



THE STAR



Eastern Suffolk BOCES Arts-in-Ed Newsletter

Vol. 22 - April 2006

LAST DAY TO SUBMIT 2005-06 CONTRACT REQUESTS IS FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2006

ARTS ADVOCACY: Advocacy begins with awareness! On your Contract Request form, you are asked to complete information on the program's connection to the arts and arts standards. This year completion of this section is requested. Next year it will be required.

Completing this information draws attention to each program's value to arts education and the nature of the arts connection(s) to the curriculum. It also gets teachers thinking about the value of the arts as a teaching tool. Thanks to those districts that are providing detailed explanations with their Request for Contracts.



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>
Amber Brown is not a Crayon	Artspower National Touring Theatre	www.artspower.org	K-4
Romeo and Juliet	American Globe Theatre	www.americanglobe.org	9-12
Feathered Friends	ECSS: Sweetbriar Nature Center	www.sweetbriarnc.org	1-4
Rainforest Butterflies	Steve Fratello	sfratell@suffolk.lib.ny.us	K-12
Storytelling Through Origami	Graham Associates	www.geocities.com/Rachel_katz	K-6
Wagon West	Long Island Museum		3-5
Lego Engineering	LI Science Center	www.lisciencecenter.org	4-6
Our Living Planet	Night Sky Educational Services	Nightskystarlab@aol.com	PreK-12
The Brave Little Turtle	Theatre Three	www.Theatre.Three.com	K-5
Jack Sprat: Low-Fat Tour	Theatreworks USA	www.twusa.org	1-5

DISTRICT STARS

Let Your School Shine!

Each month, The Star highlights popular AIE and EE performance/program feedback from submitted evaluations. But it would be much more exciting and meaningful if someone who attended a performance at your school wrote a brief paragraph or two about the event and how it impacted student learning. Our newsletter welcomes contributions from educators and students. And we'll be sure to give the author a byline.

Send your performance summary and any digital photos to Carol Brown at cbrown@esboces.org

Earth worth... In celebration of Earth Day and Arbor Day, districts considered all things earthly. Geffner Productions presented "Earth Mirth" in **Longwood**. **Lindenhurst** students learned that "Worms Eat Our Garbage" with Cornell Cooperative Extension. LI Science Center discussed "Leaves and Seeds" in **Sachem**. Leon Ognibene warned **West Babylon** students about "Our Endangered Earth." Enchanted Circle Theater performed "Dances of the Earth" in **Commack**. **Patchogue/Medford**, **Smithtown** and **South Huntington** students considered "Our Living Planet" with Night Sky Educational Services.

Asian arts... **Islip** students learned about "China Patterns" with NY Chinese Cultural Center. Shih Enterprises acquainted

Lindenhurst and **Smithtown** students with, "Let's Go to China." Third grade teacher Mary Anne Meyers said that her students saw "real artifacts that they'd been reading about." Pola Lanzaro explained "Asian Brush Painting" in **Commack**. In **Brentwood**, Artspower demonstrated "Dance Asia" and Bureau of Lectures performed "Chinese Acrobats." Bureau of Lectures also presented "Chinese Act" to **BOCES Jefferson Academic Center**. Graham Associates led "Storytelling through Origami" in **Bayport/Blue Point**, **Brentwood**, **Longwood**, **Middle Country**, **Sachem** and **Smithtown**. **Northport/East Northport** students discovered "The Art of Chinese Dancing" with Nai-ni Chen Dance Co. The Metropolitan Museum of Art gave a "Japanese Art Gallery Tour" to **Deer**

DISTRICT STARS (continued)

Park students. “The Spirit of Japanese Taiko” was explained by 698 Chop in **Middle Country**. American T’ai Chi Associates demonstrated t’ai chi in **Longwood** and **Sachem**.

Spanish celebration... Districts explored Spanish culture and its influences, from Spain to the tip of Argentina. Pleasant De Spain presented “Storytelling” in **Islip**. Hands on History gave a “Peruvian Weaving” lesson in **South Huntington**. **Riverhead** students learned about “Spanish Theater Arts” with Repetori Espanol and “Ballet Folklorico Mexico” with Class Act Performing Artists. “We read Bodas de Sangre in class and it was very effective to see it come alive on stage,” said Spanish teacher Diana Acosta of the Repetori Espanol performance. In **Brentwood**, Arts Horizon performed “Un Viaje Musical” and Los Aztecas ventured “South of the Border in Mexico.” **Patchogue/Medford** engaged in “A Cultural Performance” by Los Aztecas.

