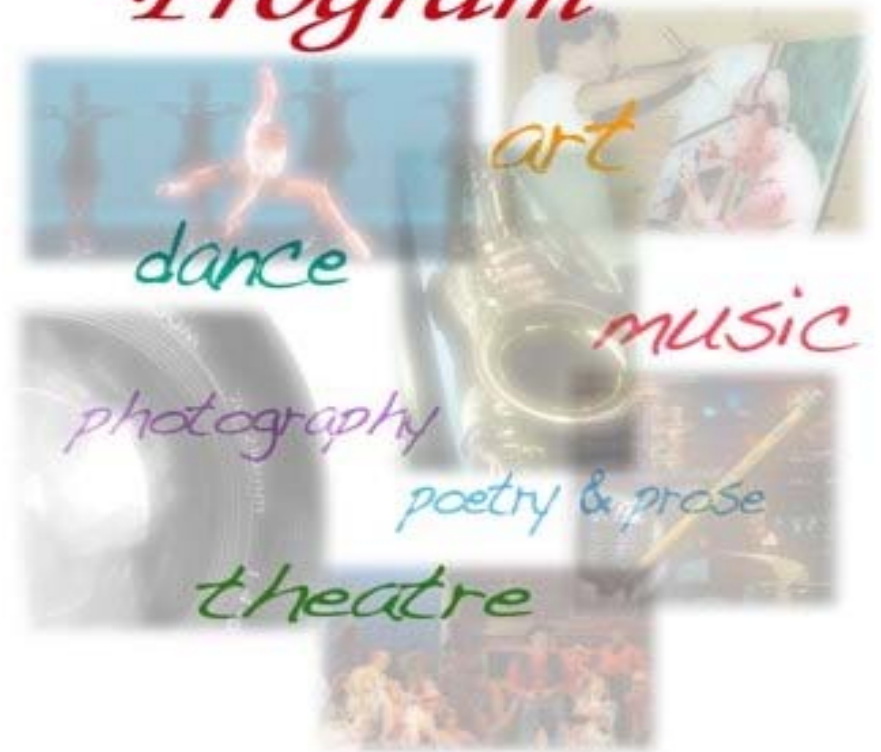


Middletown
Board of Education



311 Hunting Hill Avenue
Middletown, CT 06457

Middletown Public Schools Cultural Council Program



Cultural Council Calendar

2009-2010

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF FINE ARTS

The Middletown Public Schools are committed to providing students with an understanding and appreciation of the arts, as the arts are essential to the education of every student. It is through the arts that students are helped to understand people of other times and cultures. The arts serve as a bond to bring together people of different races, cultures and languages all around the world. The Cultural Council's planned activities will provide all students with opportunities to experience achievements that have been made in the areas of music, painting, poetry, dance, drama and other visual arts. We believe that with the efforts of the Cultural Council, our students will gain an understanding and appreciation of the values and artistic achievements of other cultures as well as our own. In addition, these cultural programs and activities can promote a positive influence on students' social values, lifestyles, and career choices. I know that I speak for the entire student body and staff when I extend my appreciation and thanks to the Cultural Council for what it is doing on behalf of arts education in the Middletown Public Schools.

*Marco Gaylord
K-12 Fine Arts Director*

COMMITTEE

Stephen Allison, Coordinator, Middletown Commission on the Arts

Santo Fragilio, Coordinator, MPSCC Consultant

Marco Gaylord, Director of Fine Arts

Corinne Gill, Board of Education

Tracey Koff, Principal, Keigwin School

Renata Lantos, Principal, Bielefield School

Elizabeth K. Nocera, Director of Grant Services

Gene P. Nocera, Principal, Woodrow Wilson Middle School

Pam Tatge, Director, Wesleyan Center for the Arts

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

The Middletown Board of Education is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer, and it does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, age, marital status, military or veteran status, national origin, sex, ancestry, sexual orientation, or past or present physical or mental disability in any of its education programs, activities or employment policies. All educational programs and offerings, including vocational education and extracurricular activities, subscribe to this policy.

GOAL

To make the arts a *basic* ingredient in the educational process by providing students, teachers, administrators and staff, opportunities to learn about and participate in the artistic experiences including, but not limited to, dance and movement, drama and theatre, music, visual arts and literary arts.

OBJECTIVES

- To provide programs which foster a basic knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the arts.
- To provide opportunities to develop proficiency in chosen art disciplines.
- To strive for maximum integration of the arts in the education process. Such integration includes the relationship of the arts to each other and to all other disciplines.
- To ensure that the arts of many cultures are presented.
- To encourage and support individual creativity.
- To ensure that all programming conforms to the objectives stated above and is of the best quality.

