

Essential Learning...*In The Arts*

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COLLABORATIVE

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IN THE NEWS...

The Arts Education Collaborative will host the fourth annual Regional Arts Education Day on Thursday March 15, 2007 from 9 AM to 2:30 PM at Soldiers and Sailors National Military Museum and Memorial in Oakland. This year's event will feature a panel of area arts education experts who will respond to keynote speaker, **Dan Pink**, best-selling author of *A Whole New Mind*. The panel discussion, *"Is Our Region on the Right Track?"* will focus on addressing Western Pennsylvania's current policies and future plans for preparing students to compete in a world in which the ability to creatively address challenges is essential to succeed.

To wrap up the day, attendees will choose one afternoon career forum on the topic of *"Preparing the Workforce for Tomorrow"*. Taking their cues from the ideas presented in *A Whole New Mind* regarding the necessity of creative and artistic skills to succeed in the workplace, area experts will address the following career clusters:

Forum A: Arts, Media and Communication

Forum B: Education, Human and Public Services

Forum C: Science, Technology and Engineering

Forum D: Business, Management and Administration

Panelists will include: **Dr. Schuyler Foerster**, President of World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh; **Dr. Joseph Clapper**, Superintendent of Quaker Valley School District; **Bill Isler**, CEO of Family Communications and Chair of the AEC Steering Council; **Teresa Foley**, Director of Media Arts Lab at Pittsburgh Filmmakers; **Vanessa Lund**, Executive Director of the University of Pittsburgh's Human Capital Policy Initiative; **Dr. James Manley**, Superintendent of the Pine Richland School District; **Dan Malerbo**, Meteorologist at the Carnegie Science Center; and **Nathan Martin**, Co-Founder and CEO of DeepLocal, Inc.

The deadline for registrations was Thursday March 1. If you have not turned your registration in and are still interested in doing so, please email info@artsedcollaborative.org ASAP!



DID YOU HEAR?

Groundbreaking Report Shows Creative Industries Are the #1 Engine of the Los Angeles Regional Economy

Business Wire

Otis College of Art and Design released a *Report on the Creative Economy of the Los Angeles Region* on March 1, 2007. Prepared by Jack Kyser, Chief Economist of the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC), the key findings are stunning - including one million direct and indirect jobs generated by the creative industries in Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Far from being a "supporting player" in the LA Economy, the creative industries lead the pack, surpassing the two long time "traditional" leaders - International Trade and Tourism. **For the complete story, visit http://home.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/index.jsp?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20070301005299&newsLang=en**

Report: Schools Lack Culture

InsideBayArea.com

Artistic creativity is lacking in California schools, according to a report released Thursday. The 2006 study, commissioned by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and done by SRI International, an independent research institute, reports 89 percent of public schools do not offer students all four of the standards-based art courses - music, visual arts, theater and dance. California state law requires that schools offer art instruction in all four disciplines, yet three in ten schools did not provide any courses in the standard-based art curriculum. **For the full story, visit http://origin.insidebayarea.com/sanmateocountytimes/localnews/ci_5338792.**

To read the report, visit <http://www.sri.com/policy/cep/edreform/ArtsEd.html>

Participation Encouraged in County Big Read

Williamsport Sun-Gazette

The Lycoming County, PA Big Read 2007 embodies every aspect of community partnerships. Aided by a \$10,000 matching grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, Big Read programs and activities related to themes in Harper Lee's novel "To Kill a Mockingbird" will be held. Modeled on successful "city reads" programs, the Big Read is attempting to address the national decline in literary reading as documented in the NEA's 2004 landmark survey *Reading at Risk: A Survey of Literary Reading in America*.

To read more, visit <http://www.sungazette.com/lifestyles/education/articles.asp?articleID=15216>

For the Arts or the Elite?

