

# Concierge Events

On April 27, concierge enjoyed a sumptuous buffet at **La Prima Donna** (163 W 47 St, 212-398-3400), courtesy of GM Mohamed Choayra. This is a great Italian spot for pre and post theatre. Afterwards, concierge were shuttled via Gray Line to **Tryst**, part romance and part psychological thriller, starring Maxwell Caulfield and Amelia Campbell, who made a personal appearance at the restaurant. What riveting performances! On May 4, concierge took in the terrific dance show **Hot Feet**, choreographed by Maurice Hines, where we toe tapped the whole show to the exuberant sounds of Earth, Wind & Fire. **Heartland Brewery** (Empire State Building, 212-563-3433) dazzled us with their luscious buffet and homemade brews courtesy of Jon Bloostein and his great crew. Both of these restaurateurs have been so gracious and generous to the concierge community, hosting a number of events. Magic tricks were provide at both restaurants courtesy of the new Fantasma Magic store.

- Upcoming Events**
- 6/9: Top of the Rock & NBC Toyota Concert Series at Sea Grill
  - 6/13: *Altar Boyz*
  - 6/22: Museum of the City of New York



Mary Murphy, Omni Berkshire & Pres. of the NYCAHC; Janet Barbash, City Guide

David Almata, W Hotel New York; Juan Santamaria, W Count/Tuscany

Ivan Garosi, Grand Hyatt; Celso Moreira, The Pierre; Todd Burke, Morgans

Raita Sawai, The Kitano, and guest

Jacqueline Relyea and Amir Qureshi, Bloomingdale's



Jonathan Henthorne, Waldorf=Astoria; Beatrice McGowan, Omni Berkshire, and guests

Tryst's Amelia Campbell and Maxwell Caulfield

Brent D. Kuenning, Le Parker Meridien, and guest

Ivan Cordero, Heartland Brewery; Eli M. Marcus, City Guide; Bonnie Bernier, John Bloostein, Taryn DeVito, Carl Clements Heartland Brewery

**Mystery Photo**  
 How well do you know NYC? Can you identify this photo? Be the first to e-mail [jane@cityguidemagazine.com](mailto:jane@cityguidemagazine.com) with your answer and be mentioned in next month's FYI.  
 Nobody identified May's mystery photo, which was of the East Coast Memorial in Battery Park



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# FYI News

New York City's Hotel Concierge Newsletter



## news from the Front Desk

by Peter Johnson

We want to take this opportunity to thank **Dean Colby** of the Westin Times Square Hotel, who is always such a team leader for the AIDS Walk New York (May 21, 2006). There are always many participants representing the hotel community, and Dean is always there pulling it all together. Your presence and determination to raise money for this cause is greatly appreciated!

Plans are underway for the **NYC 2007 Les Clefs d'Or Pan American Congress**. The Steering Committee—**Mary Murphy, Maurice Dancer, Harald Mootz, Michael Cerrato, and Maria Trejo**—is putting many exciting events together. Plans are tentatively scheduled from August 19 through August 23, 2007. Input is welcome from everyone. Along with many educational seminars, plans may include events such as a dinner cruise, a museum reception, and, of course, a gala evening. New York will be hosting one of the most exciting events of the decade and we will keep you informed as plans become firm.

Many thanks to **Heartland Brewery**, along with City Guide, for hosting us in Heartland's newest venue in the Empire State Building (212-563-3433)—what a great location for hotel guests throughout the year when they visit the building or shop in the area. Thursday, May 4th was a great night for us, as we went from enjoying a wonderful buffet dinner to the sizzling new show **Hot Feet**. The music of Earth, Wind & Fire and some fabulous dancing kept the crowd bouncing in their seats. Many thanks to the producers for their generosity, to Jon Bloostein at Heartland Brewery for also always being so generous to the concierge community, and of course, to *City Guide*!

If you have any news or events you would like to share with the concierge community through *FYI*, please email [janet@cityguidemagazine.com](mailto:janet@cityguidemagazine.com).

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## Online Concierge Access

[www.cityguideny.com](http://www.cityguideny.com)

Don't forget to register for the new Concierge-Only Access area on the *City Guide* website ([www.cityguideny.com](http://www.cityguideny.com)). It can be your best friend: share news and ideas, tourism tips, and new discoveries on the message board; get information on upcoming *City Guide* concierge events and photos from past parties; and find many other surprises. To register, surf on over to [cityguideny.com/registerconcierge.cfm](http://cityguideny.com/registerconcierge.cfm). Sign up today!

Recently, *City Guide* completely revamped its website ([www.cityguideny.com](http://www.cityguideny.com)) to include even more useful visitor information than ever, making it the most comprehensive resource for NYC tourists on the web. What you'll find:

- an activity calendar searchable by date
- dining reviews
- links to purchase Broadway and Off-Broadway tickets
- coupons, both new and archived columns
- every Broadway, Off-Broadway, and Off-Off Broadway show
- more than 1,000 restaurants
- hundreds of shopping destinations
- museums and galleries
- tours and attractions
- transportation
- health and beauty
- and much more.

## Museum News

New York has more than 150 museums, from some of the largest international art collections in the world to tiny niche-interest exhibits. Here are some of the current and upcoming exhibitions at some of the more popular museums in the City.

- Currently on view at **The New-York Historical Society** (170 Central Park West, 212-873-3400) are *Group Dynamics: Family Portraits and Scenes of Everyday Life* (through 9/17); *Historical Fictions: Edward Lamson Henry's Paintings of Past and Present* (through 8/6); and *The Games We Played* (through 12/31). Opening 6/16 is *Legacies: Contemporary Artists Reflect on Slavery* (through 1/7/2007).
- Opening 6/18 at the **Museum of Modern Art** (11 W. 53 St., 212-708-9400) is the major exhibition *Dada* (through 9/11). Other new exhibitions include *Douglas Gordon: Timeline* (6/11-9/4) and *Artist's Choice: Herzog & de Meuron, Perception Restrained* (6/21-9/25). Still on view are *Against the Grain: Contemporary Art from the Edward R. Broida Collection* (through 7/11); *Since 2000: Printmaking Now* (through 9/18); and *Transforming Chronologies: An Atlas of Drawings, Part Two* (through 10/2).
- *Darwin*, the major exhibition on the influential naturalist at the **American Museum of Natural History** (79th St. & Central Park West, 212-769-5100), was extended through 8/20. *Tropical Butterflies Alive in Winter* runs through 6/23. A new space show, *Cosmic Collisions* narrated by Robert Redford, opened in March at the Rose Center for Earth and Space.
- Currently on view at the **Museum of Sex** (233 Fifth Ave., 212-689-6337) are *Peeping, Probing & Porn: Four Centuries of Graphic Sex in Japan*; *Stags, Smokers, and Blue Movies: The Origins of American Pornographic Film*; and *Spotlight on the Permanent Collection*.
- **The Museum of the City of New York** (1220 Fifth Ave., 212-534-1672) offers several exhibitions. Opening 6/27 is *New York Creative*, offering portraits of celebrated writers, painters, and performers by Everett Raymond Kinstler. Also on view are *We Skate Hardcore*; *On the Couch: Cartoons from The New Yorker* (through 7/23); and *The High Style of Dorothy Draper* (through 9/10). Closing 6/13 is *Learning From Disaster: New Orleans After Katrina*.



Timeline at MoMA

Visit [www.cityguideny.com](http://www.cityguideny.com) for the most comprehensive listings for NYC visitors, with new additions every day.

## This Month

6/2-4: **20th Annual ISI Figure Skating Competition**, Chelsea Piers Sky Rink, Pier 61, 23rd St. and Hudson River, 212-336-6100

6/2-8/25: **River to River Festival 2006**, Various locations, 212-835-2789, [www.rivertorivernyc.com](http://www.rivertorivernyc.com).

