



Media Release

AVIATION DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL & AIRLINES HELP PRODUCE HIGH-FLYING STUDENT PERFORMANCE OF HAMLET WITH THE STEINWAY SCHOOL (I.S. 141)

Aviation Development Council (ADC), a bridge organization between the regional aviation industry and the communities it serves, is proud to announce its partnership with its airline partners, the Port Authority of NY & NJ, and the Steinway School (I.S. 141, Queens), as a grant sponsor of the school's 2008 Shakespeare Festival production of Hamlet. ADC's support of this important cultural enrichment program for our local schoolchildren came as a result of some dialogue with Acting School Principal, Miranda Pavlou, the community affairs office of the Port Authority, and ADC's board of directors.

"Aviation Development Council, with the support of its member airlines, has formulated a community outreach program which is focused on youth education, cultural enrichment, youth leadership development, and youth wellness. We were looking for a worthwhile initiative in the Astoria-Long Island City area and began discussions with our industry partners, like American Airlines, Air Canada, Continental Airlines, Delta Air Lines, and the Port Authority. The Steinway School and their annual Shakespeare Festival became an ideal choice for our local outreach efforts", states Bill Huisman, the Director of the Aviation Development Council. "We are demonstrating the regional aviation industry's concern for the youth of the communities it serves through our community outreach program and appreciate the support we receive from the Port Authority and our airline board members. We were pleased to be working with I.S. 141 on this valuable cultural education program which helps to enrich the lives of our neighborhood young people in Queens and give them opportunities that are not always available in our city schools due to recent budget restrictions." continued Mr. Huisman. "The fact that the school is under the flight paths of LaGuardia certainly 'set the stage' for this important grant program."

"Bill Huisman, from ADC, had initially been involved with our school during the Principal for a Day Program, and subsequently asked about beginning a partnership with our school", commented Acting School Principal Miranda Pavlou. "We talked about our annual Shakespeare Festival and our involvement with Stages of Learning™ on this program. After some discussion on how ADC could collaborate with Stages of Learning™ on this initiative, Aviation Development Council was able to offer us a \$5000 grant to help defray some of the costs of this cultural enrichment curriculum and performance. We couldn't have been more pleased than to have a community business help the school to offer this performing arts opportunity to our students", concluded Ms. Pavlou.

The Aviation Development Council (ADC) is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to be a positive agent for the advancement of aviation in the New York metropolitan area by promoting a business-minded, community-friendly agenda for both the region's aviation industry and the communities it serves. ADC is funded by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and the airlines that operate at all four Port-Authority managed airports in our region.

ADC will be celebrating its support of The Steinway School's Shakespeare Festival 2008 with a check presentation immediately after the school's performance of *Hamlet* on Thursday, May 15th, at 9:00 o'clock in the morning at The Steinway School (I.S. 141, Queens) auditorium. Those expected to be present for this occasion are Councilmember Peter Vallone, Jr (invited – yet to be confirmed); Ralph Tragale, Manager of Government and Community Affairs, Port Authority of NY & NJ; Acting Principal Miranda Pavlou – I.S. 141, Vanessa Williams, Assistant Principal – I.S. 141, Bill Huisman, Executive Director of ADC, and other esteemed guests.

ADC, Port Authority of NY & NJ & The Steinway School Shakespeare Festival 2008 Check Presentation Overview

What: Check presentation & performance of *Hamlet* by students of The Steinway School (I.S. 141) to celebrate support of The Steinway School's 2008 Shakespeare Festival sponsorship by the Aviation Development Council.

When: Thursday, May 15th, at 9:00 A.M.

Where: The Steinway School – I.S. 141, 37-11 21st Street, Long Island City, NY 11105. We plan to first meet in the auditorium, directly behind the school's main entrance on 37th Avenue.

More info: For further information, please contact the Aviation Development Council at (718) 746-0212.