

# BRAVO!! Times

November 2005



## Julie's Super Vision

**A**s the 2005-06 year is underway, so are the many fine arts happenings around the district! This year marked the first "Mona Lease a Art" program where

student artists from every GRPS school had their work professionally framed and leased by area businesses. Students were honored at a special reception and in a year from now, will receive back their leased pieces to keep forever. How exciting is that! I thank all of our business lease sponsors who are showcasing each work in their lobbies and contributing to a win/win program.

The Arts Advocates group continues to meet to better the arts opportunities in our district and keep the value of the arts open and alive. The yearly meetings all begin at 6:45 at Franklin Campus on November 9, January 11, February 8, May 10. ALL are welcome to attend - parents, artists, musicians, interested patrons, etc.

Mark your calendar for this year's Arts Jam - Sunday, February 26, 2006 at St. Cecilia at 2pm. Featured acts include: Bill Vits, Edye Evans Hyde, Potato Moon, Troll for Trout, and others. Our visual arts auction items will be 4 foot tall wooden posts that are moveable and can be put in the ground as a garden ornament or stood upright on a deck, porch, or even inside. They will be decorated in a variety of ways and may serve as our best product yet!

Wishing you a great year. Please feel free to contact us anytime for ideas, information, compliments, or suggestions.

*Julie Powell*

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# News From Our Schools



*Creston at Cedar Springs "Red Flannel" Marching Competition.*

## Creston High School Marches On The Competition

The Creston Band kicked off the 2005 competitive season with a 3rd Place in Class C at the Cedar Springs "Red Flannel" marching competition. The 2005 show features a "Latin" style with songs entitled "Escazu", "Sunset Express", drum feature "Rampage", and "Touched By Fire". Creston's also performed at the Grandville Invitational at Grandville High School on October 8th, followed by the District 10 MSBOA Marching Band Festival at Wyoming Park High School on October 11th where they received an excellent rating of 'II'. The band jazzed up the WZZM TV 13 broadcast on Friday October 14th performing on the "On Your Sidelines" high school recap show. Creston is proud to show their new gold and blue marching uniforms that dazzle during the field show.

the creation of several building murals, has been hired as a new art teacher at Union. Currently he is teaching a 5th hour "Intro to drawing" class.

We are pleased that ACE classrooms have been featured by local out-of-district high school newspapers and journalism classes as well as by local publications such as the *GR Press* and *On the Town* magazine.

### New after school classes:

- Intermediate and beginner Guitar classes
- Comic Book club - Print making club
- Performance Literature club
- Music recording club

Planned registration for these classes - 2nd quarter

### Road trips with ACE:

Union's orchestra has taken 2 trips to GVSU to visit their orchestra program and take in some performances. They plan to perform at Covenant Village this month, while the Band already performed at the Veteran's Day Parade. The ACE Invaders (the student Rock & Roll Band) are performing at Sibley Elementary in January. And, the Broadcast Journalism class regularly travels to the CMC television production studio while they prepare their monthly broadcasts.

*Continued on Page 4*

## WNAU-What's New at the U?

**By Chad Williams, Union HS Assistant Principal**

What's new at Union High's Arts, Communication, & Entertainment School, better known as ACE?

### In The Classroom

Our broadcast journalism classes' WNAU (What's New at the U?) debuted their first broadcast last week to Union students to much acclaim. It was broadcast on Union's closed circuit system during

lunch periods. Look for it on Channel 27.

Dance class is having a "Snow coming" dance in December. It will be a semi-formal for students prior to holiday break. Santa has promised presents for good boys and girls for that evening and the dance class will debut several new dance routines.

Mike Harris, local artist who helped in

# “See You Next Week!”

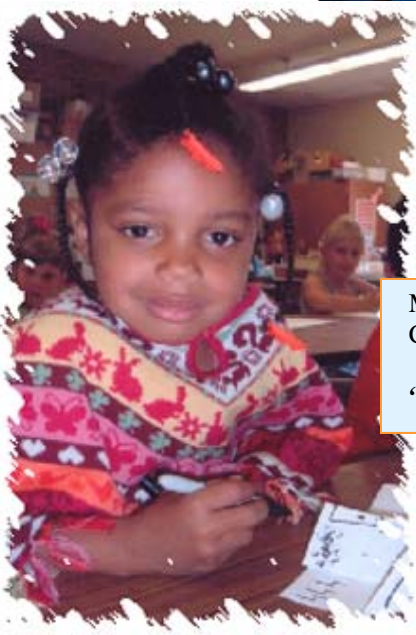
By Nancy VanRooy, Elementary Art Teacher

## “See you next week, Mrs. VanRooy!”

Those words are music to my ears. This year we elementary art instructors teach each class once a week. This has meant greater carry over of art to classroom and better relationships between art teachers and their students—as well as fellow staff members. Students love having art weekly.

