

New Music Together Pre-School Program Brings Music and Movement to Early Learners



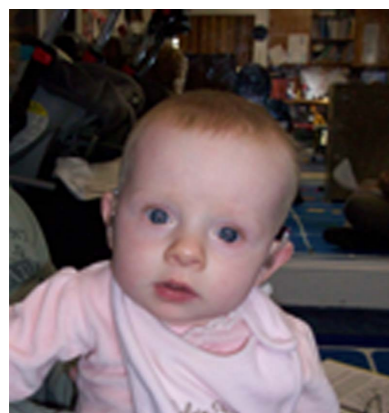
Each family in the program receives a copy of the "Music Together" CD used at school. Families also receive a DVD entitled "Music Together at Home: Helping Your Child To Grow Musically". This allows everyone to become involved with the program.

Beginning this Fall, the Oral-Preschool Program started participating in the Music Together Preschool, an international music and movement program developed for children. Cleary School has made a wonderful commitment to offer a Fall, Winter and Spring semester of learning. Classes are 45 minutes each, every week for ten week sessions. Family Music Night was held on Monday, October 26th at the elementary school. This will provide an opportunity for parents to take part in their child's music education.

This Fall we are also focusing on the Fiddles Collection. During these classes the children have an opportunity to sing, dance, play instruments, make up word songs, invent new ways to move, practice language skills and cooperate with other children. The family is an integral part of their child's musical development which is part of their overall educational growth. Keep singing and dancing!

Carolyn Maretsky and Kristen Reilly

'Babble From The Crib' News From The Parent Infant Program



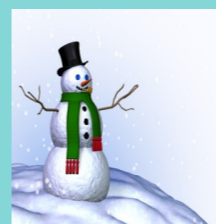
The Parent Infant Program is growing at a rapid speed! We currently have 21 families enrolled in our Program at Cleary. Welcome to our new families and students: Brianna, Gemma, Grace, Jonathon, Julia, Marco, Mae, Kristina and Alex! We look forward to getting to know you. Remember the importance of play with your child. There are many teachable opportunities for speech and language development with your infant. Take advantage of the colors and sights of this beautiful season to play and learn together. (Dawn Brenner, Michelle Casey, Carolyn Maretsky and Kristen Reilly)

CLEARY SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

www.clearyschool.org

ASL Classes begin again February 3—May from 7-8:30. Classes require pre-registration and are free for Cleary families.

Deaf Poet and Storyteller Peter Cook will visit Cleary Elementary and Secondary Programs during the Winter.



Students studied important art that reflect American history and the varied richness of our culture. "George Washington Crossing the Delaware" by Emanuel Gottlieb Leutze was one of the pieces of art studied. Illustration above is a drawing of the original art.

IMPORTANT DATES TO

Winter Break
December 23—January 3

Please send articles and/or pictures to Nancy Tenure at NATenure@aol.com.

Contributors to this issue were:

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Ken Morseon
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Thank you!

Cleary Newsletter

VOLUME 33 ISSUE 2

DECEMBER, 2009

Cleary School Receives Prestigious Arts Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities



Cleary School was awarded one of the prestigious National Endowment for the Humanities' "Art and Social Studies Program Award Grants" in the "Picturing America" series this past Spring. Approximately two per cent of schools nationally are selected for the privilege of participation.

As part of the grant, Cleary received a remarkable collection of reproductions of American art ranging from the beautiful and rich art of the Navajo to the historically accurate and highly stylized painting of Grant Wood's "Midnight Ride of Paul Revere". One activity that art teacher Nancy Tenure did with one middle school class was to read an account of Paul Revere's ride, list details from their readings such as a "hanging lantern in the church". Students then found these details within the painting and posted them on the reproduction with sticky notes, in effect, comparing Wood's piece with history.

Artistic information such as perspective, composition and scale were incorporated into the lesson along with the students' own art based on aspects of various pieces of art. One elementary student's drawing of Paul Revere was selected by Superintendent Ken Morseon to be included in Cleary's new 2009-2010 calendar.

A Word From Cleary's Superintendent... *Ken Morseon*

The 2009-2010 school year may go down as one of the busiest ever! So many things have happened, so many new things will happen—one thing for sure, this job is never dull! Within the next few weeks, you will be able to go to www.clearyfoundation.org! This new website of the Cleary Foundation will highlight the mission of the Foundation and some of the events it will sponsor. While still in its infancy, the Foundation offers great potential to support the students of Cleary, their families, and the Deaf community at large. This is an exciting endeavor that I am pleased to be involved in.

SAVETHE DATE! The 20th Cleary Golf Classic will occur on June 7, 2010. Many thanks go to John T. Adams, First Senior Vice President and a Board Member of Cleary School, who was last year's honoree. His incredible efforts made this the most successful fundraiser ever! As always, it is an immense pleasure to be involved with Cleary School. In my 30th year here, I still find it an exciting and energizing place. It is a privilege to be a part of such a wonderful school. *Ken*

Literacy and Acoustic Highlighting Are Fall Goals for Parent Infant Program



“Every child has a book that they ask you to read again and again...”

