



TOP TEN ARTS-IN-ED PROGRAMS

This month's favorite programs among Suffolk school districts



<u>Title</u>	<u>Artist / Art Organization</u>	<u>Website</u>	<u>Target Audience</u>
Opening Page: Writers' Workshop	Ballyhoo Bookworks	www.brianheinz.com	3-12
Playing It Smart	Big Brothers/Big Sisters	www.bbbsli.org	3-9
Fall on the Farm	Benner's Farm	www.bennersfarm.com	K-8
Who Took Tom Turkey	Broadhollow Players	www.broadhollow.org	1-4
Hatshepsut: Woman King of Egypt	Graham Associates	www.geocities.com/Rachel_katz	6
Balanced Mind Conference	Nassau NYSCAME	www.balancedmind.org	PD
Starlab	Night Sky Educational Services		PreK-12
The Magic of Reading	Terry Parrett	www.themagicofreading.com	2-6
Halloween Spooktacular	Prismatic Magic	www.prismaticmagic.com	2-5
Enough for All	Theater Garden	www.theatergarden.org	K-8

DISTRICT STARS

Fall focus...Connections to autumn holidays and harvest themes were made in several districts. Students in **Brentwood, Port Jefferson, Sachem** and **Smithtown** took the "Fall on the Farm" tour at Benner's Farm. **Brentwood** students also experienced "Sherwood-Jayne Farm" with SPLIA. **Brentwood** and **Sachem** students visited Woodside Nursery for "Octoberville." **Elwood** students learned about "Agricultural Roots" at Hallockville. King of Themes presented "Fall Harvest" in **Middle Country**. Karen De Mauro of the Acting Center discussed Christopher Columbus during her "Creative Drama Workshop" in **Sachem**. Third grade teacher Jessica Massaro reported that "Mrs. De Mauro emphasized many key components of the curriculum, from social studies topics to good reading/speaking skills." **BOCES Special Education** and **Copiague** students saw "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" by Encore Performing Arts. F&W Schmitt Brothers demonstrated "Sketching and Decorating Pumpkins" in **Sachem**. **Fire Island, Middle Country** and **Smithtown** students took a "Farm Tour" at Cornell Cooperative Extension. Anna Epstein-Kravis performed "Fall Harvest of Songs" in **Brentwood**. Broadhollow Players asked "Who Took Tom the Turkey" in **Brentwood** and **Lindenhurst**.

Eyes on art...**North Babylon** students became "Art Partners" with Nassau County Museum of Art. Janine Bendicksen presented "Mural of Children's Faces" in **Lindenhurst** and **Sayville**. **Longwood** students traveled to Storm King Art Center to explore and sketch their "Sculptures." **Half Hollow Hills** explored "Mosaic Murals" and **Lindenhurst** students dabbled in "Silk Printing" with Tollen Enterprises. Heckscher Museum of Art led a "Printmaking Workshop" for **Islip** students. **Lindenhurst** students learned "The Art of Origami" with Graham Associates. Imagine That! Art Education led an art program in **Springs**. **Deer Park** students worked with Anne Erickson in a "Medical Illustration Workshop." Nancy T. Kosloski was the "Artist in Residence" in **William Floyd**.

Space modules...**Commack, Sachem** and **Smithtown** students entered a "Starlab" and **West Babylon** students heard "Stories in the

Sky" with Night Sky Educational Services. **Lindenhurst** students explored the "Solar System" with Science Plus.

Dancing days...Students in **Hauppauge** participated in a "Tap Dance Residency" with Penny Berton. Yves Maco conducted a "Dance Residency" in **Huntington**. **Commack** students saw a "Music and Dance Performance" by Hip Pickles. Primo Fiore partnered with **Longwood** students for "Square Dancing." Get Down Soundz gave a "Music and Dance" program in **Lindenhurst**. According to Patrice Spinella, 5th chairperson at Albany Ave School, "The performer united the children for the common goal of enjoying each other's company and relating to each other on a dimension other than classroom relationships." **Patchogue/Medford** had a "Family Square Dance Party" with Keep the Country Dancing. Circle of Dance Repertory Company led a "Dance Workshop" residency in **Sachem**.

Ready to write...Ballyhoo Bookworks presented "The Opening Page: A Writers' Workshop" in **Cold Spring Harbor, Commack** and **Smithtown**. **Commack** students also studied "Authoring/Illustrating" with Chris Soentpiet. "Author Visits" were made by Richard Torrey in **Mount Sinai** and Gordon Korman in **East Islip**. **Cold Spring Harbor** students learned to "Write Out Loud!" with Barbara S. Garriel. **Brentwood** students witnessed "From Idea to Reality" with author/illustrator Kim Doner. Jeffrey Sanzel conducted a "Playwriting Workshop" in **Hauppauge**. **Shelter Island** students participated in "Young Playwright's" with Bay Street Theatre. Academic Entertainment provided "6 + 1 Writing Fun" in **Connetquot**.