Raining rainforests... Steve Fratello discussed “Rainforest Research” with **BOCES Islip Academic Center** students and “Rainforest Butterflies” with **Brentwood**, **Central Islip** and **West Babylon** students. The “Rainforest” was explored by ECSS: Sweetbriar Nature Center in **Sachem** and **Smithtown**. “Rainforest” was also the subject of presentations made by Cornell Cooperative Extension in **Sachem**, King of Themes in **Middle Country** and LI Center for the Arts and Sciences in **Sachem** and by LI Science Center in **Smithtown**. **Connetquot** students experienced “Rainforest Yoga” with L.E.A.P. Unlimited. Jeffrey J. Desimone looked at the “Amazing Rainforest” in **Smithtown**.

European sightseein’... **Brentwood** and **Sachem** students saw a “Medieval Times Tournament” at Meadowlands Castle. **Brentwood** students also learned about the “Middle Ages” at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine. According to sixth grade teacher M. Russo, the “students were able to view a gothic cathedral, discuss art and architecture, and make a stone rubbing.” Long Island Philharmonic performed a “Happy Birthday, Amadeus!” tribute for **Southampton** students.

Magic madness... Magic was used to teach concepts across

the curriculum. “The Magic of Chemistry” was presented by Encore Performing Arts in **Sachem** and by Professor Chirakkal V. Krishnan in **Huntington**. Hip Pickles encouraged **Central Islip** students to “Discover the Magic of Reading.” Robert McEntee gave the same reading encouragement in **North Babylon** and **Springs**. McEntee also considered the “Magic Beyond Imagination” with **Brentwood** students. Encore Performing Arts showed “The Science of Magic” in **Brentwood** and **Central Islip**. Joseph S. Festa showed **Sayville** students that “The Magic is Real.” **Lindenhurst** students discovered “The Magic of Character” with James Vagias. “Magician’s Art and Scientific Inquiry” was the subject of Allan Z. Kronzek’s program in **Sachem**. Gary Dulabaum led “Reading and the Magic of Song” in **Brentwood**. In **Middle Country**, Jim Snack told students that “Reading is Magic” and Conrad Woyce showed students “The Magic of Health and Fitness.”

Seaside studies... Artspower presented “Rainbow Fish” in **Cold Spring Harbor**. “The study packet was great, especially the discussion/talking points and letter writing activity,” noted Dreizen, a teacher at Goosehill Primary Center. **Sachem** students visited the “Discovery Tank” and discussed “Water Recycling” at Cornell Cooperative Extension. Gerard McGrath led **Middle Country** students on “Sportfishing Adventures.” **Bayport/Blue Point** students considered “Whale Wonders” with Cornell Cooperative Extension. Encore Performing Arts shared “Sea Songs, Yarns and Hornpipes” with **Sachem** students. **Middle Country** students took a tour of the Fire Island Lighthouse Preserve. **Brentwood** first graders learned more about “Marine Life” at Atlantis Marine World. “The students were able to see and discover sea life through a hands-on approach, which made our study of ocean/sea life memorable,” reported their teacher K. Morris.

Bard business... **Huntington** students participated in a “Shakespearean Workshop” with Stages on the Sound. “Romeo and Juliet” was performed by Theatreworks USA on **Fire Island** and by American Globe Theatre in **Babylon**, **Cold Spring Harbor** and **Sachem**. YMCA of Long Island brought “Hamlet” to **Bay Shore**.

AIE NEWS

What Artists Say About Our Schools

Throughout the year, ES BOCES receives evaluations from artists who’ve performed and/or taught in area schools. We thought we’d share their responses as a way to applaud the schools who’ve been wonderful hosts and to give others a few ideas on how to make an artist’s on-site visit productive and memorable. Hats off to the following schools!

