



ALEXANDER HAMILTON CULTURAL ARTS PROGRAMS 2011 - 2012

Below is a listing of the Cultural Arts assemblies scheduled for the upcoming 2011-2012 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.

FREESTYLE REPERTORY THEATRE - Theatresports

Thursday, October 13th @ 1:45pm at Morristown High School

Presented as a sporting event, "Theatresports" is a series of theatre games in which two teams of actors compete at improvisation. The teams are challenged to spontaneously create stories, poems and ever-changing scenes based on suggestions from the audience. The show demonstrates a collaborative creative process, including teamwork and risk-taking, while highlighting the use of language, authors and literary styles. Many scenes include active participation of the students onstage.

FRANKLIN INSTITUTE - The Scientific Method

Tuesday, January 24th @ 2:00pm

The world-class Franklin Institute from Philadelphia, known for its interactive, hands-on approach to science and technology, comes to AH! In the "Scientific Method" students learn what scientists do, how they think and how they study our world. By exploring some commonly misunderstood phenomena, students will uncover the relationships among experiments, hypothesis, observations and conclusions – and become scientists in the process!

DIXIE TIME DIXIELAND BAND

Friday, February 24th @ 2:00pm

Just in time for Mardi Gras, the talented musicians of the Dixie Time Dixieland Band, join Alexander Hamilton students to celebrate! As the band performs, they discuss this influential style of jazz music which originated in New Orleans in the early 1900's. Students learn about the different instruments that comprise the band and how they achieve the unique Dixieland sound. As a special element to this program, some AH band members will be invited to play along!

KITS INTERACTIVE THEATRE - The American Revolution

Thursday, March 29th @ 2:00pm

Award winning actress, Kitty Jones, weaves history with theatre to bring "The American Revolution" to life in this highly interactive performance, featuring improvisation, dance, music, humor and period costumes. Students become immersed in 18th Century values and customs as they travel back in time to 1776 to help re-create the powerful events that sparked the War for Independence.

SOUL STREET DANCE COMPANY

Friday, June 8th @ 2:00pm

These high-energy "Soul Street" artists use street dance, rhythm poetry, and drama to teach the history and culture of hip-hop. During the performance, which celebrates positive lifestyles and values, the dancers share with students how they found their focus through this relatively new art form that took shape on the sidewalks of inner cities.



ALEXANDER HAMILTON RESIDENCIES/WORKSHOPS 2011 - 2012

Residencies and workshops are facilitated by professional teaching artists who come into individual classrooms to teach at an in-depth level. Residencies usually span over consecutive weeks, workshops over consecutive days. Each year, we strive to offer either a residency or workshop program for each grade that fits with their curriculum.

READERS THEATRE RESIDENCY

Beginning October 6th for 6 weeks. For the 4th Grade.

“Readers Theatre” is a dramatic presentation of a written work in script form focusing on vocal expression. Over the course of 6 weeks, each 4th grade class will be working with a teaching artist from the Community Theatre to study and perform teacher-selected “Readers Theatre” scripts. Through movement/vocal games and written exercises, students will be taught the art of storytelling. They will learn how to connect with their characters, interpret text, and read with expressive voices and gestures. The residency will culminate in the 6th week as students present their stories in a shared setting. (Tentative date is November 17th).

CREATIVE DRAMA RESIDENCY - New Jersey Infomercials

January - March 2012. Will span approx. 8 weeks. For the 3rd Grade.

Forging an on-going relationship with the Community Theatre, we are excited to offer this residency again! 3rd grade teachers have collaborated with a teaching artist to devise a Creative Drama program integral to their current social studies curriculum. Students research and learn about different regions and attractions in New Jersey and create live “infomercials” to persuade people to visit our state. During the program, third grade students will learn how to focus, concentrate, express themselves, project their voices, demonstrate poise and work in groups.

MAP READING WORKSHOP - Presented by AAA

Date TBD. Grade TBD.

Presented by AAA New Jersey Automobile Club, this workshop introduces students to the important skill of map reading (even in this age of GPS!). Topics covered include who AAA is, map legends/symbols/measurements, time zones, state populations, fun facts about interstate roads, and interactive map exercises. All students and teachers receive their own maps!

CREATIVE MOVEMENT EXPERIENCE

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

Professional modern dancer and former 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.

VIRTUAL AUTHOR VISIT via Skype

Date TBD. Grade TBD.

In addition to our “live” author visit each year at AH, we like to take advantage of the latest technology by bringing “virtual” authors to our students in our very own library! Through the use of Skype software, we can bring authors from all over the country “to visit” with our students to discuss their books and writing strategies. We will be working with our school librarian, Mrs. Murphy, to select an appropriate author for this year.