Third grade, Ashely Kipps, says...

*“I am learning about details in my art work. I want to be an artist.”*



Myasia Smith, a 1st grade student at Covell, likes art every week because...

*“It is fun and we make cool things.”*

Mimmie Nguyn, 3rd grader at Covell says...

*“I like art every week because we learn more.”*



Children who struggle in academic subjects are often good artists. These kids are blooming with increased art time. Keep your eyes open for the wonderful art of our urban kids. You will be amazed!



## Aloha!

Music teachers (L to R) Eileen Wigen, Carol Dodge, Instructor Bethany, and Lorraine Hardebeck are having a great time learning about the music, culture, and ancient Hawaiian dance, the Hula. Lessons are held each week at the Grandville Avenue Academy of Arts. Teachers hope to do a multi-cultural unit on Hawaii during the winter, and Eileen and her husband are planning a Hawaiian vacation.

## In the LOOP

By Lisa Honeycutt

Many Harrison Park Elementary School students are participating in their new LOOP music class. Instructor Lisa Honeycutt offers students a supplemental class after a quick break with yummy snacks.

Children of all ages are learning to perform on recorders, boom whackers, real musical instruments, and will soon be working on music theory and notation in the computer lab.



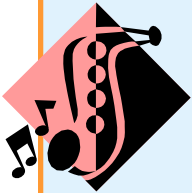
Wendy Marti, director of LOOP visited recently to listen to Harrison Park fourth graders give a brief concert. Students explained that they were learning how to read music and play an instrument at the same time. "We have to listen to each other and follow with our eyes and ears", said one student that chose to remain incognito. Grade levels rotate every two weeks for new activities. This will ensure all students a well-rounded afternoon each school day.

## Arts Jam 06

It's that time of year again when we offer the best musical concert, art and food event in town! Arts Jam! Tickets are on sale now.

If you are not familiar with the annual Arts Jam, it is a benefit concert and auction to raise funds for the art and music programs in GRPS. The event takes place on Sunday, February 26, from 2—5 at St. Cecilia Music Society. The concert and auction are followed by a fabulous reception that will please your palette with the delightful flavors of Europe.

The concert lineup is complete and features Potato Moon, Edye Evans Hyde, Troll for Trout, Freddy DeGennaro, Bill Vits and Laura Armenta, and will be hosted by Mayor George Heartwell. Dyn-o-mite!



This year's art project is still looking for a name, but if you are curious to know, it could be described as wooden cube-art on a copper pole. The purchaser can use the sculpture as garden art or part of an interior collection. We can hardly wait to unveil a sample of this extremely original and versatile idea! Stay tuned.

Mark your calendars now, and contact Julie or Alesia in the Fine Arts/PE Office to reserve your ticket now, (616) 819-2156.



*Kent Education Center—Mayfield participate in the Pinwheels for Peace. Students are pictured with principal, Barb Osburn on the left, and art teacher, Karen Haight toward the right.*

## Pinwheels for Peace

Peace needs to be more than just a word, and to the students at KEC Mayfield they wanted to demonstrate that idea. Students building-wide created pinwheels to celebrate the International Day of Peace on September 21, 2005. It is estimated that over 500,000 pinwheels were planted in 1,350 locations throughout the world.

The pinwheel is a childlike symbol, that reminds us of a time when life was more simple and free from the heavy issues of war, violence, intolerance and daily conflicts. These pinwheels are used to open up dialogue with students about their thoughts on war and peace, and about living in harmony with others.

The pinwheels are not a political statement. Yet, they are intended to help students discover their own definition of peace, and to help them make a plan to gain freedom from conflict or disagreements amongst people or groups.

Art teacher, Karen Haight, embraced this project and the opportunity that allows students to visually express themselves, and incorporates writing to appropriately express feelings. All of the pinwheels were “planted” outside as a symbol of the seeds of hope that will grow a peaceful world.