Lynwood Ave. School, Sachem

“Lynwood Avenue classes are run in an upbeat, positive manner. Students are attentive and eager. Teachers display affection and enthusiasm for their profession.” —Colorado Teddy Bear Factory

Chestnut Hill Elementary, Half Hollow Hills

“The cultural arts committee as well as the teachers prepared for my visit. The students were well prepared for poetry and were responsive and enthusiastic.” —Douglas Florian

Sachem North High School, Sachem

“We had a great time. The administration took very good care of us. The students were interactive and receptive. We had a fabulous day.” —All Access Productions

Pulaski School, Northport/East Northport

“This is a very nice, friendly school. Everyone is helpful and the audiences well-behaved and enthusiastic (teachers as well as students). We loved sharing our shows with this school.” —Agostino Arts.

Chippewa School, Sachem

"Wow!! I was welcomed warmly and enthusiastically by staff and students. The reading teachers—Ms. Brooks and Ms. Saladino—were so helpful everyday. The librarian had shared my books prior to my visit, so students welcomed me with open arms. The principal took the time to observe my workshops. What a delightful week!"—Addie Meyer Sanders

Walt Whitman High School, South Huntington

"I could not have worked with a more cooperative group of professionals. I was provided with everything I needed to make my workshop a success. Participants were eager to learn and were very complimentary. The office of the district's Director of Arts and Music was extremely helpful. They provided us with a large space in which to work along with refreshments."

—Marc Schimsky.

Grundy Avenue School, Sachem

"Excellent school, responsive children and wonderful staff support."—Judith Caseley

AIE PROGRAM PROFILES

SCALA Art Show

The Suffolk County Arts Leaders Association's (SCALA) Second Annual Suffolk County Student Art Show opened at Brookhaven Arts and Humanities Council's Gallery on the Hill, Farmingville, on March 26, 2006. Students from fifteen school districts presented almost one hundred pieces of artwork in a variety of media, including oil, photography, watercolor, pencil, acrylic, plaster, electronic art and pen and ink. The Mary Reay Scholarship, a first time Brookhaven Arts and Humanities Council scholarship to honor founding member, teacher and artist Mary Reay, was awarded to Jason Riggs from Half Hollow Hills. SCALA Best In Show prize went to Xena Holtzapfel from Sachem. First prizes were also given in painting to Joseph Sopp of Bayport/Blue Point, in drawing to Jodie Embleton of Lindenhurst, in 3-D to Xena Holtzapfel, in mixed media to Danielle Monaco of Commack, in photography to Alexandra Goldmann of Commack, and in electronic art to Christina Curcio of Sachem.

The artworks were judged by Nancy Richner, Education Program Coordinator, Nassau County Museum of Art, and by Joy Weiner, Director of Education and Public Programs, Heckscher Museum of Art. Almost two hundred people attended the Opening Reception and Awards Ceremony on March 26, 2006 hosted by SCALA President Carol Brown and VP, Bill Pagano. First Place winners received a scholarship from SCALA; all first through third place winners received a copy of Long Island Entertainment book from Charity Bernard.

exhibits. The exhibits consisted of projects and portfolios, including video, photography, computer graphics and animation. During the day's event, students connected with evaluators who gave feedback and tips on their works. NYS Summer School for the Arts (NYSSSA) evaluators were on hand to evaluate the works of students interested in attending the NYS Summer School of the Media Arts. Students were also asked to evaluate each other's projects. In addition, there was an information session for district arts, curriculum and building administrators.

This year's Best in Show videos will receive a public viewing at the Westhampton Beach Performing Arts Center on Sunday, May 21, 2006 promptly at 4:00 PM. Tickets and directions are available online at www.whbpac.org. For more info, see: www.limediaartsshow.org.



Media Art Show

"It's All About the Media" was the theme of this year's Long Island Media Arts Show (LIMAS), the "largest show to date and the best organized," according to NYS Summer School for the Arts Adjudicator, Bob Reals. Held at Five Towns College in Dix Hill on March 31, 2006, the show attracted over 500 dedicated high school Media Arts student participants from 33 schools in 31 districts from across Long Island. In addition, hundreds more Media Arts student and administrators attended to view the

From Slavery to Freedom

The Suffolk Center on the Holocaust, Diversity & Human Understanding (CHDHU) held its inaugural exhibit of the recently acquired "From Slavery to Freedom" collection. The collection consists of original artifacts and documents, supplemented by reproductions, on the trans-Atlantic slave trade, slave life in America, slavery on Long Island, the abolitionist movement, and the Underground Railroad.

