

## **Recipient of the 2009 Governor's Awards for the Arts**

### **Patron Award – Louis J. Appell, Jr.**

Louis J. Appell, Jr.'s contributions to the arts and cultural organizations of York County include dedicated leadership, committed participation and critical financial support that have reinvigorated, stabilized and promoted arts and heritage in York. He led the three capital campaigns to restore and update the Strand and Capitol Theatres to its current status as the Strand-Capitol Performing Arts Center and has been a financial supporter of the Cultural Alliance of York County from its inception. He currently continues his support for numerous organizations dedicated to York's cultural and social renaissance through his chairmanship of his family foundation, Powder Mill Foundation.

Appell, a Harvard graduate, was the principal owner and CEO of Susquehanna Pfaltzgraff Company, Susquehanna Radio, Penn Outdoor Advertising, Susquehanna Communications (including Suscom.net and Blazenet), and Susquehanna Real Estate. He is a former President of the Harvard Alumni Association and was a recipient of the Harvard Medal for Distinguished Service to the University. He has been a member of the Pennsylvania Business Roundtable, 10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania, the Governor's Residence Preservation Committee, and the Pennsylvania Capitol Preservation Committee.

He has chaired numerous non-profit boards in York, including the Strand-Capitol Performing Arts Center, York Symphony Association, and the York County Heritage Trust. He is also a member of the Advisory Committee of the York Symphony Orchestra. His wife, Jody, was an original board member of the Cultural Alliance and is now a Board Emeritus.

Appell's support has extended to sponsorships for the York Murals program and the preservation programs of the York Heritage Trust in order to bring the arts to all citizens and encourage tourism in York. He has been recognized for his arts, cultural and heritage philanthropy through various awards including, the Preservation Pennsylvania's Otto Haas Award in 1998 and the Distinguished Citizen of the Commonwealth Award from the Pennsylvania Society in 2006.

A former executive of the York Community Foundation wrote of Mr. Appell, "He has been a constant thread through every significant community project...He has helped to preserve our historic treasures...to build and nurture our cultural, educational and civic institutions and to rebuild our urban landscape.."