

SCHOOL ALUMNI STAGE A BENEFIT

Diana Sands, Eartha Kitt
-Aid Performing Arts' Fund

Nearly 1,000 persons attended a benefit for the High School of Performing Arts last night at the 46th Street Theater. Eartha Kitt, the singer, Diana Sands and Janet Margolin, the actresses, and other graduates of the school were in the three-hour show.

The benefit, the first of its kind for the 17-year-old high school, raised \$10,000, mainly for the scholarship fund. Its performers included Luba Lisa, the singer in "I Had a Ball"; Arthur Mitchell of the New York City Ballet, and Dom de Luise, the comedian. Sergio Franchi, one of the stars of "Do I Hear a Waltz," now playing at the theater where the benefit was staged, also performed. He was one of the few performers at the benefit who had not attended the high school.

The school, at 120 West 46th Street, in the heart of the theater district, has an enrollment of 600. Its training courses include drama, dance and music.

"The four years that I spent at the school were able to sustain me through some very hard times," Miss Sands remarked shortly before the benefit. "It was like a home for many of us. We felt that we were loved; that people really cared about us."

Miss Margolin, who appeared in "David and Lisa," was narrator of the show with Miss Sands. "The school lets you kind of grow," Miss Margolin said. "It's a very rare type of high school."

The benefit included a scene from "A Thousand Clowns," by Herb Gardner, an alumnus, and a medley by Rita Gardner from "The Fantasticks." The show was directed by Barry Yellen, a producer.

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