Latino leanings...**Cold Spring Harbor** students experienced "Eccos Del Sur" at Lincoln Center for Performing Arts. Los Aztecas offered "Learning About Mexico and Hispanic Culture" in **Brentwood**. Encore Performing Arts presented "Taino—Graias A La Vida" in **South Huntington**. Los Aztecas also performed "Halisco & Vera Cruz, Mexico" for **Sachem**.

Be a District Star... Your school can be part of our newsletter's District Stars section. Please send us a paragraph or two and perhaps a photo about how a recent Arts-In-Ed program impacted student learning and connected with curriculum. We'd like to share your experience with other schools!

AIE NEWS

Long Island Arts Alliance Executive Forum

Forum Calls for Collaboration to Boost Arts Ed

"Everything about the arts is educational," stressed Karen Brooks Hopkins at a recent executive forum of the Long Island Arts Alliance (LIAA). Ms. Brooks Hopkins, president of Brooklyn Academy of Music and the newest New York State Education Department Regent, was one of eight panelists who addressed the task of advancing arts education partnership initiatives on Long Island. The meeting's agenda also included performances by Herricks High School's Chamber Orchestra, directed by Robin Maddox, and Chamber Choir, directed by Louis O'Hanlon.

"Arts education is a 'cheap fix,'" according to Brooks Hopkins. "It stimulates learning and imagination, builds self-esteem, and fosters positive group behavior and mature adults. And it does all this for pennies on the dollar compared with other aspects of educational and behavioral improvement." Not surprisingly, these remarks went unchallenged by the other arts educators on the panel and in the audience at the Herricks Community Center in New Hyde Park. The other panelist did, however, have a lot to say about the disparity in arts education on Long Island and how it might be remedied.

"Some Long Island school districts have a plethora of programs, others very few," reported Roger Tilles, New York State Education Department Regent and member of the LIAA Advisory Board. "But the schools with scant arts programming aren't always in high need districts. Some districts just don't see arts education as a priority."

Panelists gave several reasons for the disparity. Dr. Jerrold Ross, Dean of the School of Education at St. John's University, suggested that inadequate arts programming is indicative of the general state of education. He warned that we are facing the 'anti-aesthetics' of education. "Mediocrity characterizes most of education," he said. To help combat the problem, he recommended teacher certification in every arts area in every school.

Vincent D'Ullise, Director of Music and Art in **South Huntington** schools, believes funding is an issue. "School districts must maintain adequate funding for the arts," he said. "We get state aid periodically. Wouldn't it be wonderful if some of that aid went to the arts?"

Elaine Lewis, Executive Director of Circle of Dance, suggested that district size can hamper arts programming. "Larger districts can only afford to arrange one visit for each class per year," she explained. "Smaller districts, on the other hand, can arrange more involved residencies to create an integrated program."

Lighten up on test stress

Several panelists feel that arts education is being short-changed because of assessment concerns in some districts. According to John McNeur, Director of Music and Performing Arts in Herricks School District, study groups and remediation pull middle school students away from the arts. Sal Somma, Executive Director of Nassau County NYSCAME, said this changing attitude, with an emphasis on assessment, is creating stress for students. "Students hesitate to leave academic classes for instrumental lessons," he noted. Tilles recommended that people "lighten up" on penalties and remediation because of test scores. Instead, they should spend more time on the arts.

D'Ullise noted that school districts with the best arts programming tend to be the school districts with the best test scores. "That's something we should be taking a closer look at."

However, Bernie Jones, President of Suffolk County NSYCAME and Director of Art, Dance and Music in **West Islip** schools, said that the idea that 'the arts are the first thing to go' is a misnomer on Long Island. "Before the arts go, school districts look at student enrollment and other electives in the high school," he explained. "Some seniors are taking three music classes a day as an elective. The students we heard perform today are spending hours upon hours learning. When they leave high school, they leave with something."

All the panelists emphasized the impact of well-trained teachers on the success of arts education. Dr. John Bierwirth, Superintendent of Herricks schools, said his district's music program is successful because "it's meaningful, challenging and fun. The teachers have done that." He reported that the high school had requested two additional social studies teachers. "Why? Because the subject is 'hot and relevant,'" he explained. "It's the teacher who turns on or off the students."