FreeNewMexican.com

As the New Mexico Legislature decides on the fate of a specialized state high school, opinions are divided, even in the arts community. Talented musicians, artists and actors could begin auditioning for the New Mexico School for the Arts about this time next year if the Legislature approves a bill to create a new statewide residential charter school. The school would ultimately serve 300 students in grades 9-12 and provide intensive pre-professional and professional instruction in performing and visual arts to prepare them for admission to conservatories and university art programs. Opponents say the school would drain money from an underfunded educational system to establish an elite school serving a tiny fraction of the 99,000 public high-school students in the state who all deserve arts education. **To read more, visit <http://www.freewmexican.com/news/57511.html>**

Focus on Leadership

by Elizabeth Kripp,
AEC Program Associate



Teresa Emeloff heard her colleague, Sam Andrew, remark, "We're getting the arts back into it", and took it to heart. It seemed that the popular community view of the arts focused on prom decorations and posters and the like. Now things were changing and Teresa planned to be a big part of it.

As part of her Leadership Academy action plan, Teresa took on the formidable challenge of organizing and coordinating an Arts Festival at Highlands High School. The main focus of this event was to feature artwork and performances from students in grades six through twelve. To help celebrate the work of Highland's students, Teresa included many demonstrations from professional artists and Pittsburgh cultural organizations, and a performance by Attack Theatre. One particularly stimulating exhibit was a collection of written student reflections strewn down a hallway and encircled by a ring of bright yellow caution tape. That presentation allowed the visitor to experience the event at a much deeper level. It clarified the reason to celebrate.

In all of her work, Teresa points to collaboration as "the key component". As Teresa says, "There are all these amazing people (and working with them) makes things happen...makes things possible". Michael Krzeminski, Teresa's brother and Highlands Social Studies teacher, has partnered with her in both the Warhol Museum Collecting Learning Lab interdisciplinary project and the recent Olympus and Tool Factory statewide grant. Teresa, Michael and another teacher, Carolyn Kremer, were successful in winning the AIU 3 award. The team is presently deep into the planning phase of their landmarks project.

Teresa continues to look for opportunities to combine forces. Another effort involved working with Carolyn Kremer, PA Council on the Arts, and Gateway to the Arts to bring artist Jan Loney to a residency at Highlands. Also, the team serving on the AEC Visual Arts Frameworks project has benefited from Teresa's thoughtful and comprehensive commitment. Renae Knapek, a visual arts faculty colleague and member of the 2006 LA, has been a frequent collaborator. The pair recently brought the need for a thorough curriculum revision to the district administration. Their leadership resulted in Highlands' commitment to an AEC directed self-study in four curriculum areas. Presently Teresa and Renae are working on syllabus plans to introduce three new AP visual arts courses to Highlands students. Through all of these projects, Teresa recognizes that "it's not just about me as a leader but others' leadership abilities as well. Without the Leadership Academy I would have been so focused on myself and might have missed what others bring to the table."

Teresa puts the art into her personal life as well. Since 1995, she has been passionate about the ancient art of glass bead making. From her own home studio, she shows her pieces at several art shows each year. Her work is also available at Harts, a South Side art gallery. Teresa's action-oriented approach to her work, coupled with her focus on collaboration, has enabled her to begin to create a culture at Highlands School District that values the "art in it" as an undeniable component of the academic success of its students.

The Spring Concert: Exhibition or Learning Experience

by Dr. Sarah Tambucci, AEC Director



Soon birds will sing, the sun will shine and proud relatives will pack auditoriums and cafeterias in every corner of the land. Yes, the spring concert is right around the corner.

But is the spring concert a part of a student's music education or a substitute for it?

Considering all of the energy, time and resources that are dedicated to developing and refining the repertoire for the spring concert, one might think that the purpose for having music education is to have a good spring concert. There are those who are in the know and are fully aware of the knowledge, skills and attitudes that are taught along the way. But for some, it is all about the *product*.

For many, a good spring concert is an indicator of good music instruction. It is true that many strong supporters of the art, no doubt, had positive experiences as participants of this right of spring. But what about the 'non performers'? What about those who are too shy or too insecure? Perhaps those who are 'made' to perform become the decision-makers and policy makers who just don't *get it*. Perhaps those are the adults to whom we must constantly be making the case for arts education as part of a comprehensive education.

