



OBO *E-Mail* Blast

JUNE 15, 2012

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 26

Things You Should Know

- **The Orange Public School District has expanded the registration hours for the district's summer program. Parents can register their children for the free morning program and the tuition based afternoon program on Wednesday, June 20th, from 4:00-6:00 p.m., at the Orange Board of Education Administration Building, 451 Lincoln Avenue. Also, additional registration sites, for the afternoon program, during school hours, are: Scholars Academy (formerly Mt. Carmel School, at 268 Capuchin Way) and the Board of Education Administration Building. (See flyer below)**
- **Correction: Please note in the June 8, 2012 Email Blast, an article submitted by Ms. Cristina Alvarez's, an ESL teacher at Orange High School, was shown with the wrong title. The article, "Orange High School Visits the Guggenheim Museum", is reprinted below.**
- **There are many events for the coming weeks -- be sure to take a look at the Coming Attractions at the end of this "blast"**



Orange Students See The Lion King

On May 30th, the Lincoln Avenue School (LAS) chorus, directed by Mrs. Wendy Mir, hosted a field trip to see The Lion King in New York City. Included in the trip were LAS instrumental students, District Drama Project students and Orange High School vocal students. The trip was made possible by the fundraising efforts of Lincoln Avenue Choral students, donations from the "wonderful" faculty at LAS, and a Target Grant. This was the first time to see this show for all included and everyone had a fantastic time. The group took part in an exciting 'meet and greet' with the cast after the show and had a chance to speak with Deshaun Young, the actor who plays the grown up Simba. Mr. Young is a good friend of Mr. David Milnes, OHS Choral Director. The Lion King field trip was a total success!



Photo of the OHS group (left) and Lincoln Avenue group (right) who saw the Lion King.



OSAA Recital

On June 12, 2012, the Orange Saturday Arts Academy held its Spring Recital at the Orange Public Library. The recital was a showcase of the array of music, dance and art classes taught through the Saturday arts program, under the direction of Ms. Marianne Mroz. In the photo below some of the youngest students are shown doing a dance performance.



Multicultural Day at Cleveland Street School

Cleveland Street School's annual Multicultural Day event took place on Friday, June 8. The theme this year was "Cities Around The World". Each grade level chose a city such as Rome and London, the home of the 2012 Summer Olympics, and did research and decorated their classrooms to indicate the city they selected. They also made artifacts for other children to take with them when they visited their class. Under the supervision of Mrs. Jean-Baptiste, third grade teacher, Ms. Charmaine Fraser, special education teacher and Mr. Edward Harris, health and physical education teacher, the student body had a blast with different activities, games, inflatable rides and, of course, a picnic style lunch/barbecue.



Scenes for Cleveland Street's Multicultural Day.



Orange Preparatory Academy Academic Bowl

On Thursday, June 7th, the OPA Academic Bowl was held. Eighth and ninth grade students from the four Small Learning Communities (SLC) competed in academic trivia for social studies, language arts, math, and science. After two hours of intense competition, the Law SLC took home first place with an impressive 24 points. The Health Science SLC used great teamwork and came in second place with 22 points. The Business Technology SLC was manned by a single contestant for the first half of play! Deion Garrison, an eighth grader; held his own against all three teams for an hour before two other teammates were able to join him. Business Technology came in third place with 18 points. The Arts SLC came in fourth place with 15 points and was incredibly sportsmanlike throughout the entire competition. It was a great effort from all participants!



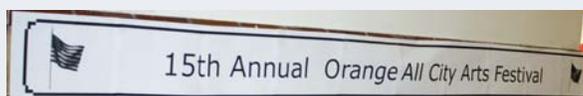
15th Annual All City Arts Festival: A Patriotic Celebration of the Arts!

On June 13, 2012, the Orange Visual and Performing Arts Department presented their annual display of the best of the best in the Orange Public School District, with a rousing tribute to America. Students from across the district presented selections of drama, instrumental music and songs billed as "A Patriotic Celebration of the Arts!" The program included a drama presentation about the making of the Constitution of the United States of America, "We the People", by Amanda Poppi and Michael Seidel, district drama teachers, a performance by a district strings ensemble, conducted by music instructor, Tiffany Tanner and three separate dance performances, directed by district dance instructors: An energetic piece, "Living In America", choreographed by Nadiyah McCoy, "Back In the U.S.A.", a lively number, choreographed by Gianna Mistry, and an artful selection, choreographed by Deborah Rembert, "An American Tribute", which included teachers and students dancing together.

The music portion of the program included the All City Choir, under the direction of Wendy Mir, Peter Abazia and Kathryn Wall, in succession. The All City Band played several selections conducted by Justin Surdyn. They were joined on stage by special guests from the Bloomfield NJ Army Recruitment Station, in tribute to all servicemen and women. Jesenia Cruz and Dorcas Robinson followed with more uplifting musical selections. The stirring finale brought together all of the evening's performers, along with the Orange District Adult Chorus, who made their district debut, singing from the balcony of the auditorium. Ryan LaBoy directed the choirs, as all sang the selected piece, "The Glory". During the final selection, Marianne Mroz conducted the band, with band arrangement by Erin-Leigh VanOrden and Michelle Rosolen choreographed the dance.

Artwork representing each school was also on display in the lobby and hallway of Orange Preparatory Academy, as organized by art teacher, Lisa Clark. During the program, there were acknowledgements, by the Orange Education Foundation, of the arts and dance staff, for their participation in the Essex County Education Association's PRIDE in Public Education Expo. Mrs. Gloria Stewart, OEA representative, gave plaques to deserving teachers. Further, Mr. Peter Crosta was acknowledged for received the Distinguished Service Award for 2012 from the Directors of the New Jersey Music Educators Association. Superintendent, Ronald C. Lee, presented his award, accompanied by Marianne Mroz, who nominated Mr. Crosta to receive the honor.

The program was moving and demonstrated the talents of the district's students and the Visual and Performing Arts staff of the Orange Public School district. The support of the stage crew, led by Maren Sugarman and Tammy Baldwin, was equally impressive.



15th Annual Orange All City Arts Festival



Scenes from the 15th Annual Orange All – City Arts Festival.



The 2012 Mental Math Competition at Rosa Parks Central Community School

The Mental Math Contest was first held at Central Elementary School in 1996 for fifth and sixth grade students. Since that time, the contest was held sporadically, with varying grade levels. This school year, Rosa Parks Central Community School (RPCCS) revived the competition, hosting their first Mental Math Contest on June 5, 2012, under the leadership of Ms. Cayce J. Cummins, Principal. This contest included students in the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh grades.

Each math teacher held individual competitions within each of their math classes to select 6 contestants per class for the Mental Math Contest. The students were all required to meet the following criteria:

1. Know and have memorized basic facts
2. Be a very good listener
3. Be able to think on the spot

The Mental Math Rules were given to all participants. In addition, examples of specific facts and number combinations that each student had to know were also given to each participant. During the contest, students had 10 seconds to answer the question after the word "EQUALS" was said. Students showed their preparation for the contest, extending the rounds into a two-day competition.

At the end of the competition, contestants were given a certificate and a medal. There were trophies for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners in each grade, as follows:

4th. Grade:	5th. Grade:	6th. Grade:	7th. Grade:
1st. Place: Yesenia Urias	1st. Place: Schundnax Emmanuel	1st. Place: Ashley Ann Thomas	1st. Place: Jarmar Cabezas
2nd. Place: Loodmy Altema	2nd. Place: Jessica Puli	2nd. Place: Aneela Kahnai	2nd. Place: Jessica Menjivar
3rd. Place: Jah'Tajah Ross	3rd. Place: Christell Noel	3rd. Place: Armand Jacques	3rd. Place: Erick Palomeque

Ms. Louise O'Shea, 5th grade math teacher hosted the event, which was made successful with the support of the RPCCS math faculty and the school's administration.



Pictured (left) 4th grade winners Yesenia Urias, Loodmy Altema and Jah'Tajah Ross; (right) Math teachers facilitate the Mental Math Contest.

