



The Star



Eastern Suffolk BOCES Arts-in-Ed Newsletter

Vol. 9 September/October 2004

Request for Contracts Deadline

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 to get them registered before the date of the program to insure that we are working with a contract. Thank you for your assistance.

Advisory Council Meetings: We are planning several formal full meetings this year as well as several informal “excursions” to new programs and venues. Please share this information w/ Curriculum Directors, Staff and PTA Cultural Arts Reps.

October 22: Excursion: Visit the new Boulton Center for the Performing Arts and enjoy the “Portland Taiko.” Limited seats available. 9:30 AM; Performance at 10:00 AM.

November 12: Advisory Council Meeting 8:30 AM CW Post. Meeting in Hillwood Art Museum and performance of “The Little Prince” in Tilles theatre.

Top Ten Arts-In-Ed Programs

This month’s favorite programs among Suffolk school districts

Title	Artist/Art Organization	Target Audience
Laura Ingalls Wilder	Artpower National Touring Theatre www.artspower.org	K-6
Young Playwright's Program	Bay Street Theatre www.baystreet.org	7-12
Theatre as Motivation for Life	Paul D. Failla	7-12
Native Americans	LI Center for Arts & Science	2-4
Starlab	Night Sky Educational Services	K-12
Little Red Riding Hood Finds Safety Zone	Periwinkle National Theatre www.periwinkle.org	1-4
American Sampler	Pushcart Players www.pushcartplayers.org	K-8
Ickybugman	Ralph Masiello www.ickybugman.com	1-5
Halloween Show	Shih Enterprises, Inc www.patriciashih.com	K-5
Adventures of Curious George	Theatreworks www.theatreworksusa.org	PreK-3

DISTRICT STARS

Smart start... Districts kicked off the new school year with various programs geared to boosting a positive attitude towards school, self and others. In **Brentwood**, entering students learned that “Kindergarten is Cool,” while older students were guided in “Conflict Management” by Cornell Cooperative Ext. Periwinkle National Theatre presented “Little Red Riding Hood Finds the Safety Zone” in **Elwood** and **Harborfields**. **Elwood** students also received tips on “Bus Safety” from Joe Guida. A character workshop, led by Arts Across the Curriculum, was held in **Sachem**. Camfel Productions presented “It’s My Life” in **Harborfields** and **Hauppauge**. Students in **Lindenhurst** and **Longwood** heard “Music with a Message” by Hip Pickles. **Longwood** students also saw a “Show of Love” by Joe Trionfero. In **Commack** and **Three Village**, Lou Del Bianco challenged students to “Make Good Choices.” **Three Village** kindergarten teacher Mary O’Connell noted that the program was excellent and her students were “highly engaged.” **Commack** students also experienced “Hey Bully, Bully” from Robin Klinger Enterprises. Patricia Shih

discussed substance abuse during the "Big Ideas Concert" in **Smithtown** and had "Big Ideas About Kindness" for **Riverhead** students. A Vision in Motion, Inc. recommended "Taking the 'Dis' out of Disability" to **Smithtown** students, while Janice Buckner presented "Songs of the Differently Able" to **Longwood** students. Janice Buckner also encouraged **Connetquot** students to be "Safe Not Sorry" and led a "Pep Rally for Learning" in **South Huntington**.

Halloween treats... There were spooky goings-on in several school districts in October. Artist David Gonzalez presented "Witches, Trolls and Mischief-makers" and "Halloween Storytelling" to **Commack** students. **Sachem** students watched a "Halloween Laser Spooktacular," courtesy of Prismatic Magic. Bali Dali Productions' presented "The Lumpy, Bumpy Pumpkin" in **Elwood**. Students in **East Quogue** listened to Jay Mankita's "Halloween Concert." Shih Enterprises, Inc. performed a "Halloween Show" in **Connetquot** and **West Babylon**.

Got rhythm?...Music was in the air and feet were dancing. In **Three Village**, John Farrel presented a musical program and the Metropolitan Opera Association performed "Carmen." **Sachem** students stretched their legs during "Square Dance Fun" with Primo Fiore. Circle of Dance Repertory Company conducted a dance residency in **Northport/East Northport** and dance workshop series in **Sachem**. Gatelot (**Sachem**) physical education teachers Elizabeth Ko and Peter Cafiso reported that the program helps children learn how to keep rhythm to music, improve their directionality, and makes connections between vocabulary and movement. The teachers added that the performers were excellent both in terms of dance motivation and behavior management. The "Potsdam Brass Quintet" from Aurora Artists Management performed in **Hampton Bays** and **Mount Sinai**. **West Babylon** students received "Line Dance Instruction" from Sandy Sue Cimini. **Bay Shore** presented LaTonya Tolbert's dance program.

