



National Theatre of the Deaf

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## **Bernard Bragg to Perform *Theatre in the Sky* His One Man Show At Hoffman Auditorium**

West Hartford, CT (August 13, 2008) Aaron Kubey, Executive Director of The National Theatre of the Deaf has announced the first in a series of events celebrating 40 years of providing a unique style of theatre to audiences of all ages: ***Theatre in the Sky, starring Bernard Bragg will be presented on September 6, 2008 at 7:00 pm in the Hoffman Auditorium on the St Joseph's College Campus in West Hartford\****. Bernard Bragg, one of the original members of NTD during the 1967 inauguration season, will *kick off* the 2008-2009 season with his acclaimed one man show that is based on vignettes from his career spanning more than 60 years of experience in the theatre and performance.

Mr. Kubey recently commented, "It is my honor and pleasure to present Bernard Bragg and his one man show. It seems fitting that one of the original members of the company helps to launch our 40th Anniversary Celebration."

The National Theatre of the Deaf is a touring company of Deaf and Hearing actors who present original and classic dramatic works in our signature style of American Sign Language and spoken English. NTD touring companies include Main Stage and The Little Theatre of the Deaf, a program that brings the magic of live theatre to young people. Additionally, training is provided through the annual Actor's Academy.

Celebrating its 40th anniversary, NTD is the oldest, continuously performing professional touring theatre company in the country. During its history, NTD has completed over 100 national and 31 international tours and has appeared in all 50 states and on all 7 continents. It has received critical acclaim for its adaptations of classical literature and original works, and it has collaborated with such theatrical luminary artists as Marcel Marceau, Chita Rivera, Jason Robards, Peter Sellers, Meryl Streep, and Colleen Dewhurst.

Bernard Bragg, one of the founding actors of NTD, is a world-renown Deaf actor, director, playwright and lecturer. He is also internationally recognized as a leader in the Deaf entertainment industry. *Theatre in the Sky* is a showcase featuring vignettes from his life along with new material that brings the audience into the 21st century of American Sign Language. As Bragg shared, "I am delighted to have the opportunity to help

revitalize my favorite theatre company -- the one I helped found in 1967. This theatre has produced many fine actors who have become notable in the world of entertainment"

As one former audience member said of Bernard Bragg, "He is the foremost deaf performer, lecturer and author, is a maestro on stage, and nowhere do we see anyone as charismatically entertaining as Bragg, mesmerizing audiences of all ages. He truly is a classic in our community and an absolute must-see by everyone, both deaf and hearing."

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