This is a corrected version of the story that appeared in the June 8, 2012 Email Blast



Orange High School Students Visit the Guggenheim Museum



In May, the ESL (shown left) students at Orange High School had the opportunity to visit one of New York City's leading art houses, The Guggenheim Museum. Ms. Alvarez, their ESL teacher, was accompanied by Ms. Ross, ESL teacher, Mr. Suarez, ESL teacher, and Ms. Vargas. The students were able to see firsthand the wonderful architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright, as well as the funky and ecological iron sculptures from John Chamberlain. The students also toured the amazing permanent collections from world renowned artists such as Pablo Picasso, Jackson Pollock, Paul Cezanne, Paul Gauguin, Vincent van Gogh, Edouard Manet, Vasily Kandinsky, and others.

After touring the museum, the students were able to have lunch overlooking the reservoir in Central Park. It was a beautiful day and students enjoyed their cultural exposure to art and the Upper Eastside of

Manhattan. For many students it was their first trip to an art museum in NYC and from the comments and looks on their faces it won't be their last!!



Orange High School Students Take a Walk on Wall Street

On June 1, 2012 Ms. Eileen Ninivaggi's and Ms. Wanda Buie's business classes along with Mr. Ezell's Social Studies students went on a tour aptly called "Wall Street Walks". As the name implies, it was a walking tour of Wall Street and the surrounding area. In all, 44 students went on the field trip which featured the history of Wall Street including the birth and history of the stock market, how trading developed and events that greatly influenced the stock market. Students visited the New York Stock Exchange, Trinity Church and the grave of Alexander Hamilton, the iconic Wall Street Bull, Bowling Green, Merchants Exchange and Ground Zero. The tour was narrated by VOX tour guide audio for all to enjoy.



Student pictured on the Wall Street tour.

Ms. Ninivaggi, who shared this story with the Weekly Email Blast, provided the following student comments about the trip:

"The Wall Street trip was fun. It was nice to explore and learn new things about our American history. The tour guide was amusing and energetic which kept my interest. I'm glad I got the chance to go on the Wall Street Walks trip. It opened my mind to more things so I thank my teachers for considering me." A.S

"The Wall Street trip was a nice experience. I learned about the history of Wall Street and how it stands today. We saw the Chase building, the bronze bull from Italy, the replica of George Washington's inauguration, and much more. It was an experience I would love to repeat." D.M.

"I enjoyed the trip to Wall Street. That was the first time I visited New York City. There's a lot of history, as well as modern things to see in the city. I finally got to see where the Twin Towers used to be." G.S.

"The trip to Wall Street was very interesting. I didn't really grasp everything because I was so amazed by what I saw. It was my first time there but from what I learned from the tour guide, Wall Street is a very important and historical place." M.C.



An Update on Orange Public School's Peer Group Connection

On May 24th the Peer Group Connections (PGC) program held its second Family Night of the Year. "It was a terrific success," said Charles Ezell, history teacher and PGC advisor, as more than 70 Orange Preparatory Academy students attended with their parents and other family members. The Orange High School peer group students facilitated the entire event. They initiated a conversation between family members and students about the importance of adult, teen communication. Parents discussed questions such as, "Why do parents repeat themselves a lot?" and "What is the most important thing you have learned from your children?" Student questions included, "How do kids handle being compared to brothers and sisters, either negatively or positively?" and "What do teens like to talk about with their parents, and what topics do they avoid?" The conversations were authentic and topical and all participants said they gained important insights.

Orange High School's cooking club was commended for the superb job they did in creating several delectable dishes and providing beverages for the event. Likewise, the custodial staff was very supportive and went out of their way to make sure the night was a success along with assistance from Mr. Christopher Cosmillo, art instructor, Mr. Daniel Alfano, special education teacher and Ms. Maria Diaz, Spanish teacher, who assisted in the event.