6/2-9/29: **Toyota Concert Series on The Today Show**, 49th St. & Rockefeller Pl.

6/3-4, 10-11: **American Crafts Festival**, Lincoln Center's Plaza, 973-746-0091

6/3-4: **Of Love, War & Devotion**, Tribeca Performing Arts Center, 199 Chambers St. btw. Greenwich & West Sts., 212-220-1460

6/3-10/25: **Zaha Hadid**, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, 1071 Fifth Ave. at 89th St., 212-423-3500

6/4: **Philippine Independence Day Festival**, Madison Ave. btw. 24th & 26th Sts.

6/6-9/4: **On Photography: A Tribute to Susan Sontag**, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1000 Fifth Ave. at 82nd St., 212-535-7710

6/7-10/11: **Shalom, Y'all: Images of Jewish Life in the American South**, Museum of Jewish Heritage: A Living Memorial to the Holocaust, 36 Battery Place, 646-437-4200

6/8-8/27: **Atta Kim: On-Air; Tempo, Tempo! The Bauhaus Photomontages of Marianne Brandt; New Histories 10—Paris: Eugène Atget and Christopher Rauschenberg; and Unknown Weegee**, International Center of Photography, 1133 Sixth Ave. at 43rd St., 212-857-0000

6/8-9/3: **Napoleon on the Nile: Soldiers, Artists, and the Rediscovery of Egypt**, Dahesh Museum of Art, 580 Madison Ave. btw. 56th & 57th Sts., 212-759-0606

6/10-11: **Big Apple Barbecue Block Party 2006**, Madison Square Park, Fifth Ave. at 23rd St., 212-228-3585

6/10-9/10: **Héctor Méndez Caratini: The Eye of Memory—Three Decades, 1974-2003**, El Museo del Barrio, 1230 Fifth Ave. at 104th St., 212-831-7272

6/11-9/4: **Douglas Gordon: Timeline**, Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53rd St. btw. Fifth & Sixth Aves., 212-708-9400

6/13-9/6: **Central Park Summerstage**, Rumsey Playfield, 212-360-2777, [www.summerstage.org](http://www.summerstage.org)

6/13: **28th Annual Museum Mile Festival**, Fifth Ave. btw. 82nd & 105th Sts., [www.museummilefestival.org](http://www.museummilefestival.org)

6/13-24: **The JVC Jazz Festival New York**, various locations citywide, [www.festivalproductions.net](http://www.festivalproductions.net)

6/13-7/9: **Macbeth**, Shakespeare in the Park, Delacorte Theatre in Central Park, 212-539-8750

6/13-9/10: **Treasures of Sacred Maya Kings**, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Fifth Ave. at 82nd St., 212-535-7710

6/13-9/17: **Jean-Étienne Liotard (1702-1789): Swiss Master**, Frick Collection, 1 E. 70th St. at Fifth Ave., 212-288-0700

6/14: **Flag Day Parade**, City Hall Park (Broadway at Park Row & Chambers St.) ends with an Open House at Fraunces Tavern (54 Pearl St., 212-425-1778)

*Continued on Page 3*

## Bateaux New York



Heights, the South Street Seaport, the Brooklyn Bridge, and the Empire State Building.

Experience the eclectic American cuisine with Mediterranean, Asian, and French influences. Revel in the service provided by an attentive staff. Music begins as you depart from Chelsea Piers—enjoy classical background melodies as well as Broadway, pop, and cabaret standards by a very talented vocalists accompanied by an accomplished trio of musicians. You'll even hear some swing and Motown favorites. Dancing is encouraged, as are song requests. It's the perfect way to spend a romantic evening be it an anniversary, engagement, birthday, or just a getaway. Lunch cruises depart daily at noon; dinner cruises depart at 7:30p.m. Sun.-Thurs., 8:30p.m. Fri.-Sat. They also offer specialty cruises such as a 4th of July cruise with a view of the fireworks. Ask about hosting your private event on Bateaux New York.