Make plans now to join the next International Day of Peace on September 21, 2006.

## Continuation from page 2—What's New At The U?

The art classes will begin touring student art around the district to be displayed in the many new elementary and middle school libraries, which were built with the assistance of Susan Heartwell and the S.A.F. (Student Advancement Foundation).

### Fundraising at ACE:

A partnership with Personal Preference Inc., an Art wholesaling company, has been developed and very soon supporters of ACE and lovers of art will be able to purchase professionally framed artwork over the internet. Look for the website address in future newsletters.

# Mona Lease-a Art

The Fine Arts & Physical Education Department recently introduced “Mona Lease-a Art”. Mona Lease-a Art is a program that gives local businesses the chance to lease student artwork under a one year agreement. This is how it works...



Last spring, one piece of student artwork was selected from each GRPS school, grades K—12. The artwork was sent to a local gallery, Perimeter Frames, to be professionally framed and matted over the summer. This fall, the finished artwork was made available to local stores, companies, shops, and government agencies to lease for one year, at \$125 per picture. At the end of the year, the artwork is returned to the student to keep forever. The \$125 lease money goes right back into framing and matting the artwork for next year’s selected student artists.

On October 27th a reception to honor the student artists and their families was held at Coit Elementary School. Students were able to see their pictures, finely finished to museum quality standards, and to show their work to special family members before it was sent to leasers. Students received much praise, recognition and a



\$10 gift certificate to Michael’s where they can purchase more art supplies and craft items to continue creating. A photographer and journalist attended and featured a lovely article about the Mona Lease-a Art program in the *Grand Rapids Press*.

*Campus El. student, Latisha Bolen proudly shows her picture with family and art teacher, Sharon Maddox*



*Lincoln Developmental Art Teacher, Elaine Dacher, provides tactile learning with paper Mache*

## Art at Lincoln Developmental By Elaine Dalcher

At Lincoln Developmental Center, students are working on a collaborative harvest project. Using paper Mache, each class is creating one pumpkin and a number of autumn fruits and vegetables: crook-necked squash, apples, pears, and pomegranates. By the time we have completed our project, each class will have a beautiful centerpiece for display at November conferences.



The students at Lincoln Developmental Center are severely multiply impaired. Working on “tactile tolerance” - the ability to tolerate touching gooey, furry or rough things - is a learning objective for many of our students. Whether it is clay, finger paint, or in this case paper Mache, all of our students get an opportunity to not only create, but meet many of their learning objectives in art class.



*Students from SWCC participate in Physical Education with teacher, Lyndsey VanAman.*

## Physical Education, The Art of Staying Healthy

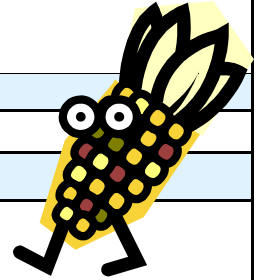
You may have heard that Fine Arts is now the “Fine Arts and Physical Education Department.” Last spring, as part of Central Office reorganization, elementary physical education merged with art and music. This makes sense as all of these departments are staffed by itinerants—meaning teachers who travel to one or more buildings. Julie Powell is the supervisor of all three groups, and is having fun putting all of her athletic ability and knowledge to good use.

We extend a warm welcome to the newest members of the Physical Education team: Kaeta DeHoek, Arne Vroom, Bill Weibel, and Lyndsey VanAman. We are very happy to have them as members of this department.

# Holiday & Event Schedule

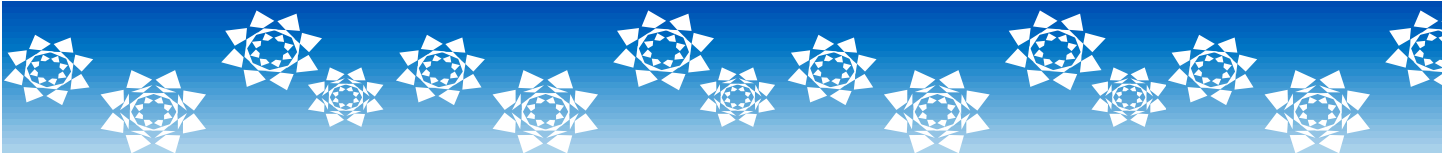
## November

Tuesday	11/15/05—City Middle School choir Sings for Fountain El.
Wed—Fri	11/23/05—11/25/05—No School, Happy Thanksgiving
Tuesday	11/20/05—7 PM Eastern vocal K-5 at The Gardens