Native narratives... Autumn inspired many lessons about Native American culture. Journeys Into American Indian Territory presented Native American programs in **Bayport/Blueport**, **Connetquot** and **Sachem**. Students in **Sachem** also explored Native American culture with Cornell Cooperative Extension and LI Center for Arts & Sciences. LI Center for Arts & Sciences visited **Commack** students as well. **Smithtown** students experienced "Native American Life" with S.C. Archaeological Association.

Artist role models... Visiting artists got high marks from school districts. Pat Herrmann discussed art careers with **Commack** students, while showing them how to develop skills with a variety of artistic materials. "My second grade students were able to see and work with an actual artist," said Rolling Hills School art teacher Barbara Palmadesso. "They used the painting techniques of a mural artist. They also gained first-hand knowledge of how working cooperatively with group can make a large-scale project a reality." Robert C. Bolster, Jr, presented "Traditional/Digital Art and Illustration" to **Brentwood** summer school students. According to Language Arts coordinator Kate Corkery, the artist covered everything, from art history to the how-to's of drawing by hand and on the computer. "He was an excellent role model who made it clear that hard work and high standards are needed to cultivate talent," she said.

Page-turners... Attention was paid to writing skills. Bay Street Theatre led "Young Playwright's Intensive Program" in **Sag Harbor**, **Southampton**, and **Westhampton Beach**. **South Huntington** students participated in Orel Protopoescu's poetry workshop. Agostino Arts' "Bodacious Books" and Artspower National Touring Theatre "Rainbow Fish" visited **Commack**. Artspower National Touring Theatre also presented "Laura Ingalls Wilder" in **Amagansett**, **Bridgehampton**, **East Hampton**, **Montauk**, **Sagaponack** and **Springs**. In **Connetquot**, students were exposed to "Poetry Alive" by the artistic group with the same name as well as a writer's workshop by Ballyhoo Bookworks Inc. "Poetry in Schools" was the theme of Susan Astor's presentation in **Sachem**. The Boulton Performing Arts Center presented "Very Eric Carle" to **Bay Shore** students. **Sachem** students listened to "Storytelling with Heather Forest." TheatreworksUSA shared the "Adventures of Curious George" with students in **Amagansett**, **Bridgehampton**, **East Hampton**, **Montauk**, **Sagaponack**, **Springs** and **Wainscott**. **Mattituck/Cutchogue** students participated in a storytelling residency with The Storycrafters.

More choices... The 2004-2005 Arts-in-Education Program Catalogue has 43 new vendors! Mark Vunkannon uses his unique experiences to discuss story writing and analysis with students. Musicians, such as Theresa Orlando, Toby Walker and Andrew R. Wasserman, tackle various music categories, from classical to blues, and even travel back in time to explore music's past. An appreciation for art and the creative process is explored with sculptor Kelly Diaz and ceramic artist Catherine Saporacino, while

art therapist Mary Ann Harding uses art projects to delve into self-esteem issues. Be sure to check out the new vendors in the Dance, Drama, Health, Science and Social Studies sections as well!



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 Program Profiles

The Arts: Shaping Humans, One Student at a Time

The need to strengthen arts education in schools was emphasized at the NYS Council of School Superintendents Conference on September 19th and at the AIE's "Conference within a Conference" the following day. "The arts defines what it is to be human," stressed keynote speaker and Broadway legend Theodore Bikel. "No one remembers a battle, who won or lost, unless a painting, play, poem or song has been created to represent it." Eastern Suffolk BOCES supported both Mr. Bikel and two of the AIE's breakout sessions.



In his address, Mr. Bikel said, "people on the federal level want to make the arts peripheral to the educational system. They think art equals nonconformity and present society mistrusts nonconformity. In the past, America celebrated nonconformity." Mr. Bikel cited the *Declaration of Independence* as an example. "Without nonconformity, we are no longer America or free."