Program Synopsis (Cont'd)

Middletown All-City Music Festival

The Middletown Public Schools K-12 All-City Music Festival is presented in the spring with performances held at the Wesleyan University Freeman Athletic Center. The festival includes instrumental and vocal students from all 11 schools. The program highlights the scope and sequence of our music programs in Grades 4-12. The ensembles presented included the 4th Grade Band, 4th & 5th Grade All-City Chorus, All-City 5th Grade Jazz Ensemble, All-City Recorder Ensemble, Keigwin Band, Keigwin Chorus, WWMS 8th Grade Band and Chorus, Middletown High Concert Choir and the Middletown High Concert Band. The Middletown Public Schools Cultural Council contributes to this activity.

Recess Rocks - A Project Of The Community Health Center

Grade 1 students attending Bielefield, Moody and Wesley Schools will be participating in Recess Rocks. Recess Rocks is a dance program which brings to life the grade-one curriculum. Through dance, the students will be engaging their bodies using multiple senses to learn concepts which helps to root the knowledge in deeper and learning fun.

Program Synopsis (Cont'd)

Wadsworth Atheneum

Grade 5 continues to have the opportunity to participate in the Learning-to-Look Program offered by the Wadsworth Atheneum where all MPS fifth grade students will have an opportunity to visit the Atheneum in a docent-guided tour. The tour is geared to the art, history, social studies and language arts curriculum. Docent-guided visits to the museum exercise visual literacy skills, developing the vocabulary of concepts necessary for understanding and discussing images and visual symbols. The tour encourages active engagement of students with original works of art resulting in an experience that cannot be replicated in the classroom. Following the tour, the written activity facilitated by the classroom teachers add another dimension to the program experience, as students take the initiative to delve into further observations and interpretation. This exercise provides a deeper involvement and connection between the arts and curriculum, using the museum's collections to teach students written, verbal, and visual literacy skills.

Wesleyan University Orchestra and Middletown Public Schools Grade 9 String students perform for MPS Grade 2 students

The Wesleyan University Orchestra under the direction of Maestro Angel Gil-Ordonez will provide workshops, master classes and rehearsals with the Middletown High Grade 9 string students. The final performance will be held at the Middletown High Performing Arts Center for all Middletown Public Schools Grade 2 students.

Keigwin Band Tour

The Grade 6 Keigwin band will visit all eight elementary schools in late March and April. Under the direction of David Daddario, they will present a program that highlights the Grade 6 band curriculum and repertoire that's being studied and learned this year. The Keigwin Band will perform high-energy band literature by today's top composers and arrangers. The performance will also highlight all of the instruments in the ensemble. Music teachers in each building will continue with demonstrations of each instrument and provide information to all third graders on how they can join the fourth grade band program in their schools.

HISTORY

Recognizing the importance of the arts in our culture, the Middletown Board of Education established the Middletown Public Schools Cultural Council in 1978. The Cultural Council was charged with the responsibility to provide our young people with exposure to and experiences in the arts, encouraging them to make intelligent judgments concerning the arts and their participation in them, vocational or avocational. Through this program the Council also hopes that as adults these students will continue to contribute to a culturally conscious community, providing a fuller, richer life for all.

In 1984, the Middletown Public Schools district was invited to participate in a pilot project under the auspices of the Citizen's Committee on Arts Education with the support of the Connecticut State Department of Education. The Citizens Committee commended the MPS Cultural Council for its diversified programming and long range planning for achieving the integration of the arts into the core curricula.

FUNDING

The primary source of funding for the Middletown Public Schools Cultural Council is the Middletown Board of Education. Contributions from school PTA's are also expected and welcome throughout the year.

Grants have been received from the Middletown Commission of the Arts, Connecticut Commission of Culture and Tourism, Middlesex County Community Foundation, Thomas J. Atkins Memorial Fund (Bank of America, Trustee), Hartford Courant Foundation and the Liberty Bank Foundation.

The Middletown Public Schools Cultural Council has tax-deductible status. Individuals and organizations desiring to make contributions should address inquiries to:

Marco Gaylord
Board of Education
Director of Fine Arts
311 Hunting Hill Ave.
Middletown, CT 06457

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Wesleyan University: Student tours to Wesleyan University are co-sponsored by Friends of the Davison Art Center and the Wesleyan Center for the Arts. We extend our appreciation to the docents of the Davison Art Center, Claire Rogan, Curator and to the University for the assistance rendered to the students and staff of the Middletown Public Schools. We are also indebted to Pamela Tatge, Director, Wesleyan Center for the Arts for her assistance with Silent Sounds and her efforts ensuring success for the student tours.