On Friday June 8th the PGC students supported the OPA field day. They managed a Three-Legged-Race, Tug-of-War, Sponge Really and a Water Balloon Toss. The OPA students were eager to spend time with the PGC students, which suggested that the high school will be a less scary place for the 8th and 9th graders as a result of the contact between the two groups. The games that PGC facilitated had a line of students waiting to participate for most of the day. PGC also supported OPA logistically. The students unloaded and distributed lunches, maintained the ice water coolers and cleaned up their fields before they left the event.

"The end of the year has really been busy and successful for the PGC students," said Mr. Ezell. He and his fellow program advisors, School Social Worker Dana Jones and Career Counselor, Lyle Wallace are pleased with the results of the peer-mentoring program and look forward to the next school year.



Pictured above are scenes for the May 24th Family Night at OHS and a photo from the OPA Field Day.



Orange High School Students Hosted by Deloitte & Touche at Rutgers University

As a follow up to a trip taken to Deloitte & Touche in March, 43 Orange High School students visited the campus of Rutgers Business School in Newark to participate in several sessions. In the first session the students listened to a panel discussion where several influential participants shared their knowledge and experiences. The panel consisted of Mr. Ronald Lee, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Greg Jones (partner at Deloitte) and Mr. Dale Caldwell (CEO of Strategic Influence). Discussions focused on the transition from school to career. The panelists related their personal struggles and achievements that they experienced as they moved through their careers.

There were also representatives from Deloitte that were there to relay their work experiences, as well. OHS students interacted with the volunteers throughout several activities and also during lunch. The volunteers were from many different departments within Deloitte. The students were able to have engaging small group discussions, where they learned about the work environment at Deloitte. Additionally, a representative from the Financial Aid office at Rutgers provided the students with helpful information on financing college. After lunch, the day finished with several Deloitte employees sharing their personal career experiences via a panel discussion.



Students pictured at the Rutgers event, hosted by Deloitte & Touche (left) and shown with Superintendent Lee (right).

Below are student comments, provided by Ms. Eileen Ninivaggi:

"The trip to Deloitte was very insightful and a great experience. It also gave me the chance to network with people in the company. This could lead to internships or opening doors for you in the future." M.C.

"I thought the trip to Deloitte was very helpful. I enjoyed asking the employees questions about their careers. I plan to take all that important information to help better myself as a person as well as a college student." D.C.

"The trip to Rutgers Newark was a good experience. I love the fact that the volunteers sat with us. Our volunteer was very helpful. She gave a lot of insight and different advice."

"The trip to Deloitte was a great experience because I was getting the pro's and con's of Deloitte and college. I also learned more about how to manage my finances." T.J.

Coming Attractions

- **Saturday, June 16 – Father's Day Celebration, 12:00 to 4:00 p.m., Lincoln Avenue School (See flyer below)**
- **Monday, June 18 – Dance Conservatory Recital at Orange Preparatory Academy Auditorium**
- **Monday, June 18 – District Retirement/Recognition Party, 4:00 p.m., Appian Way, Orange, NJ (See flyer below)**
- **Tuesday, June 19 – 3rd Annual Drama Project, 7:00 p.m. Lincoln Gymnasium, Lincoln Avenue School**
- **Friday, June 22 – Orange High School Commencement Exercise, 6:00 p.m., Cody Arena, West Orange, NJ**

ORANGE PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

Join us and invite the special father figure in your life to the

Father's Day Celebration

A fun filled day recognizing fathers
and improving parental
involvement



Cook Out

All You Can Eat Fish Fry



Father & Child Games

Sack races, balloon toss, dancing, etc..



