Starry, Starry Night
Student art work brightens the halls; a shining example of the arts in our schools

An added treat awaits audience members who attend all kinds of performances at Wells Fargo Center for the Arts. In the balcony hallway, is an unassuming, yet powerful exhibit that showcases artwork from local students. Inevitably, people can’t help but pause, look and remark at the beauty of the art created and the insight it gives into the minds and hearts of the next generation. Such is certainly the case with the work on exhibit now by Jennifer Danhausen Miller’s first grade students at John B. Riebli Elementary School in Santa Rosa. The students created their own interpretations of Vincent van Gogh’s “Starry, Starry Night,” capturing the essence of this most renowned painting with their own understanding and ability. Each piece is similar and yet, like each young artist, totally unique.

The gallery features artwork from kindergarten through high school students. New artwork is placed on display every four months, which means that thousands of arts patrons have the pleasure of viewing each exhibition.

If you would like to exhibit your students’ artwork, please contact Tracy Sawyer, arts and education programs manager, at tracys@wellsfargocenterarts.org or 707.527.7006, ext. 150.
Summer Programs for Kids!

Summer learning with the arts creates better students next year!

It’s well-known that children exposed to the arts are more successful in school. We believe the arts provide powerful tools for learning and have made it an integral part of our mission to bring the arts into the lives of students all year long. The following summer programs are designed to be fun and educational. If you know of a student who enjoys the arts and would benefit from this kind of summer learning, please help spread the word. One of these programs is even FREE!

The Pied Piper by Missoula Children’s Theatre

This free week-long theater residency with the acclaimed Missoula Children’s Theatre takes students from auditions to performance in one intensive, fun-filled week.

Open Call for Auditions: Monday, June 18, 10am – noon
(Participants must be present for entire two hours)
Open to all students entering grades 1st – 12th, no prior acting experience is necessary.

Come see the show and support children’s theater in Sonoma County: June 23 at 2pm & 4:30pm

New Song Music Camp

Monday, July 22 – Friday, July 27 • Daily, 9am – 3pm
For children entering grades 2nd – 5th

Monday, July 30 – Friday, August 3 • Daily, 9am – 3pm
For children entering grades 6th – 8th
$230 per student

Students will explore the world of music in new ways, with an emphasis on creativity and cooperation. Directed by Andrew DeVeny and Erik Weidenhamer—each with over 17 years of experience in the classroom and private lessons—along with local teachers and musicians, participants will have hands-on experience with a wide variety of instruments and will record a CD of their own original music. No previous musical experience is necessary. Registration form available online at wellsfargocenterarts.org

Draw It! Paint It! Sculpt It! Art Camp

Monday, July 9 - Friday, July 13 • Daily, 1pm – 5pm
For children entering grades 4th – 7th
$150 per student

Campers will experience life in the studio, like Picasso and other great artists, exploring creativity and expressing their inner artists. They’ll work with a variety of mediums including clay and paper mache, and will also study sculpting and different painting techniques. Each camper will complete a number of works of art during the week including a fired clay piece, a large table-top sculpture, and several paintings. The week will culminate with an art exhibit!

Lead teaching artist Inya Laskowski (BFA, MA) is a professional artist who exhibits extensively. She has worked in Sonoma County schools for over 20 years and is the recipient of numerous grants for her work with children. No previous art experience is necessary. Registration form available online at wellsfargocenterarts.org

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Professional Development: Tools For Teachers

Educators embrace arts integration with gusto, workshops for teachers filled to capacity

We want to offer a “big thumbs up” for your support of our professional development program this year; we had a full house for all three workshops during 2011-12! The program had an overarching theme of literacy and writing. Featuring teaching artists from the John F. Kennedy Center for the Arts, local educators explored new ways to use dance, shadow puppets and visual art to assist students with critical thinking and writing. Some teachers also had the opportunity see the methods at work with their students through classroom modeling provided by the teaching artists. It warms our hearts to see more teachers adding arts integration methods to their teaching tool box, because we know it pays dividends with students for years to come. Kudos to you!

