

Wheelock Family Theatre WHEEL Award



WFT established the WHEEL Award in 2002 to recognize individuals who share the Theatre's commitment to children and families and whose work embodies the Theatre's belief that the arts can transform lives. Past recipients include; Fred M. Rogers of the beloved television show *Mister Rogers*, Eric Carle, the acclaimed creator of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and more than seventy brilliantly illustrated and innovatively designed picture books for very young children and Peter Paul & Mary, the celebrated folk singing trio.

Proceeds from The WHEEL Award celebration will benefit the important ongoing work of Wheelock Family Theatre. WFT strives to make theatre an exciting, entertaining, and educational experience for young people and adults and is committed to making live theatre accessible to everyone, including people who are traditionally underserved by cultural institutions: people of color, people with disabilities, and low-income families.

WHEEL Award 2008

Jacques d'Amboise's One of this country's leaders in the field of arts education, he now inspires children to lead healthy, creative, and vital lives. The transformative power of dance and the immediate effect it has on young people is the mission of his National Dance Institute.

Anthony Williams is the founder of BalletRox, a youth-based professional ballet company best known for its *Urban Nutcracker*—a holiday dance classic with an inner city edge. Mr. Williams has been teaching in the New England area for 22 years.

-2006

Peter Yarrow, a member of Peter, Paul and Mary, the legendary group now forty-three years in existence, remains a performer and activist. Over the years, Peter has been moved to commit his time and talent to many advocacies; equal rights, peace, the environment, gender equality, homelessness, hospice care and education. All have utilized his skills, both as a performer and an organizer.

-2004

Eric Carle, the acclaimed creator of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and more than seventy brilliantly illustrated and innovatively designed picture books for very young children, is also the founder of The Museum of Illustrative Art in Amherst, MA..

-2002

Fred M. Rogers, creator and performer on the beloved television show *Mister Rogers*

