

BRAVO!!! Times

A Fine Arts Department Publication

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Cut!

Alesha LaGrone, a GRPS ninth grader, was accepted into the Film Internship at ArtWorks this past summer. The film group actually made a film while they were learning about the workings of film-making. Alesha was also paid a salary for being an intern.

Alesha had to submit a portfolio of her art work and she also had an interview with a panel of people before she was selected as a participant. Congratulations Alesha!

Julie's Super Vision



Welcome to the 2003-04 school year! Despite the state funding for arts being cut 50% we are still striving to provide quality art and music opportunities for all K-12 students. Did you know that...

- Every 3rd grader goes to the GR Art Museum?
- Every 4th grader goes to FM Gardens?
- Every 5th grader goes to the GR Symphony?
- Every 6th grader may choose to play a musical instrument?
- A group of committed community members, parents and teachers, called the Arts Advocates, serve our kids through the Arts Jam and advocacy?
- Union High School offers art for high school and college credit?
- All students will have the opportunity to have their artwork selected for display at our district Art Show in late May at the GR Art Museum?
- Coit is an arts-based theme school determined to impress us with many of their special arts projects?
- Each art and music teacher receives quality professional development each year to enhance skills?

There are over 80 teachers in the art and music departments at GRPS who work hard every day with limited resources to help each child imagine, dream, soar.....

I welcome all ideas for art and music collaborations with our schools and this wonderful cultural community of West Michigan. Please call our office anytime.

Julie Powell

Extra! Extra!

School Tidings

Extra! Extra!

What an Art Display!

By Sharon Maddox - SEAC Art Teacher and Dan Slagter (Student Teacher)

The 7th & 8th grade ART class at Southeast Academic Center has been quite busy. Within the first six weeks of school they have done six big projects and several small ones. They started out doing clay coils pots and then moved into a drawing of individual pots along with other still-life elements.

To take the semester into a totally different direction came a lesson based off Analytic Cubist Ideals of capturing each facet of a form. For this, the students used egg noodles as the inspiration and charcoal as the medium. Each project truly was stunning and a testament to each student's determination to keep trudging through such a messy project.

To move into fall properly, they welcomed in the new season with a Welcome Fall project. Their raffia doll Fall Door Display welcomes in the new season and each person who enters the door where they hang. Made from raffia pieces, cloth samples, yarn, beads, feathers, etc... these lovely pieces are quite eye catching. Brionna Adams raffia doll was really special to her because her Grandmother, Mrs. Dolly, gave her a Dalmatian print cloth for her doll which made it warm and bright.

Next, students did a cross-curriculum lesson involving creative writing with their pieces of art. The concept was first to define one's name as if it could be found in a dictionary. Each student's definition of their name was a positive group of words and phrases to best describe him or her. These were created on the computer and involved transparent sheets of plastic. These objects also had another element, color, which was sandwiched between a layer of plastic and paper that best suited their personality and brought out the great diversity each student had within them. Way to go SEAC for a job well done!



7th and 8th graders at SEAC proudly exhibit their art work. From left to right Brionna Adams-7th grade holding a charcoal drawing, Gladys Binion-8th grade holding a coil pot and a raffia doll and Kevin Hawkins-8th grade holding a coil pot with a charcoal drawing.

Art Trivia

What is the term for the technique in which the artist applies spaced, parallel lines to indicate shading in a certain region in a drawing, engraving in a painting?

- Hedging
- Half-tone
- Hatching
- Hueing

Answer: Hatching

Hatching is a simple way of creating tone in an artistic work.

Play On!

The City Middle School Orchestra will participate in the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association Middle School Strings Clinic at Byron Center High School on Saturday, October 18. The students will join string orchestra students from several area schools in the day long clinic. Three orchestras are formed from the students and will rehearse in sections as well as orchestras for the morning and afternoon. The orchestras will perform a concert at 3:00pm in the VanSingel Auditorium. Each orchestra will perform 3 pieces. Admission is free and the public is invited. The City Middle School Orchestra is conducted by David F. Ellis.



Extra! Extra!

School Tidings

Extra! Extra!



Classroom display from teacher Diane Heemstra's class at Lincoln Developmental Center.

Ballet Opportunity

On Friday, October 3, approximately 1,000 Grand Rapids Public School students joined others from the county to see the ballet The Pied Piper at St. Cecilia auditorium. Prior to attending the performance, classrooms were prepared by Anne King, from student services. She shared the story, demonstrated choreography and featured dancers from the Creative Arts Repertoire Ensemble Ballet company.

