

Essential Learning...*In the Arts*

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ARTS EDUCATION
COLLABORATIVE

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An Exemplary Educational Leader: 2009 PA Superintendent of the Year Dr. James Manley



The Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators (PASA) has named Pine-Richland School District Superintendent James Manley, Ph.D., as the 2009 Pennsylvania Superintendent of the Year.

The goal of the prestigious awards program, which is co-sponsored by ARAMARK Education and the American Association of School Administrators (AASA), is to further inspire exemplary educational leadership and promote a sense of confidence and pride in the nation's public schools. The Pennsylvania Superintendent of the Year is selected by a PASA panel of school administrators and nominees are evaluated on how each candidate demonstrates leadership for learning, communication skills, professionalism and community involvement.

As an exemplary educational leader, Dr. Manley has deep roots in the Arts Education Collaborative. He was involved in the beginning stages of the AEC and continued to support the initiative as a Steering Council member. His passion for the arts and the critical role they play in the education of the whole child helped to garner support for arts education not only in each of the districts he has served over the last 41 years but throughout the broader community.

When contacted regarding this article, Dr. Manley suggested that, "The focus might not be on me but how I have seen the arts collaborative grow and really have a tremendous impact in our schools. I was involved in the beginning stages of the organization before it was called the arts collaborative. This organization is an excellent example of how the foundations in Pittsburgh have been instrumental in providing resources to our schools."

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2009 Excellence in Arts Education Award: Nominations Welcome

On June 1, 2009, the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council will be presenting the 2009 Work of Art Awards. This event is designed to showcase noteworthy behind-the-scenes management and artistic creation and presentation in the Pittsburgh region. Winners in six different categories will be presented with a unique piece of artwork designed by a local artist.

The Arts Education Collaborative, along with Gateway to the Arts, is working in partnership with the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council to present the Excellence in Arts Education Award. This award honors an individual or organization in the Pittsburgh region who has worked over time to implement excellence in arts education. Individuals, schools, and arts and cultural organizations are all eligible to be nominated (self nominations accepted). For more information and to download the nomination form, visit www.WorkofArtAwards.com. The deadline for submission is **Friday, February 13, 2009**.

the
work
of art

AWARDS

Greater Pittsburgh
Arts Council
Celebrates the People
Who Give Us Art

June 1, 2009

Focus on Leadership: A Reflection on National Board Certification

by Roslyn Stulga, 2003 AEC Leadership Academy Graduate



During the process of National Board Certification (NBC), I kept wondering how many elementary art teachers had attempted this, questioning if this was a fair measurement

of an art teacher. If you know me, you know that I am adamant about the arts in schools being treated as a core subject with equal status as the other academic subjects. I advocate using the same language across the board, the integration of content, and cross-curricular lessons that are arts driven.

My lament during the NBC process was that it felt like I was fitting a square peg into a round hole, yet, given my convictions; I was determined to make the fit! During the certification process, I learned a great deal about how we are indeed the same "shape" as the other academics but also where the differences occur.

The process requires 4 entries that come with a set of stringent requirements for completion. Each entry is set up to examine an aspect of the teaching profession. If open-ended, this would have been really easy. However, the exactness of the requirements levels the scoring across the board (round hole). For example, the task to document two students during the creative process including a consecutive series of 10 photos in which I also appear is not necessarily how the creative process naturally flows. I see students once a week, so with time and serendipity, if it didn't turn out to prove the prescribed reason I was highlighting these particular students (square peg), then I would need to begin again...yikes.

This quandary came up in three of the four entries for me and I wondered constantly if there could be a better system of proving that teaching and learning was occurring. It was

sometime in there that I realized that the struggle of this proof is the age-old struggle between the arts and academics. My answer would lie in the solution I have been using all along; sticking to the common language used in all academics and adhering to the teaching standards. Viewing my student's progress through this lens was a profound "a-ha" moment for me.

I was lucky to have two colleagues who were also working towards their national certification and took advantage of a peer group offered through Duquesne University. Having these resources available were indispensable when it came to editing my writing, calming my anxiety over the guidelines and meeting criteria. The National Board Certification process is the examination and measure of how well you can discuss the reflection of your teaching practice.

I owe credit to the Arts Education Collaborative for priming me for this challenge with many opportunities such as the Leadership Academy, an AEC Fellowship, and several committee projects where I learned to journal, document, and reflect on what I am teaching as well as what I am learning. I saw those exercises as key to developing the ability to examine what is occurring and to adapt and adjust to your students needs and to your own as a learner, no matter the subject matter.

I encourage all arts educators (especially elementary) to experience this reflective process.

Roslyn Stulga is a 2003 AEC Leadership Academy graduate and a former AEC Fellow. Currently, Ms. Stulga teaches visual art in the Steel Valley School District and is the President of the Steel Valley Arts Council's Board of Directors. For more information on the Leadership Academy, visit www.artsedcollaborative.org/LeadershipAcademy.html.

Please submit your Upcoming
Events & Opportunities to Dana at:
castod@artsedcollaborative.org
Due to limited space, submissions
will run on a first come,
first serve basis.