## December

Thursday	12/1/2005—7 PM Fountain Vocal at Central High School
Saturday	12/3/2005—Jump Rope Competition at OHHS. Competition begins at 9:00 AM, Awards at 3 PM
Tuesday	12/6/2005 1:00 PM Hall Elementary Holiday Program 6:00 - 7:30 PM Campau Park Holiday Vocal Program at New Hope Church on Delaware 7 PM Westwood Middle Choir at Westwood
Wednesday	12/7/2005 1 PM Congress Vocal Program 1:30 PM Madison Park Vocal Program 7 PM Southeast Academic Program at Madison Middle 7 PM City High/Middle Orchestra/Choir Concert to be held in the Central HS Auditorium
Thursday	12/8/2005 1:00 PM & 6:30 PM Brookside Holiday Program 1:30 Sibley Vocal Concert at Sibley 1:30 Coit Holiday Vocal & Instrumental Program 6 PM Burton El. Holiday Program in the Auditorium 7 PM Northeast Middle Holiday Concert in Gym 7 PM Coit Holiday Vocal & Instrumental Program 7 PM Kent Hills Vocal Program 7 PM Sherwood Park Festival of Lights 7 PM Creston Vocal & Instrumental Concert 7 PM City High/Middle Band Performance at the Central HS Auditorium
Friday	12/9/2005—Buchanan Holiday Program at Meijer & Varnum (Time to be determined)
Monday	12/12/2005—4-5 PM PE Staff Meeting at Beckwith
Tuesday	12/13/2005 6:00 - 8:00 PM Shawnee Park Holiday Program at Ottawa Hills High School 7 PM Campus Elementary Holiday Vocal Show 7 PM Harrison Middle Vocal & Instrumental Holiday Concert
Wednesday	12/14/2005 9:30 AM & 6:30 PM Buchanan Holiday Program 1:00 PM Dickinson Holiday Program
Thursday	12/15/2005 10:00 AM & 2:00 PM Straight El. Holiday Vocal Program at Straight School 7 PM Ken-O-Sha Winter Spectacular held at Grand Rapids International Fellowship 7 PM Riverside Middle School Concert 7 PM Winter Concert for Madison Middle & Ottawa Montessori in the Madison Middle Auditorium 7 PM CA Frost K-3 Holiday Program with 7th & 8th Grade Choir
Friday	12/16/2005—6 PM Madison Middle School Choir Performs for Parent Night
	December 19, 2005—January 2, 2006—No School, Winter Break



# Community Arty-Facts

Did you know each year elementary students in Grand Rapids Public, grades 1—5, are offered rich cultural experiences by local community arts organizations free of charge? Take a look at these fabulous field trip opportunities...

**First Grade**—The Grand Rapids Children’s Museum is excited to have all 1st graders join them for *World At Play* beginning in January.

**Second Grade**—In October all 2nd graders were treated to a special matinee performance of *Frog & Toad*, based on the popular childhood stories written by Arnold Lobel. Each classroom received a copy of two of his books to read prior to the live performance.

**Third Grade**—The Grand Rapids Art Museum offers one guided tour; this year teachers have the choice between *Modern Masters of German Expressionism*, showing now, or *Fashion in Film: Period Costumes for the Screen*, beginning in January.

**Fourth Grade**—Frederik Meijer Gardens generously provides transportation and admission each year for one trip to the Sculpture Park. Resource packets will be sent to teachers following Thanksgiving Break so classrooms can begin scheduling.

**Fifth Grade**—The Grand Rapids Symphony familiarizes students to the beautiful sounds of music at a concert performance. Students learn about instruments, composition, music history, and have the opportunity to meet Symphony members. This trip is offered in the early spring.

## C.A.R.E

### Creative Arts Repertoire Ensemble

#### Steadfast Tin Soldier

Performed by  
Creative Arts Repertoire Ensemble

The winter ballet performance by the Creative Arts Repertoire Ensemble will be held on Friday, January 27th at 10:00 and 12:30. This cost for this special school performance \$2 per student with adult chaperones (1 for every 12

students) free. Extra adults will need to pay \$2. Anne King will come to your school with a dancer to share the story and choreography.