Young Audiences of Connecticut: We want to express our appreciation to Young Audiences of Connecticut, Eileen Carpenella, Executive Director and Loraine Brown, Program Manager for their assistance permitting the presentation of unique and varied cultured programs.

Cover Design: Our appreciation goes to Melanie Medeiros, Middletown High School, 2008 Graduate for developing the cover.

**CULTURAL COUNCIL
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
2009-2010**

Program Dates

September 2009

- 21 **Patrick Hayes 6 Week Dance Residency**
Woodrow Wilson Middle School (Sept. 21st - Oct. 30th)
- 21 **Patrick Hayes 6 Week Dance Residency**
Keigwin Middle School (Sept. 21st - Oct. 30th)

October

- | | | |
|----|--|--------------------|
| 14 | Wesleyan Center for the Arts
Snow School - Grade 4 | 9:30 AM - 12:15 PM |
| 15 | Wesleyan Center for the Arts
Spencer School - Grade 4 | 9:30 AM - 12:15 PM |
| 16 | Wesleyan Center for the Arts
Wesley School - Grade 4 | 9:30 AM - 12:15 PM |
| 21 | Wesleyan Center for the Arts
Bielefield School - Grade 4 | 9:30 AM - 12:15 PM |
| 22 | Wesleyan Center for the Arts
Farm Hill School - Grade 4 | 9:30 AM - 12:15 PM |
| 28 | Wesleyan Center for the Arts
Lawrence School - Grade 4 | 9:30 AM - 12:15 PM |
| 29 | Wesleyan Center for the Arts
Moody School - Grade 4 | 9:30 AM - 12:15 PM |

November

- | | | |
|---|--|--------------------|
| 2 | Wesleyan Center for the Arts
Snow School - Grade 4 | 9:30 AM - 12:15 PM |
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Program Synopsis (Cont'd)

Grade Four Tours of Wesleyan Center for the Arts (cont'd)

Enlightening Images: Buddhist Art Work

Buddhism has been a rich inspiration for artists, and Buddhist art in turn has helped believers to understand and practice their religion better. This exhibition brings together a set of Japanese temple woodcuts, Tibetan prints and contemporary photographs, all of which explore the involving, ancient iconographic traditions of East Asian Buddhism.

Middletown Public Schools String Festival

This new program, will give our Grades 1-9 string students a chance to perform separately and together in the new theatre at the Middletown High School Performing Arts Center. The performance will feature string students in Grades 1-9. The concert will allow students to showcase their talents and show the programs scope and sequence. The evening will also provide an opportunity for new recruits to register and sign up for the summer program or join the program next school year.

Math /Music Residency

The math/music kindergarten residencies will be tutored by teacher and artist Mike Kchuba. Students will use voice, movement, and rhythm instruments to count beats, recognize patterns, and begin fraction concepts. Kindergarten students from Moody and Farm Hill will participate in this program. Pending funding, we hope to rotate 2-3 schools each year.

Hartford Symphony Discovery Concert

Experience the thrill of a field trip to a full-concert venue for a performance of live music by the professional musicians of the Hartford symphony Orchestra. For many students this will be their first opportunity to participate in a live presentation of "serious" music. Each theme-based concert is designed to compliment the school's fine arts and academic curricula. Grade 1 students from Lawrence and Spencer will participate in this program. Pending funding, we hope to rotate 2-3 schools each year.

Program Synopsis (Cont'd)

Grade Four Tours of Wesleyan Center for the Arts

Through the efforts of Pam Tatge, Director of CFA, and the assistance of her colleagues, students have learned about Middletown historical facilities that exist on campus. Students toured the Zikha Galleries and the Davidson Art Centers, along with World Music Hall and the Gamelan. Activities are slated to the Grade 4 art curriculum.

The Javanese Gamelan

The Gamelan Orchestra from Java, Indonesia, is traditionally an essential accompaniment to puppet shows, dances, feasts, and ceremonies. The gamelan is rarely heard in the United States and Wesleyan University owns one of the finest sets of these beautiful instruments in the world. Housed in the World Music Hall, most of the gamelan instruments are gong and metal-laphone instruments made of bronze. There are also two-stringed bowed instruments, xylophones, flutes, and drums. Wesleyan students will perform selections for elementary students to show them in gamelan music, no instrument predominates. They will demonstrate the important function of each, which relates to the whole, and students will have the opportunity to play the instruments.

