

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Learning Through An Expanded Arts Program (LEAP)
Rings The NASDAQ Stock Market Closing Bell**



NEW YORK, NY - July 24, 2006 - Learning Through An Expanded Arts Program (LEAP), a leading arts-educational New York City non-profit, today participated in the NASDAQ stock exchange's closing bell ceremony.

"It is hard to believe this is Leap's 30th school year in NYC's public schools," said Ila

Gross, Executive Director, Leap. "Since its inception, Leap has been committed to improving the quality of public education through its diverse and unique programs. Leap's teaching consultants range from artists to zoologists, who use hands-on, arts-based activities to teach core subjects."

Founded in 1977, Leap is a leading innovator in educational programs, services and curriculum materials, serving over 2 million students and training more than 25,000 teachers in 500 schools throughout New York City.

“We believe that all children have the capability to excel, both academically and socially,” said Ms. Gross. “In the coming years, we will strive to expand Leap’s reach even further, helping students all over the country reach their full potential.”

For 30 years, **Learning through an Expanded Arts Program, Leap**, an educational service organization, has been teaching the standard academic curriculum through the arts and developing programs designed to help students reach their full potential. Every year, Leap works in over 250 public schools, community-based organizations, shelters and cultural institutions throughout the New York metropolitan area, serving over 200,000 students and 8,500 schoolteachers in long-term residencies. Leap’s Executive Director is Ila Lane Gross and its Associate Executive Director is Alice Krieger.

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