Summer Institute: Creative Connections

Monday, July 16 – Wednesday, July 18 • 9am – 4pm

Recommended for Teachers and Administrators of Grades 2-8 • Maximum number of participants: 35

Join us this summer to learn new skills in a fun and dynamic setting with one of the nation’s top instructors in arts integration. You’ll learn unique methods to tap into creativity and feel more empowered next year to reach EVERY student in your classroom.

- Simple and effective classroom management skills
- How to use active learning to increase test scores
- Methods to teach hard-to-reach students, engage quiet students, and energize unmotivated students
- Ways to motivate communication from English language learners
- How to facilitate collaborative work and critical thinking
- Proven skills to increase reading comprehension and writing skills
- Multiple modalities alive in action

Order Form

Name: _______________________________________________ Grade(s) Taught: ____________________

School: _______________________________________________________________

Billing Address: ________________________________________________ City:________________________ Zip: __________

Phone (day): ________________________________________________ Email: __________________________________________

Payment: Per person • $200.00 (includes $40.00 supply fee.)

☐ Check

☐ Credit Card: ☐ Visa ☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ Master Card ☐ Check

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(please print)

Participants, please plan to attend all three days.

Please mail or fax order form to: Education Programs • Wells Fargo Center for the Arts
50 Mark West Springs Rd., Santa Rosa, CA 95403 • Phone 707.527.7006 ext. 154 • Fax 707.546.7020
School Shows
2012-2013

Come have fun and learn a lot, too!
We have plenty of outstanding performances planned for the 2012 – 2013 school year. Performances are geared to specific grade levels, with entertaining and educational experiences for students pre-kindergarten through high school. Plus, all shows meet California content standards to align with your overall teaching objectives.

* Program information and dates subject to change.

Coming Soon!
Look for our Education Brochure and order form available in early August. Visit wellsfargocenterarts.org later this summer to view the final schedule and download program materials, including study guides.

Journeys to the Past
by Jacque Nunez
Presented in partnership with the California Indian Museum and Cultural Center
Wednesday, October 24, 2012
Journey back in time to a California Indian Village of the Acjachamai Tribe. Storyteller Jacque Nunez, a true Acjachemen descendant, will enchant us with songs and tales, sharing important aspects of her culture including native dwellings, cooking, basket weaving, instruments, and dancing.

Clifford the Big Red Dog™ – Live! by Mills Entertainment
Tuesday, October 30, 2012
The Big Red Dog is celebrating his 50th anniversary in this all-new musical. See Clifford and his friends Emily Elizabeth, Cleo, and T-Bone come to life on stage with lots of laughs, singing and dancing!

San Jose Taiko
Tuesday, November 13, 2012
San Jose Taiko is a celebration of the ancient Japanese art of drumming, weaving traditional Japanese sounds with the beat of world rhythms. With San Jose Taiko, Japanese, African, Balinese, Latin, American rock, and jazz merge to produce an innovative contemporary sound and huge spectacle!

Posada Navideña
by Compañía Mazatlán Bellas Artes de Sacramento
Friday, December 7, 2012
Featuring traditional Mexican folkloric dances and music, this performance celebrates the wonderful culture of Mexico during the Christmas season.

The Peking Acrobats®
Wednesday, January 16, 2013
China’s most gifted tumblers, contortionists, jugglers, cyclists and gymnasts complemented by live musicians playing traditional instruments bring their 2,000-year-old tradition to the stage!
ERTH’s Dinosaur Petting Zoo™
Created and Performed by ERTH – Visual & Physical, Inc.
Tuesday, February 5, 2013
Take a journey through pre-historic times with this show that allows heaps of audience interaction. Human-powered puppetry creates this eye-popping visual feast! Experience an amazing cast of creatures that inhabited the landscape millions of years ago, including a T. Rex!

Stone Soup & Other Stories
by the Pushcart Players
Tuesday, February 12, 2013
Four dynamic folk tales from around the world are brought to life with humor, fantasy and imagination.

The American Place Theatre’s Literature to Life® presentation of Incidents in the Life of Slave Girl by Harriet Jacobs
Friday, February 8, 2013
Offer your students a connection to African-American History Month with this stage adaptation featuring verbatim portions of this celebrated slave narrative, including the author’s account of the seven years she spent hiding out as a fugitive in her grandmother’s attic.

