

I am writing to you about *Broken Speech*, a play based on the true story of Tony Diamanti—a 47-year-old man living with cerebral palsy—who also stars in the play. Tony travels in a wheelchair, and speaks by using a head pointer to spell what he wants to say on a letter board. He valiantly and courageously takes each day's dose of life along with a large serving of humour! Tony's story moves and teaches each and every individual who experiences it.

At the 2006 Fringe Festival, *Broken Speech* audience members expressed delight at the depth of Tony Diamanti's intelligence and humour. They realized how their previous reactions were hurtful to people with disabilities. Many commented they would never see a person with disabilities in the same way again!

Because we realize that *Broken Speech* has the power to alter people's perceptions and attitudes about disability, we want the play to be performed as widely as possible. We need to raise \$1000 to professionally produce a DVD of *Broken Speech* which can be used as a tool to encourage schools, community groups and other venues to host a live production of *Broken Speech* in order to continue the important process of altering attitudes and perceptions about people with disabilities.

All that is needed are 200 people to contribute \$5 each, 100 people to contribute \$10 each, 40 people to contribute \$25 each, or 20 people to contribute \$50 each—or some combination of the above. All funds raised will be used for the production and distribution of the *Broken Speech* DVD.

If you are able to make a contribution—large or small—please write your cheque to: Tony Diamanti with "Hear Me, Know Me Productions" on the memo line, and mail it with your name, address and email address to: *Broken Speech*, c/o Gail Fisher-Taylor, 47 Poplar Plains Road, Toronto, ON M4V 2M9. And please let us know if you'd like to attend the live performance of *Broken Speech* on August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2007, when production of the DVD will begin.

Please forward this on to anyone you think might be interested in making a contribution to social and attitudinal change.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Gail Fisher-Taylor

[fishtayl@sympatico.ca](mailto:fishtayl@sympatico.ca)