Paul Villinski: Emergency response studio

Emergency Response Studio was inspired by artist Paul Villinski's to post-Katrina New Orleans in August 2006. He wished he could transport his studio from New York to the Lower Ninth Ward to create work in response to the conditions he found. Instead he created *Emergency Response Studio* by playfully rethinking and transforming a 30-foot Gulf stream cavalier trailer-virtually identical to the 50,000 trailers built by Gulfstream for FEMA- into a rolling, off-the-grid live/work space that can house displaced artists or allow visiting artists to "embed" in post-disaster settings. It will be installed on the Center of the Arts' courtyard and accompanied by an exhibition in Zikha Gallery detailing Villinski's construction process and featuring additional information on movable housing as well as green technology and building materials. Born in York, Maine in 1960, Villinski received a BFA with honors from The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, New York in 1984. The exhibition is curated by Nina Felshin.

Creative Acts: Recent Acquisitions at the Davison Art Center

Fresh from the printmaker's studio or treasured throughout the centuries, new acquisitions to the Davison Art Center collection expand our understanding of the art of today as well as the past. This exhibition features more than 60 exciting prints, drawings and photographs selected from the many acquisitions to the DAC Collection over the last five years.

Program Dates (Cont'd)

January 2010 - Hartford Symphony Orchestra Discovery Concert at M.H.S. Performing Arts Center

20 Lawrence School - Grade 1

21 Spencer School - Grade 1

February

TBA Recess Rocks

March

6 **Middletown Public Schools Art Show Reception**
Wesleyan University Zilkha Art Gallery 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

6-14 **Middletown Public Schools Art Show**
Wesleyan University Zilkah Art Gallery

April

TBA **Wesleyan University Orchestra and Middletown Public Schools Grade 9 Strings Students perform for Grade 2 Students**

May

4 **Silent Sounds**
World Music Hall - Grades 6-12 6:30 PM

5 **Wadsworth Atheneum**
Wesley School - Grade 5 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

6 **Wadsworth Atheneum**
Spencer School - Grade 5 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

7 **Wadsworth Atheneum**
Moody School - Grade 5 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Program Dates (Cont'd)

May

8	All-City Music Festival Wesleyan Freeman Athletic Center- Hockey Arena	7:00 PM
12	Middletown Public Schools String Festival Middletown High School Performing Arts Center	7:00 PM
12	Wadsworth Atheneum Lawrence School - Grade 5	9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
13	Wadsworth Atheneum Macdonough School - Grade 5	9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
14	Wadsworth Atheneum Farm Hill School - Grade 5	9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
19	Wadsworth Atheneum Snow School - Grade 5	9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
20	Wadsworth Atheneum Bielefield School	9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Math/Music Residency for Kindergarten Mike Kachuba, Teacher/Artist

Moody School - (May 17 - 21)

Farm Hill School - (May 24, 25, 27, June 1, 3)



Program Synopsis

Silent Sounds

Silent Sounds is a year-long literary Arts project. Its purpose is to stimulate and encourage students in creative writing experiences. The program is for students in grades 6-12 attending the Middletown Public Schools. Annually a writing contest is sponsored. Creative writing in the categories of short stories, poetry, essay and literary analysis are submitted to a panel of judges who select students work which will be published. These works are featured in a program entitled silence sounds celebration, held in the spring. The works are read by members of the Middletown High School Drama Department. Each writer receives two copies of *Silence Sounds* magazine, a certificate, and a book award presented by Broad Street Books in town.

Middletown Public Schools Art Show

The Middletown Public Schools K-12 Art Show is presented at the Zikha Gallery, Wesleyan University. The art show will feature more than 600 artist in Grades K-12 from all 11 schools. The art show will be displayed for one week where parents and the community may visit, take in the exemplary works, and write personal messages to the artist. A reception for the young artists selected in this year's show will be held on the opening evening. The Middletown Public Schools and Middletown Public Schools Cultural Council are pleased to be able to assist in this unique cultural activity.

Middletown High School Goes to the Symphony

The Middletown Public Schools Cultural Council contributes to the support and assists in this unique biennial program presented by the Middletown High School Music Department with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra. The Hartford Symphony Orchestra's "Side-By-Side" Program, *Middletown High School Goes to the Symphony*, will once again be presented at the Bushnell Memorial Hall in May of 2011. Wesleyan University Orchestra Director, Angel Gil-Ordenez and Professor of Music Neely Bruce will conduct this special concert along with Hartford Symphony Maestro Edward Cumming. This learning partnership with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra creates an unforgettable experience, which culminates with a formal concert for the community at the Bushnell Memorial Auditorium in Hartford. Under the tutelage of the professional musicians and the conductor from the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, our Middletown High School concert band and concert choir members will receive master classes, undergo auditions for part selections and will be provided mentoring situations to improve performance skills to prepare for a highly proficient performance. This learning partnership creates an unforgettable experience that culminates with a formal concert for the community.