



# OBOE-Mail Blast

December 21, 2018

Volume 8, Number 14

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Contact Information:  
Orange Board of Education  
451 Lincoln Avenue  
Orange, NJ 07050  
[Send Us An Email](#)



- Friday, December 21, 12:30 p.m. dismissal for Holiday Recess
- Monday, December 24 through Monday, December 31, district closed for Holiday Recess
- Tuesday, January 1, 2019, district closed for New Year's Day
- District reopens on Wednesday, January 2, 2019

## Forest Street Elementary School Selected as a National ESEA Distinguished School for 2018

*A local elementary school, nominated by the NJDOE for outstanding achievement, has been selected as a nation-wide winner and named a National ESEA Distinguished School for 2018.*

(Orange, NJ) The New Jersey Department of Education has selected Forest Street Elementary School as a National ESEA Distinguished School for 2018. Annually, up to 100 schools are nationally recognized under a project that identifies local federally funded ESEA schools that demonstrate a wide array of strengths.



# ESEA Network

Hosted by National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators

Forest Street Elementary is being recognized for its excellence in serving English language learners for two or more consecutive years. Principal Dr. Yancisca Loften Cooke was thrilled to hear the school is one of two ESEA elementary, middle and high school throughout New Jersey selected for this honor. "This achievement is so significant to us," said Dr. Loften Cooke, "Because it validates what we have been working so hard to achieve at Forest. We were given a charge by our Interim Superintendent Ronald C. Lee to be innovative and to challenge our students, which prompted us to become highly focused on the individual performance, but especially on closing the achievement gap for our English-language learners. The City of Orange and the Orange School District are making significant strides!"

A team of teachers, accompanied by Dr. Loften Cooke, and Assistant Principal Nyree Delgado, will travel to Kansas City, MO to accept the award at the ESEA National Conference, January 30 to February 2, 2019. Dr. Loften Cooke explained, “These are just some of the dedicated teachers and administrators who created the innovative programs, made the sacrifices and did the hard work that resulted in this great honor for our school. I am so proud of all my staff—my ‘Forest family!’”

"I could not be any prouder of our school, our teachers, and our district," adds Mrs. Delgado, "We are focused on continuing to achieve academic excellence."

The *National ESEA Distinguished Schools Program* has been in place since 1996, showcasing the success of schools in one of three categories:

- Category 1 - Exceptional student performance for two consecutive years
- Category 2 - Closing the achievement gap between student groups
- Category 3 - Excellence in serving special populations of students

The ESEA is charged with ensuring that all children—especially the disadvantaged—have an opportunity to receive a high-quality education.

“We are proud of Forest Street Elementary School for receiving this distinguished honor and bringing to the forefront the achievement levels of our students,” said Interim Superintendent Ronald C. Lee. Congratulations to the staff and students for what they were able to accomplish.”

###

### **The National ESEA Distinguished Schools Program**

*The National ESEA Distinguished Schools Program (NAESPA)—formerly the National Title I Association—has been selecting examples of superior, federally funded school programs for national recognition through the National ESEA Distinguished Schools program (recently renamed from its predecessor, the National Title I Distinguished Schools program) since 1996. These schools demonstrate a wide array of strengths, including team approaches to teaching and learning, focused professional development opportunities for staff, individualized programs for student success and strong partnerships between the school, parents, and the community. What makes National ESEA Distinguished Schools’ stories especially powerful are the documented student achievement gains that have resulted from their collaborative and targeted efforts and innovations.*

*More information about all National ESEA Distinguished Schools is available on the ESEA Network website: [www.ESEANetwork.org](http://www.ESEANetwork.org).*

### **Forest Street Elementary School**

*Forest Street Elementary School serves over 380 students from Pre-K through Grade 7. The school’s mission is: Through the full collaboration of school personnel, parents, and the community, Forest Street School is committed to nurturing a generation of formidable global competitors and leaders. Our students are inspired to achieve and walk with integrity, confidence and compassion. We provide opportunities and life experiences which motivates each student to exceed their own expectations, as every child is an achiever.*

*For more information about Forest Street Elementary School’s English as a Second Language program, contact: Dr. Yancisca Loften Cooke, Principal, 973-677-4120, [cookeyan@orange.k12.nj.us](mailto:cookeyan@orange.k12.nj.us).*

## *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*

With a cast of only eleven actors, *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*, written by John Bishop, was truly reminiscent of a bygone era in theatre and movies of the forties. A farcical who-done-it with spies, mistaken identity, murder and mayhem, with a comedic overtone, was presented by Orange High School December 13 – 15.



