

Essential Learning... *In the Arts*

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ARTS EDUCATION
COLLABORATIVE

Issue Number: 60

September 2008

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October 13, 2008: Regional Arts Education Day

On **Monday, October 13, 2008**, the Arts Education Collaborative will host its annual Regional Arts Education Day with keynote speaker Sir Ken Robinson headlining the event. Sir Ken is an internationally recognized leader in the development of creativity, innovation, education and human resources. He speaks to audiences throughout the world on the creative challenges facing business and education in the new global economies. In 1998, he led a national commission on creativity, education and the economy for the UK Government bringing together leading business people, scientists, artists and educators. His report, *All Our Futures: Creativity, Culture and Education* (The Robinson Report) was published to huge acclaim. The London Times said: "This report raises some of the most important issues facing business in the 21st century. It should have every CEO and human resources director thumping the table and demanding action." His book, *Out of Our Minds: Learning to be Creative* (Wiley-Capstone) is described by Director magazine as "a truly mind opening analysis of why we don't get the best out of people at a time of punishing change." For ten years he was Professor of Education at the University of Warwick in England and is now Professor Emeritus. For a short video of Sir Ken giving a presentation, follow this link: http://www.ted.com/index.php/talks/ken_robinson_says_schools_kill_creativity.html.



The day's activities will be from 9 am to 3:30 pm at Chartiers Valley High School. Participants are eligible for 5.5 ACT 48 credit hours and the cost for attending is \$55 (includes a continental breakfast and lunch). For more information and to download the registration form, visit: <http://www.artsedcollaborative.org/calendar.html>.

Music Education... All That Jazz

In partnership with MCG Jazz, the Arts Education Collaborative is pleased to announce a jazz education professional development day scheduled for October 28, 2008 and will be hosted at Manchester Craftsmen's Guild. Dr. Willie Hill, Chair of the MENC Jazz Task Force and Former President, IAJE, will be speaking and hosting teaching sessions along with other master jazz educators, including Ken Kimery, historian and Executive Producer, Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra, and Michael Tomaro, Associate Professor of Music and Chair of Jazz Studies at Duquesne University's Mary Pappert School of Music. The day will include workshops focused on: integrating jazz into a general music curriculum; rehearsal techniques including coaching rhythm sections, teaching the basics of swing, and incorporating vocal and instrumental improvisation; and strategies to address the Pennsylvania Standards for Arts and Humanities through jazz.

This workshop is free to attend with registration and is supported by a generous grant from the Benedum Foundation. Space for the workshop is limited and participants are eligible to receive 8 hours of ACT 48 credit. Registration must be received by October 14, 2008. For more information and for a registration form, contact Rose Piccioni at 412-322-1773 ex. 192.

Focus On Installation Art: Further Exploration



On Monday, November 3, 2008, the Arts Education Collaborative will join the Mattress Factory Art Museum in offering a daylong professional development workshop focused on answering the questions: *How can installation art become a part of my art curriculum?* And, *What PA Academic Standards will installation art address?* Participants will explore content that enhances lesson design, enjoy a discussion with co-director Michael Olijnyk and study the working process of artist Winifred Lutz, creator of Mattress

Factory outdoor installation Garden. Made possible by a grant from the Claude Worthington-Benedum Foundation, this workshop is free to all arts educators in Greene, Washington and Fayette Counties (Allegheny county residents may register at a cost of \$75 per person).

Space for the workshop is limited and participants are eligible to receive 5.5 hours of ACT 48 credit. Registration must be received by October 27, 2008. For more information and to download the registration form, visit <http://www.artsedcollaborative.org/calendar.html>.

Focus On Leadership

by Elizabeth Kripp, Program Associate, AEC

We've been hearing a lot about change these days. Both presidential candidates are touting their own expertise in making that happen in national politics. But change is nothing new to the members of the AEC Leadership Academy. Each of these dedicated arts educators, now numbering 72, has been working to transform the business of educating our students through learning in the arts. Even though each plan of action is different, the basic goal is the same: Make an essential difference.

This past July, twelve educators completed the weeklong summer session of the 2008 Leadership Academy at the Duquesne University's Mary Pappert School of Music. The work begun this summer will continue during four follow up seminars held at various cultural venues in the area. Throughout the coming year, each member will focus on individual action plans designed to make a difference in each represented school district or cultural arts organization. But they won't be out there alone.