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He serves as chairman of the PASA Membership Committee and serves on the PASA Cabinet and the PASA Board of Governors. Dr. Manley also is an Executive Board Committee member of the Tri-State Area School Study Council at the University of Pittsburgh, is chairman of the Management Committee for Allegheny County Superintendents, and is a member of the Executive Committee of the Western Pennsylvania Forum for Superintendents.

Dr. Manley has been superintendent in the Pine-Richland School District since 2000. He has served as a school administrator since 1971 in Pennsylvania, as superintendent in the Northgate School District (1982-2000), assistant superintendent at Northgate (1976-1982) and coordinator of pupil services in the North Allegheny School District (1971-1976).

It is rewarding to note that this exemplary educational leader has demonstrated repeatedly, in all of his work, that the arts are an important element in the education of students, the programs and policies of school districts and the life of the community.

In The News...

A School Revitalized Through the Arts

Americans for the Arts Cultural Policy Listserv provided a link to "Principal," the magazine of the National Association of Elementary School Principals, with an article written by a Mississippi principal who draws on personal experience to explain "how to make the transition to an arts-integrated curriculum." To read the article, visit www.naesp.org/resources/2/Principal/2009/J-F_p18.pdf.

Americans for the Arts Submits Policy Brief to Obama Transition Team

Americans for the Arts joined other national arts advocacy organizations to draft and submit a policy brief to the Obama Presidential Transition Office. The brief includes a section in direct support of arts education and the importance of the arts in schools. Policy recommendations for arts education include: Prevent economic status and geographic location from denying students a comprehensive arts education, move federal policy beyond simply declaring the arts as a core academic subject to actually implementing arts education as an essential subject of learning, and deploy arts education as an economic development strategy.

The recommendations that were made are in line with the public statements and proposals that Obama made during the campaign (these policy positions were reprinted in *Arts Insights* the monthly newsletter of Arts Consulting Group, Inc and can be found by following this link: www.artsconsulting.com/pdf_arts_insights/insights_jan_09.pdf). For the full policy brief, visit www.artsusa.org/pdf/get_involved/advocacy/legislative_news/obama_transition.pdf.

Arts Education and the Whole Child

Americans for the Arts Cultural Policy Listserv provided a link to "Principal," the magazine of the National Association of Elementary School Principals, with an article written by an assistant superintendent in Sarasota County, Florida, that describes his experience on how "[h]igh-quality arts programs can contribute to the intellectual, physical, and emotional well-being of children." To read the article, visit www.naesp.org/resources/2/Principal/2009/J-F_p14.pdf.

Opportunities & Events

Pennsylvania College of Technology

The Pennsylvania College of Technology is looking for up to 6 teachers who would write curriculum units to support a DVD/video on Welding. They can view the video at www.pct.edu/degreeesthatwork/. The goal is to support academic standards areas including career education and work, science & technology, art and any other standards. Each teacher will be paid \$400 per lesson planning guide written and paid for any travel expenses. If the meeting requires a school work day – funds to pay for the teacher's substitute will be provided to the school district. Contact Jeannette Carter at JCarter2@pct.edu or 570.320.8003.

Teaching Artist Research Project

The Teaching Artist Research Project (TARP) is the first national study to examine the world and work of teaching artists. TARP is currently building lists of teaching artists for its survey samples in its 12 study sites. If you are a teaching artist or if you manage a program that hires teaching artists, please register at the study website. TARP will contact registrants when the study goes live early this year. For more information and to register, visit <http://surveylab.uchicago.edu/projects/tarp.shtml>.

Opportunities & Events (Cont.)

Pittsburgh Glass Center

What: Family Fun at PGC on MLK Day

Where: Pittsburgh Glass Center

When: January 19, 2009

Time: 10 am - 4 pm

Join the Pittsburgh Glass Center for a day of white-hot molten art and hands-on fun this Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, January 19 from 10 am to 4 pm. Watch glassblowing demonstrations and participate in glass mosaic making with resident artist Daviea Davis throughout the day. Visitors will also have the opportunity to handcraft their own glass beads for only \$15. For more information, visit www.pittsburghglasscenter.org.

Pennsylvania Department of Education

What: Monthly Webinar - Arts Chat

When: January 21, 2009

Time: 4-5:30 pm

The Arts Chat webinars will feature issues and information pertinent to the arts and education. The intended audience is educators, administrators, higher education faculty, IU personnel, artists, arts partners and other interested parties. To participate in a webinar, you need a computer with an active internet connection and speakers or headphones. A microphone is encouraged but not necessary. More information and directions for registering are on the PDE Webinars site at www.pdewebinars.org.

Pennsylvania Art Education Association and Westmoreland Museum of American Art

What: Educator's Evening - *The Role of Art in Education*

Where: Westmoreland Museum of Art

When: January 22, 2009

Time: 6:30 - 9 pm

Join us at the Westmoreland Museum of American Art in Greensburg to participate in a talk, *The Role of Art in Education* with artist and educator Bud Gibbons. Participants will receive ACT 48 credit as well as refreshments, prizes and a docent guided tour. For more information, or to register, please contact Wendy Milne at wendymilne@aol.com or

Katie Barnard at 724-837-1500 ext. 19 or email kbarnard@wmuseumaa.org.

