
The Rare Bird

Audubon Charter School PTO
January 28, 2010

JANUARY DANCE; LETTERS OF INTENT; TWO MORE ACS VIOLINISTS AND MIDORI!; IMPORTANT DATES; 2010 GALA; HELP FOR HAITI; GAMES FOR HAITI; 8TH GRADE FUNDRAISER; SPRING RENAISSANCE FAIR: COMMITTEE CHAIRS NEEDED; GIRL SCOUT COOKIES; CCs COFFEE UPCs; CARTRIDGES FOR KIDS; LABELS FOR EDUCATION; BOXTOPS; FAMILY CONCERT; MACARONI KID; STUDENT POETRY

JAMMIN' IN JANUARY DANCE

Friday, January 29, 2009, 7 PM until 10 PM at the Broadway campus. This middle school dance is open to students ages 11-15 (6th-9th grades) and is going to be a good time for everyone. Admission: \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Concessions will be sold. A photographer will be available to take pictures (\$5).

Come and help the 8th graders dance their way to Washington, D.C. in the Spring!!

~Yolande Morant

LETTERS OF INTENT TO RETURN TO ACS

Letters of intent to return to ACS for the 2010-11 school year will be sent home with students on Monday, February 1, 2010. Please complete and return the letters to your child's teacher no later than Friday, February 5, 2010. We will have a copy of the form on the school's website in the event your child's copy is lost. It is very important that all forms are turned to the school in a timely manner.

~Alisa Dupré, Operations Manager

TWO MORE ACS VIOLINISTS AND MIDORI!

Congratulations also to Kenya P. and Kalila D. for their performance with world-renowned violinist, Midori!

~Secret Mbaye

IMPORTANT DATES

- o *Monday, February 1:* Arts Reach classes begin
- o *Friday, February 5:* Letters of Intent due
- o *Tuesday, February 9:* PTO Meeting 6 p.m. Broadway Cafeteria
- o *Tuesday, February 9:* "Watch Me Work Night", Carrollton Campus - current students and parents
- o *February 15-17:* Mardi Gras Holiday: No School
- o *Saturday, March 6:* Spring Fest 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

2010 GALA

Many thanks to our volunteers, donors, and ticket buyers who made the 2010 gala "Birds of a Feather" or "Qui se ressemble s'assemble" a huge success! As always, the Elms Mansion offered a lovely venue for gala guests sporting boas and feather hats, pins, and purses in keeping with the evening's theme. Guests mingled over an array of delicious food donated by some of the city's best chefs and restaurants. The auction, which featured artwork by Audubon students, was a nest of busy activity!

The highly sought-after auction items included a beautiful glass sculpture by Carlos Zervigon, a painting by Kristopher Naeger, a commissioned child's portrait by Carol Peebles, prints from Michalopoulos Gallery, landscaping by Alvarez + Basik, a gift certificate from The Occasional Wife, a home party for 15 with Glazer's of Louisiana, a Lundi Gras package at Michaul's, services by Clutter Control, a week at Camp Cricket at University Montessori School, a National World War II Museum package, French lessons at the Alliance Française, and a professional design consultation with Stephanie Adler, ASID, AIA, Assoc.

We owe a special thank you to Elms Mansion co-owner Faith Roche and the Elms' excellent staff. And, Audubon students and teachers who created class artwork for the auction deserve a big round of applause for their talent and hard work!

Suggestions and feedback on Audubon's fundraising events are welcome! Please contact Sophia Griffies, Development Specialist, at 504/324-7100 or Sophia_Griffies@Auduboncharter.com with your ideas or to volunteer for future events.

AUDUBON'S HELP FOR HAITI DRIVE

The following kit is used in places where people do not have ready access to many essential supplies for everyday life. Please follow the directions exactly.

Include all items; do not add items that are not on the lists. Extra gifts, though given with the best of intentions, render a kit unusable and must be removed. Note: All items sent must be new!

- 1 hand towel (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27")
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized)
- 1 nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
- 1 bath-size bar of soap (3 oz. and up)
- 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, No child-size brushes)
- 1 large tube of toothpaste (4.5 oz. or larger, expiration date must be 6 months or longer in advance of the date of shipment to UMCOR Sager Brown)
- 6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages

Place these items inside a sealed one-gallon plastic bag. Please include \$1 for each kit to help UMCOR Sager Brown with the costs of processing and shipping kits.