The reality is that preparation for a good performance is not a substitute for a quality music education. Music education is not only about the performance. It is all about the *process of learning in the arts*. It is about understanding historical and cultural contexts, engaging in critical response and debating aesthetic analysis. (See *Pennsylvania Academic Standards for Arts and Humanities* at http://www.pde.state.pa.us/stateboard_ed/lib/stateboard_ed/pdfarts.pdf)

I continue to be concerned about some of our other arts education "traditions". Is it okay to start practicing the holiday literature in October when classrooms are still sweltering hot? What message are we sending when learning in the arts does not count in class ranking or as a requirement for graduation? What factors do we consider when we counsel a mathematically gifted, artistically talented student to opt for a career in engineering rather than designing?

We just haven't gotten it right yet. What does it take to change an attitude and educate the public about arts learning? Doesn't it start with the students we are teaching now? What new habits of mind can we help form?

Opportunities and Offerings

Frick Art and Historical Center

Adult Studio Art Workshop - Painting Ostrich Eggs

When: Saturday March 31 from 1:30-3:30pm

Where: Lexington Education Center

Cost: \$22 members, teachers, students; \$28 non-members

The decorated ostrich egg would have been an exotic prize for the Victorian household. Join this studio workshop to paint your own ostrich egg, a unique decorative piece to adorn your home this spring. Advance registration is required. Call 412-371-0600 or visit www.frickart.org.

Children's Museum of Pittsburgh

Artist Master Classes

Lisa Huyett is a young artist based in the Pittsburgh area working with natural forms. Using a Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) at the Mellon Institute, Lisa examined rose petals magnified five hundred times. She then used 20,000 chenille stems to create a remarkably accurate three-dimensional form simulating the magnified petal surface. Lisa will be discussing her research process, as well as additional two and three-dimensional pieces inspired by the microscopic exploration of organic forms. Participating educators will have the opportunity to do their own research using images prepared in advance, and we'll artfully interpret these microscopic structures with a variety of inexpensive materials and found objects! Discussion will center on the intersection of standards-based science and art experiences in the classroom.

When: Tuesday March 20, 2007

Amber Coppings is a local fiber artist who specializes in surface design and fiber manipulation, specifically using Japanese shibori techniques. She has facilitated and taught art in over 40 residencies and workshops, and is a recipient of the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council's Artist Opportunity Grant. Amber will show examples from several recent exhibitions. Participating educators will discuss what is "fiber art" and examine how different activities translate to the classroom. We'll each create a memory wrap using numerous materials including fabric, beads, natural fibers, yarn, and handmade paper, and conclude with a group critique of all of the pieces.

When: Thursday April 26, 2007

These continuing education workshops led by visiting regional artists are presented in partnership with the Arts Education Collaborative. **Classes are \$10 each and run from 5-7pm with a complimentary dinner available from 4-5pm** as you're able to arrive from school.

Each class offers two Act 48 hours.

For more information or to register, contact Children's Museum Studio Arts Educator Andrea Shockling at 412-322-5058 ext 205 or ashockling@pittsburghkids.org.

Please submit your
Opportunities and Offerings to Jennifer at:
412-201-7402 or koeglerj@artsedcollaborative.org.
Due to limited space, submissions will be run
on a first come, first served basis.

Upcoming Events

Pittsburgh City Theatre

Student Matinees

Mezzulah, 1946 by Michele Lowe

When: Wednesday March 21 at 10am

Where: Pittsburgh City Theatre

Cost: \$10 per student

Pittsburgh City Theatre offers your students the opportunity to experience the world premiere of *Mezzulah, 1946*. Set in Monroe, Washington a year after the end of WWII, the play tells the story of 19 year old Mezzulah Steiner, who, like her hero Leonardo da Vinci, is ahead of her time and ready for flight. With expansive theatricality Lowe depicts an important period for women's rights and an exciting time in aviation design. Punctuating the play are the chart-topping harmonies of the era, including *Don't Fence Me In*, *Coming In On a Wing and a Prayer* and *Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition*.

Intimate Apparel by Lynn Nottage

When: Wednesday May 26 at 10am

Where: Pittsburgh City Theatre

Cost: \$10 per student

Esther yearns to change the fabric of her life. As an African-American lingerie seamstress in 1905 New York, Esther's success relies on her discretion. Her clients take her into their boudoirs and their confidence. Cultures and classes mix in this drama. This award-winning play poetically explores the struggle to break free in an era when gender, racial, class and religious structures were as binding as a corset.

