

Grey Nun Academy

Home & School Board Association Assembly Schedule

2008-2009 School Year

When students attend a live performance, something magical can happen. A great story teller can recreate a time from the past that previously seemed remote. A musician with familiar songs and melodies can deliver a message and even encourage learning a new instrument.

The excitement created during a performance can fuel a child to want to read more, talk about it, and imagine the possibilities. For these reasons the Grey Nun Academy Home and School Board Association is committed to bringing professional and high caliber programs to our school. We have five unique programs offered for the 2008-2009 school year. As always, we encourage parents to attend our programs and share in the excitement and learning we have planned for our student body.

Catskill Puppet Theater **September 24th**
10:00 AM for all grades Pre-K-8th

Hiawatha Acclaimed puppet theater will perform special presentation of "Hiawatha" the inspirational story of the great Iroquois hero. Using full sets, exquisitely crafted puppets, and accompanied by Native American flute and drum, this enchanting play is filled with talking animals, fantastic spirits, and an inspirational story that will appeal to all ages. John Potocnik and Carol Mandigo, co-founders of the puppet theater have been touring internationally and take great pride in carrying on the living tradition of the old traveling puppet troupes. They have received accolades from the Ottawa International Children's festival and New York's Symphony space and have brought high quality children's theater to over 100,000 people each year. Please feel free to visit the web site at www.catskillpuppetheater.com.

Ginga Brasileira **October 6th**
9:00 AM for all grades Pre-K-8th

Dances of Brazil This professional ensemble will perform a colorful, crowd pleasing repertoire of Afro-Brazilian dances that fuses rhythmic music with high-energy gymnastics and martial arts. The ensemble performs Capoeira, a martial art dance form developed in Brazil by 16th-Century slaves that is punctuated by fast footwork, daring leaps, and split second timing. Also featured are Maculele, a stick dance created by African slaves working on Brazilian sugarcane plantations, and Samba, Brazil's national dance. Efraim Silva, President and Artistic Director of the troupe teach Capoeira in New Haven, Connecticut and perform in schools, universities and festivals all over the United States. He is also a recipient of the Young Audiences Master Teaching Artist accolade. Website: <http://www.yanj.org>

Sweet Youth Productions **February 2nd**
9:00 AM for all grades Pre-K-8th

I Feel Great Join in on the fun as Sweet Youth Productions presents their health and wellness program focusing on the message that happy, healthy, children feel great and are better learners. Lovable siblings, Jen and Kevin Winner discover the road to better health and fitness as they engage us in a funny and informative show that will leave us all feeling great. A clever script and engaging musical numbers promise to entertain and inform even the most discerning child. The assembly covers all the important areas from the new Local Wellness Policies such as: My Pyramid, Sleep, Exercise, Portion Size, Understanding Food Labels, Drinking Water, Sugar and Fat Awareness and much more! The show's vibrancy, humor, and message helps children become more aware of what is necessary to make good nutritional choices so that they are equipped for each challenging day of learning, working, and playing. Website: <http://www.sweet youth.org>

Mobile Ed Productions **March 2nd**
9:00AM for grades 1st-2nd
10:00AM for grades 3rd-4th
The Earth 11:00AM for grades 5th-6th
Dome 12:00AM for grades 7th-8th

Based on the popularity of the "Sky Dome Planetarium" we are happy to bring back Mobile Ed Productions earth science assembly, "The Earth Dome". The inflatable Earth Balloon contains a series of photographs shot from satellites of the surface of the world on cloud free days. This 22 foot diameter by 19 foot high globe contains a display of different phenomena found here on Earth such as volcano eruptions, tornadoes, and lightning bolts. A presentation will be done inside the dome and students will have a better understanding of geology, Time Zones, latitude, longitude as well as mountains, rivers, and oceans. The topics are presented to each class on the appropriate grade level and promise to be highly engaging and exciting. Visit the website to learn more at: <http://www.mobileedproductions.com>

McCarter April 30th

Theater 10:00 AM for grades 3rd, 4th, and 5th
1:00 AM for grades 6th 7th and 8th

The Odyssey

Experience

Written and directed by Christopher T. Parks, McCarter Theater's "The Odyssey Experience" is an abridged, interactive, touring production of Homer's epic poem *The Odyssey*. Themes of separation and familial love tell the story of Odysseus, a Grecian general responsible for the Trojan Horse and the Greeks victory, who makes his way home from Troy to Ithaca encountering many obstacles along the way. Through the Odyssey Experience, students will begin by invoking the muse of theater and actually become characters from the epic poem. They will participate with simple props in the theatrical experience and improvise various roles in Homer's epic, including Odysseus's weather beaten sailors, the cannibalizing Cyclops as well as the Sirens, Athena and Zeus. This new experiential theatre was developed to help teach classic literature to students through drama and has been very successful and engaging for children of all ages. Visit the website at: <http://www.mccarter.org> to further your child's interest in the arts and theater.

For more information please contact Assemblies Chairperson Dora Damiano Mavellia at 215.962.3555 or dldamiano@comcast.net.