

PHS ART STUDENTS EXHIBIT AT NJ PAC



For the third consecutive year, Piscataway High School students had their artwork selected for the Art Educators of Fall Exhibit at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. The artwork by Kathleen Hammersdahl and Mia Tomasino is part of a 30-piece exhibit hung in the NJPAC Victoria Theater Lobby displaying K-12 artwork from around the state. Over 6,000 visitors to NJPAC will see their work



Artwork on left is by Kathleen Hammersdahl;
on the right is by Mia Tomasino.

CHILDRENS' CORNER WELCOMES FIREFIGHTERS DURING FIRE SAFETY WEEK

Firefighters from Piscataway's River Road Fire Company visited Children's Corner on Wednesday, October 11, during Fire Safety Week. The firefighters spoke to the children about the importance of having a family safe spot in the event of a fire, and how to "stop, drop, and roll" if clothing catches fire. The firefighters also allowed the children to tour the firetruck and demonstrated how to use the equipment. Thank you, River Road Fire Company!



KNOLLWOOD STUDENTS LEARN TO "DO UNTO OTTERS"

During the Week of Respect, Knollwood students learned the importance of the Golden Rule through reading "Do Unto Otters" by Laurie Keller, which tells a humorous story of the discomfort Mr. Rabbit feels when his new neighbors, The Otters, move in. Class-wide discussions took place on the importance of treating others like you want to be treated, and all students learned the tag-line "Do Unto Otters as You Would Have Otters do Unto You!" Each class developed a student-generated list of how Knollwood students can show respect. The week ended with a school-wide spirit day and an inspiring presentation titled "Eye-to-Eye." The presentation placed emphasis on respecting others for who they are and celebrating what make us unique. All staff and students wore yellow as a symbol of friendship and respect.



PISCATWAY EDUCATION FOUNDATION HOLDS DIWALI CELEBRATION

The Piscataway Education Foundation invites the community to celebrate our cultural diversity during Diwali, the Festival of Lights. Everyone is welcome, whether you celebrate Diwali every year, or want to experience this cultural celebration for the first time! Our Diwali celebration includes great food, traditional dance, — no experience required — henna tattoos, shopping, photo opportunities and more! Popular ethnic vendors, including Gold Sponsors Outliers, Inc. Software & Marketing Services and Chaarvi's Event Planning & Decorations, and Deewan Banquet, will also be on hand. The event will be held at Piscataway High School on Saturday, October 14, from 6pm to 9:30 pm. Tickets are available through Community Pass priced at \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Tickets will also be available at the door, for \$12 adults and \$5 students.



SCHOR STUDENTS LEARN SUCCESS TIPS FROM ALUMNA JESSICA

On Monday, September 25, 2017, fifteen lucky students from T. Schor Middle School listened in rapt attention as Ms. Jessica Brown, CEO of College Gurl, a company dedicated to making college affordable for every student, offered talk and tips on college and life. The students' names were entered by their parents on Back-to-School Night, and then drawn in a lottery. They left the presentation with lots of encouragement, inspiration, and an autographed copy of Ms. Brown's book, *How to Pay for College When You're Broke*. Ms. Brown recounted her time in Schor. She struggled in some subjects, but knew she could count on her teachers to help pull her through. "Your teachers will always support you," she told the students. "They will instill the world in you – then it's up to you to go get the world." She encouraged the students to speak up, ask questions, take advantage of what they have every day, and to be fearless! "Dare to be different!" she said.



RANDOLPHVILLE WALK-A-THON COMBINES FITNESS AND FUN

On Friday, September 29, Randolphville students started the school year with their best foot forward, participating in their annual walkathon. Mr. Stio acted as DJ, playing fun music to get the kids moving! Parent volunteers marked off the laps and served cool drinks to thirsty walkers. All proceeds will offset costs of class trips throughout the school year.



CONACKAMACK CELEBRATES RESPECT

Conackamack Middle School's Week of Respect Assembly began with coming together to sing multi-cultural songs about respect and kindness. The guest speaker was Oleg Savitsky from Zealous Nation, a Mixed Martial Arts Academy. A native of Georgia, formerly part of the Soviet Union, Savitsky now represents the United States in international competitions. He spoke to students about building resilience and grit. Sharing his experiences as a fighter and also as a visual artist, Savitsky noted that throughout his life, he has been seen both as a target and as a figure of strength. He offered his perspective on fear, telling students fear is normal, and rather than trying to conquer fear, they should face their fears and identify their own talents. Following the presentation, the students lined up for autographs!



GRANDVIEW ESL STUDENTS RAISE AND RELEASE MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

Students in Ms. Raj Bansal's ESL class at Grandview learned lessons in biology and botany as they raised and released Monarch butterflies. Watching eggs transform into caterpillars, then into chrysalises, before bursting into butterflies, the students cared for their beautiful creatures every step of the way. The most special day arrived when the students carried their butterflies to the shrubbery behind Grandview school. There, they released them into their natural habitat, to migrate south to Florida. Special thanks to Shona Erlenborn and Cynthia Hedin, of Somerset County Master Gardeners RCRE and Rutgers Master Gardeners, for their help with this project.



BEFORE AND AFTER CARE NUMBERS CONTINUE TO GROW

In service to the community, Before and After Care is available in all Piscataway Elementary and Intermediate Schools and Preschools, with After Care also

available in our Middle Schools. The number of students using these services grows every year, with current enrollment for all programs standing at 1291 students. Just four years ago, at the start of the 2013-2014 school year, the programs enrolled 1000 students for the first time. That is an increase of almost 300 students in just four years.



COMMUNITY EDUCATION AFTER SCHOOL AND SATURDAY ENRICHMENT CLASSES

Piscataway Schools' Office of Community Education is now offering After School and Saturday Enrichment Classes in a wide variety of disciplines, including music, art, crafts, sports and computers. New this year, Community Education will offer classes in Arabic for beginners. Classes are offered both after school and on Saturday, with Saturday classes offered to both students and adults. Classes run from October through the school year. Registration is available on Community Pass.

WALK YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL DAY

Students and families across the district took time out from busy schedules to walk to school on designated days in October. With assistance from the Piscataway Police Department, who also conducted "Walking Safely" assemblies in our schools, students enjoyed strolling to school with their parents and learning about the benefits of a daily walk.



SHAKESPEARE RETURNS TO PWAY MIDDLE SCHOOLS

For the third consecutive year, the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey



will return to all three Piscataway Middle Schools, offering students from sixth through eighth grade the opportunity to study and perform in one of the greatest plays ever written. This year, students will study *Macbeth*, performing an abridged version of "the Scottish play" at the end of their two-week residencies. All are welcome to attend these culminating performances.

PWAY WEAR AVAILABLE FOR LIMITED TIME ONLY

The Piscataway Education Foundation is selling Pway Wear for a limited time only. Orders for black t-shirts and hoodies emblazoned with "We Are Pway" in yellow or pink camouflage, or black caps with a black and yellow "P," will be accepted until October 23 on Community Pass.



CONACKAMACK STUDENT NAMED MAHATMA GANDHI AWARD WINNER

Conackamack student Nada Ragoub was one of 33 middle school and high school students honored statewide in 2017 with the annual Mahatma Gandhi Art & Writing Award. More than 2500 students submitted art or writing to the contest. Sponsored by the Association of Indians in America, South Jersey Chapter, the contest raises awareness of Gandhi's message of non-violence, racial harmony and peace. Congratulations, Nada!

