



# Duke Ellington

*school of the arts*

## BARBARA AND SIDNEY DICKSTEIN DONATE TV STUDIO TO DUKE ELLINGTON SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

### *Donation Announced at May 21 Springtime Salute to Ellington Annual Fundraiser*

**WASHINGTON, DC– May 21, 2008** – Barbara and Sidney Dickstein, longtime supporters of the Duke Ellington School of the Arts, will announce their intent to donate a television studio and supporting faculty to the school—a donation valued at approximately \$150,000—at a reception at the Halcyon House, 3400 Prospect Street, NW, Washington, DC, 6:30-9:00 p.m. The reception, *A Springtime Salute to Ellington*, will honor the Dicksteins and benefit the school.

The Dicksteins' support of the Ellington School began over a decade ago, when Mr. Dickstein's law firm, Dickstein Shapiro LLP, of which he is a founding partner and senior counsel, implemented a season's greeting card contest for the school's visual arts department. The winning card was used by all four of the firm's offices.

Dickstein Shapiro's attorneys voluntarily lead the school's bi-weekly roundtable discussion group, in which students discuss current events in depth. Together with Georgetown University law students, Dickstein Shapiro sponsors a street law class, which teaches students about the constitution. To Ellington's great pride, this year's street law class won a city-wide mock trial competition.

Five years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Dickstein fostered a partnership between the Ellington School and Anderson Ranch, an arts community near their second home in Colorado. Each summer, the firm sends four visual arts students for two all-expense paid weeks at Anderson Ranch for a summer arts intensive program.

"Barbara and Sid have been an instrumental part of so many programs at Ellington," says Ellen Copley, executive director of The Ellington Fund. "We're tremendously grateful for their ongoing commitment to the school, and it will be a pleasure to honor them."

"There are so many ways to give back," says Mrs. Dickstein. "The joy for us is being able to see the impact we're having. You can't change the world. But affecting the lives of the talented young people we meet is extraordinarily rewarding for us. Who knows where it will take them in life?"

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The reception will feature performances by Ellington student musicians and its popular show choir. For ticket information, please call 202.333.2555 ext. 2101, email [info@ellingtonarts.org](mailto:info@ellingtonarts.org) , or visit [www.ellingtonarts.org](http://www.ellingtonarts.org).

Members of the media are encouraged to attend.

**About The Duke Ellington School of the Arts:**

The Duke Ellington School of the Arts is an accredited college preparatory DC public school offering pre-professional training in dance, instrumental music, literary media, museum studies, technical theater, theater, visual arts, and vocal music. Its vision is to meet the needs of talented students who are considering careers in the arts by providing intensive arts instruction of the highest quality and strong academic curriculum to prepare students for post-secondary education and/or pre-professional careers. Ellington's unique partnership with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and The George Washington University provides significant opportunities to the students, faculty, and staff. [www.ellingtonschool.org](http://www.ellingtonschool.org)

For more information about the Duke Ellington School of the Arts, please visit [www.ellingtonschool.org](http://www.ellingtonschool.org), or call 202-333-2555, ext. 2101.

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