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Magic Box Productions & Roundabout Theatre Company Receive Telly Award

Magic Box Productions and Producer Nelle Stokes have been awarded a Bronze Telly Award for the documentary video *Producing Partnerships: The Art of Learning*, which chronicles the pioneering theater-in-education work of one of New York City's pre-eminent non-profit theaters, The Roundabout Theatre Company. "Magic Box was able to capture the scope and depth of our education programs, and the artistry and passion that drives them," says Roundabout Theatre Company Education Director Megan Kirkpatrick. "We are proud to have such an artistic and professional representation of our work to share with funders, administrators and arts-in-education practitioners."

The Art of Learning traces the Roundabout's programs from their inception in the early 1980's, when school arts budget cuts galvanized the Company to begin "to turn theatres into classrooms and classrooms into theatres," as Artistic Director Todd Haimés describes it. The piece follows the development of the Roundabout Education Department—now impacting more than 5,000 students and teachers with six major education programs, including a ground-breaking new school partnership with New Visions for Public Schools and the DOE.

This year's Telly is the second for Magic Box Productions. The Telly Award honors outstanding craftsmanship and creativity in film, video, television, and commercials. Winners are chosen by professionals in the film and television industry from an international field of more than 10,000 entries. The company won a Telly in 2004, as well as an Honorable Mention in the Accolade Competition, for *S.A.R.I.: Telling the Story*, which covered the New York Times Foundation's School Arts Rescue Initiative as it provided artistic outlets for New York city schoolchildren after the September 11 attacks. In 2003, *Through the Eyes of Children: 9/11 and Beyond*, was chosen as an Official Selection of the Brooklyn Arts Council's 37th International Film and Video Festival and screened at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Magic Box is an experienced arts-in-education vendor as well as a producer of documentaries for and about arts and educational organizations. Its Executive Director, filmmaker Nelle Stokes, has worked as an actor, writer, director, and producer in commercial and independent film, and has created nationally distributed educational videos. A teaching artist in New York, Connecticut, and New Jersey for more than ten years, she has taught and consulted for many arts and education organizations and was recently featured in the documentary *Connecting with the Arts: Folk Tales Transformed*, on Annenberg CPB.

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