

• **We're having a party!**

In celebration of not only the **20th Anniversary** of the Judy Dworin Performance Project, Inc., but also the milestone birthdays of Founder/Executive Director/Artistic Director Judy Dworin, Associate Artistic Director and *Moving Matters!* program coordinator Kathy Borteck Gersten, and the other longest standing company member Lisa Matias, we are having a once-in-a-lifetime event! On **Sunday January 25, 2009 at 4:00pm**, we'll be pulling out all the stops at **Black-Eyed Sally's Restaurant** in downtown Hartford. Not only will there be performances and entertainment, complete with a preview of JDPE's newest premier, *Dreamings*, but the edible treats will be provided by the incomparable **Mr. Billy Grant**. You do not want to miss this! Look for your invitation in the mail soon, or contact Carla Iovinella at 860.527.9800 for more information.



• **JDPP at NEMA**

On Wednesday November 12, Kathy Borteck Gersten and Deborah Thompson with Rebecca Taber Conover from the Old State House participated in a panel on Unique Collaborations for the New England Museum Association Conference in Rhode Island. This panel, led by Rebecca, discussed the collaboration between the Judy Dworin Performance Ensemble's *The Witching Hour* and the Connecticut Landmark Society. A roomful of museum educators and curators heard, watched a segment of the video, experienced Deb's signing and discussed this unusual way of bringing the past to the present.

• **JDPP Pilots a New Collaborative Project**

JDPP has recently begun planning a new collaborative program for mothers at York Correctional Institution (the site of JDPP's successful 4 year recurring residency program) and their Hartford area children. The project is in collaboration with Families in Crisis and CCSU's Institute for the Study of Crime & Justice. In the spring we will start a series of eight simultaneous workshops with the group on the theme "What I want to tell you." We will work with them on a way to express a message to a mother or a child through dance, song, poetry or the other art forms. The workshops will culminate with a final day of sharing, collaborating and performing at York CI in Niantic.

• **Addie Avery Chosen for Gloria Barron Honor Roll of Heroes**

Addie Avery, a 14 year old home-schooled student who has been working on the exoneration of her nine times removed great grandmother Mary Sanford, executed as a witch in 17th century Connecticut, has been selected as one of ten young people from throughout the United States to be on the Honor Roll of Heroes from the Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes. Judy Dworin, Executive/Artistic Director of the JDPP Inc. nominated Addie for this honor after working with her on the JDPE's production of *The Witching Hour*, the 2007 premiere that brings to life the history of the Connecticut witch craze through the untold stories of women who were accused, tried, and convicted as witches. This highly acclaimed piece was a collaboration with Connecticut Landmarks and won a regional Award of Merit from the Connecticut League of History as well as a national citation for excellence from the American Association of State and Local History. Addie

will again be working for the vote to take place at the next legislative session this spring. The Honor Roll of Heroes includes only ten nominees, out of an applicant pool of nearly 300. Addie will receive a certificate and prize package for achieving this honor. More information about the Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes can be found at www.barronprize.org. More information about *The Witching Hour*, and other JDPP, Inc. productions, can be found at www.judydworin.org.



• **Restaging of *Axe Dance***

The next generation of *Axe Dance* has occurred! On October 25 at St Joseph's College's 5x5 Dance Concert and November 7&8 in the Student Dance Festival Concert at Trinity College four students from Trinity College did a stellar job performing *Axe Dance*. First performed in 1994 by Lisa Matias, Kathy Borteck Gersten, Toni Orhm and Tim Martin, *Axe Dance* is a timeless piece that comments on a women's view of desperately needing a man in true Judy Dworin Performance Ensemble style. The four Trinity students; Lauren Turlik '09, Kaitlyn Mazzilli '11, Cece Bazar '11 and Keil Coit '11, did a great job informing new audiences of this very funny, yet at times sadly true, state of mind.



Save the Date!

• **January 25, 2009**

Black-Eyed Sally's,
Hartford, CT
- Our 20th Anniversary
Celebration! Don't miss it!

• **February 14, 2009**

Vassar College,
Poughkeepsie, NY
- JDPE continues to tour our
highly acclaimed piece on
the reflections of time while
incarcerated, *Time In*.

• **April 2, 3, 4, 2009**

Charter Oak Cultural Center,
Hartford, CT
- The premier of JDPE's 20th
anniversary season with our
latest production, *Dreamings*.