#### RESERVE NOW

We are holding reservations open to GRPS until November 22 then the auditorium will be open to other districts. This is a wonderful way to introduce ballet to young audiences. Performance last one hour.

To reserve, call 464-3682.

Anne will contact you later to set up an assembly time for your students.

## Tanglefoot Studio Celebrating 15 Jumpin’ Years

### 15th Annual Tanglefoot Studio Sale

Brought to you by  
Tommy Allen  
Elaine Dalcher  
Michael Pflieger

Friday, November 18, 5—8 PM  
Saturday, November 19, 12—5 PM  
Sunday, November 20, 12—5 PM

Tanglefoot Warehouse Studio  
314 Straight Street SW, Door K  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504  
(between West Fulton and Wealthy)

[tanglefootstudio.com](http://tanglefootstudio.com)

Visa/MasterCard accepted





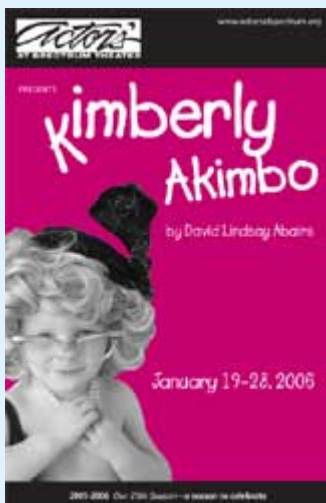
Actors' Theatre will continue its 25th season with the off-center comedy *KIMBERLY AKIMBO* by David Lindsay Abaire.

Set in the wild of suburban New Jersey, this is an off-beat comedy about 16 year old Kimberly, her drunken father, her hypochondriac mother, and her ex-con scam artist aunt.

Oh there's the possibility of new love for "never been kissed" Kimberly. There is also the issue of Kimberly's medical condition, which causes her body to age much faster than it should.

All performances are in Spectrum Theatre, 160 Fountain NE on the campus of Grand Rapids Community College. Tickets range from \$22 for adults to \$20 for students and seniors. On Thursday performances, the first ticket is \$22 and the second ticket is \$11.

Call 616.234.3998 or 616.234.3946 for more information.



## ***Christmas at the Gardens***



*Picture courtesy of the F.M. Gardens*

## ***Christmas & Holiday Traditions Around the World***

### ***Perfect for the Whole Family!***

*Christmas Around the World and Holiday Traditions* is perhaps the most magical time at the Meijer Gardens! It's a world transformed with the glow of 300,000 lights, over 40 captivating international trees and displays, strolling carolers and horse-drawn carriage rides.

Now in its eleventh season, this enchanting exhibit offers a unique holiday experience with something new to learn and see every year. In 2004 the Gardens Polar Express was added to the holiday exhibition. Coinciding with the premier of the movie and based on the popular children's book by Grand Rapids native Chris Van Allsburg, this G-scale railway garden fascinated more than 80,000 visitors in its first season. Designed by nationally known railway garden designer Paul Busse, who has created railway gardens in some of the largest botanical gardens in the country including New York Botanical Garden and Chicago Botanic Garden, the Gardens Polar Express features authentic historical Grand Rapids buildings, bridges and popular landmarks. And as is Busse's trademark, all of the buildings, bridges, and trestles are made of natural materials including cedar and hickory bark, twigs, grapevines, acorns, walnut shells, lotus pods, shelf fungus and even cinnamon sticks. All nestled snugly at the end of a journey through forests and valleys of juniper, arborvitae, cypress, bugleweed, holly, birch, dwarf spruce, sedum and more. A unique and beautiful railway garden experience with new elements added every year.

The exhibit officially begins on Tuesday, November 22nd. Meijer Gardens will remain open until 9pm this and every Tuesday evening throughout the exhibition. The exhibit is at its most beautiful at night and features luminary-lit walkways, star-lit carriage rides, holiday entertainment, children's and family activities, Santa, holiday treats and Taste of the Gardens Café specials.

Each weekend also highlights a particular culture, tradition or country, featuring associated special activities, programs and entertainment Saturday and Sunday afternoons. And Santa's reindeer visit every Saturday until Christmas.