The exhibit was viewed by over 250 high school and college students at a program held on February 28 focusing on "Slavery on Long Island." Carl Westmoreland, the curator of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, addressed the students. There was also a panel discussion on slavery on Long Island along with a stimulating discussion period. The program, held on the Western Campus of Suffolk Community College, included a performance of spirituals (accompanied by narrations on their origin and meaning) and dramatic readings of slave poetry and narratives.

Further information on the collection and future programs can be obtained from Steven Schrier, Executive Director of CHDHU, at 631-451-4117, or by writing to CHDHU@SunnySuffolk.edu.

AIE PROGRAM PROFILES (continued)

Common Ground Conference

This year's Common Ground for Arts Education Conference took place in Rochester, NY, from April 5 through 7, 2006. Over 200 people attended the event, Where the Arts and Education Meet, which highlighted integrating the arts into the curriculum.

The focus was on Reflection, Renewal, and Re-Vision.

- Reflection on resiliency and the skills our students need to survive and thrive in this world; and core values that we bring to any arts in education experience.
- Renewing our commitment to bringing excellence in arts learning to the classrooms of NYS; and excitement as we listen and learn about new innovations in our community.
- Re-visioning policies that guide our daily objectives and actions.

Two exceptional programs previewed were "Attention on Attention" (a dance residency) and the upcoming performance of Nilaja Sun's "No Child...."

"No Child..." is a provocative and entertaining story about the teachers, students, parents, administrators, janitors, and security guards who inhabit our public schools every day and are shaping the future of America. Previews begin April 29; tickets are available at Theatre Row Box Office: 212-279-4200. Actress Nilaja Sun can hold a pre-performance workshop. Post-show Q&As follow most performances.

"Attention on Attention" is a dance residency with Susan Slotnick. The presentation was on the philosophical, scientific tenets and brain research on attention, including videos of elementary students and incarcerated youth offenders practicing increased attention through dance residencies. The work accomplished by students and youth is very encouraging. It is recommended for teacher training as well as student residencies. Ms Slotnick can be reached at plie3@aol.com.

Cultural Diversity Celebration

It may be hard to think about sugar plums and dreidels in the middle of April, but Elaine Short, PTA President, Coram Elementary School, recently wrote us about a wonderful cultural diversity project that her school's teachers and students participate in each December. Here's her report...

"In December, we celebrate cultural diversity with an event called Holidays Around the World. For the event, tables are set up in the gymnasium to display gift items—small crafts and trinkets—that represent various holidays, including Ramadan, Chinese New Year, Hanukkah, Christmas, Los Posados and Kwanzaa. We ask teachers to volunteer to man the gift tables and usually upwards of 25 to 30 teachers help out. We also have Santa, who poses for photos with all interested children as part of their \$1 donation to attend the event. In addition, our cultural events budget is used for entertainment that coordinates with the theme of the evening. The event is open to all our students, Grades K-4, as well as their siblings.

Holidays Around the World, which was started by past PTA president and current program chair Donna Auer, is one of the school's most exhaustive programs and one that they're most proud of. Several years ago, Coram Elementary School won the Suffolk County Anti-Bias award for the event. The students have a great time making the crafts while learning about other people's beliefs and traditions. They also get to go home with some cute toys."—Elaine Short, PTA President, Coram Elementary

Mayhem Poets

On March 15th, Walt Whitman High School's 9th graders were treated to a lively performance by Mayhem Poets, a group of three dynamic young men based in New Jersey. The group performed original contemporary format spoken-word poetry known as slam poetry. To say the performance was outstanding would be an understatement. Our students were actively engaged from beginning to end as the performers traded original pieces from their personal collections, each built on a different theme and demonstrating a "unique combination of meter, rhyme and verbal dexterity." I highly recommend Mayhem Poets for your high school students; they will leave your students inspired to write and maybe also perform their own spoken-word poetry. Lisa Brieff and Donna Appenzeller, Walt Whitman High School PTA Cultural Arts, South Huntington