According to Ross, the real debate isn't over "who should teach the arts, but how to teach the arts." The "how," he said, is through collaboration. "There are arts teachers, fellow teachers, visiting artists and arts organization. One constituency without the other is less effective. Instead of arts organizations bring 'boiler plate' performances into the schools, the arts teachers and arts organizations should talk and plan. When collaboration works, it's unparalleled."

Ross and several of the other panelists also stressed the need for lobbying for the arts on Long Island. Tilles called for the formation of a collaborative group to focus on generating ideas, lobbying and working with arts organizations and school districts. "This sense of working together is lacking on Long Island," he said, "We need to lobby together, not individually." Ross added that any future discussions about the arts must include minority representation. After all, the minorities are now the majority, he stressed.

Music: An Essential Liberal Art?

Why should we care whether or not music is part of the school day? In the Fall 2006 issue of *American Educator*, author Peter Kalkavage argues that music is an essential liberal art, helping students understand themselves and their world. Since most adolescents listen to music, they ought to understand how music influences their emotions. They should study a variety of music, from classical to folk and blues. Through music education, students begin to cultivate an appreciation of beauty.

In an accompanying Q&A, musician Wynton Marsalis is asked why America's musical classics should be standard fare in schools. The "music our children hear on the radio may feel good, like a candy bar feels good, but it has no nutrition," he responds.

Public Agenda's recent look at parents', teachers', and students' educational priorities is also featured. Now that standards have been raised and schoolwork is getting harder (from the parents' perspective), the top priorities are securing more funding for schools, reducing class size, and improving student behavior. To round out the issue, a cognitive scientist debunks the "brain-based" learning fad and *American Educator* takes a look at two content-rich children's magazines.

To read more, visit

http://www.aft.org/pubs-reports/american_educator/index.htm

BOCES Science and Museum Fair



Eastern Suffolk BOCES' Department of Educational Support Services and the Arts in Education program collaborated and sponsored the first annual Science and Museum Fair featuring science and exploratory enrichment as well as museum programs offered through the BOCES Arts-in-Education Office on October 16th. Organized by Elizabeth Magnowski, Coordinator

of Curriculum and Assessment Services, and Carol Brown, Coordinator of Arts in Education and Exploratory Enrichment, this fair gave district personnel a chance to interact with AIE artists and presenters.

More than 40 vendors filled the conference rooms at the ESBOCES Sherwood Corporate Center providing an array of information to representatives and attendees from 50 Suffolk County school districts.

The wide selection of programs, available to Suffolk County districts, include in-school and off-site performances, workshops, residencies, field trips and professional development. Exploratory enrichment is offered through AIE in the areas of Health, Science, Social Studies, Math, and Career Development. A sampling of science and museum institutions that were on hand included Sweetbriar Nature Center, Hallockville Museum Farm, Bill Fix-Live Wildlife Educational Presentations, Long Island Science Center, Science on the Move, LLC, K12 Classroom Solutions for Science, The Science of Musical Sounds, Wellness Across America, The Human Connections Institute, Attanasio and Associates, Stony Brook University's Women in Science and Engineering, Petra Puppets, and Brookhaven National Laboratory.

Joanne Walker, a teacher from the Brentwood SD, shared that it was advantageous for her to attend the fair to see the programs first-hand. The Suffolk County Farm and Education Center/Cornell Cooperative Extension, offers four educational program areas at the farm that target school children from kindergarten to high school. Ms. Walker collected a great deal of literature from this fair and is looking forward to sharing the information with her colleagues in the district.

Steve Petruzzella, from Petra Puppets, shared that he and his colleague Jeannie "were delighted to be part of the BOCES Science Fair. It was an opportunity for us to meet with unique groups of people who were interested in our presentations. It was very well organized and provided a pleasant and relaxed atmosphere for both the attendees and the vendors."

Additional vendors included:

Starflower Experiences, Science on the Move, Museum of LI Natural Sciences, Erik's Reptile Edventures.



AIE PROGRAM PROFILES

On Tour: A World of Art

Balanced Mind and ES BOCES have arranged for an International Youth Art Exhibit from the World Awareness Children's Museum to circulate among Long Island schools for five weeks, starting this month. The 20-piece art exhibit with "Traditions" as its theme will be on display at the Balanced Mind Conference on November 7. Following the conference, schools may borrow (for free!) the exhibit for a week at a time.

