



Connecting arts to academics since 2001



Summer 2011

Arts @ Large is an innovative program that provides multidisciplinary arts experiences for Milwaukee K-12 students. Arts @ Large provides sustainable arts programming for students and teachers in public schools and highlights the essential role that art and music specialists and members of the greater arts community play in creating an inclusive atmosphere of classroom learning.

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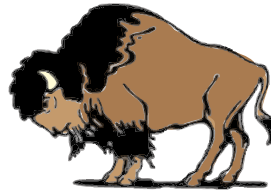
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Arts @ Large Brings Communities Together With Bison Project

Arts @ Large wrapped up a multi-arts collaborative learning project between four schools with the "Bison-Bison Project" final performance at the Indian Community School in Franklin in June.

Using Buffalo Nation, one of the world premiere pieces of Present Music's 2011-12 season, as a starting point, Present Music and A@L worked nearly three months to create the project, which taught students how to create and compose meaningful musical works of their own, use poetry and performance to tell their own stories and create 'larger than life' papier-mâché buffalo!

Students from Brown Street Academy, Story School, Garland Elementary and the Indian Community School presented the work that they created in collaboration with sculptor Steve Wirtz, dancer and storyteller Thirza Defoe, Present Music Composers and storyteller Mark Denning.

In this issue...

Learning On Display Kicks Off At Jewish Museum Milwaukeepg. 3

Local Students Learn To Illustrate Through Stitching; Create Images For New Book..... pg. 4

Arts @ Large Gives Back to the Community; Donates Art to Northcott Neighborhood Housepg. 5

Not only did these students get to come together and share artwork, they also got to experience new cultures as the Indian Community School students performed traditional Native American song and dance.

"This was a wonderful experience and I really hope we can continue this next year," said Denning.



**Building Community at
53rd St. School**
Environmental Arts Specialist Sean Kiebzak spearheaded the 53rd St. Garden fence construction and installation with help from M&I Bank volunteers, 53rd Street students and Yeshiva School.



53rd Street School Principal Bridgette Hood rakes out the soil and compost.

53rd Street and Yeshiva School a Part Of Community Garden Experience
Rabbi Cohen and students from Yeshiva Elementary present one of four Aldo Leopold benches they created with Kiebzak to the 53rd Street Community Garden.



Browning School Decorates Their Playground With Geometric Shapes



Browning School students gave their playground blacktop a vibrant new look when they painted it this spring with Artist Educator Marina Lee.

4th and 5th grade students learned to draw and design geometric shapes and how those shapes are used in grids and patterns to create a board game. They then used those shapes to transform the fading games on the blacktop, like four square and hopscotch, into works of art.

The students used Mondrian painting, a European modern work derived from African house painting to not only learn about world games and cultures, but to better understand neighborhood culture.

The students also decided to add on to their playground experience by including a small kickball field area in the corner of the blacktop, something Lee says the students want to continue to do.

“The students really got into this project. They were excited and they have ideas for the whole playground...the boys already have ideas to paint the whole basketball court [laughs],” said Lee.

The students also enjoyed the opportunity to develop their own ideas and watch them come to life using their playground as a canvas.

“I love the tic-tac-toe board,” said one 4th grade student. “My favorite part was using my creativity”.

Learning on Display Kicks Off at Jewish Museum Milwaukee

Another school year of student museums are on the horizon as Arts @ Large held the first Learning on Display workshop of the year at the Jewish Museum Milwaukee in May.

Teachers and Artist Educators all gathered at the museum for this information session led by Linda D'Acquisto, author of *Learning on Display: Student-created Museums That Build Understanding*, which was the foundation of the workshop.

D'Acquisto used video and other examples to show the teachers what the process of building a student-created museum is like and what it entails. The participants were then given the opportunity to walk around the Jewish Museum Milwaukee and

take a look at the featured display as a way to examine the details of a museum exhibit.

The info session served as an opener to the full three-to-four session workshop, which will also be headed by D'Acquisto. "I am really moved by Arts @ Large's mission, to integrate arts and academics, and all that they do to fulfill that mission. I am really happy to work with and be a part of that," said D'Acquisto.

Future sessions will be divided among various local museums to give teachers a variety of samples to look to for inspiration. Dates of the workshops and registration will be released soon.



Jane Moore Felt Designs With Cooper School

Check out these bright felt banners, made by Cooper School K-5 students and Artist Educator Jane Moore.



NOVA Student Gets Published



Neosha Hampton, a high school student at NOVA, and a member of Audacious Young Poets, is now a published poet. Her poem “A Dream of Our Country” is soon to be released in *Dream of a Nation*. Congratulations to Neosha and the rest of the NOVA Audacious Young Poets for their continued success.

Local Students Learn To Illustrate Through Stitching; Create Images For New Book

Students from five local schools learned about connections and were given the opportunity to be published illustrators when they created stitched mural pieces with Author and Artist Educator Andrea Skyberg for her upcoming book.