In November, this same ballet troupe will present Twas The Night Before Christmas. In February they will present the classic Romeo and Juliet. The performance is geared towards classrooms of 5th graders and older, particularly those who will be studying the story in class. School performances are held Friday, Feb. 13 at 10:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.. To reserve seats you may call 464-3682. For more information regarding this ballet group, you may log on to www.careballet.org. If there are any questions for Anne King please feel free to call her at 771-2653 or e-mail her at Kinge@grps.k12.mi.us.

Lincoln Campuses Terrific Teamwork!

Lincoln School, (Lincoln Developmental Options), have an impressive, campus-From Scratch Warehouse", signed and created a bus that of the schools have their Congratulations students,



Carl Hentschel-teacher at Lincoln Developmental Center, helps Monica Trotter display her unique bus.

Lincoln Developmental Center and KVO (Kent Vocational) under the direction of art instructor Elaine Dalcher, wide display of artwork. Using CDs from "Learning construction paper, and paint, each student has de-bears his or her name. By the time the students in each buses up and running it should be quite a sight! and congratulations Lincoln Campus!

Reflections

The National PTA believes all children deserve a quality arts education and encourage students to pursue artistic expressions through participation in its annual Reflections Programs. The program offers students the opportunity to create works of art at home or at school for fun and recognition. Students in preschool through grade 12 are encouraged to create and submit works of art in four areas: literature, musical composition, photography, and the visual arts (which includes art forms such as drawing, painting, print making, and collage). Each year, the Reflections Program challenges students to create art that supports a specific theme. This year's theme is "I am really happy when....." If you want to participate in this rewarding event contact your local PTA or PTSA or visit National PTA online at www.pta.org.

COMMUNITY ART HAPPENINGS



Buttonwood Bonsai, 350 years old, on loan from the Franklin Park Conservatory in

A Japanese Autumn at FM Gardens

There is a wonderful exhibition that is at Frederick Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park called *A Japanese Autumn*, which features *Quiet beauty: Fifty Centuries of Japanese Folk Ceramics from the Montgomery Collection* and a bonsai garden with tropical specimens on loan from other botanical gardens across the country. Wabi-sabi—a Japanese word that roughly translates to “appreciating the beauty of things that are imperfect, impermanent, and incomplete. It is the beauty of things modest, humble, and unconventional.” These exhibits perfectly express wabi-sabi. This exhibit runs until January 4th. Come out and see this intriguing exhibit and get swept away by it’s beauty.

Some Facts:

- These pottery and ceramic items were produced for everyday use but are far from ordinary.
- Produced as long ago as 3000 B.C. and as recently as 1985 A.D., the collection contains 100 pieces in all.
- Japan reveres these ceramic pieces very highly, and some of the artists are designated Living National Treasures by the Japanese government.
- Japan has one of the longest ceramic traditions in the world, and the work is considered fine art.



Seto Ware hand warmer, 19th Century.

What’s Happening Live? Reality Theatre!

It’s real time, it happens now, and it plays on the Wealthy Theatre stage live! You will be a witness to an event as it happens. Even reality TV isn’t real-it’s edited. Come and experience for yourself what makes live theatre exciting! Call the Wealthy Theatre for more information. To purchase tickets with credit cards call Tickets Plus 1-800-585-3737 or go to Wealthy Theatre Box Office with cash or credit card M-F, noon-5pm. The schedule of the live performances are listed below:

Oct. 9-11-8PM Heritage Theatre Group presents the classic play *A Man for All Seasons*

Oct. 17-9PM Wealthy Theatre presents *Grail and Ale*

Oct. 25-8PM Wealthy Theatre presents *Sweet Willie Singleton and the Gentleman of Jazz*

Oct. 31 & Nov. 1– 9&11 PM Wealthy Theatre presents *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*

-ALSO-

Monday Mobster Movie Madness

Each Monday during the month of October Wealthy Theatre’s cinema program will feature a classic Mobster Movie on the BIG SCREEN at 8 PM. Tickers are only \$2. Check out this schedule: **Oct. 6 “Scarface” Oct. 13 “Goodfellas” Oct. 20 “The Untouchables” Oct. 27 “The Godfather”**

Classic Films are shown every third Wednesday of the month. To check out the title and time for this month’s classic film go to their website, www.wealthytheatre.org

Music Trivia:

Who is often called ‘The Poet of the Piano’?

- ♫ Chopin
- ♫ W.A. Mozart
- ♫ Liszt
- ♫ Schumann

Answer: Chopin

Fryderyk Chopin (1810-1849) Nineteenth Century Polish Composer. He is famous for Piano Compositions.

COMMUNITY ART HAPPENINGS

The American Spirit

This fall join in the fun and celebrate *The American Spirit* at the Grand Rapids Art Museum. Frederic Church, Winslow Homer, and Thomas Moran exemplified the spirit of America by creating depictions of the American wilderness, rural life, and moving portraits of heroes that faced peril, both at sea and on the battlefields of the Civil War. This exhibit runs October 17- January 4, 2004.