### ***Ticket Info:***

\$12 Adult 14—64, \$9 Senior 65 and older; \$9 Student with ID; \$6 Child 5—13; \$4 Child 3-4. Free to Children 2 & younger and to members. Free Gardens Polar Express "I Believe" sleigh bells for the kids, November 3—21 only!



# Grand Rapids Children's Museum— Not just for Kids

Holidays are fun at the Grand Rapids Children's Museum! Experience the fun of making and gifting presents during Giftworks: Make it. Take it. Give it! thru December 24 (weekdays 10:00am-3:00pm and Saturdays 10:00am-2:00pm).

Flock to the Museum's new Penguin Play: Slide into Winter exhibit thru January 15

Be a penguin during a Magical Movement Workshop

- Thursday, December 1 at 6:30pm
- Saturday, December 10 at 11:00am
- Thursday, December 15 at 6:30pm
- Saturday, December 17 at 3:00pm

Enjoy the holiday sounds of SW Community Campus's sixth grade choir Thursday, December 8 at 10:00am

Skate a penguin into the New Year by painting with ice December 26, 27 and 28 from 10:00am-3:00pm

Participate in "Yo-Master" Zeemo's amazing yo-yo performances,

- Thursday, December 29 at 1:00pm, 3:00pm and 6:30pm
- Friday, December 30 at 11:00am, 1:00pm and 3:00pm
- Saturday, December 31 at 11:00am and 2:00pm

Travel on the Penguin Express December 29, December 30 and January 14 from 11:00am-3:00pm. This winter the Grand Rapids Children's Museum and John Ball Zoo invite children of all ages to travel on the Penguin Express. The adventure begins when guests board the trolley and are surrounded by laughter, music and tons of penguin play! Passengers will delight in penguin tunes, such as On Top of an Iceberg and I'm a Little Penguin. The Penguin Express travels to two playful penguin destinations, the Grand Rapids Children's Museum and John Ball Zoo. Cost for roundtrip travel on the Penguin Express is \$7 per person, children under two are free.

Celebrate New Year's Early Eve December 31, 2005 6:00-8:00 PM, reservations required. Don't sit at home waiting for the ball to drop, join the GRM for our 8th annual New Year's Early Eve Celebration! It guarantees to be the best family bash in town! The party will be held from 6:00 - 8:00pm on December 31, 2005. Children of all ages will enjoy face painting, art activities the magnificent balloon drop and a surprise performance! Plus, there will be plenty of snacks and juice to enjoy. Tickets are \$7 per person ages two and above (under

two are free). Be sure to call early, (616)235-4726 ext.101, as the event always sells out!

The Grand Rapids Children's Museum offers tons of holiday fun for the whole family! Plus, we are open for Holiday Break, including Monday, December 19 and 26 from 9:30am-5:00pm.

## Civic Theatre WIZARD OF OZ TICKET SPECIAL



Buy one get one FREE Nov. 23-27 with full-price ticket purchase. Go to the Civic Theatre website at <http://www.grct.org/>. Print the page provided on the website, take it with you to the box office at 30 N. Division Ave, Mondays-Fridays, now thru Nov. 23, 10 AM—5 PM (11/23).

**Lobby Box Office:**  
5-7:30pm (11/24), Noon-7:30 PM (11/25),  
Noon-3pm (11/26 & 27)

Limit one offer per order/customer.

The *Wizard of Oz* will be showing at the Civic, November 17—December 17, 2005.

## Membership at the Art Museum

Now is an exciting time to be a part of the Grand Rapids Art Museum as they build a landmark art museum in the heart of downtown Grand Rapids.



### Special Limited Time Offer!

Become a member of GRAM and receive an 18-month membership for the price of 12 months. This limited time offer will allow your family to enjoy the fall exhibition *Modern Master of German Expressionism*, and bridge your membership into 2007 so you can take part in member only new museum sneak peaks and special events.

Call the membership office at 616-831-2912 for more information.

# Musical Notes



**Learn About this Musician: Singer, Entertainer**  
**Sarah Brightman**  
**Born: August 14, 1960,**  
**Place: Berkhamstead, England**

A born entertainer, Sarah Brightman began her musical career at age 3, dancing at festivals in her hometown of Berkhamsted, England. Her ballet teacher noticed early-on that Sarah was extremely gifted and urged her parents to regard and nurture her talent. As a child she was exposed to an eclectic assortment of music ranging from Tom Jones to Tchaikovsky and was taught and equal regard for their musical styles. Despite homesickness, Sarah was enrolled in a performing arts boarding school at age 11 and was on her way to a career as a dancer. However, Sarah's school vocal performance at age 12 quickly changed that direction; from that moment on, singing would be her true calling. After only one year, Sarah was sent to Piccadilly Theatre to audition. Her new found stage experience combined with modeling, extinguished her interest in academics, and she dropped out of school. By the age of 18, Sarah was a pop star phenomena in England.