Bateaux New York departs from the Chelsea Piers, Pier 62, W. 23rd St. & the Hudson River, 866-211-3806; [www.bateauxnewyork.com](http://www.bateauxnewyork.com). Book via phone or online. It's an experience your hotel guests will cherish for a lifetime.—Peter Johnson

## Fantasma Magic: The Magical Toy Experience



On Thursday, May 11th, concierges and their guests joined *City Guide* to visit **Fantasma Magic** (421 Seventh Ave., enter on 33rd St., 2nd fl., 212-244-3633; [www.fantasmamagic.com](http://www.fantasmamagic.com)), an amazing new store in midtown. This grand-opening evening was one to remember: We experienced magic, juggling, the Houdini Museum, balloon sculptures, and electronic and glow-in-the-dark toys. There's even a free magic show on the hour as an animatronic Houdini escapes from a straight jacket. There's a surprise around every corner of this magical shop!

Fantasma can host a child's birthday party in their VIP party room—your guests become part of the act as the child floats in the air! High-quality and premium

products can be customized for your company. Event-planning services provide magicians, jugglers, mind readers and comedians for personal and business gatherings. For more information, contact event coordinator Sarah Hendee at 212-924-8345 or [info@fantasmatoys.com](mailto:info@fantasmatoys.com). Designers and entertainers will customize your program, and they can even add your logo to merchandise. The award-winning entertainers are associated with the International Brotherhood of Magicians, and Fantasma has access to nearly 15,000 professional entertainers worldwide. Let Fantasma create a memorable event for you or your guests.

There are so many gifts that will make holiday shopping such a treat. Hologram items including pens, rulers and other gifts as useful as they are entertaining. Magic banks for disappearing coins, plush toys, magic sets—the list goes on and on. It's the perfect place to send hotel guests looking for an entertaining day of shopping. Thank you, Fantasma, for a wonderful party!—Peter Johnson

## Summer Concert Series



*Pink will perform on TODAY*

Every Friday morning (and on select other days), NBC's "Today" hosts the **Toyota Concert Series on Today**. The free events feature stars performing live from 49th St. & Rockefeller Plaza.

6/2: **Brad Paisley**...6/7: **Katie Melua**...6/8: **The Wedding Singer**...  
6/9: **Natasha Bedingfield**...6/12: **Hi-5**...6/16: **Earth, Wind & Fire**...  
6/22: **Nelly Furtado**...6/23: **Phil Collins**...6/30: **Rascal Flatts**...  
7/7: **Pink**...7/12: **Sheryl Crow**...7/14: **KC & the Sunshine Band**...  
7/28: **Chicago**...8/11: **Chris Brown**...9/29: **Janet Jackson**

South Street Seaport is home to the **Seaport Music Festival**, which features both established and new artists outdoors on Pier 17. For more info, call 212-SEAPORT or visit [www.seaportmusicfestival.com](http://www.seaportmusicfestival.com).

6/30: **Amy Rigby & Robbie Fulks**...7/7: TBD...7/14: **Dave Alvin and The Guilty Men, Chatham County Line**...  
7/19: **Conjunto Classico**...7/26: **Ray Sepulveda**...7/28: **Richard Hawley & Nicolai Dunger**...8/2: **Bio Ritmo**...  
8/4: **Hot Chip**...8/9: **Son Boricua**...8/11: **Josh Ritter**...8/16: **Conjunto Imagen**...8/18: **The Box Tops with Alex Chilton**...8/25: **Ted Leo + Pharmacists**...9/01: End-of-Summer Show TBD

While enjoying concerts and attractions at the seaport, your guests can also enjoy some great seafood, burgers, sandwiches, salads, and more at **Pacific Grill** (212-964-0707), **Wine & Chill** (212-964-4102), and **Seaport Café** (212-964-1120) at Pier 17 and **Skipper's Pierside Café** (212-349-1188) at Pier 16.

