



NATIONAL THEATRE OF THE DEAF

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GOVERNOR M. JODI RELL PROCLAIMES NATIONAL THEATRE OF THE DEAF DAY

West Hartford, CT: Governor M. Jodi Rell has proclaimed Saturday, November 22, 2008 as **National Theatre of the Deaf Day**, “ in recognition of its **Angels Gala Dinner & 40th Anniversary**. For 40 years, the National Theatre of the Deaf has served the State of Connecticut and the rest of the nation with great distinction through the art of theatre productions.” Governor Rell goes on to state, “Through its mission to educate and entertain, promote diversity and inclusion, and to open the public’s eyes and ears to deaf culture, the National Theatre of the Deaf is the oldest continuous touring production company in the United States and links the spoken word with expressive American sign language to create a theater experience all can enjoy. In doing so, the National Theatre of the Deaf raises the standards of excellence in the State of Connecticut.”

The Master of Ceremonies will be Deaf actor/comedian CJ Jones who performed with the National Theatre of the Deaf during the 1976-78 seasons. CJ commented “...traveling with NTD for two years was the highlight of my career which inspired me to dream bigger things: become a stand up comedian and perform on Broadway...I’m always grateful to NTD for giving me the vision to do greater things for the Deaf and hard of hearing actors.”

The 40th Anniversary Angels Dinner Gala, will be an evening of dining, company reminiscence and recognition. There will also be a silent auction of donated items featuring gifts, travel, culture, theatre and more! The Gala will be held at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville, Connecticut from 6:30 pm to midnight. Donation is \$150 per person.

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