In time she auditioned for the Broadway musical "Cats" where she met Andrew Lloyd Weber, who eventually became her second husband. He began producing Sarah's projects and worked out a highly volatile deal with the American Actor's Equity Union to cast Sarah as the first non-American in the lead female role of *Phantom*. His ultimatum of, "No Sarah, No *Phantom*," along with a deal that cast an American in the English version of *Phantom* helped break the deadlock. After Sarah's great success in *Phantom*, she embarked on a whirlwind global tour, and released *Anything But Lonely*, and *The Songs that Got Away*. Sadly, in real life it wasn't the songs that got away, but her marriage. By 1990 the official announcement of their divorce was confirmed.

Since then, Sarah continues to established herself as a multi-dimensional musician who can produce a pop, contemporary sound, but is also recognized as an explosive soprano who hypnotizes audiences with her captivating mix of song and dance.

# Artist's Corner



**Learn About this Artist: Sculpture**  
**Alexander Calder:**  
**Born: July 22, 1898**  
**Place: Lawnton, Pennsylvania**



Alexander Calder was the second child of artist parents; his father a sculptor, and his mother a painter. As a child, his family moved across the country a great deal, but Alexander was constantly encouraged to explore and create, and at the age of 8 had his own "studio" wherever they lived. By the time Alexander enrolled in college he set out to be-

come an engineer. He graduated and worked in various engineering positions, but this changed when one morning, on the deck of ship off Guatemala, Alexander awoke to see a glittering sunrise on one side of the horizon and a brilliant full moon on the opposite horizon. Soon after, he committed himself to becoming an artist. In 1923 he moved to New York and enrolled at the Art Students' League, and worked as an illustrator, sketching scenes from the Barnum & Bailey Circus. When Calder moved to Paris in 1926 he sculpted his *Cirque Calder*, a complex assemblage of small animals, performers, and props taken from his observations at Ringling Brothers. Calder enjoyed working with wire and began to sculpt seriously. After visiting a studio in Paris, Calder was deeply impressed by a wall of repositioned, colored-paper rectangles that shocked him into abstract composition. In 1931 he unveiled his first kinetic sculpture, birthing an entirely new form of art. Calder's earliest attempts at large, outdoor garden sculpture did not meet success, being easily bent in the wind, so in 1937 Calder made is first large, bolted sculpture fashioned completely from sheet metal, entitled *Devilfish*. In his later years, Calder concentrated his efforts primarily on large-scale pieces, and secured world-wide monumental commissions. Calder died at the age of seventy eight, on November 11, 1976, ending a prolific and original artistic career.



# Music Trivia

Question: Both opera and oratorio are products of Baroque creativity. Although both tell a story through music, the oratorio has no:

- Orchestra
- Ensemble singing
- Soloists, drama or chorus
- Costumes, scenery or acting

Answer: Costumes, scenery or acting  
 Opera and oratorio are large scale compositions for chorus, soloists and orchestra. Opera sometimes described as the perfect art form because it includes music, visual art, dance and drama. Opera subjects may be sacred or secular. The oratorio is typically a biblical story, although not intended for religious services. Handel's "Messiah" is a very famous oratorio.

# Art Trivia

The Term 'Degenerate' was applied to various forms of art by which of these world leaders?

- Mussolini
- Hitler
- Stalin
- Mao

Answer: Hitler  
 During the 1930s the Nazis attempted to discredit the various modern art movements, such as Expressionism, by labelling the practitioners as degenerates. In 1937 a traveling show of "degenerate" art was held, within which the art of greats like Kandinsky, Beckmann and Picasso were displayed alongside artwork created by inmates from asylums. The "degenerate" artists were not allowed during the Nazi era to exhibit their own works, and in many cases their works were confiscated and destroyed. One of Oscar Kokoschka's most famous works, "Portrait of a Degenerate Artist," mocks the Nazi perspective.