Family Photos

Picture & frame provided



Saturday June 16, 2012

Lincoln Avenue School

12:00 Noon - 4:00 p.m. (Multi Purpose Room)

SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMANCES

Orange Dance Conservatory
and the

Heywood & Park Ave School Dance Ensembles

Limited Space ~ Invitation Only ~ RSVP Required

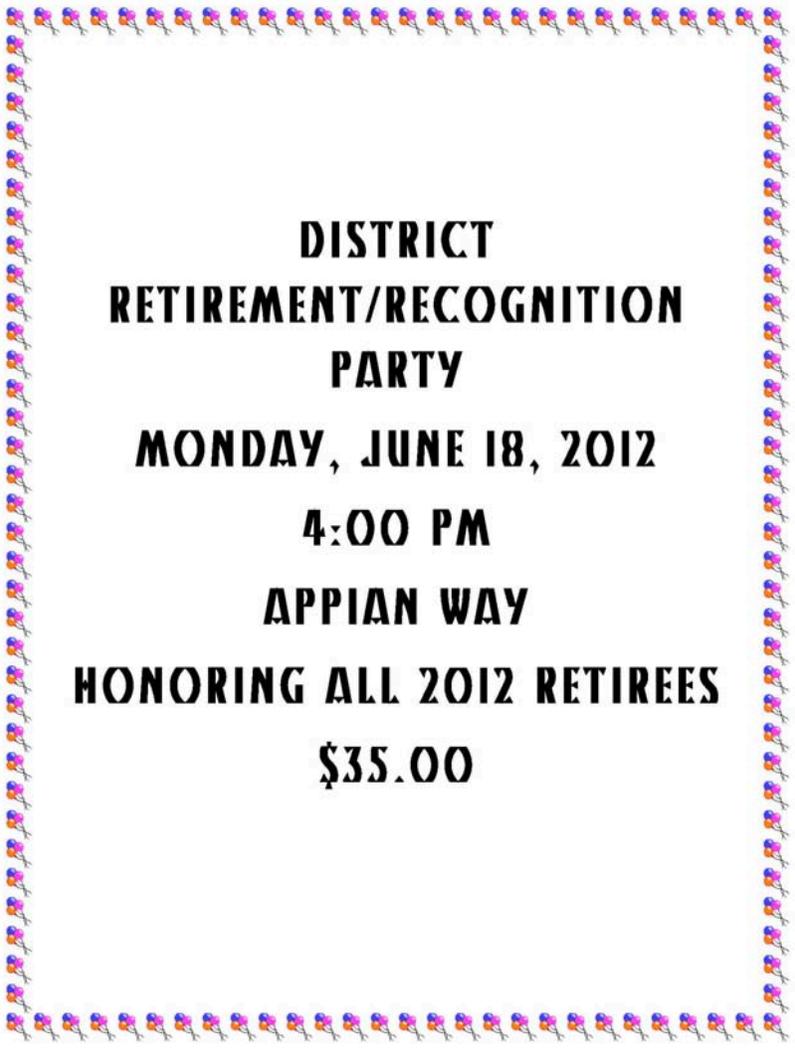
For Invitations See Your School Main Office
Contact Matt Stevens at the Administrative Office
(973) 677-4000 (Ext. 6086) StevenMa@Orange.k12.nj.us

Sponsored by the
Orange Public Schools

In partnership with the

District PTA/PTO/PTSO





**DISTRICT
RETIREMENT/RECOGNITION
PARTY
MONDAY, JUNE 18, 2012
4:00 PM
APPIAN WAY
HONORING ALL 2012 RETIREES
\$35.00**



**ORANGE
SUMMER
PROGRAM**

Fun and
Educational
Activities



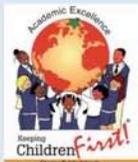
**Applications Now Available
in Your Home School!!!!!!**



**Monday – Friday
Full and Half Day
Available**

**Click Here for
Applications**

**Open to students
entering grades 1-9 in
September 2012**



Orange Full Day Summer Fun

Six Weeks ~ June 25 – August 3

Heywood Ave, Lincoln Ave, Rosa Parks, Park
Ave, Scholars Academy, Orange Prep Academy

Academic Fun (free) 8:30-12:30

Monday to Thursday

**Math Games-Computer Games-
Research-Debate-Reading-
Political Cartoons-STEM
Exploration**

Enrichment Fun Partnership with Arts

Unbound/Family Connections

Mon to Thurs 12:30-5:30/Fri 8:30-5:30

\$380/child- Payment plans available

**Field trips-Cybercamp-
Arts and Craft
Swimming-Book Club**