During the early part of the Fall, The Parent Infant Program focused on Literacy and Acoustic Highlighting. With regard to literacy, we have been demonstrating how to read one book three different ways. Every child has a book that they ask you to read again and again. How can you spice it up to make it interesting for your child as well as you? Some ideas are: 1) Read the text that is written in the book. 2) Describe and discuss things you see on the page/picture. Play an “I SPY” game with the pictures in the book. This allows for turn-taking interaction while reading a book, not to mention, all the language that emerges from the game itself. 3) Describe and offer predictions about things that are not in the pictures. This allows for high level thinking, predictions, discussions about feelings, inferencing, cause and effect as well as developing a vivid imagination. Acoustic Highlighting is a technique that you can use to grab your child’s attention auditorally. We focused on the following 3 strategies during our playtime activities: 1) Use on sing-song during play; 2) Use of “Pausing” to a target word /sound or allow for processing time or simply to grab attention. The final acoustic highlighting strategy is using elongation of specific sound targets during play. We have found all these techniques are effective. Happy playing to our wonderful families.

Family Music Night

This past month marked our first ever Cleary School Family Music Night! The evening began with pizza and social time. Parents, teachers and students all enjoyed great interaction!

Parents were given their songbook for the Fiddles Collection as well as a Musical Growth Chart so that they can observe how their children are growing musically throughout the year.

Finally, the families participated in a forty five minute class. They enjoyed singing, dancing, playing instruments and watching their children explore their musicality. We look forward to hosting another Family Night during our Winter Session.

*“Music Is The
Universal
Language of
Friendship”
Henry Wadsworth
Longfellow*

“Gerald” A Powerful ASL Movie With A Twist That Brings A Family Together

This movie is the journey of a young man named Corey who yearns for family and kinship. One day, Corey learns he has a Deaf autistic grandfather that he never knew. Despite everything, Corey is determined to find his grandfather and forge a relationship with him. As Corey continues to seek out his grandfather, many family secrets are discovered. New family ties suddenly unfold for Corey and a chain of mysterious and adventurous results happen. This movie is a powerful, continuously twisting and emotional filled story with a powerful surprise ending. Starring Russell Harvard, Michaela Paulone and Andy Vasnick, this film, in ASL, has captioning for hearing audiences. Thanks to the Cleary Foundation for their support in bringing “Gerald” to Long Island.

ASL Film
Series
Comes To
Cleary
School
Again This
Year



Toys “R” Us Foundation Awards Cleary School \$5,000 Grant By Ken Morseon, Superintendent of Cleary School

Cleary Foundation for the Deaf is proud to announce it has received a \$5,000.00 grant from the Toys“R”Us Children’s Fund, a public charity affiliated with Toys“R”Us, Inc. Toys“R”Us, Inc. and the Toys“R”Us Children’s Fund together support organizations that share in their mission to keep kids safe and help them in times of need. The grant is being made in conjunction with the grand opening of the company’s new “R” Superstore in Lake Grove, NY in October. With the donation from the Toys“R”Us Children’s Fund, the Cleary Foundation for the Deaf will provide support to both the Family Music Program and Parent Classes in American Sign Language. Regardless of the mode of communication used, fostering and nurturing communication between families and their deaf child is critical for the linguistic, social and emotional development of the child. Both these programs, in very diverse ways, promote this communication development. We are grateful to the Toys“R”Us Children’s Funds for their support of these wonderful programs,” stated S Catherine Fitzgibbon, Secretary of the Cleary Foundation. The Toys“R”Us Children’s Fund supports numerous national non-profit organizations, such as the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, Autism Speaks, Save the Children and Kids In Distressed Situations (K.I.D.S.), among others. The Toys“R”Us Children’s Fund also provides immediate disaster relief and issues grants to leading organizations that support children with special needs. “We love kids and are proud to support organizations like the Cleary Foundation for the Deaf that help fulfill our mission of giving back to the communities we serve,” said Kathleen Waugh, Chairman of the Toys“R”Us Children’s Fund.

Signed & Interpreted Performance: Drama Club at East Islip HS



The East Islip HS Drama Club recently put on a production of the comedy “All in the Timing”, directed by East Islip music teacher Bethany Affelt and featuring Cleary Freshman David Bruno. Why is this production note-worthy? First, Bruno, who is deaf, had a “speaking” part, and secondly, the entire production was sign-interpreted.

Bruno got his first taste of theater when, at age 4, he appeared on Sesame Street showing signs for zoo animals. Since then he has wanted to be on stage or in front of the camera. In “All in the Timing”, Bruno had the role of announcer at the play’s opening; he signed the words, while another actor off-stage spoke the words through the speaker system. In one of the play’s scenes, David played the role of narrator, again signing while his words were voiced by another actor off-stage. David sometimes refused the help of interpreters so that he could get into the timing required for a smooth performance. “I had to make it work,” Bruno said after the first evening’s show.

Director Affelt, who recently assumed the Drama Club’s advisorship, said that “when David first auditioned, I wasn’t sure if we could make this work. I didn’t know if we could successfully make the sign-language part work on stage. But I saw David’s commitment, and with the other actors we just found a way to do it. It’s been a great experience for all of us, and I learned something in the process.”

The entire performance was sign-interpreted for deaf audience members by three Cleary interpreters, Cynthia Poliey, Andean Pisano, and Jessica MacLeod. This required many hours of rehearsal to ensure that the tone and pacing of the performance was accurately represented. Fortunately, all of the scenes had only three actors on stage at any one time, but even this could be challenging when the dialogue was fast and Furious.