



# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## COARC SPIRIT DANCERS PERFORMANCE

**Mellenville, New York (May 7, 2009)** Hudson Valley Academy of Performing Arts presents “Dances Around the World,” performed by the COARC Spirit Dancers on Friday, May 22nd at 11:00 a.m. to noon. Dancers who attend COARC programs will perform an international mix that reflects the diversity found in New York State, including English country, French can-can, country western, and hip-hop with African and Latin flavorings. The event is free to the public and light refreshments will be served. Hudson Valley Academy of Performing Arts is located at 957 Route 82, a quarter mile west of the Taconic Parkway in West Taghkanic, NY.

The performance is made possible in part by the COARC Arts Endowment and also with public funds from the Decentralization Program of the New York State Council on the Arts, administered through the Twin Counties Cultural Fund in Columbia County by the Columbia County Council on the Arts. Debra Hughes, Director of Hudson Valley Academy of Performing Arts, is the Artistic Director for the program. She has choreographed the performance and trained the dancers at twice-weekly rehearsals for several months.

Ms. Hughes states, “The COARC Spirit Dancers are working hard and it’s a joy to work with them because when they arrive for rehearsal, they are so present, available, and have such positive enthusiasm.”

Information about Hudson Valley Academy of Performing Arts and directions are available at 518-851-5501 or [www.hvapa.com](http://www.hvapa.com). COARC is a Columbia County not-for-profit organization whose mission is expanding abilities, one person at a time, so individuals experiencing disabilities can achieve their personal goals. COARC provides an array of services and programs that benefit more than 600 individuals and it employs more than 400 area residents. Established in 1965, COARC is the Columbia County Chapter of NYSARC, Inc. It is primarily supported through state and federal funding, and also by individual and corporate members and other foundations. Information about COARC program services, employment, donation opportunities and membership is available at [www.COARC.org](http://www.COARC.org) or 518-672-4451.

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