Congratulations Rarebirds! To date, we have collected 107 medical kits to aid the Relief efforts in Haiti! The drive will run through Friday, January 29th. Kits can be left at the offices on both campuses. Thanks for your participation!

~Secret Mbaye and Phyllis Funches

GAME TO HELP HAITI AND END HUNGER

Our class was so touched by the devastation in Haiti that we felt compelled to do something to help those in need. Sadly, people all around the world are struggling due to a lack of food and other resources. We visited FREERICE.COM. You can donate 10 grains of rice for each question you get right. No need to fear - FREERICE is here. Please visit the site so that you can make a difference, too.

~Kameron F., Samantha H., Azalea N. (Ms. Monique's 4/5 class)

8TH GRADE VALENTINE'S DAY FUNDRAISER

The 8th grade class will be selling chocolate roses, chocolate fleur de lis, chocolate lips on a stick and more for Valentine's Day. Order forms will be

disseminated to homerooms at the Carrollton campus on Tuesday, January 20th. All orders must be placed by January 29th to ensure delivery for Valentine's Day. Please help our students raise money to go to Washington, D.C. in the spring. Thanks for your support.

~8th Grade Class of 2010



SPRING RENAISSANCE FAIRE – COMMITTEE CHAIRS NEEDED

“Joust into Spring”, Audubon's Renaissance Faire will be held Saturday, March 6, 2010 from 11:00 to 4:00. Some of the activities will be a jousting field, archery, chess, a petting zoo, balloon sculpture, hair wreath-making, face painting, May pole and Go to the Dungeon. We have about six weeks to plan this event and would like to have weekly meetings with Committee Chairs as needed. We need Committee Chairs to help us so please e-mail or call Jean or Jennifer if you would like to be a part of the planning of this exciting event. This is the last PTO Fundraising event for the school year so if you haven't fulfilled your volunteer hours yet this could be a great chance to complete your hours.

Graphics: NEED COMMITTEE CHAIR

Description: Make booth signs (French and English translation) and help coordinate volunteers to put up signs the day of the event.

Logistics: Jean Kijko 504-283-3240 / 504-621-2315 simko4460@cox.net

Description: A site plan has already been designed. Jean will arrange security with the school, arrange janitorial services, check on electrical needs and school's PA sound system, order tents, tables and chairs, order ice and arrange stage setup and take down with Marlin Gusman.

Tents, Tables & Chairs: NEED COMMITTEE CHAIR

Description: A site plan has already been designed. We need someone to coordinate with Fun Services the morning of the event and instruct volunteers to help set-up tables and chairs as per site plan, place tablecloths on tables and help take down tables and chairs in the afternoon.

Ticket Sales: Kelly Leahy 504-862-6467
kleahy@gmail.com

Description: We need someone to set up point-of sale tickets, coordinate volunteers to sell tickets, make ticket collection boxes and coordinate with Command Central who will be counting tickets.

Volunteer Coordinator: Tracy Cameron 504-723-5147
tracy.cameron@gmail.com

Description: Tracy has volunteered to run the volunteer sign-up registration site, www.friendsof Audubon Charter.org and help make sure we have volunteers as needed. Set up communications and headsets.

Food & Drink Booths: Patty Kissinger
504-988-7320 kissing@tulane.edu

Description: We need someone to help plan a menu, get costs estimates, solicit donations from restaurants if needed, verify existing paper products, help set prices and on the day of the event help monitor food booths. We plan to work with teachers and room parents and assign a booth to each class. We will coordinate volunteers through this effort and work directly with the Volunteer Coordinator.

Entertainment: Tiffany Alexander 504-237-7767
tmlewis5@uno.edu

Stephanie Adler 504-415-0340
Stephla@bellsouth.net

Description: We need someone to MC entertainment on the stage throughout the day, coordinate Talent Show, class presentations and extra-curricular presentations. Develop Entertainment Line-Up. We will have a separate "Stage Management" committee to set up the stage and equipment.

Activity Booths: NEED COMMITTEE CHAIR

Description: We need two people to help plan activities, help solicit volunteers to run Activity Booths, help set prices and on the day of the event

help monitor activity booths. We plan to work with teachers and room parents and assign a booth to each class. We will coordinate volunteers through this effort and work directly with the Volunteer Coordinator.

Artisan Coordinator: NEED COMMITTEE CHAIR

Description: We need someone help solicit artisans for eight to twelve booths. We can supply a table and chair but the artist will have to supply a tent if they want one. We also need help determining a fee to allow artist to sell their goods and on the day of the event we need help to monitor artisan booths. We would like to reach out to the Audubon Community first for selection of artists.