The World Awareness Children's Museum was created in 1995 to foster awareness, understanding and appreciation of worldwide cultural diversity for children and adults. The exhibit on loan to Long Island schools has been assembled from the Museum's archive of over 6,000 original international works. Each International Youth Art Exhibit is tailored for a thematic or world region experience. To sample representative examples from the "Traditions" exhibit and others, visit www.worldchildrensmuseum.org

If your school would like to take advantage of the very special opportunity, contact Carol Brown, ES BOCES, at cbrown@esbooces.org

PAGE TURNERS

By Ellen D. Rappaport

The importance of art as a mode for expressing and controlling a world that is increasingly difficult to understand is highlighted more and more in both nonfiction for adults and fiction for youngsters. If you are looking for validation of why the arts must be part of every educational program, don't miss *Out of Our Minds: Learning to be Creative* by Ken Robinson and *The Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder* by Richard Louv. Both books validate the importance of hands-on exploration, contemplation and appreciation of the natural world to build a sense of self and to fuel solutions to save our planet.

In the young adult fiction category, *Pieces of Georgia* by Jen Bryant uses free verse to tell the story of a young girl who explores the artwork of the Wyeths in the Brandywine River Museum as a way of dealing with the loss of her mother, an artist. During the process, the heroine begins to create art of her own. *Darkhenge* by Catherine Fisher is a science fiction fantasy about a brother and sister who use art and poetry to foil the forces of evil. *Rules* by

Cynthia Lord is geared toward a younger audience and demonstrates how art can be a tool for those who are paralyzed by physical or mental illness.

Graphic novels and picture books are extremely popular. Outstanding in this category is *The Legend of Hong Kil Dong: The Robin Hood of Korea* written and illustrated by Anne Sibley O'Brien. Two picture books that epitomize the power of art as language are *Max's Words* by Kate Banks and *A Book About Design: Complicated Doesn't Make It Good* by Mark Gonyea. In *Max's Words*, Max cuts out and collects words, which he manipulates to demonstrate the wonder of language. In the second selection, Gonyea demonstrates the power of image to change meaning.

Ellen D. Rappaport, formerly a school librarian in the Patchogue-Medford School District of Long Island, is a reviewer on the Bank Street College of Education Children's Book Committee.

WEB VIEWS

ES BOCES Arts-in-Education is working on upgrading our website. One brand new addition is a searchable calendar with all programs contracted to date for the 2006-07 school year. It will be updated every two weeks until we go into a live iteration that will automatically make the updates on a daily basis. If you want to visit a program listed in the calendar, be sure to contact the school or district to ask permission to attend.

AIE-based Links

<http://emsc33.nysed.gov/ciai/pub/pubart.html>

This link provides AIE resource guides from the New York State Department of Education. There is information on teacher organizations and other state agencies.

NYSED Virtual Learning System (VLS)

<http://eservices.nysed.gov/vls>

The NYSED VLS presents the definitive set of New York State's learning standards, including the full text of the 28 standards and their respective key ideas and performance indicators, as well as the alternate performance indicators for students with severe disabilities. VLS offers lesson plans and tasks to support PreK-12 standards-based instruction such as sample tasks and learning experiences. Many of the lessons were compiled from MarcoPolo: Internet Content for the Classroom, which is dedicated to providing the highest quality Internet content and professional development for teachers and students. The site was created by a nonprofit consortium of premier national and international education organizations (including the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities) and the Verizon Foundation. VLS includes 270 art-related sample tasks and 362 arts-related lesson plans.

MEETINGS & PROGRAMS

- November 2 & 3:** **New York City AIE Roundtable, Face-to-Face 2006 Conference.** Riverside Church, 91 Claremont Ave. For more information, visit www.nycaieroundtable.org
- November 3:** **Social and Emotional Literacy (SEL) Forum, featuring a performance of “No Child...”** 7:45 AM to 3:30 PM. Hofstra University. For more information, telephone 516-463-5750 or visit www.sel.eboard.com
- November 7:** **Balanced Mind XI, “Teaching World Culture through the Arts.”** 8:00 AM to 2:15 PM, Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, Brookville, NY. For more information, go to <http://www.balancedmind.org/>
- November 13:** **AIE Coordinators and LI Museum Association meeting.** NYIT Central Islip, 1:00 – 3:00. Videoconferencing with Cleveland Museum of Art and Cape May. Advisory Council members welcomed.
- December 5:** **AIE Advisory Council Meeting.** 9:30-11:30 AM. Riverhead High School
- January 10-13:** **International Performing Arts for Youth.** Cleveland, OH. For details, visit www.ipayweb.org
- January 19:** **Long Island Arts Alliance Executive Forum.** Topic: Funding. 8:30-10:00. Tilles Center.

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www.esboces.org/AIE

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