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie & Other Story Books
by TheatreworksUSA
Friday, February 22, 2013
This highly acclaimed musical revue features adaptations of eight popular children’s books, music created by Tony Award-winning songwriters and plenty of lessons to be learned amid the laughs.

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
by Classical Theatre Project
Tuesday, February 26, 2013
This beloved yet controversial coming-of-age tale set against the racially charged backdrop of a pre-Civil War American South examines the nature of friendship and freedom in the face of shocking prejudice. Featuring an excellent cast, imaginative stagecraft and a live Gospel choir, dare to escape down the Mississippi while we learn that thinking for oneself is the bravest act of all.

The True Story of the Three Little Pigs
by Dallas Children’s Theater
Wednesday, February 27, 2013
The Wolf is on trial for the murder of two of the three little pigs. With the work of a fast-talking independent reporter hungry for the truth, a tough-as-nails judge, and a smooth-talking prosecutor, will the Wolf be shown as a big bad carnivore or as the victim of a media frame-up?
The Little Engine That Could™ Earns Her Whistle
by ArtsPower
Tuesday, March 5, 2013
Little Blue Engine dreams of someday leaving the train yard to pull the big cars on the main line track, but can she convince Big Silver that she is worthy of being a main line engine? This dynamic musical portrays Watty Piper’s timeless tale about hard work, determination and the meaning of true friendship.

Laura Ingalls Wilder
by ArtsPower
Monday, March 11, 2013
Back by popular demand, this outstanding musical production chronicles the exciting adventures of the Ingalls family as they travel across the prairie in search of a little house to call home.

The Gruffalo
by Tall Stories Theatre Company
Wednesday, March 13, 2013
Join Mouse on an adventurous journey through the deep, dark wood in this magical musical adaptation of the award-winning book by Julia Donaldson. Let your imagination run wild with songs, laughs and thrills!

The American Place Theatre’s Literature to Life® presentation of The Kite Runner
by Khaled Hosseini
Tuesday, March 19, 2013
From the first English novel about contemporary Afghanistan, this dramatic one-man performance portrays the relationship of two boys and the unpredictable events that take place during turmoil in 1970s Afghanistan. Mature material; depicted tastefully.

Ramona Quimby
by Two Beans’ Productions
Friday, March 22, 2013
Ramona, the exasperating but lovable third grader who has delighted young readers for over 50 years, comes to life! With the help of her loving and patient family and friends, Ramona faces life’s challenges as we laugh and cheer her on! Based on the book series by Beverly Cleary.

Beauty and the Beast
by American Family Theater
Tuesday, April 9, 2013
Brought to life through the magic of live musical theater, follow this classic tale as Beauty discovers the goodness within the Beast. Experience the magical moment when the Beast becomes man thanks to the power of love.

We The People
by ArtsPower
Tuesday, April 30, 2013
A spirited musical revue through American history!

Street Beat
“Repurposed Percussion”
Wednesday, April 24, 2013
A high-energy explosion of urban rhythm and uplifting, inspiring music education. This performance brings the elements of music, rhythm and academic focus together for your students!
Target zeros in to help at-risk students

“Is this my book, like I get to forever keep it?” This question from a shy nine-year-old boy sums up in an emotional nutshell a new arts and literacy project made possible this year by Target. Third grade students from Luther Burbank and Steele Lane elementary schools received books ("Charlotte’s Web," “Cuentos del Arbol,” ”Junie B. Jones”) and were given tickets to attend the Center’s staged live performances of those tales. Prior to each show, Target staff members visited classrooms to read the books aloud with the students and Center docents provided performance information and tips on theater etiquette. After the show, the students got to meet the performers face-to-face and celebrate with milk and cookies!

The schools chosen to participate in the project serve at-risk students, with 90% of the children living in low-income families and over 60% learning English as a second language.

“These children are so grateful, says the Center’s Melanie Snook, who manages education and family programs. “Most could hardly believe they got to keep the books and were beside themselves with excitement to see a live show. It was a heart-warming experience and we thank Target for making it possible!”

Thank You!

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