# Broadway, Off-Broadway, and Beyond

For descriptions of shows and playing schedules, consult the current edition of City Guide or log onto [www.cityguideny.com](http://www.cityguideny.com). All information subject to change.

**Coming soon** *Martin Short: Fame Becomes Me*—A new musical comedy co-conceived by Martin Short along with *Hairspray* alums Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman. Previews begin 7/22 for an 8/10 opening at the Bernard B. Jacobs Theatre.

**Limited runs** *Awake and Sing!* (through 6/25); *Bridge & Tunnel* (through 7/9); *Doubt* (through 7/2); *Faith Healer* (through 7/30); *The Light in the Piazza* (through 7/2); *The Odd Couple* (through 6/4); *The Pajama Game* (through 6/18); *Three Days of Rain* (through 6/17); *The Threepenny Opera* (through 6/25).



## Shopping News



Shopping, as always, is one of the most popular tourism activities in the city. Here we cover some notable specialty shopping destinations.

■ The biggest **Build-A-Bear Workshop** store in the world (565 Fifth Ave., 877-789-BEAR) offers the most furry fun stuffed into one furbulous place! It's a "beary" special interactive experience where kids can have fun making their own stuffed animal friends and personalizing them with hundreds of fashions & accessories! They'll create a new best friend and an unforgettable memory.

■ Covering 35,000 square feet, the **NBA Store** (Fifth Ave. at 52nd St., 212-515-NBA1) features the world's most comprehensive collection of NBA and WNBA merchandise, from jerseys, to footwear, to basketballs and gifts of all kinds. It's also the ultimate interactive experience—there are video games, an interactive player wall, and a fully operational TV studio that produces both live and taped broadcasts. Sit courtside to see some of the game's top players or hold your next birthday party, viewing party or special private event. For private events, call 1-877-NBA-EVENT.



■ For luxurious furs at affordable prices, no one beats **Ritz Furs** (345 Seventh Ave. btw. 29th & 30th Sts., 9th fl., 212-265-4559). For more than 60 years, it has been NYC's prime destination for fur. Ritz has an ever-changing variety of new, often one-of-a-kind, designer furs, lightweight yet warm sheared furs, and the newest in reversible styles. Your guests will also find a great selection of luxurious shearlings as well as NYC's best selection of gently pre-owned furs at unbelievable savings. The multilingual staff offers personal service.

■ **Quiksilver** (42nd St. & Seventh Ave., 212-840-8111 and 519 Broadway, 212-226-1193) offers clothing, accessories, footwear, and related products for young-minded people. Their stores are like no other in New York City, offering full lines of Quiksilver and Roxy brands. Quiksilver's signature use of rich visuals and bright colors infuses the urban surroundings with imagery depicting the beauty, passion, and adventure of the boardriding lifestyle.

■ **Nintendo World** (10 Rockefeller Plaza, 646-459-0800) features exclusive Nintendo DS, Game Boy Advance SP, and Nintendo GameCube merchandise not found at any other store in the world. The store is designed to create an interactive experience for all visitors, including a multi-player gaming wall and a surround sound gaming lounge where consumers can play dozens of Nintendo games. It is also home to Pokémon Center.

■ Located in New York's famous Fashion Garment District, **M&J Trimming** (1008 Sixth Ave. btw. 37th & 38th Sts., 800-9-MJTRIM) is a one-stop shop for the finest unique ribbons, rhinestones, buttons, and more. M&J is the premier trimming resource for the top fashion designers, interior decorators, and costume makers. Your guests can see where styles and fashion start before they hit the runway.

■ New York's largest computer & video retailer, **DataVision** (445 Fifth Ave., 212-689-1111) has 3 levels & 30,000 sq. feet of savings. They feature a full selection of computers, software, peripherals, digital cameras, camcorders, MP3 players, DVDs, personal video players, TVs, projectors, handhelds, GPS solutions, desktops, notebooks, tablet PCs, wireless LAN, carrying cases, and mobile phones. They are an authorized internet and retail dealer for most major brands.

