



Children First!

News & Information from Metro Nashville Public Schools

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MNPS Librarian Elected to American Library Association Executive Board

Diane Chen, librarian at Hickman Elementary, was recently elected to serve on the ALA Executive Board. Chen is one of just eight people in the country elected to the board which administers policies and procedures of the ALA. "The Executive Board represents all divisions of ALA. Basically, we administer the policies and programs of ALA," said Chen. Each Executive Board member serves a three year term.

MNPS Special Ed Teacher to Represent the Region

Brad Rosenquist, Consulting Special Education Teacher for MNPS, has been asked to serve as a representative for middle and west Tennessee at the upcoming Phi Kappa Delta International Headquarters Conference. Mr. Rosenquist will serve as the region's Chapter Member Liaison, working with other liaisons from the U.S., Canada, Europe, and Asia. Phi Kappa Delta is one of the foremost education associations, dating back to the turn of the century. The organization's chief goal is to improve public education for all students.

Mt. View Elementary Students Staying Busy

This past December, more than 700 parents attended the Mt. View Elementary Holiday Tea, making it a huge success! Parents enjoyed six different performances by each grade level. Also in December, Mt. View's Renaissance Kids (recorders) and Choruses grades 2-5 performed at Antioch High School in an auditorium left with standing room only.

Fifth grade students Noah Haney and Mecca Shabazz were elected to serve as Mt. View's mayors at 5th Grade Biz Town. Mecca was invited to share her experiences with the Nashville Chamber of Commerce at a December meeting. And to top off an already great 2007, the Mt. View Renaissance Kids performed at a Board of Education meeting and at the Country Music Hall of Fame.

MNPS Counselor Publishes Novel

Cheryl Tyler, school counselor at Hickman Elementary, has just published the fiction novel, *And You Invited Me In*. The novel addresses a moral dilemma that many of us face: tolerating a life

very different from our own. For more information on the novel, visit <http://www.simonsays.com/content/book.cfm?tab=1&pid=585924&er=9781582701660>.

MNPS Students Spend Spring Break at MIT

MNPS middle school students will trade the beach for the Bunsen burner during Spring Break with the Adventure Science Center at the Inaugural Science Ambition Mission at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Students selected to attend are: Dariya Doski, Antioch Middle; Preston Warfield, Bellevue Middle; Shandreis Hudson, Haynes Design Center; Margaret Harvey, Hillwood High; Rita Pfeiffer, Hume-Fogg Magnet; Christian Mistich, John Overton High; Hannah Ruth Reinbold and James Wu, John Trotwood Moore Middle; Matthew Brisbane, Ben Gu, and Hannah Park, Martin Luther King Jr. Magnet; Vikas Kumar, Meigs Magnet Middle. During the Science Ambition Mission, the students will tour the campus, visit the MIT Museum, interact with MIT scientists and students, visit laboratories, and participate in lab activities.

MNPS Scholastic Art Awards

Congratulations to several Hume-Fogg students for recognition as 2008 Winners of the Scholastic Art Awards for Middle Tennessee. This year in the entire mid-state region there were: five American Vision Nominees, of which HFA students won 2; three Portfolio Awards, of which HFA students won 2; and a total of 233 Gold Key Silver Key awards, of which HFA students won 31. Hume-Fogg students, under the leadership of Pamela Bergman, won 33 total awards. Students awarded were: Taylor Carroll, Julia Denison, Eleanor Elbert, Sam Finder, Devon Malick, Julie Moore, Anna Pitz, Nguyen Vu, Xiaoxi Zhang, Emma Brobeck, Austin Broder, Heidi Sprouse, Sophie Diehl, Janet Lee, and Avery Parker.

Gail McDaniel's Awards Granted

Congratulations to the following art teachers for receiving grants from Gail McDaniel's Awards through the Pencil Foundation: Laurie Poole, NSA; Linda Anderson, Glencliff HS; Lucy Randles, MLK; Daryl Wilkinson, Amqui Elementary; Cathy Barnett, Glendale; Pauletta Janaway, Napier Enhanced Option; Ted Edinger, Tulip Grove; and Leigh Siegfried, Dalewood Middle.

Greater Nashville Young Writers' Festival

Hume-Fogg, Ensworth and University School of Nashville are co-sponsoring the Greater Nashville Young Writers' Festival at Ensworth, Saturday, Feb.23. High school students will have opportunities to work on poetry, journalism, fiction, script writing, and song writing with experienced, professional writers. The festival is open to students of any public or private school in middle Tennessee. Students must be accompanied by a teacher from their school.

Teachers and students in grades 9-12 can register by going to www.ensworth.com, then clicking on the "Ensworth to host Young Writers' Workshop" under recent news. Registrations must be received by Feb. 15, 2008.

Governor Observes MLK Holiday with MNPS Students

Friday, Jan. 18, Governor Bredesen spent part of the day with John Overton High School students in celebration of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday. Along with Tennessee History Teacher Michael Agee, Governor Bredesen led students in a discussion regarding the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Ruby Major Day at the Hermitage Library

Saturday, Jan. 12 Ruby Major Elementary held "Ruby Major Day at the Hermitage Library." Tim Hamilton, reading specialist, arranged the event and was the guest reader. More than 150 parents and students attended. Parents were given the opportunity to get library cards for themselves and their children. The event was a tremendous success; Ruby Major Elementary will plan another similar event this spring to promote the Summer Reading program.

Congratulations to Noah Smith, a student at Ruby Major, for winning second place in the fourth grade division of the county-wide 4-H speech contest held at Meigs Magnet School January 19th. Noah's speech was about scorpions.