Decorating Coordinator: NEED COMMITTEE CHAIR

Description: We need someone to help solicit volunteers to decorate the stage and general decorating around the fair.

Contact PTO Fundraising Co-Chairs if interested:
Jean Kijko 504-283-3240 / 504-621-2315
simko4460@cox.net
Jennifer McNamara 504-566-5240 / 504-450-2403
jmcnamara@bakerdonelson.com

GET YOUR GIRL SCOUT COOKIES NOW!

Early orders for Girl Scout cookies will be taken through the end of January. These scrumptious cookies are being sold on both campuses. If you are interested in ordering some of these delightful treats, you can contact either troop leader: Leslie Scott 504-810-5891 or Janice Baptiste 504-430-8972

CC's COFFEE UPC's

The annual submission for CCs UPCs is this month, January 2010. Please be sure to drop your submission(s) off, in Ziploc styled bags, at the office on Broadway or the drop box on the Carrollton campus, and to ask your friends, family and other collectors to provide you with whatever they have saved for our efforts. And, don't forget the bonus points on the boxes of CCs Coffee delivered to your office. We hope to receive your last submissions 1/27/10. Thank you and keep using that Audubon Charter School "connected" CCs reusable card at your local coffee shop.

~June Erb, Dina Sonia, Todd Taylor

CARTRIDGES FOR KIDS PROGRAM; LABELS FOR EDUCATION

Cartridges for Kids is off to a slow start, but up and running. Please remember to drop off old cell phones, laser cartridges, inkjet cartridges, laptops, iPods, video games and console, digital cameras, DVDs, GPS devices, and calculators.

We have submitted 881 Labels for Education. We hope to get a bonus submission and some additional labels submitted in February. Please remember to collect from your friends and submit your labels soon.

~June Erb, Dina Sonia, and Todd Taylor

BOXTOP LABELS

The next submission date for Boxtops is February 11th. We have \$140 so far in boxtops labels. For every Boxtop label, our school gets \$0.10. Every dime counts for our school. Get your family and friends to help collect labels. Boxtop labels are on hundreds of your favorite products in grocery stores so cut them out and turn them in! The labels are on Betty Crocker, Nestle, Cheerios, Chex, Pillsbury, Yoplait, Huggies, Cottenelle, Hefty products, etc.

~June Erb, Dina Sonia, and Todd Taylor

PETER AND THE WOLF FAMILY CONCERT

Sunday, January 31 at 3 p. m., the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra presents a concert at First Baptist New Orleans - 5290 Canal Blvd. This family concert includes *Suite No. 1 from Peer Gynt*, *Peter and the Wolf* with narration by NOCCA President Kyle Wedberg, and "Can Can" from *Orpheus in the Underworld*. "Meet the Musician" stations begin at 2:15 and post-concert activities will include refreshments and the book mobile! Adult Tickets are \$10 with FREE admission for students 12 and under! **Call 504.523.6530 to order your tickets today.**

~Secret Mbaye

MACARONI KID

Macaroni Kid is a free, online newsletter published by two local moms, Mignon Guerin and Nicole Provosty. Macaroni Kid lists all the kid and family friendly events going on in New Orleans. It is a great resource for parents, teachers and anyone who wants to be in the know about all the great kid happenings in New Orleans and the surrounding area. Back in November, Fall Fete International was listed!

You can check it out at www.new-orleans.macaronikid.com. It is free and simple to register.

~Nicole Provosty

STUDENT POETRY

Blue Jeans

Faithful blue jeans,
Fare thee well,
For today,
You are going to sell,
For a fair dollar or two,
To help support our family of few.
We used to be,
A family to see,
Rambling and ambling,
As far as man,
Is allowed to be,
Through the town,
And over the sea.
Oh yes,
We were a sight to see.
But now we are,
Quite broken down,
After years of grief,
After spirits of town,
Above the sky,
Say,
"Good luck!",
After some,
Disapproving cluck,
From our dear mother,
Of eighty years,
Who lies feeble and sick,
Bathed with our tears.
So you see,
You are not a mere pair of pants,
Meant to warm,
Our legs by chance,
But you are,
A wonderful memory,
Of our years of careless glee.
Fare thee well,
Oh pants so blue,
I hope you know,
That I'll miss you.
~Elise G.