Many of the members of past leadership academies have stayed actively involved in AEC leadership work. They've provided encouragement, wisdom, and direction for new members. Combined with AEC resources, this network equips the educators with an unparalleled source of support as they navigate through the challenges and successes of their work. It really works. The evidence is real and continues to grow each year.

As the newest action plans are being constructed, energy is building around several initiatives. Interdisciplinary instruction, enhanced communication systems, and implementation of new courses are just some of the areas that will be explored this year. Along the way, each LA

participant will discover and put into action those leadership attributes that each has possessed all along. They will learn how to collaborate effectively by recognizing others' leadership styles and using that knowledge to make things happen. Throughout the entire process the learning needs of the student will remain central to the decision making. And we don't forget about the need of the arts educator to stay close to art making. Opportunities for LA members to encourage and nurture creativity within themselves are critical and included within each session.

We congratulate the following members of the 2008 AEC Leadership Academy and wish them well as they begin their journeys. **Judith Apple**, (Vincentian Academy), **Jess Beblo** (Beaver Area S.D.), **Jordan Crosby** (Carnegie Museum of Art), **Kristin Gatch** (Pittsburgh Opera), **Anna Marie Joyce** (Propel Schools), **Janice Karenbauer** (Moon Area S.D.), **Leslie Kunkel** (Blackhawk S.D.), **Nicole Longevin-Burroughs** (Pittsburgh Symphony) **Michelle**



Front Row: Jess Beblo, Judith Apple, Gail Ungar, Kristin Gatch, Janice Karenbauer, Jordan Crosby, Kelly Jane Walker. Back Row: Sarah Tambucci, Nicole Longevin-Burroughs, Betty Kripp, Jayne Sweet, Leslie Kunkel, Anna Marie Joyce, Michelle Maroni, Debbie Boersma

Maroni (McGuffey S.D.), **Jayne Sweet** (South Allegheny S.D.), **Gail Ungar** (South Allegheny S.D.), and **Kelly Jane Walker** (Pittsburgh Public Schools).

Stay tuned...more change is coming!

**For more information on the
AEC Leadership Academy,
visit:**

**[www.artsedcollaborative.
org/LeadershipAcademy.
html](http://www.artsedcollaborative.org/LeadershipAcademy.html)**

Regional Arts Education Day 2008.5

by Dr. Sarah Tambucci,
Director, AEC



When opportunity knocks, the AEC answers.

In April of 2008 we celebrated the fifth annual Regional Arts Education Day, analyzed the evaluations, and began planning for 2009. However, we didn't get very far before we were approached to consider making it possible for more educators to attend this popular event by moving the celebration to October 13. Many school districts throughout Allegheny County will not be in session that day and teachers will be attending workshops designed to meet their needs and interests.

The AEC, therefore, will be sponsoring the next RAED at Chartiers Valley High School on Monday, October 13. We look forward to a keynote address by Sir Ken Robinson, reactions to Sir Ken's remarks by a distinguished panel, and afternoon breakout sessions to stimulate our creative juices.

The theme of this event is *Cultivating Creativity*. This will be the third keynote speaker invited to share his perspective regarding the importance of nurturing creativity in all of our children and youth. Previous speakers Dan Pink and Edward Albee challenged us to consider the skills needed to become a 'savy navigator of the 21st century'. Whether it is the economic implications of a global economy or the serious responsibility of competent citizenship, the place for arts education as a critical component in education is not merely a luxury. It is essential.

Join us on October 13 and bring along a colleague or two. The conversation on the trip home is guaranteed to be enriched by this thought provoking experience. You will find yourself making plans to attend Regional Arts Education Day 2009. We promise.

In The News...

Focus on Renewal (McKees Rocks) Receives \$500,000 from the Richard King Mellon Foundation

On August 15, 2008, Focus On Renewal announced that a new \$500,000 gift from The Richard King Mellon Foundation has brought overall fundraising efforts for the Father Ryan Arts Center Capital Campaign to \$3.4 million. The campaign launched publicly in 2004 to renovate a former furniture store into a \$4.2 million state-of-the-art, multi-level arts center providing unmatched resources in all facets of artistic education, enrichment and entertainment is nearly complete.

Once completed, the new facilities will contain performance space and seating, an outside courtyard, on-site gallery, café, office space for administrative staff, lobby space, commercial kitchen, recording studio, dance studios, music rooms, computer graphics lab, pottery studios, visual and performing arts rooms, and a private meeting room for sponsors, entertainment and rentals.