The arts may be "the last best hope for meaningful survival," continued Mr. Bikel. "In the wake of 9/11, we must give children a sense of normalcy, a way to express grief and express hope for the future. Central to the lives of all students is the need to understand life and how they may better humankind. Without the arts, life becomes a hollow enterprise. With the arts, people can give shape to that which might be or should be; they move forward the dream of a better humankind."

During AIE's "Conference within a Conference," Scott C. Shuler, arts consultant for the Connecticut State Department of Education said, "An education in all of the arts is important for all students." Using his *Guiding Principles of Arts Education*, Dr. Shuler noted that independent arts literacy can be described as the ability to carry out the three artistic processes: creating, performing and responding to the arts. These artistic processes can be applied to other subject areas, including ELA, social studies, math, and science. "Arts intersect with other academic areas in the process (level of thinking), content, and priority of quality, authentic work." This intersection of arts and academics can be seen in *A Taxonomy for Learning: Teaching and Assessing* by Lorin W. Anderson and David R. Krathwohl, which is somewhat similar to, yet theoretically different from Bloom's taxonomy. In Anderson's scheme "create" is the highest level, whereas "evaluation" is the highest for Bloom. For more about Connecticut's arts curriculum, visit www.ctcurriculum.org

American Place Theatre (APT) led a hands-on workshop where over 60 superintendents actively participated in communications exercises that can be used with school boards and the community. The workshop culminated in a showcase of one of APT's new *Literature to Life* performances, "Dreaming in Cuban" by Cristina Garcia. The power of this performance for middle and high school students captivated the attendees, who stayed an extra half-hour to ask questions.

Meaning for the Middle

How can middle school teachers help students make meaning? By giving students learning strategies that work, according to Judith Conk, retired superintendent and literacy expert. In her compelling workshop, "Leadership, Creative Teaching and Learning and the Arts," at the ES BOCES Arts-in-Education Advisory Council meeting on September 23, Ms. Conk suggested that we often tackle this question by looking at how we make meaning for ourselves. In doing so, we inadvertently dump

knowledge on our adolescents and young teenagers. "We know, from various assessments, including standardized test scores, that this does not work," she said.

Instead, Ms. Conk recommends giving students specific strategies, such as those found in *Strategies That Work* (Harvey and Goudvis, 2000). For example, when pursuing "the arts and literacy connection," the strategies that work (and are used by good adolescent readers and writers) are:

- Making connections
- Questioning
- Visualizing and inferring
- Determining importance
- Synthesizing information
- Repairing faulty comprehension
- Sensory imaging

Ms. Conk challenged the audience to cite examples of these strategies working in the other academic areas. "Think about lessons in math, science, social studies, and so forth that use these same strategies," she said. She believes that the KWL model, commonly used with elementary school children, should be modified for adolescence. "In middle school, we should think about 'What I Know' and 'What I Wonder.' Wouldn't this questioning technique have more meaning for a middle level student?"

Judith Conk will be a featured presenter at ES BOCES Middle Level Literacy Conference at the Huntington Hilton on Saturday, December 4, 2004. This is an opportunity for middle level principals and teachers to participate in a longer workshop with Ms. Conk. Contact Elizabeth Pacheco at (631) 218-4152 or epacheco@esboes.org for registration and more information.

Web Views

Websites to welcome in the new school year...

- ❖ Education, business and government leaders address education in the 21st century
<http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/>
- ❖ Museum of Modern Art offers rich online educational resources
<http://www.moma.org/education/multimedia.html>
- ❖ The National Arts and Education Information Network
<http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/>
- ❖ A world-tour Salvador Dali's exhibition will make its only U.S. stop at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Schools can videoconference about the exhibit, beginning in March 2005.
<http://www.philamuseum.org/exhibitions/exhibits/dali.shtml>

Meetings & Programs

Oct. 22: Arts In Ed Excursion to Boulton Center: Portland Taiko

October 29-30: Face to Face Conference. Arts-in-Education Roundtable Conference. NY, NY.
www.nycaieroundtable.org

November 2: Balanced Mind VII Conference. Uniondale Marriot. www.balancedmind.org

Nov. 12: Advisory Ccl Meeting. Tilles Center. 8:30 AM Meeting.Performance: *The Little Prince*

December 4: ES BOCES Middle Level Literacy Conference. Huntington Hilton. Contact Elizabeth Pacheco at (631) 218-4152 or epacheco@esboes.org for registration and info.

January 21-24: International Youth Performance Showcase. Cleveland.
www.ipayweb.org

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www.esboeces.org/AIE

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