Teachers bringing groups will be sent a study guide aligned to Pennsylvania Academic Standards. Each Student Matinee is followed by a question and answer session with the cast.

For more information contact:

Limus Craig, Director of Education at 412-431-4400 extension 274

For more information visit www.citytheatrecompany.org

PITT ARTS

When: Thursday March 15 at 4pm

Where: University of Pittsburgh's Frick Fine Arts Building

Cost: Free

Openly transgender singer/songwriter Namoli Brennet will perform as part of the "Promoting Dialogue: Arts Engaging Social Change" program piloted by PITT ARTS. Staff from Pittsburgh's Persad Center, which serves the LGBT community, will introduce the performance and speak to the audience about transgender issues and the dispelling of stereotypes. For more information call PITT ARTS at 412-624-4498 or visit www.pittarts.pitt.edu. Listen to the music of Namoli Brennet at www.namolibrennet.com

Frick Art and Historical Center

Women's History Program: A Foot in Two Worlds: Exploring Cultural Identity

When: Wednesday March 21 at 7pm

Where: The Frick Art Museum

Cost: \$8 members, teachers and students; \$10 non-members and guests

The Frick Art and Historical Center and Ladies United for the Preservation of Endangered Cocktails (LUPEC) come together to sponsor an evening with women answering the question, "What was it like to grow up in another culture?" Listen to women, citizens of the United States, born into another culture tell their stories. The evening includes light hors d'oeuvres and LUPEC's classy cocktail. Call 412-371-0600 or visit www.frickart.org

Attack Theatre

Dirty Ball Too

When: Saturday March 10, 2007 from 8pm-midnight

Where: 121 Ninth Street (Downtown)

Cost: \$40 in advance/ \$45 at the door

The Dirty Ball is back! Attack Theatre's second annual gala features dirty martinis, dancing to seductive sounds from DJ Justin Hopper of PANDEMIC, audacious interactive installations, dirtylicious dishes and Attack Theatre performances. The event is restricted to ages 21+.

For tickets call ProArts at 412-394-3353 or buy online at

www.proartstickets.org. For more information please visit

www.attacktheatre.com or call 412-441-8444.

Carnegie Hall Communities LinkUP!

Concert with the Duquesne Symphony Orchestra

When: March 30, 2007 at 10am

Where: Carnegie Music Hall in Oakland

Targeted for students in the fourth-sixth grades, the Communities LinkUP program increases students' performing, creating and listening skills through a series of sequentially linked activities. The culmination of the year-long program is a live orchestra performance for the participating students which applies concepts studied during the year and gives the students the unique opportunity of playing the recorder or singing along with the orchestra throughout the performance. A **limited** number of extra seats are available. If you are interested in attending contact Jean Rowles at

jean_rowles@butler.k12.pa.us

Carnegie Museum of Art

Public Forum Learning from London

When: Saturday March 24 from 3-5pm, followed by reception

Where: CMA Theater

Curator Raymond Ryan leads an afternoon forum with presentations by principals from London architectural firms featured in *Gritty Brits: New London Architecture*. The program invites audience participation and includes provocative observations from cultural and civic leaders in Pittsburgh. Architects, planners, developers, politicians, gritty urban dwellers (and wannabes) are invited to share their ideas over drinks and a view of the exhibition.

Artist's Lecture: Phil Collins

When: Friday March 30 from 6-7pm, followed by reception

Where: CMA Theater

Artist Phil Collins discusses his use of video to tap into the confessional impulse prevalent in today's reality television. Mining the world of musical fandom, he travels to major cities throughout the world, where he recruits and records volunteer karaoke performers singing the angst-ridden lyrics of the British band The Smiths.

For more information on either of these events, visit <http://www.cmoa.org/programs/exh.asp> or call 412.622.3222

Please submit your Upcoming Events to Jennifer at:

412-201-7402 or koeglerj@artsedcollaborative.org.

Due to limited space, submissions will run on a first come, first served basis.

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