



Santa Fe School for the Arts Newsletter



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Volume 5, Issue 2

Important Dates & Reminders

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Reminder: Tuition is due by the 5th of each month. Afterschool payments are due 3 days before the end of each month and need to be attached to the monthly form.

Wednesday, November 10th at 6:00pm
Planetarium Night at SF School for the Arts
Don't miss this exciting event!
See page 6 for details

No School- Thurs. Nov. 11th- Veteran's Day

Saturday, Nov. 13, 10:00-4:00 Santa Fe Japan Festival at the GCCC

Our Middle School students will have 2 tables of Japanese crafts and anime items for sale to raise money for their Japan trip

Tuesday, November 16th- Badger class field trip to the Bradbury Science Museum in Los Alamos.
Parent drivers needed.

Weds. November 17th- 8th grade students, Badgers and Stargazers field trip- Sherlock Holmes play at the James A. Little Theater. Drivers needed.
Show starts at 12:30.

Thursday, November 18th- Artist Ned Bittinger visits our school! See page 14 for details

Thursday, November 18th- Badger Field Trip to see a Midsummer Night's Dream. Bus leaves at 12:00.

Saturday, November 20- SF School for the Arts Anime Festival! 12:00-7:00- see page for details

Grandparents Day- Tuesday, November 23

No School for Thanksgiving Holiday Break- Nov. 24-26

Wednesday, December 1st- Stargazer class visits Bradbury

Important Upcoming Dates

Saturday, December 11th- 1:00-3:00- Our students have been invited to play music in the Villa Linda Mall and set up a fundraising table for their Spring Break trips. Any students who play an instrument or sing and would like to perform should please speak to Rayna. We are also looking for middle school students to man the table.

Thursday, December 16th Holiday Show

This year our holiday show & potluck will again be held at the Capital High School Theater. We hope to also raise money for Heifer International, as we do each year, by selling items and accepting donations. We will have our annual potluck following the show in the lobby at Capa.

Swinging Suites

Several students from our school will be performing in the Moving People Dance Theater show, "Swinging Suites," a creative take-off on the Nutcracker. Betsy, Cora, Elle, Grace and Micaela will all be selling tickets for this show. The performances are at the James A. Little Theatre on Thursday evening 12/9, Friday evening 12/10, Saturday evening 12/11, and Sunday afternoon 12/12. Tickets are \$15.00. Evening shows are at 7:30 p.m. and the Sunday matinee is at 2:00 p.m.

Free Family Art Event at the Georgia O'Keefe Museum

Saturday, November 20th 9:30-11:30

Come and see the art of O'Keefe and Stieglitz group and participate in painting abstractions from nature with other families. Call to reserve a space: 946-1007.

THANK YOU !!



Thank you to all of the parents, teachers and students who worked so hard at our middle school garage sale! Thank you to everyone who donated items for the sale as well. It was a a great success and we raised \$1700 for our Spring Break trips! Thank you Lina for updating our website! Thank you V2, Vertical Horizons for bringing the cool climbing wall to our fall festival. Thank you to all of the parents who brought food and prizes. Thank you to all of the parents who volunteered at the fair, ran booths, helped clean up and chaperoned students.

Thank you Tara, Maboud and friends for the fantastic marimba music. Thank you Pat Malone for playing the guitar at our fall fest. It was quite a treat to have you there! Thank you Sally for doing our school recycling program! Thank you Santa Fe Pro Musica for providing a bus and free "Four Seasons" classical concert at the Lensic for our students.

Thank you Polly for driving our Middle School students to the United World College North American Cultural Night. Thank you Lisa Lincoln and Eldorado Children's Theater for lending us costumes and sharing great ideas! Thank you to all parents who chaperone on our field trips- we couldn't do it without you! Thank you to all parents who remember to show our Albertson's card when they go food shopping! Thank you to all parents who are signing up to help feed our animals on the weekends. Thank you Tracie and Dave for your continuing help with our fish and lizards and thank you Wendy for your continuing help with our geckos! Thank you Liz for the great basketball! Thank you Susan Yoons from MIT for your great complex theory work with Katie and our middle school. Thank you Megan Belzner for the huge number of wonderful books you donated! Please let me know if I ever forget to thank someone in this column and please know that your help is always appreciated!

Wish List

Good quality Basketballs

Computer headphones- with long cords for the Badger and Middle School classes.

A car or van for our Peace Jam Club to decorate! (see page 13 for details)

Outdoor PE Shed- for Badger/Middle School classes

More Flagstone- for our outdoor areas

For Art Room:

Safety-Kut Printmaking Blocks or the "The BIG Sheet" (3 sheets) to cut into 4"x 6" pieces 19.30 ea.

Vellum - thick transparent paper

Wooden Chairs -to be painted if we collect enough for a class.

Roof- A new roof (durable outdoor fabric) on the Unicorn/Stargazer Little Tykes Treehouse structure

Fish- If anyone would like to go fish shopping, you can let your child pick out a salt water fish for the Stargazer tank. Thank you Dave and Tracie for all of your help with the beautiful tank! You can check with Tracie if you're not sure what kind of fish to get.

Please note-

All donations (both in kind and monetary) to our school are deeply appreciated and are tax- deductible!

Let us know if you would like a fundraising packet or a video to send to someone who might be interested in helping our school.

Ways you can help!

1. **Charlottes' Web-** We need some volunteers to help make sets and paint backdrops for our Charlotte's Web play. We also need helpers to make costumes and glue ears on hats!

