

# Flatiron/23rd Street Partnership will hold concert to benefit homeless

By Maciej Wroblewski

The Flatiron/23rd Street Partnership and Common Ground Community, a non-profit that provides housing and services for the formerly homeless, are joining together to host a performance by the New Amsterdam Singers at the Prince George Ballroom on April 19th at 7 p.m. with reception to follow.

The free concert, with a \$10 suggested donation to support Common Ground's innovative programs to help solve homelessness, is aimed at providing the community with the opportunity to become more familiar with the Prince George Ballroom and the mission of Common Ground.

"We're pleased to sponsor this event with Common Ground Community, which does so much to address homelessness in New York City," said Partnership Ex-

ecutive Director Jennifer Brown. "The concert on April 19th will be a wonderful opportunity for the community to come together, hear a great performance, and help support Common Ground's initiatives at the same time."

The ballroom is located at 15 East 27th Street between 5th and Madison Avenues in the Prince George Hotel, which provides permanent, affordable housing for 416 underprivileged adults. Built in 1904, the Prince George is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Once one of the City's premier hotels, it was rehabilitated by Common Ground and reopened in 1999 after many years of decline.

Today, the location provides affordable accommodations for the formerly homeless, people with mental and/or medical disabilities, the elderly, and low-income individuals who benefit from

a variety of social services provided by Common Ground's partner, the Center for Urban Community Services.

These include mental health and substance abuse counseling, job training and placement, community activities, and even help with life skills such as cooking and money management.

In total, Common Ground has developed over 1,400 units of permanent and transitional housing, manages over 1,600 units, and has approximately 1,350 new units in development.

The concert by New Amsterdam Singers will include a mix of acappella and cabaret songs including a piece from West Side Story as well as several American Folk and spiritual selections from their Spring 2007 concert.

Reservations are strongly encouraged. To attend, RSVP at [kheckel@commonground.org](mailto:kheckel@commonground.org).