-ALSO-

A.M. @GRAM invites families to experience the fun and substance of the visual and performing arts in new and creative way. Children of all ages will participate in a variety of activities based on certain themes with their families. Saturdays, Mid-September - Mid-May, 11-1p.m.

Sculpturing Anyone?

Remember the fish swimming around town a few years ago? ArtWorks, the organization that brought Something Fishy to Grand Rapids, is planning another public art project. The program and following exhibition will honor the 35th anniversary of the dedication of Alexander Calder's stabile, La Grande Vitesse. 35 new works inspired by the Calder will be created to celebrate the significant role the sculpture plays in the life of our city. Applications for students aged 14-21 are currently available and must be returned to ArtWorks for consideration by December 31, 2003. Eligible applicants will be interviewed in February 2004 and seventy apprentices will be hired to work in teams during March under the guidance of a local professional artist. The finished works will be on display throughout the summer downtown and near downtown locations. For more information contact ArtWorks by phone at 458-3133, via email at info@artworksgr.org, or visit them on-line at www.artworksgr.org.

Play to the tune of 100% Proceeds

Mackinaw Harvest Music Group, Inc. in cooperation with Mr. Phil Biggs has produced a benefit CD entitled "Standing Together" which features twelve artists. One hundred percent (100%) of the proceeds from the sale of the CD will go to the Grand Rapids Student Advancement Foundation to help fund afterschool programs for young, at-risk students. The CD is now on sale at Schuler Books and Music. Go out and get your copy now!



A Grand Rapids Firefighter helps a Grand Rapids Children's Museum visitor through the window escape route at the opening of the exhibit, *Fire Up For Fire Safety*.

Fire Up!

To celebrate the fire safety month, the Grand Rapids Children's Museum will open *Fire Up For Fire Safety*, a fun and interactive fire safety exhibit, on October 4. The exhibit will feature a child-sized kitchen and bedroom that will display safe and unsafe situations. Children will learn important tips like "don't hide, go outside" and how to map an escape route. Games and activities are planned to reinforce the proper way to prevent and react to fire hazards around the house.

-ALSO-

On October 11, 2003 the GRCM played host to many local cultural groups with the *first Harvest of Cultures: Marketplace* celebration. Children experienced Dutch, Asian, Hispanic and Polish cultures through displays from The Dutch Village, the Asian Center, a Mexican group and the Grand Rapids Sister Cities International Bielsko-Biala Committee. Children learned about these cultures through food, music, clothing and art. This experience reached beyond any textbook to promote and create awareness of the many diverse populations in Grand Rapids.

Midwest World Fest



The Dharma Group is giving a mini concert for over 250 elementary students.

This year the Midwest World Fest was held at Ottawa Hills High School on October 9, 2003 for over 250 elementary students. These musicians came from Israel and are called “Darma”, led by Eyal Sela.



They gave a mini concert and workshop with the students in the morning which included a questioning and answering period. They also had a jam session in the afternoon with Ottawa Hills band students. The kids had loads of fun and this is an experience they will never forget. We would like to thank Grand Valley State University for sponsoring such a terrific group of musicians.



“The Empress” by Marcia Perry



The Dharma Group is teaching the students how to belly dance.

Fine Arts Department Calendar of Events



October

- Oct. 20 Music Staff Professional Dev. Meeting
Instrumental Repair Shop
- Oct. 22 4th grade FM Garden tours begin
- Oct. 22 3rd grade GR Art Museum tours begin

November

- Nov. 3 Art Staff Professional Dev. Meeting
- Nov. 11 Arts Advocates meeting @ Central High School - 6:45 pm
- Nov. 17 Music Staff Professional Dev. Meeting
- Nov. 26 District closed
- Nov. 27-28 Happy Thanksgiving!



Artist Corner

Marcia Perry

Marcia is the owner of Ark Gallery & Sculpture Studio located in Saugatuck, Michigan. Most of Marcia’s sculptures are carved from wood found in trees. This is a long process because most of the wood stored in her studio is ripe enough to work; but some has followed a years-long drying path. The wood dries at a rate of about an inch per year measured from the center of the tree/branch.

She believes that sculpture is an art form that requires the whole body to fully experience it. Photos can show only a flattened view of one perspective and seldom evoke the whole spirit of the piece. For sculptures, feeling--not seeing--is believing. Marcia also considers her sculptures as family, meant to be taken care of and enjoyed, not merely owned, so she arrange “adoptions” rather than sales. Visit the Ark Gallery online @ www.marciaperry-ark.com.