



ALEXANDER HAMILTON CULTURAL ARTS PROGRAMS 2009 - 2010

Below is a listing of the Cultural Arts assemblies scheduled for the upcoming 2009-2010 school year. The programs, fully funded by the Home and School Association, try to expose students to a wide variety of culture and the arts, as well as educational disciplines. When possible, the classroom curriculum will tie-in to the program.

Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend the assemblies.

DANCING THROUGH THE AGES

Friday, September 25th @ 10:40am

Dance Innovations Performance Company takes students on an historical journey through the many eras of American popular dance. The Charleston, Lindy, Swing, Tap, Disco and Hip Hop are performed, along with ballet and jazz to illustrate a dancer's training and passion for dance. Students are invited to participate and dance along!

HAYES GREENFIELD'S "JAZZ-A-MA-TAZZ"

Friday, January 15th Workshop @ 1:15pm, Assembly @ 2:00pm

Saxophonist, composer and recording artist, Hayes Greenfield and his band expose students to the elements of Jazz: call and response, melody, improvisation, and rhythm. Through this interactive program he teaches that communication, active listening, positive risk taking, cooperation and creative expression all contribute to the music making process. Program starts with a workshop for the Jazz Band students, followed by an assembly which they participate in.

THE EARTH DOME

Monday, February 22nd Beginning @ 9:30am

Following the success of last year's Sky Dome, AH students get to experience the Earth Dome this year. This giant inflatable globe teaches students about geography and environmental issues. In an all day format, tailored for each grade, 2 classes at a time will first observe the outside of the dome and then venture in. Topics discussed include the continents, oceans, mountains, rivers, time zones, latitude, longitude and geography.

WHODUNIT?: A Crash Course for Detectives-in-Training

Wednesday, March 24th @ 1:30pm For the 4th Grade

Best selling *Scooby Doo* chapter book author, James Gelsey, comes to AH for this Creative Writing workshop tailored for 4th graders. Students identify the essential elements of a mystery, brainstorm ideas, and discover the author's secret formula to design and solve mysteries on their own. Students learn a new set of creative writing "tools" that they can apply to a range of classroom writing assignments.

JACKIE ROBINSON "CROSS THE LINE"

Thursday, April 15th @ 1:40pm

Combining history with theatre, this acting company brings to life important, aspirational figures by portraying their trials, goals, achievements and triumphs. In "Cross the Line", an actor portraying Jackie Robinson talks about how he broke the color barrier to become the first African American to play in baseball's major leagues. Coincidentally, Jackie Robinson attained that goal on April 15th, 1947 (62 years ago).



ALEXANDER HAMILTON RESIDENCIES/WORKSHOPS 2009 - 2010

A residency program is when a professional artist/educator comes into the classroom to work with a smaller group of students at an in-depth level. It can span over consecutive days or weeks. This year we are trying to offer a residency program or workshops for each grade.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION

Tuesday, December 1st Beginning @ 9:30am For the 4th Grade.

This exciting program brings a portable state-of-the-art television studio right to AH! It is designed to introduce students to the fascinating profession of television production by allowing them hands-on experience. Each 4th grade class has their own workshop and will be shown the equipment used, learn about special effects, character generators and video/audio dubbing. Each session includes a few students to act as “on screen talent”. At the end of the day, there is one final editing workshop with a smaller group of students who will prepare a “newscast” which will be taped and given to the school to keep.

CREATIVE DRAMA RESIDENCY

Dates are TBD. Will span approx. 8 weeks. For the 3rd Grade.

We are excited to be working with the Community Theatre, here in Morristown, on this program again. Last year, 3rd grade teachers collaborated with the teaching artist to devise a Creative Drama program which was an integral part of their current social studies curriculum. Students researched and learned about different regions and attractions in New Jersey and created live “infomercials” to persuade people to visit our state. This was so successful that the teachers want to repeat it again. During the program, third grade students will learn how to focus, concentrate, express themselves, project their voices, demonstrate poise and work in groups.

MYSTERY THEATRE WORKSHOPS

Dates are TBD. Will span approx. 8 weeks. For the 5th Grade.

Forging an on-going relationship with the Community Theatre, we are thrilled to be working with them on this exciting, teacher-requested program. In a series of workshops over a number of weeks, students will learn about the playwriting process, and add suspense and intrigue to it, by creating their own mystery theater. Details will be worked out between the teaching artist and the teachers. Stay tuned for more information.

CREATIVE MOVEMENT EXPERIENCE

Dates are TBD. Will span 2-3 weeks during gym class. For the 3rd Grade.

Professional modern dancer and AH parent, Jamie Di Mare, has created a program for AH students that combines simple every day movement with elements of modern dance. In a series of lessons during their gym class, students learn rhythmic movement combinations that reinforce math and memory skills and develop flexibility, balance, strength, coordination and self awareness.

FOOT AND FIDDLE DANCE COMPANY - Square Dancing Workshops

Tuesday and Wednesday, June 1st and 2nd For the 4th Grade.

Coming off the success of last year’s square dancing program, 4th grade teachers have requested more workshops to prepare their students for the big “Shindig” scheduled later in June. Each class will have 2 workshops over the two day period with Pat Cannon, who facilitated the program last year.