

DOE arts newsletter



GREETINGS FROM ARGY'S CUBBY

with a view of the STATE HOUSE DOME at the Department of Education

MAINE ARTS COMMISSION APPOINTS NEW DIRECTOR

Congratulations and welcome to Donna McNeil, the new director of the Maine Arts Commission! To read the full story please visit mainearts.maine.gov/news/release.asp?ID=7899

ARTS EDUCATION ADVOCACY DAY

Join the Maine Alliance for Arts Education (MAAE) at the State House in Augusta on March 10th, 11 AM- 1PM. The special day is to recognize the outstanding work and

programs in arts education throughout the state. There will be student performances and awards presented by Governor and Mrs. Baldacci. Exhibitions spaces are available and you can learn more by contacting Elizabeth Watson at ewatson@maineartseducation.org or at the MAAE website at maineartseducation.org

NEWSLETTER

Thank you to those that sent feedback on the new format of the newsletter! 632 educators are receiving the newsletter, an increase of 7. As always, email me with new subscribers.

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"Where the spirit does not work with the hand there is no art."
Leonardo da Vinci

EXTENDING THE DANCE

MAP

Congratulations to dancer and arts educator Nancy Salmon, for planning and implementing a very successful first two days of the ***Extending the Dance Map*** program. This VT, NH and ME pilot project has been funded by the Dana Foundation and the Maine Arts Commission and has brought together 8 participants for training in dance education. Training continues in March with building a Northern New England dance network. Please email Nancy ncsalmon@suscom-maine.net or me argy.nestor@maine.gov if you have questions.



Nancy Salmon at Husson College on first day of dance training.

PHOTO EXHIBIT

February 19: *Farmworkers Feed Us All*, will open at the Maine State Museum and Cultural Center. If you have questions about the exhibit please contact Mariah Pfeiffer at mpfeiffer@mainemigrant.org

GEORGE WASHINGTON

Available, at no cost to your school is the picture of George Washington. For more information please visit mountvernon.org

DANCE OPPORTUNITIES

New England Dance Project is preparing for a performance on March 28th at City Theater in Biddeford. In conjunction with this performance on March 27th there will be lecture/demonstration for students in grades 2-12 at 10:00. For more information please visit newenglanddanceproject.com

The New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA) is sponsoring a series of seven dance exchanges throughout New England during the coming months. They are designed to bring together local dance artists, educators, presenters, funders, advocates and audiences to engage in dialogue around topics of significance in the field of dance. A session will be held on March 10th and 11th in Lewiston at Bates College at no cost. For more information please contact Julia Marx at jmarx@nefa.org, 617-951-0010, ext 521.

DRUMMING OPPORTUNITY

Two-two session West African Rhythm workshops are being held by drummer Annegret Baier in Portland: Feb. 26, March 4, and Feb. 27, March 12: 6-9 PM. The cost is \$80. To register call 871-8859 or email annegret@maine.rr.com

VSA arts

The offices of VSA arts of Maine have moved from Portland to 185 Park Row, Brunswick. Please locate them online at vsartsmaine.org

JEWELRY CLASS

Square Word in Silver Jewelry class being offered at Cabot Mill Gallery and Studio in Brunswick. February 17, 10-2, \$95.00. The class is being taught by art teacher, Lynda McCann-Olson. For more information place contact Lynda @ lynda_mccann-olson@msad51.org

MASTER MUSIC CLASS AND CONCERT

On March 25th Wayne Bergeron waynebergeron.com will be at Bangor High School, Peakes Auditorium for a master class at 4 PM and a concert at 8 PM. Tickets for each event are \$10.00. You can purchase them through NK Music Center, 800-540-8721, ext. 6 or by emailing trumpetbri@msn.com or nissanadeau@msn.com

AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER

Library of Congress announces a symposium: ***Art, Culture & Government: The New Deal at 75***. On March 13 and 14th leading scholars will join experts from the Library of Congress for this free presentation. For more information please visit loc.gov/folklife/newdeal/program.html

THEATER OPPORTUNITY

Walden: The Ballad of Thoreau, a play about the final two days Henry David Thoreau spent in his cabin before leaving Walden Pond is available free of charge to educators and theater groups as an Earth Day 2008 event. For more information please visit www.waldenplay.com

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

[The Humane Society of the United States](#) is holding the first "Hip Hop for Hounds" contest for the best rap song that stands up for dogs and against dogfighting. Rap legend Darryl "DMC" McDaniels will choose the winning song and the winner will receive a \$1,000 prize. Contest submissions will be accepted until Feb. 29, 2008.

QUANTUM SHIFT TV VIDEO CONTEST FOR STUDENTS

Students from the US and Canada in grades 1-12 are eligible for a school video contest. The theme is "Be the Change! Share the Story" and students are invited to work on a social or environmental project and document the progress. Up to \$50,000 in prizes for the creative work. For more information please visit quantumshift.tv/schools/press

BACH BIRTHDAY BASH

Portland Ballet Company joins the Friends of the Kotschmar Organ for an evening of organ music and dance celebrating the Bach's birthday on March 11th at the Merrill Auditorium. For more information go to www.portlandballet.org

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CENSUS

THE CENSUS IS COMING...
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The Maine Arts Education state-wide census is coming...
Keep your ear to the ground and check your school mailbox so you and your program can participate in this opportunity to be counted!

ARTS IN ROCKLAND

ART WALK

Saturday, February 23, 5-8 PM, Arts in Rockland Art Walk. Most of the art galleries will participate with special exhibitions, open doors and refreshments. Stop in and say 'hi' to Eric Hopkins (keynote speaker at the statewide arts education conference in Oct.) at his art gallery, 21 Winter St.

IMAGINATION AND THE 21ST CENTURY

For important information on what the American public thinks about imagination in schools please take some time and go to the Arts Education Partnership webpage called Imagination Nation theimagination.net/resources.htm
Great info and Poll article below!

ARTICLES

* *Advocating for Arts* by Jim Small, art educator from Madison Area Memorial High School is a thoughtful summary of why the arts should be an integral part of every student's education. <http://www.maine.gov/education/lres/vpa/newsletter/27/advocating.rtf>

* *Making The Grade in a Global Economy* by Gene R. Carter, Jan. 2008, Executive Director of ASCD (Association for Curriculum and Development) <http://www.maine.gov/education/lres/vpa/newsletter/27/globaleconomy.rtf>

* Lake Research Partners released the results of a national poll that reveals the stifling of imagination in schools. <http://www.maine.gov/education/lres/vpa/newsletter/27/newpoll.rtf>

* *School Music Program Reaching Crescendo* describes the commitment Somerville, MA superintendent and community has made to arts education programs. The article is reprinted from the Boston Globe, Jan. 20, 2008. <http://www.maine.gov/education/lres/vpa/newsletter/27/music.rtf>

* *Why We Teach the Arts*, an article adapted by Augusta art educators Robin E. Brooks and Christine Higgins from the Boston Globe article posted in an earlier newsletter. <http://www.maine.gov/education/lres/vpa/newsletter/27/teacharts.rtf>

* *Why Arts Education Matters* by Stephanie Perrin, head of one of the oldest U.S. secondary schools for the arts. "The decline of arts education limits children's development, collaborative work experiences and appreciation of differences." [Education Week \(premium article access compliments of Edweek.org\)](http://www.edweek.org/premium_article_access/compliments_of_Edweek.org)

* The January 3, 2008 New York Times article entitled *Comic Books in the Classroom* can be found at http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/03/opinion/03thu4.html?_r=1&oref=slogin