Focus on Renewal is a non-profit human service agency that has served the McKees Rocks community for nearly 40 years, and is nationally recognized as a model of comprehensive services to low-income people of all ages. For more information please call 412.771.6460 or visit www.forstorox.org.

Keystone School District (Clarion County) Restores Two Arts Education Positions

On September 8, Keystone area community members successfully convinced Keystone School District board members to reinstate an art and a music teacher position in the district. Board members heard from a number of residents, students, and graduates prior to the 5-2 vote. Attendance at the meeting was expected to be high enough that the meeting was moved from the elementary school library to the high school auditorium. The two positions to be filled are an elementary art teacher and a high school music teacher.

This most recent vote is a reversal of a vote in August to not replace a retiring elementary art teacher and the board received criticism for doing so. This move on the part of the board motivated member of the community (including members of the Keystone Music Association) to organize and gain support for approaching the board to maintain quality arts education programming in the district by filling these to teaching positions in the district. For the full article, visit <http://www.thederrick.com/stories/08052008-2016.shtml>.

Opportunities & Events

Carnegie Museum of Art

What: Autumn Educator Open House

Where: Carnegie Museum of Art

Date: September 13, 2008, 9 am - 1 pm

In 1896, Andrew Carnegie established the Carnegie International to educate and inspire. Learn about *Life on Mars*, the 55th installment of this important exhibition, and its interdisciplinary web- and museum-based school programs that continue the tradition for educators. *Life on Mars* artist Ryan Gander will be presenting. Advanced registration is required (\$10) and can be done so by calling 412.622.3288. Three hours of ACT 48 is available.

August Wilson Center for African American Culture

What: Collecting Fair

Where: Allegheny Center Alliance Church, 250 East Ohio St, North Side

Date: September 20, 2008, 10 am - 2 pm

This fall, the August Wilson Center for African American Culture is scouring Pittsburgh and surrounding communities to collect memories, stories, and photos that may become part of the exhibitions when the new Center opens in the spring of 2009. At the fair, you will have the opportunity to: learn more about collecting oral histories; tell and record your family's story and experiences of growing up, working and living in Western PA; Bring family photos to be scanned into the Center's computer stations; and watch a sneak preview of what there is to see and do at the August Wilson Center before we open our permanent home. For more information, visit www.augustwilsoncenter.org or call 412.258.2700.

Pittsburgh Cultural Trust

What: Tix for Teachers Program

Where: Cabaret Theater

Date: Monday, September 22, 2008

The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust will host an open house for current and prospective members of the Tix for Teachers Program on September 22, 2008 at the Cabaret Theater. Membership is free and educators can log on to www.pgharts.org to apply. This program is now open to education majors at universities and retired teachers. It's a great event, and teachers look forward to it every year. They get a chance to unwind after a day in the classroom, enjoy a cocktail/soft drink and hors d'oeuvres, hear some live jazz in our outer lobby, socialize with fellow teachers, while hearing about our upcoming season, professional development opportunities, learning about the benefits of the program and how to access discounts with over 60 other arts organizations that participate in the program.

Keystone Technology Integrators, PA Governor's Institute for Arts Educators, and Pennsylvania Art Education Association

What: 2008 Regional Arts & Technology Mini-Conference

Where: Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit

Date: September 27, 2008, 9 am - 3 pm

Registration Deadline: September 17, 2008

Come and join your colleagues for a day of differentiated, engaging professional development as we explore the integration of the arts and technology. Earn 6 Act 48 hours while exploring your arts discipline, meeting other arts educators and discovering new resources in your area. The conference, held simultaneously at eight intermediate units around the state, will feature hands-on sessions in adaptive technology, emerging technologies, the creative and performing arts, and leadership. To register, go to: <https://www.edulinkinc.com/iu27registration/>

Pittsburgh Opera

What: Educator Workshop on *Samson & Dalila*

Where: Pittsburgh Opera Building

Date: September 25 & 27, 2008, 9 am - 4 pm

Pittsburgh Opera is announcing their 2008-2009 Opera Workshop for Educators that connect opera to the PA Academic Standards in all content areas. The \$100 registration fee includes: books and audio-visual materials, an extensive packet of resource materials, ready-to-use opera activities, and live performance by opera artists. Breakfast and lunch are provided. For more information, contact Kristin Gatch at 412.281.0912 x242 or kgatch@pittsburghopera.org.