■ With 4 locations in Manhattan, **Shoe Mania** carries the largest selection of ladies and mens athletic, outdoor, comfort and fashion shoes and boots. The newly renovated flagship store at Union Square (853 Broadway, 212-253-8744) is the largest shoe store in NYC, with name brands like Mephisto, Ecco, Rockport, Clarks, Timberland, Dansko, Merrell, Nike Puma, Adidas, Diesel, Steve Madden, Kenneth Cole, Lacoste, Cole Haan, Justin, Via Spiga and others. Other locations: 331 Madison Ave., 212-557-6627; 30 E. 14th St., 212-627-0420; 11 W. 34th St., 212-564-7319.

## This Month

Continued from Page 2

6/15-17: **RAIN—The Beatles Experience**, Town Hall, 123 W. 43rd St., 212-840-2824

6/15-8/5: **Celebrate Brooklyn! Performing Arts Festival**, Prospect Park bandshell, Prospect Park West and 9th St., Brooklyn, 718-965-8999, [www.celebratebrooklyn.org](http://www.celebratebrooklyn.org)

6/15-8/20: **Crust and Dirt's Instant Drawing Machine**, Drawing Center, 35 Wooster St. btw. Broome & Grand Sts., 212-219-2166

6/18: **Broadway Bares 16: New York Strip**, Roseland Ballroom, 239 W. 52nd St., 212-840-0770

6/18-9/11: **Dada**, Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53rd St. btw. Fifth & Sixth Aves., 212-708-9400

6/20-7/22: **Midsummer Night Swing**, Josie Robertson Plaza, Lincoln Center, 212-875-5456

6/20-9/3: **Raphael at the Metropolitan: The Colonna Altarpiece**, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Fifth Ave. at 82nd St., 212-535-7710

6/21-9/25: **Artist's Choice: Herzog & de Meuron, Perception Restrained**, Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53rd St., 212-708-9400

6/22-12/3: **A Sensitivity to the Seasons: Autumn and Winter**, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Fifth Ave. at 82nd St., 212-535-7710

6/23: **Swedish Midsummer Festival**, Robert F. Wagner Park, Battery Place & West Side Highway, Battery Park City, 212-267-9700

6/25: **NYC Pride 2006 March**, Fifth Ave. & 52nd St. to Christopher & Greenwich Sts.

6/27-TBD: **New York Creative: Portraits by Everett Raymond Kinstler**, Museum of the City of New York, Fifth Ave. at 103rd St., 212-534-1672

6/29-7/8: **The New York Philharmonic's Summertime Classics**, Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center, 212-875-5656, [www.nyphil.org](http://www.nyphil.org)

6/29-9/3: **Full House: The Whitney's Collection at 75**, Whitney Museum of American Art, 945 Madison Ave. at 75th St., 800-WHITNEY

6/29-8/26: **It's Not a Photo**, Chelsea Art Museum, 556 W. 22nd St. at Eleventh Ave., 212-255-0719

## Street Festivals

**6/11:** NYC Expo (Third Ave. btw. 23rd & 34th Sts.)... **6/18:** International Cultures Fair (Sixth Ave. btw. 42nd & 56th Sts.); Lexington Avenue Summer Fest (btw. 34th & 42nd Sts.)... **6/24:** Times Square Expo (Seventh Ave. btw. 47th & 57th Sts.)... **6/25:** 16th Annual Columbus Avenue Summer Festival (btw. 86th & 96th Sts.)... **7/4:** The Great July 4th Festival (Water St. btw. Fulton & Broad Sts.)... **7/8:** Sixth Avenue Summerfest (btw. 23rd & 33rd Sts.); Upper East Side Block Party (74th St. btw. First & Second Aves.)... **7/15:** Park Avenue Summer Fest (btw. 17th & 23rd Sts.)... **7/16:** NYC Celebration of Nations Festival (Madison Ave. btw. 42nd & 57th Sts.)