By expanding its service area, YANEO will be able to provide arts programming to an additional 117 school districts and more than 700 schools. Last year the organization reached over 275,000 young people and expects to significantly expand that number with its new geographic coverage.

“We are very excited by our growth and are honored to provide services to all of Northeast Ohio,” said Marsha Dobrzynski, Executive Director of Young Audiences. “We hope that our programs will touch the lives of many more young people, helping them to embrace all areas of curriculum through exceptional arts experiences.”

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Young Audiences' National Executive Director, Richard Bell, noted that the new name and service area of YANEO reflect the success of the Ohio based arts in education organization in serving the needs of young people and their teachers throughout northeastern Ohio. "By increasing its reach in scope and in the depth of its educational programs, Young Audiences of Northeast Ohio is playing an increasingly important role in the lives of educators and students both regionally and in the school districts it serves." YAI chairman Brooks Thomas congratulated YANEO on its accomplishments and noted that "the organization has been successful in attracting the attention and financial support of several national funders for the quality of its programs and the measurable outcomes in student performance."

Young Audiences of Northeast Ohio (YANEO) enriches the lives of children and promotes creative learning by uniting arts and education. Organized in 1953, the Northeast Ohio chapter of Young Audiences is the only multi-arts resource for schools in the region whose primary purpose is to make learning through the arts an essential part of young people's education. The programs take place in public, private, and parochial schools, reaching over 275,000 young people each year.

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