**Pictured: Scenes from *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*.**

The play takes place during a snowstorm at the Westchester estate of a wealthy socialite Elsa Von Grossenknueten, played by Mackela Carasco. In the opening scene, a murder takes place before Elsa and police officer Michael Kelly, played by Tyreq Fernandez, are introduced. They discuss the creative team for a play canceled due to the murder of three dancers by “The Stage Door Slasher.” All have gathered for a ‘backer’s audition’ and it is soon revealed that the murderer is among the guests. The previous play’s director, Ken De La Maize, played by Andrew Coates, the playwright, Bernice Roth, played by Felicia Adams, the lyricists, Roger Hopewell played by Anthony De La Rosa in his stage debut, spar and banter and all schmooze with financial backer Majorie Averstock played by Edith Rodriquez. In the great room of the home, secret passageways are exposed along with suspicion around the maid Helsa Wenzel, played by Trameesha Robertson. There are many plot twists and the cast and the audience is led to believe that one of the guests Patrick O’Reilly (Tony Fernandez) is the murderer and race in and out of the hidden passages to catch him. In the meantime director, Ken De La Maize confesses to being the “Slasher” to Nikki Crandall, a dancer there to audition, who turns out to be an intelligence agent (Kayla Wade/Takiyah Head). She captures the villains with help from a hopeful comedian, Eddie McCuen (Donte McKay). The play ends with there being two different killers.







**Pictured: Scenes from The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940.**

The Visual and Performing Arts Supervisor Donna Sinisgalli commended the production staff, acknowledging, “You should be proud of the students' performances in *The Musical Comedy Murders of the 1940*. It was rigorous dialogue and the students managed it well,” adding, The students have grown tremendously over the last four years and they are becoming true thespians. In addition, the costumes looked great and the set design was quite elaborate.”



Pictured left: Cast and crew of *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*. Included are the above mentioned actors, Shadow figure Marvelous Ekeh, along with stage crew members, understudy Brenda Palensia-Monterrosa, Stage Manager Yvonne Emma Harmon and Assistant Stage Manager Karen Chiriboga. (Photo by Donna Sinisgalli)

The production staff include:

- Assistant Director Michael Seidel
- Set Director Tammy Baldwin
- Art Director Kelly Clark
- Costume Director Kashan Green
- Technical Director Joel Lemke
- Production Manager Marc Levenson
- Director Dana Levin

## Rosa Parks Community School Winter Concert Performances

On December 10, Rosa Parks Community School (RPCS) presented its choral, dance and instrumental performances to a large gathering of family, friends and staff. Mrs. Mariel Johnson hosted the event. The honors chorus sang several tunes including “Carol of the Bells,” “Yonder Come Day,” and “Joyful, Joyful.” Four students sang a special “Como La Flor,” to further delight the audience.



**Pictured: Scenes from RPCS's Winter Concert.**

The visual and performing arts staff, Ms. Tiara Knox, dance instructor, Mrs. Mariel Johnson, music teacher, Mr. Sem Etienne, instrumental music teacher, Ms. Jhi-Eun, violin instructor, Ms. Agnieszka Wszolkowski and Michelle Alexander, art teachers both supported the program. They offer special thanks to the administrative staff of Rosa Parks Community School, Principal Debra Joseph Charles, Assistant Principals Terrence Wesley and Suzanne Carbone and Dean of Students Noel Cruz.



## Heywood Avenue School “Winter Reverie”

The Visual and Performing Arts staff at Heywood Avenue School presented their “Winter Reverie,” concert on December 12. Mr. Jared McClain led the choral students, Mrs. Erin-Leigh VanOrden led the instrumental students, including the band and strings presentations and Ms. Theresa Jones directed the Dance Ensemble and lower grade students in several dance performances.



**Pictured: Scenes from Heywood Avenue School’s “Winter Reverie” performance on December 12. (Photos provided by Visual and Performing Arts Supervisor Donna Sinisgalli).**

## Forest Street Community School’s “Toyland Jam”

On December 17 additional seating had to be brought out to accommodate the families and friends who came to see the Forest Street Community School’s “Toyland Jam” winter concert. The program was energetic, with student Emcees introducing the various segments. The opening performance was “Jingle Bells and Jungle Drums” directed by Torenzo Blair. Mr. Blair also directed students on the recorded playing his arrangement for “Jingle Bells,” and the vocal music students singing “Feliz Navidad,” “Santa Clause is Coming to Town” by the Jackson 5, “Run Run Rudolph” by Chuck Berry, and “You’re a Mean One Mr. Grinch” by Thuri Rvenscroft, replete with Grinch masks for the singers.





**Pictured: Scenes from Forest Street Community School's "Toyland Jam."**

There was also a special presentation of Forest Street's upcoming Disney's Lion King Kids production. A full cast performed "He Lives in You" by Elton John and Tim Rice, assuring a not to be missed production later in the school year.

Throughout the program, there were several dance performances choreographed by dance instructor Theresa Jones, including "La Vida Es Un Carnaval" by Celia Cruz and "Jingle Bells" by The Brian Setzer Orchestra. The evening ended with the Middle School Choir singing, "All I Want for Christmas is You" by Mariah Carey.

Principal Dr. Yancisca Loften Cooke congratulated the students and teachers for a wonderful show, as did Assistant Principal Nyree Delgado. Dr. Loften Cooke also announced that Torengo Blair, who did an incredible job substituting at the school and making the creative decorations for the multipurpose room, would be leaving in January to pursue his acting career, touring with Tyler Perry. Mr. Blair received thunderous applause for his work.



**Pictured: Scenes from Forest Street Community School's "Toyland Jam," including (below left) the Honorable Mayor Dwayne D. Warren, Esq. who attended the event.**



## Lincoln Avenue School Presents “The Sights and Sounds of Winter”

The Visual and Performing Arts team at Lincoln Avenue School presented their “The Sights and Sounds of Winter” concert on December 18. The program opened with the band, led by Thaddeus Hammond, playing “Silent Night” and “Jingle Bells.” Wendy Mir directed the Vocal Club singing “Song of Peace,” and several grade level chorus groups singing “Winter Lullaby,” “Solstice,” “Parade of the Wooden Soldiers,” and “Blitzen Boogie.” Michelle Kane introduced the dance students who performed several pieces, incorporating modern dance moves, ballet and tap. They danced to such tunes as “Back to the Beat” by Astronomar,” Toy Shop Madness” by Trans-Siberian Orchestra, and Sleigh Ride by Walk on Earth.”

The evening was filled with holiday spirit and enjoyed by all in attendance.



**Pictured: Scenes from Lincoln Avenue School’s “The Sights and Sounds of Winter” concert.**



**Pictured: Scenes from Lincoln Avenue School’s “The Sights and Sounds of Winter” art display.**



## Lincoln Avenue's Vocal Club Spreads Holiday Cheer



**Pictured: The Lincoln Avenue Vocal club at The White House.**

It was great to shower him with some Lincoln love! We look forward to doing it again and being ambassadors from our school to the community.

Mrs. Mir

On December 20, 16 of Lincoln Avenue School's Vocal Club students went on a walking field trip to the White House Nursing Home in Orange. The residents and students alike had a wonderful time of singing, and ringing bells. "We even saw our old custodian Mr. Reggi, who worked at Lincoln Avenue (in the old building)," said Mrs. Mir, vocal music teacher.



**Pictured: Mr. Reggi with students and Mrs. Mir.**

Students participating in the visit to the nursing home, along with Mrs. Mir were Nikalaine St. Jean, Ariel Celisca, Jordin Telemaque, Nicodeme St. Jean, Delilah Repollet, Yamna Salgado, Rachely Christosomo, Renaldine Francique, Alexis Moise, Jazmin Majia, Edge Charles, Keithmarly Pierre, Geraldine Avalo, Viahelhee Noel, Kayla Sanatus, Yoveline Starck, hidden: Victoria Johnson.

## **OPA Trip to Junior Achievement Finance Park in Edison, NJ**

*Submitted by Glenn Gamble, OPA Business Educator*

Twenty Grade 9 students from the Mr. Glenn Gamble's Financial Literacy class visited the Raritan Center Junior Achievement Finance Park and were joined by students from Camden ROTC, Great Meadows and Saint Vincent Prep for lessons in daily finances. The facilitators were Mr. Steve and Mr. Ajani, assisted by volunteers from Santander Bank.

During the four-hour simulation, students were assigned various personas. For our group 60% were single, 80% had children, 35% had more than one child. The group's average annual salary was \$59,527 with \$24,000 being the lowest and \$110,000 the highest. Academic status for the group revealed 55% with a Bachelor's Degree, 20% with an Associate's Degree, 15% had a High School Diploma and 5% had Skilled Training or a Master's Degree. Their average age was thirty and ranged between twenty-seven and thirty-three; average credit score was 696 in a range between 630 and 730; average student loan debt was \$20,450 with a range between \$5,000 and \$42,000. Toward the end of the simulation, students were provided credit cards that allowed them to pay for their household expenses. Additional data analysis revealed that 70% contributed to Philanthropy for close to \$500 a month, one of the twenty categories where students allocated their household net monthly income, after housing and childcare, the next big ticket item was groceries with an average monthly cost of \$392. They also had the opportunity to apply for an auto and mortgage loan and wait for approval.



**Pictured: Scenes from OPA's trip to the Junior Achievement Finance Park.**

Two student reflections indicated:  
 "I'm very thankful for this experience and hopefully the trip will enable me to avoid mistakes in the future when it comes to money."  
 "Something that surprised me was the car and the other bills that come with it... this field trip has increased my financial knowledge. I really enjoyed the trip."

## FYI

### Public Notice Orange Board of Education Public School District

The Orange Board of Education has scheduled its next regularly scheduled Reorganization Meeting on Monday, January 7, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at the Administrative Building, 451 Lincoln Avenue, Orange, New Jersey, at which newly elected board members will be sworn in.

### Orange Township Recreation and Extended Day Program

The City of Orange Township is offering various recreation and extended school day programs for Orange students. The flyers shown above and below offer program details and contact information.



<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;">  <h1 style="margin: 0;">December 2018</h1>  </div>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 First Annual District Parent Conference 10AM-2PM, Lincoln Ave. School
2  December 2 - 10	3	4	5 OHS - Board Lobby Art Show 6:00PM - 7:00PM 451 Lincoln Ave.	6	7 Oakwood Avenue Community School Winter Concert 5:00PM - 7:30PM	8
9	10 RPCS Winter Concert 6:00PM-7:30PM Central Auditorium	11 Board of Ed Meeting, 7:00PM Orange Prep Academy	12 Heywood Avenue Winter Concert 6:00PM - 7:30PM	13 The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940, 7:00PM, Orange Prep 	14 The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940, 7:00PM, Orange Prep 	15 The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940, 2PM & 7PM, Orange Prep 
16	17 Forest Street Community School Winter Concert 6:00PM - 7:30PM	18 Lincoln Avenue School Winter Concert 5:30PM Art Show, 6:00PM Concert	19 Sonic Explorations Winter Concert 3:15PM - 4:15PM Cleveland Street Winter Concert at RPCS's Central Auditorium 6PM	20 OHS/Orange Prep Winter Concert 6:00PM - 8:00PM Orange Prep Auditorium	21  Winter Solstice Holiday Recess 12:30PM Dismissal	22
23	24  Holiday Recess	25  Merry Christmas	26  Happy Kwanzaa Dec. 26 - Jan. 1	27  District Closed	28  District Closed	29
30	31  District Closed	 Happy New Year	District Reopens on Wednesday, January 2, 2019			

**See *IMPORTANT* Flyers Below**  
*Check the district Website calendar for Concerts and Activities.*

# ORANGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS POETRY NIGHT

## WHEN

January 16th, 2019  
6pm - 8pm

## WHERE

Orange Prep Academy  
Auditorium

400 Central Ave, City of Orange, NJ 07050

## FEATURING

POETRY OUT LOUD FINALS  
& "GUIDING LIGHT"  
POETRY CONTEST FINALISTS

ALL COMMUNITY  
MEMBERS  
WELCOME!

COME VOTE FOR  
YOUR FAVORITE  
PERFORMERS

FREE  
ADMISSION  
EVENT





## **PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR 2018-2019**

### **REQUIREMENTS:**

- **3 years old by 10/01/18**                      **4 years old by 10/01/18**
  - **Must be resident of Orange Township**
    - **Original Birth Certificate**
    - **Child's Immunization record**
    - **Current lease or Mortgage Statement**
  - **2 Proofs of Residency (PSE&G bill, telephone or cable bill,**
    - **No cellphone bills, please)**
      - **Picture ID**

**If you are living with a friend or relative, you must be included in their lease agreement. Notarized letters stating you rent a room/apartment/house will not be accepted.**

*DATES: January 2019*

8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th

**TIME- 10:00 a.m. to 1:00pm**

**Last sign in: 12:00 pm.**

*PLACE:*

**ORANGE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER**

**397 PARK AVE, ORANGE, NJ 07050**

**973-677-4000 ext. 1922**

***Orange Early Childhood Program includes all children regardless of abilities***

***IF YOU ARE CONCERNED YOUR PRESCHOOL CHILD IS DEVELOPING OR LEARNING DIFFERENTLY, YOU CAN CALL THE DISTRICT TO REQUEST AN EVALUATION FOR PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION AND RELATED SERVICES.***

## **REGISTRACIÓN PREESCOLAR 2018-2019**

### REQUISITOS:

**3 AÑOS ANTES DE 10/01/18**

**4 AÑOS ANTES DE 10/01/18**

**DEBE SER RESIDENTE DEL MUNICIPIO DE ORANGE**

**PARTIDA DE NACIMIENTO ORIGINAL**

**EXPEDIENTE DE INMUNIZACIONES DEL NIÑO/NIÑA**

**DECLARACIÓN ACTUAL DEL ARRIENDO O DE LA HIPOTECA**

**Identificación de fotos**

**2 Pruebas de Residencia (recibo de PSE&G, teléfono o recibo del cable, NO CELLPHONE!) deben ser actual.**

**SI USTED ESTA VIVIENDO CON UN FAMILIAR O AMIGO TIENE QUE ESTAR INSCRITO EN EL CONTRATO DE ARRENDAMIENTO. NO SE ACEPTARA CARTAS NOTARIZADA.**

*FECHA: Enero 2019*

*8, 15, 22, 29*

***HORA: 10:00 am-1:00PM***

***Tiene que firmar antes de las 12:00PM***

**LUGAR: ORANGE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER**

**397 PARK AVE, ORANGE, NJ 07050**

**(973) 677-4000 ext 1922**

*El programa preescolar de Orange incluye a todos niños independientemente de sus habilidades*

***SI USTED ESTA PREOCUPADO POR QUE SU HIJO/HIJA ESTA DESARROLLANDO ALGUN PROBLEMA DE APRENDISAJE O APRENDIENDO DIFERENTE FAVOR DE CONTACTAR AL DEPARTAMENTO DE SERVICIOS ESPECIALES EN EL DISRITO.***