Best Buy Teach Awards

What: Technology Assistance

Deadline: October 12, 2008

Best Buy is now accepting applications for their 2008-2009 Best Buy Teach Awards. Educators can apply for \$1000-\$5000 in gift cards from Best Buy to get technology for their classrooms. For full details, visit: http://www.bestbuyinc.com/community_relations/teach_awards.htm.

Manchester Craftsmen's Guild

What: Adult and Educator Workshops

Date: Fall 2008

Manchester Craftsmen's Guild is offering Fall 2008 courses for adults and educators that include ceramics for all skill levels, figure drawing in our design studio, digital video making, the future of photography using a GigaPan robot, and a special two part short course exploring traditional photo processes! All classes accommodate beginners to advanced students. Class sizes are limited. Advance registration is required. For more information, visit: http://www.manchesterguild.org/va/professional_development.htm or call 412.322.1773 Ext. 302.

Opportunities & Events (Cont.)

Father Ryan Arts Center

What: Call for Artists

The Father Ryan Arts Center of Focus On Renewal is now accepting inquiries from talented individuals and groups with excellent skills to help expand our curriculum and faculty base. Previous teaching experience is a must, but more important is a passion for your work and for sharing it with others. We are looking for enthusiastic artists with top skills in all areas of the arts education and performance including theater arts, dance, music (vocal and instrumental), visual arts, literary arts and more. Email James Critchfield, program director at jcritchfield@forstorox.org for more information.

Pittsburgh Glass Center

What: Mini Glass Workshops & Hot Glass Demonstrations

Where: Pittsburgh Glass Center

Mini workshops are an educational and exciting hands-on exercise in teamwork, communication and creativity. Great for classes and clubs, participants learn about the science, art and history of glass. Experienced artists lead the group through a hands-on glass making experience ranging from paperweights to beads. Expect to roll up your sleeves and go right to the torch, furnace or fusing studio and create your own glass art. Everyone has an opportunity to try glass making. No experience is required. Every mini workshop includes a live hot glass demonstration and tour of PGC's current contemporary glass exhibition. Workshops are suitable for all ages and can be scheduled throughout the year. Visit www.pittsburghglasscenter.org for more information or call Joy at 412-365-2145 ext. 201.

Prime Stage Theatre

What: 2008-2009 Season Student Matinees

Where: The New Hazlett Theater

Prime Stage Theatre will once again offer its popular student matinee performances during the 2008-2009 school year. All performances will be held at The New Hazlett Theater on Pittsburgh's North Side (6 Allegheny Square, East, Pittsburgh, 15212) and ticket prices are \$8 each. Each production will have three student matinee performances which will be held on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 10:00 a.m. For more information on the matinees, visit www.primestage.com.

Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra

What: PSO Speakers Bureau

The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra is please to announce the appointment of a new volunteer group, the PSO Speakers Bureau. The Speakers Bureau is comprised of volunteers who want to share their passion for the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra with other volunteer groups, schools, and community organizations.

Any organization interested in arranging for a PSO Speakers Bureau volunteer to speak at a meeting can register on-line through the PSO web site at www.pittsburghsymphony.org and click on the Education and Community tab. Each request is matched with a well trained volunteer speaker who will bring to life the inner workings of the world-famous orchestra and its programs. For questions call 412.392.4839.

2008 Carnegie International

What: Teacher Workshop

Where: Carnegie Museum of Art

Date: September 25, 2008, 4-pm-8 pm

Explore blogging, a proven classroom strategy for strengthening students' informational writing skills, in the context of *Life on Mars*, the 2008 Carnegie International. Tour the exhibition, focusing on its major themes and their relevance to writing for the web, then move to the computer lab for hands-on instruction using the *Life on Mars* web site. Registration is \$12 non-members or \$10 members. Call group visits to register: (412) 622.3288. 3 Act 48 credit hours available.



Sarah Tambucci, Ph.D.: Director
Dora Baraky: Director of Operations
Michael Cerveris, DMA: Program Associate
Elizabeth Kripp: Program Associate
Dana Casto: Project Manager
Deborah Boersma: Project Manager
Glenn Bailey, Jr.: Intern

Arts Education Collaborative
425 Sixth Avenue, Suite 2650
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
P: (412) 201-7405
F: (412) 201-7401
www.artsedcollaborative.org