Squircle, the second book written by Skyberg, follows the story of a little girl who sets off to catch a squirrel and ends up wandering through the woods on a magical journey. The book explores the interconnectedness of all living things through its story and images, which gave Skyberg an idea to involve local schools.

Wanting to elaborate on the idea of interconnectedness when creating the images for the book, she decided to work with schools around the Greater Milwaukee area and have the students help to create the artwork.

She taught stitching to students from St. John’s the Evangelist, Waukesha Community Art Project After School Program, 95th Street, Cooper and Fairview schools, the latter three all part of the A@L program.

“I thought the best medium [of stitching] to explore the idea of interconnectedness would be appliqué because through stitching, two pieces of fabric are connected,” said Skyberg.

Students were given their own materials to work at home and after practicing on to perfect their skill, Skyberg then had them create a smaller design to be embroidered. These smaller bodies of work are all a component of a 5 ft. by 8 ft. mural, which will be a page spread in the book.

Each school worked on a different spread of the book, which represents the five main anthropomorphic characters in the story. St. John’s the Evangelist created the artwork for the Duck character, 95th Street School created the artwork for the Caterpillar character, Waukesha Community Art Project After School Program for the Deer character, Cooper School for the Fish character and Fairview School for the Squirrel character.

Skyberg will take all the individual pieces of artwork and sew them together over the summer, making various murals that will be featured as the images in the book. After *Squircle* is released, she plans to visit schools to present the finished book, as well as conduct art workshops again based on the book.



Arts @ Large Donates Art To Northcott Neighborhood House

Arts @ Large paid it forward this month by donating community-created art to Northcott Neighborhood House.

The mosaic piece donated to the community center was crafted during A@L “Gallery @ Large” Grand Opening back in April by community members who attended the event. This included a large number of Keefe Avenue School students, whose mosaic work was the featured exhibit that night, and their family members.

Northcott Neighborhood House, located on 6th and Wright Street, is a community center whose programs include Head Start centers for children, a low-income family home ownership/employment opportunities program (called “A Fresh Start”), and various community services that provide food, clothing, and summer activities for families.

Northcott has served the Milwaukee community for 38 years; a job they say is made easier with the help of organizations like A@L.

“I am really impressed with this piece”, said Mac Weddle, Executive Director of Northcott Neighborhood House, “When you can reach down into the community and show young people that you have the opportunity to express yourself and learn at the same time, A@L is doing a great job”.

Northcott Neighborhood House is the lead agency that organizes Keefe Avenue School’s afterschool program.



Hopkins and Lloyd Street Schools Come Together

Hopkins Street School and Lloyd Street School will soon merge into the Hopkins Street building and be renamed ‘Hopkins Lloyd Community School.’ During a recent evening event held at Hopkins, which is a current A@L School, families and teachers from both schools came together to learn about each other and their future together.

A@L and two of the current Hopkin’s resident artists, photographer Jennifer Pelzek and writer Fondé Bridges, set up a photo booth that helped capture the transition and the bridging of two schools.

Hopkins Street School is in its second year of a four year A@L program, specially funded by the U.S. Department of Education through Milwaukee Public Schools. A@L will continue to support the school after the merger next year.



Upcoming Event

Gallery Night-July 29, 2011 4:00pm - 9:00pm

Stop by Gallery @ Large to see the Living Native Concepts: Exploring Culture Through the Arts exhibit by Kagel School and Latino Community Center Students, and Artist Educators Robin Kinney, Roberto Franco, Brenda Garcia, Daysi Perez, Lara Miller, Alejandro Franco, Kate Bradley and Mary Sugiyama of Walker's Point Center for the Arts and Tami Zwicke.

Living Native Concepts: Exploring Culture through the Arts is a multidisciplinary project created by Kagel School students in collaboration with local artists. Come see a variety of art projects inspired by Aztec culture, including a dance performance by students featuring authentic Aztec Headdresses by De Riah Boutique Salon.

10/11 Schools

53rd Street School
95th Street School
Brown Street Academy
Browning Elementary
Clarke Street School
James Fenimore Cooper Elementary School
El Puente High School
Hamlin Garland Elementary
Keefe Avenue Elementary School
Green Bay Avenue Elementary
Hawley Environmental School
Hopkins Street School
Albert E. Kagel Elementary School
Lowell Elementary School
Maple Tree Elementary School
NOVA School
River Trail School of Math, Science
and Technology
Albert Story School
Gilbert Stuart Elementary School
Escuela Vieau School

Special Project Schools

Elm Creative Arts School
Fairview Elementary School
Hartford Avenue University School
Indian Community School
Kilmer South High School
Longfellow Elementary School,
Eau Claire, WI
Roosevelt Elementary School,
Eau Claire, WI
Tippecanoe School for the Arts
and Humanities
U. S. Grant Elementary School
Washington High School
Yeshiva Elementary School

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