

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 2010

Dear Friends:

Please accept my warmest greetings and congratulations as you gather for the Youth America Gran Prix's Final Competition and Professional Gala. I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize the fine work of YAGP, its organizers and participants on this wonderful occasion.

Since its inception 10 years ago, YAGP has become the oldest and largest ballet competition and scholarship program in the United States. YAGP has helped give young and eager students the ability to learn from the world's foremost instructors and schools and also it has awarded more than \$2 million dollars in scholarship money to the world's leader dance schools. With over 25,000 dancers that have participated in YAGP's international workshops and competition, YAGP has 250 alumni that are now dancing in fifty companies around the world. I applaud YAGP's dedication to the arts and educating our youth in our state and our country.

I also wanted to offer my sincere congratulations to the finalists and all the participants of YAGP. I commend these participants for all their hard work and dedication and I wish them the best of luck in all of their future endeavors.

Once again, congratulations and best wishes for a wonderful event.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator