



OBOE-Mail Blast

August 19, 2016

Summer Edition

Volume 5, Number 42

In This Issue:

El Sistema New Jersey Alliance to hold summer camp at Princeton-Blairstown Center in Blairstown

Orange Bridge Team Triumphs at the Youth North American Bridge Competition in Washington D.C.

The Orange School District's Summer Robotics Program

Orange Early Childhood Preschool Registration Scheduled for September

Back to School Calendar

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

El Sistema New Jersey Alliance to hold summer camp at Princeton-Blairstown Center in Blairstown

100 students from six Alliance programs across New Jersey to participate in three days of music and outdoor activities, Aug 17–19

(New Jersey Symphony Orchestra Press Release)



The second annual El Sistema New Jersey Alliance summer camp will take place at the Princeton-Blairstown Center in Blairstown, August 17–19. One hundred students from across New Jersey will participate, representing the six Alliance programs: NJSO CHAMPS (Newark), Paterson Music Project (Paterson), Union City Music Project (Union City),

Sonic Explorations (Orange), Trenton Music Makers (Trenton) and Sister Cities Girlchoir (Camden and Philadelphia). In addition to music rehearsals led by teaching artists from each program, students will participate in camp and teambuilding activities such as hiking, adventure courses and campfire s'mores and sing-alongs. On the final day of camp, the students will perform a concert for parents and friends.

The Alliance piloted the camp, made possible in part by a grant from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, last summer. CHAMPS teaching artist Theresa Kemp said the shared experience left a lasting mark on the students: "It was really amazing to see the kids face challenges [from rope courses to learning new music quickly] and have to work through them as a team. [It's] about finding a different part of yourself and connecting with other musicians. We're trying to express to them that when you're a musician, you're a part of a community that is so much bigger than yourself, than your school, than New Jersey. It may sound cliché, but music really is the universal language."



Pictured: Sonic Explorations during their final concert for the 2015-2016 school year at Oakwood Avenue Community School.

Young musicians from the Alliance programs have come together for multiple joint performances and events since the Alliance was founded in 2014; CHAMPS cellist Precious K. said her favorite part of last year's camp was spending three days connecting with her peers: "Now that we've spent time with people from the other programs and gotten to know them, I know we have similarities so we can bond."

El Sistema expert and author Tricia Tunstall said bringing students from different programs across the state together creates a new sense of identity. At last year's camp, she said, "all the principles we talk about in El Sistema teaching just [came] alive spontaneously. It created this beautiful situation where kids [who didn't previously know each other] are naturally drawn to help each other and play music together."

This is the first year the Trenton Music Makers will participate in the camp, and the first year Sonic Explorations students will stay overnight. Orange Public Schools Supervisor of Visual and Performing Arts Donna Sinisgalli says, "We are excited that our students will have the opportunity to experience intensive musical instruction with students from the other programs in the Alliance and at the same time enjoy outdoor-nature activities."

The programs of the Alliance are united around the idea of social change through music and inspired by the vision of Venezuela's El Sistema, which brings intensive music education to children with little or no access to arts education. The Alliance's mission is to provide collaborative instruction and performance opportunities for students, offer professional development training to teachers and empower participating families to come together in a statewide musical community. The Alliance has presented annual Fiddle-and-Fa-La-La-Fest showcase performances at NJPAC in Newark and free concerts in each program's local community throughout the season.

[Sonic Explorations: Sharing Sounds of Oakwood](#)

Sonic Explorations: Sharing Sounds of Oakwood is an after-school music program at the Oakwood Avenue Community School in Orange, New Jersey. Since the fall of 2013, the program has provided violin, percussion and creative musicianship classes to students in kindergarten through third grade. Inspired by the Venezuelan El Sistema program, Sonic Explorations aims to provide free music education within a social context for the youth of the Oakwood Avenue Community School. Through building a network of shared resources, values, aspirations and advocacy, this program seeks to inspire youth, increase academic awareness and move the community-at-large towards a more promising future. The Oakwood Avenue Community School seeks to advance both individuals and the community through the transformational power of music. www.orange.k12.nj.us/Page/10448.

See Sonic Explorations camp photos in an upcoming issue:



Pictured: Scenes from the Princeton-Blairstown Center in Blairstown.

Orange Bridge Team Triumphs at the Youth North American Bridge Competition in Washington D.C.

Contributed by Ms. Pamela Venable and Dr. Denise Harlem, Bridge Coaches for Oakwood Avenue Community School and Park Avenue School

Orange Public Schools Bridge Team did an amazing job in the District of Columbia. Seventeen elementary, middle school, and high school aged students traveled to compete in the Youth North American Bridge Competition and 11 traveled back with trophies. This was an amazing experience for everyone!

Two hundred youth filled a room for three consecutive days of intense card playing and Team Orange emerged as true winners. Martha Johnson and Ibrahima Sacko, from Park Avenue School, and Edwin Thomas and Robert Dixon Jackson, from Oakwood Avenue Community School (OACS), won 1st place in the CardRook Games, days 1 and 2 respectively. Both Robert and Edwin have participated in the Nationals for two consecutive years and this year both young men have also earned Junior Master Status.

There are 26 youth who attend Oakwood's Community Bridge After School Program. Nine traveled to participate in the nationals. Park Avenue School has 24 students involved in their Bridge Club and 8 traveled to compete. Members of the team were interviewed by *The Washington Post*, as well as *Sports Illustrated for Kids*.



Pictured: The traveling Bridge team members from Oakwood Avenue Community School.

Oakwood Avenue Community School's traveling bridge members were: Prince Antwi, Robert Dixon Jackson, Marquis Douglas, Monica Harmon, Munachiso Iherobiem, Chidumebi Iherobiem, Edwin Thomas, Anahyah Muldrow and Reginald Smith. They were chaperoned by Ms. Susan Battle and Ms. Vickie Wright. Staff member, Ms. Cynthia Jackson, also volunteered time to assist with the team. The bridge team coach for OACS is Ms. Pamela Venable, School Counselor.



Pictured: Park Avenue School traveling Bridge team members.

Park Avenue's traveling bridge members were Sayeed Bennett, Giovanni Peterkin, Martha Johnson-Jackson, Ibrahima Sacko, Momo Sacko, A'rina Black, Iyahna Neblett, and Justin Dapaah. Principal Dr. Myron Hackett and Physical Education teacher Mr. Peter Naumowicz chaperoned the trip to the Nationals for the third consecutive year. The Bridge Club Coach is Dr. Denise Harlem, Park Avenue's Technology Coordinator.

"Our district bridge players have made us extremely proud," said Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Ronald C. Lee. " They are being recognized nationally for their abilities in the complex game of bridge."

The Orange Public School District has supported Youth Bridge for many years, thanks to the continued backing of Ms. Barbara Clark, Coordinator of the District 3 American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) Youth Department and dedicated volunteers like Ms. Cheryl Angel who helps to mentor the young bridge players. Ms. Clark is the former Director of Special Services for the district and is the treasurer for the Orange Education Foundation (OEF). The OEF, District 3 ACBL and the Orange Education Association have all contributed to the success of the team.

The Orange School District's Summer Robotics Program

The Mathematics and Science Department of the Orange Public Schools, led by its Director Dr. Tina Powell, offered a Summer Robotics Camp for students in grades 5 - 12. Approximately 40 students participated in the 4-week program, which ran from June 29 through July 28, at the district's Orange Preparatory Academy, Monday through Thursday, from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

Students in grades 5 - 7 participated in FIRST LEGO Robotics and had the opportunity to design, build, test and program robots using LEGO EV3® technology. Students in grades 8 - 12 participated in First Robotics Competition (FRC). They were taught engineering basics, along with design techniques, through the construction of a working FRC Robot.

The Summer Robotics Camp introduced participants to real-world engineering challenges. The camp also provided students with the opportunity to apply real-world math and science concepts, research challenges facing today's scientists, learn critical thinking, team-building and presentation skills,

The culminating activity, closing out the summer program, was a robotics tournament among the camp members held on July 28. The FIRST Lego members participated in the **Search and Rescue Team Challenge**. Search and Rescue involved students (divided into 8 teams) using the robots they assembled, with various sensors, to navigate four rooms (areas) of a specially designed table, to carry out a mission, including simulations of retrieving an object, extinguishing a fire, analyzing a space for occupants and clearing a room.

The FRC Robotics members (divided into 2 teams) participated in the **Stack'Em FRC Challenge**. The Stack'Em competition involved teams retrieving objects from one end of the field (school gymnasium) and moving them to a marked area on the sideline.

The Director of the Robotics Summer Program was Mr. Naseed Gifted. The Program Supervisor was Mr. Shafeek Mohammed. Seven teachers guided the students, including 4 trainees who worked alongside Lego EV3 certified teachers. The teachers will help to facilitate robotics programs at each district school during the school year.



Pictured: Scenes from the Summer Robotics Program's culminating event.

Orange Early Childhood Preschool Registration Scheduled for September

The Orange Public School District Early Childhood Education program is a national model, cited in publications by Harvard University and the Center for American Progress. The program is free to all 3- and 4-year olds living in Orange and currently serves over 800 children. It offers a full-day educational experience with optional wrap-around services. Through a combination of in-district classes, private providers and Head Start, the district provides a wide choice of service for families. The program includes support for children with special needs within the classroom and addresses social/emotional requirements, as they begin their educational journey.

Preschool Registration for 2016-2017 will be held on September 6, 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM, September 7, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, September 9, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, at the Office of Early Childhood Education, 397 Park Avenue in Orange. The last sign-in will be 30 minutes before the end of each registration period. For more information call, 973 677-4000, ext. 1922.

Preschool Registration Requirements (See flyers below):

- 3 years old by 10/01/16
- 4 years old by 10/01/16
- Must be resident of Orange Township
- Original Birth Certificate
- Child's Immunization record
- Current lease or Mortgage Statement (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).
- 2 Proofs of Residency (PSE&G bill, telephone or cable bill)
- No cellphone bills, please
- Picture ID


Back to School Calendar



The Orange Public School District welcomes staff to the 2016-2017 school year with the annual Superintendent's Forum on Thursday, September 1, 8:30 a.m., at Orange Preparatory Academy auditorium. The first day of school for students in Thursday, September 8.

Enjoy the rest of your summer vacation and see you in September!

See below for the 2016-2017 District Calendar.

 <h1 style="text-align: center;">August 2016</h1>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Monthly Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 ^{PM} Orange Prep. Academy	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 New Staff Orientation	26 New Staff Orientation	27
28	29 New Staff Orientation Special Public Board Meeting, 6:00 ^{PM} 451 Lincoln Ave.	30 New Staff Orientation	31 New Staff Orientation	SUPERINTENDENT'S FORUM 8:30^{AM} ORANGE PREPARATORY ACADEMY		



Orange Public Schools 2016 - 2017 District Calendar

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31					

2016

September	Staff	Students
1 Superintendent's Forum/Prof. Development	21	17
2 District Prof. Development—12:30 p.m. Dismissal Staff Only		
5 District Closed		
6 & 7 District Prof. Development Day Staff Only		
8 First Day of School for Students		
22 Professional Development—12:30 p.m. Dismissal for Students		
October	21	21
27 Districtwide Professional Development Day 12:30 p.m. Dismissal for Students		
November	18	18
10 & 11 NJEA Convention – District Closed		
16 Professional Development - 12:30 p.m. Dismissal Students		
23 Thanksgiving Recess 12:30 p.m. Dismissal		
24 & 25 Thanksgiving Recess District Closed		
December	17	17
23 Holiday Recess 12:30 p.m. Dismissal		
26-30 Holiday Recess District Closed		

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

2017

2 District Closed	20	20
3 District Reopens		
16 MLK Birthday, District Closed		
25 Districtwide Professional Development Day 12:30 p.m. Dismissal for Students		
26 Districtwide Professional Development Day 12:30 p.m. Dismissal for Students		
February	15	15
6 Parent Conference Pre-K-7 Evening 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm		
7 Grades Pre-K-7 12:30 p.m. Dismissal Parent Conference 1:15 pm - 4:00 pm		
8 Grades 8-12 - 12:30 p.m. Dismissal Parent Conference 1:15 p.m.– 4:00 p.m.		
9 Parent Conference Grades 8-12 Evening 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.		
20-24 Winter Recess - District Closed		
March	23	23
8 OEA/OASA General Meeting 2:30 P.M. Dismissal for Students		
April	14	14
14 Good Friday - District Closed		
17–21 Spring Recess—District Closed		
May	22	22
29 Memorial Day - District Closed		
June	17	16
20–22 12:30 p.m. Dismissal for Students		
22 Last Day of School for Students		
23 Last Day for 10 Month Staff Only & 12:30 pm Dismissal		

Total Days 188 183

- District Closed
- △ 12:30 p.m. Dismissal
- ◡ 12:30 p.m. Dismissal for Students Only
- ☆ Grades Pre-K-7 12:30 p.m. Dismissal
- ◻ Grades 8-12—12:30 p.m. Dismissal
- ◻ Full Day Staff Plus an Additional 75 minutes and 12:30 p.m. Dismissal for Students
- ▽ Professional Development 12:30 p.m. Dismissal Staff only
- ◻ OEA/OASA Meeting 2:30 p.m. Dismissal for Students
- ◡ Full Day Staff Only Professional Dev. Day



ORANGE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS EARLY CHILDHOOD DEPARTMENT

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR 2016 - 2017

REQUIREMENTS:

- 3 years old by 10/01/16 4 years old by 10/01/16
 - 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: SEPTEMBER 6, 1:00 p.m-6:00 p.m
SEPTEMBER 7, 10:00 a.m-2:00 p.m
SEPTEMBER 9, 10:00 a.m-2:00 p.m

Last sign in: 30 minutes BEFORE closing

PLACE: ORANGE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER
397 PARK AVE, ORANGE, NJ 07050
973-677-4000 ext. 1922

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.



ESCUELAS PUBLICAS DE ORANGE DEPARTAMENTO DE EDUCACION PREESCOLAR REGISTRACIÓN PREESCOLAR 2016-2017

REQUISITOS:

- 3 AÑOS ANTES DE 10/01/16
- 4 AÑOS ANTES DE 10/01/16
- 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.**

REGISTRACIÓN:

SEPTIEMBRE 6, 1:00p.m.-6:00 p.m.

SEPTIEMBRE 7, 10:00a.m.-2:00p.m.

SEPTIEMBRE 9, 10:00a.m.-2:00p.m.

Tiene que firmar 30 minutos ANTES

**LUGAR: ORANGE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER
397 PARK AVE, ORANGE, NJ 07050
(973) 677-4000 ext 1922**

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.