New York University

Gallatin School of Individualized Study
Dean's Day 2000

The Torch Club
18 Waverly Place

October 15, 2000
10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Alumni College

The Artist as Chameleon:
Retaining Creativity and Surviving in a Commercial Environment

10:30 A.M. Sign in and Coffee
11:00 A.M. Greetings: Dean E. Frances White
11:15 A.M. Brunch Buffet
11:45 A.M. Panel Presentation
Moderator: Professor Laurin Raiken
Panelists: André De Shields
          Emily Hoffman
          Karen Siff
          Yale Strom
12:45 P.M. Break Out Sessions
1:15 P.M. Feedback Session: Laurin Raiken
1:30 P.M. Networking

Alumni College Panel

Laurin Raiken
Senior Faculty and Chair of the Committee and Program on Interdisciplinary Arts

Laurin Raiken is a founding faculty member of the Gallatin School of Individualized Study. He began teaching at New York University in 1970 when Gallatin was known as The School Without Walls. Laurin is currently co-chairman of the Gallatin Faculty and the Gallatin School, Chairman of the Advisement and Policy Committees, and founder of the Gallatin Interdisciplinary Arts Program. From 1968-1971, Laurin was a founder and Director of the New York Free Theatre, a community service theatre sponsored by NYU. He was founder and for twenty-five years President of the foundation for the Community of Artists. Laurin also helped draft the legislation creating loft living for artists in Soho and Noho and was one of the first members appointed to the Artists' Certification Committee of the City of New York by then mayor John Lindsey. He received the NYU Great Teachers Award during the Silver Anniversary of the award in 1983. Laurin graduated with a B.A. in Arts and Social Sciences from Brandeis University in 1965. He earned an MA in Sociology of Culture in 1972 from Adelphi University and completed Ph.D. studies from the Graduate Faculty of Political and Social Science at New School University in 1976.

ANDRÉ DE SHIELDS (M.A. 1990)

André De Shields is an actor, a director and an educator. In 1998, he received both Chicago's Black Theatre Alliance and Joseph Jefferson Awards for Best performance by a Featured Actor in a Musical for his portrayal of Jester in the Goodman Theatre production of PLAY ON!. Mr. De Shields won an Emmy Award for his performance in the NBC television special presentation of Ain't Misbehavin', the role he created in the Fats Waller musical at the Manhattan Theatre Club and on Broadway, including the 1988 revival. However, he is probably best known for having created the title role in the Broadway musical The Wiz in 1975. He can be seen in the recurring role of The Rev. Calvin Dansby on the popular CBS daytime drama As The World Turns and is currently featured in the new Terence McNally musical The Full Monty at San Diego's Old Globe Theatre. The production is scheduled to open on Broadway in this fall. Mr. De Shields received his M.A. in African-American studies from the Gallatin School.