The Art Institute of Pittsburgh

What: Art+Smart 2009 Scholarship Program

Deadline: January 26, 2009

Art+Smart 2009, an annual scholarship program and art competition for students grades 9 through 12. The Art Institute of Pittsburgh proudly offers this scholarship competition with The Mall at Robinson as part of the Gallery on the Mall program. Please note that the entry fee to the Mall at Robinson has been eliminated, so there are no fees whatsoever to participate. For more information, visit www.artinstitutes.edu/pittsburgh/FinancialAid/scholar_art_smart.aspx.

Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra

What: Tribute: *A Symphonic Celebration of African American Culture*

Where: Heinz Hall

When: January 29, 2009

Time: 8 pm

Join the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and conductor Daniel Meyer for the third annual "Tribute" concert. Hear the PSO and the Marcus Roberts Trio perform James P. Johnson's "Yamekraw," as well as George Gershwin's spectacular Rhapsody in Blue as you've never heard it before - with a jazz trio twist! This special concert also features the PSO in harmony with the amazing sounds of the Mt. Ararat Baptist Church Mass Choir and concludes with Igor Stravinsky's colorful Suite from *The Firebird*. Arrive early at 7pm and stay after the concert to experience the Hill House Association's "Live at the Hurricane," a jazz combo performance accompanied with projected images by Pittsburgh photographer Teenie Harris in the Heinz Hall lobby. Tickets: \$5, \$15, and \$25. For tickets, call 412.392.4900 or visit www.pittsburghsymphony.org. Group ticket discounts available by calling 412.392.4819.

The Frick Art & History Center

What: Teacher Workshop: A Different Way of Looking

Where: The Frick Art & History Center

When: February 7, 2009

Time: 10 am - 3:30 pm

Earn Act 48 activity hours using the galleries of the Frick Art Museum and its exhibition, *The Road to Impressionism*. The works by Courbet,

Opportunities & Events (Cont.)

Rousseau, and Monet, along with others, provide the setting with which to experiment with ways to enable students to relate to a subject using music, movement, verbal and linguistic activities that address diverse learning styles as modeled in Howard Gardner's Multiple Intelligence Theory. Box lunch included. \$10 for teacher members; \$14 for non-members. Advance registration and pre-payment required. Email bbraughler@thefrickpittsburgh.org for more information.

Father Ryan Arts Center

What: Eastern European Cultures and Traditions for Music Professionals & Educators

Where: Father Ryan Arts Center

When: February 14 & 28, 2009

Time: 1 - 4:30 pm

Lecture/Demonstration/Participation of a select group of East European Carpathian wood flutes and other folk orchestra instruments, as well as the history of folk music that will include dance forms and singing traditions. An interactive workshop presented by professional folk art musicians where the participants will be provided the opportunity to learn and play several musical selections, while learning teaching techniques that can be presented and taught in the classroom. All students will be invited to participate. Instructors: Andrei Pidkivka & Jerry Jumba. 3.5 ACT 48 Hours awarded for each workshop. Fee \$90 for each workshop. Workshop material is the same for each of the 2 dates, this is NOT a sequential workshop.

Carnegie Museum of Art

What: Student Workshops

Where: Carnegie Museum of Art

When: February 27, 2009

Carnegie Museum of Art's Children's Studio offers standards-based workshops for school students that integrate unique art-making activities and the gallery experience. Join renowned architect Fernando Romero on Friday, February 27, as he

discusses the work of his practice LAR (Laboratory of Architecture), his analysis of Mexico City, and the design strategies behind complex projects in Mexico, the United States, and China presented in the exhibition Laboratory of Architecture/Fernando Romero. Following the 6:00 p.m. public lecture in the CMA Theater, a reception will follow and the Heinz Architectural Center galleries will be open until 8:30 p.m. Visit <http://cmoa.org/exhibitions/upcoming.asp> to learn more about the exhibition.

Pittsburgh History & Landmarks

Foundation

What: Getting Real: Connecting Classroom Curricula to Your Community and City

Where: Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

When: March 14, 2009

Time: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

If you are a K-12 educator, come learn how to connect classroom curricula to the "real-world" through architectural design challenges, language arts projects, and neighborhood/city walking tours in this teacher induction offering. This architectural based, interdisciplinary program gives you ideas to help students strengthen their skills in math, reading, social studies, and language arts while learning the value of teamwork and developing a sense of community pride. To register, contact Patricia DiRienzo at patricia.dirienzo@aiu3.net. This program is part of a series of experiences for which the participants will receive 2 hours of ACT 48 credit.

National Society of Arts and Letters

What: Drama Competition

Where: The Ellis School

When: March 21, 2009

Time: 10 am

NSAL sponsors competitions in 23 chapters across the country in one of six arts disciplines. The winning contestants at the local level receive cash prizes and are then required to compete at the national competition in May. The Competition will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2009 at The Ellis School. Please visit www.artsnet.org/nsal at your convenience for further information.

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