During this performance of Mayhem Poets, roughly 150 South Huntington ninth graders sat (during one of the three performances) with their bodies pressed forward, listening intently to the artists' rap. The Mayhem Poets—Scott Tarazevits, Kyle Sutton, and Mason Granger—are all writers and entertainers dedicated to bringing slam and performance poetry into schools. The threesome delighted the South Huntington students with their poetry about anger, self-esteem, love and a myriad of other themes the students could relate to. For example, one poem tackled modern communication and the lack of face-to-face interaction in a world of instant and text messaging. Humor was also a common denominator in such poems as "Unsinkable Cheerios Drown Self in Milk" and "Ten Lane Freeway of Your Heart." A creative look at the stories of Dr. Seuss suggested that many analogies could be made from them about world events, music, politics, television and more. For more information about this group who also offer poetry workshops and residencies, visit <http://www.mayhempoets.com/>.

Arts Advocacy in Albany

Long Island arts and music leaders recently lobbied for music education in Albany during NYSSMA Day on March 13th. More than 30 Suffolk lobbyists met with senators and other politicians, both music and arts educators and administrators on behalf of NYSSMA and SCALA. During the meetings, the NYSSMA lobbyist stressed, "We represented students—they're our 'special interest' group." Issues of concern to music educators and their students included:

Summer School for the Arts—The program was given a line in the Governor's Budget. Lobbyists wanted to know that the funds would be placed on the line.

SED Personnel Shortage—Since the retirement of the Visual Arts Specialist from the State Education Department, the Music Specialist (the only arts person left in the SED) has had to cover not only music but also visual arts, theatre and dance in all the NYS school districts. Lobbyists wanted to know what politicians are going to do to help the situation.

Teacher Certification—The lobbyists asked for arts certification requirements for elementary arts teachers. They ask, "Why won't the Legislature bring the bills requiring certification out of the committee and stop the fiasco of having them introduced in each house each year and never let out of committee?"

Proposition 4—The lobbyists wanted Albany to explain the value of "Proposition 4." They sited the California and Massachusetts educational systems as examples of what happens after the introduction of propositions advocating budget caps.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

May 30, 2006 is the deadline for online submission of presentation proposals for The Balanced Mind Curriculum Conference, slated for November 7, 2006 at Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, Brookville. Preference will be given to presentations that reflect the conference's theme, "Teaching World Culture Through the Arts."

WEB VIEWS

Here are several sites with reading tips for parents...

The Grandeur of Viceregal Mexico
Colonial Influences on Mexican Art.
<http://www.fm.coe.uh.edu/default.htm>

Art and Culture of Mughal, India
Interactive site with lesson ideas
<http://www.mughalindia.co.uk/room.html>

International Kids Space
Students share their art, stories and music.
<http://www.kids-space.org/>

The Chauvet-Pont-d'Arc Cave
Perhaps the oldest paintings ever made.
<http://www.culture.gouv.fr/culture/arcnat/chauvet/en/index.html>

Ancient Egyptian Art
<http://www.eternalegypt.org/EternalEgyptWebsiteWeb/HomeServlet>

International Symmetry
<http://www.adrianbruce.com/Symmetry/>

Van Gogh Museum
The master revealed in text, repros and video.
<http://www2.vangoghmuseum.nl/vgm/index.jsp>

MEETINGS & PROGRAMS

June 9: AIE Advisory Council Field Trip to Storm King Art Center, Mountville, NY.

UPDATED REQUEST FOR CONTRACTS

DEADLINES: Requests for Contracts must be received prior to the date of the program in order for BOCES Arts-in-Education to generate a contract. Any requests received after the program dates cannot be processed through Arts-in-Education. If the artist is new to Eastern Suffolk BOCES Arts-In-Education and is not registered with us (with a W-9 form), you must leave enough time for registration before the date of the program to insure that they are working with a contract.

PREPAYS: The Arts In Ed office must have at least 4 weeks to process your request which includes getting a check to the vendor by a certain date. Additionally, your district needs to have enough funds in their Arts In Ed account to process the request. Thank you for your assistance.

EDITORS: *Susan Neale* *Diane Bloxon*

www.esboces.org/AIE

Please submit articles and items of interest to Carol Brown: cbrown@esboces.org
631-288-0290 (voice) 631-288-6847 (fax)