2. **Basketball Hoop Installation-** Someone has donated another basketball hoop for our court! We need some volunteers to help install it!

3. **Animal Feeding-** Please sign up for animal feeding on the weekends. The sign-up sheet and instructions are in the new entry room in the main building. There is also a clipboard in the animal shed with complete details.

3. **Dolphin Cove-**We need some volunteers to help clean out and organize the dolphin cove? Anyone good at organizing a storage unit?

Our School Scholarship Fund

Thank you VERY MUCH to all of the families who gave donations for our scholarship fund. Thank you in advance if you are still considering making a donation! Thank you also to everyone who gave us names for our annual campaign. All donations are tax-deductible.

If you do think of anyone (grandparents, relatives, business owners?) who might want to support our school scholarship fund and receive a tax donation credit, please be sure to leave their names and addresses in Brian's box in the office. We are hopeful that if we all work together we can reach our scholarship fund goal.

WARM CLOTHES

The weather is getting colder and many students seem to be leaving their warm coats at home-perhaps in the hope that fall is not really gone? Please make sure that your child brings warm clothes to school everyday! When it is snowy, young children especially will need snow pants and snow boots and gloves and a change of clothing- and some of the older kids will too!

Snow Days

We follow the closing schedule of the Santa Fe public schools. If we have a delayed opening or are canceling school due to icy road conditions or snow, you can watch the news on any major TV channel. **If the Santa Fe Public Schools are closed or delayed, then we are too.** You can also listen to the radio and listen for the public school closings, or **call our school cell phone, 920-9709 (not the regular school number)** and listen to the message! If there is a two hour delay, then all classes will begin at 10:30 am.

Occasionally, there is a two hour delay at first and then schools are closed for the day. So, please remember to keep checking the TV and radio during a two hour delay to make sure that schools are indeed on a 2 hour delay. A 2 hour delay for us means we start school at 10:30 am.

Welcome to a New Student

A warm welcome to Alejandra Ortiz and her parents Maria Elena and Rene Ortiz. Alejandra is a 3rd grade student in the Stargazer class and we are very happy to have Alejandra and her parents at our school!

SF School for the Arts Board Meeting

Our next school board meeting is scheduled for Tues., Nov. 9th at 4:00. These meetings are always open to anyone who would like to attend. However, since we have so much business to attend to (and so little time!), we request that anyone who would like to discuss an item at a board meeting, first call Brian to make sure that the item is placed on the agenda and that the topic can best be addressed at a board meeting.

HEIFER INTERNATIONAL

Our school and our students continue to be dedicated to serving others and helping the world in whatever ways we can. This winter we are reaching out in three different ways.

- 1. We will again work with Heifer International to help families in need around the world. Many of our students feel very connected to this organization now and feel that giving life-sustaining animals to people in need is one of the best ways to help others. Our school store and our Holiday show will support Heifer this year.**
- 2. We will be collecting donations to send to Ethiopia with Sarafina's mom, when she goes to pick up her daughter Berke from an orphanage there. We will soon have more information about our Ethiopia drive.**
- 3. We are also collecting books about animals for the 1st grade class at Cesar Chavez where some of our middle schools students are volunteering. 71% of the students at Cesar qualify for free and reduced lunch and 54% of the children enter school without any preschool experience. More than 1/3 of the students are English language learners. The level of need there is quite high!**

Heifer International is a non-profit program that tackles the problem of hunger one family or one community at a time with gifts of farm animals which become ongoing sources of food and income. Everyone who receives a Heifer animal agrees to pass on one of their animals' offspring to another family in need. Heifer also gives intensive training to each family before they receive their animal to teach the family proper animal husbandry and caretaking.

Each year our students watch a Heifer International video which illustrates the extreme poverty that many children all over the world experience everyday and the tremendous difference one farm animal can make. For example, one gift of chickens will start laying eggs at 6 months and can lay up to 200 eggs a year, providing a reliable source of protein for children who otherwise subsist on mostly starches. Extra eggs can be sold to pay for school, clothes and medicine. In the vegetable garden, chickens will peck at bugs and weeds, scratch up the soil and enrich it with droppings. Llamas, the animal chosen by the Stargazer class last year, provide Heifer families with invaluable sources of transportation, income and wool, which is prized for making blankets, ponchos, carpet and rope. Llamas are remarkably disease resistant and require little care. They can carry small loads for long distances over rugged slopes at high altitudes and their padded feet don't damage the fragile terrain and their selective browsing doesn't destroy sparse vegetation.

I am very grateful that our school community always steps forward to support projects like these here and around the world. We will continue to have our school store from time to time at to help us continue to support these projects. Last year our students chose to purchase the following gifts for poor families from Heifer International; a share of a water buffalo for a family in Cambodia, Nepal or the Philippines; a goat; a share of a llama for an indigenous family in Bolivia, Peru or Ecuador; a gift of trees; a clutch of chickens; a gift of ducks; a gift of geese; and a gift of rabbits!

Thank you again to everyone who is willing to help us with these projects! Keep an eye out for our school store on special Fridays!

Parents Night Out Spring Break Trip Fundraisers

Another Parent's Night Out! Friday, Dec. 3rd!

On Friday, December 3rd, for \$20, you can leave your child at our school from 7:00-10:00pm and some middle school students and a teacher from our school will babysit your child.

There is a discount for multiple children (e.g.- \$30 for two children).

Many children come in their pajamas and bring a blanket and a pillow. We ask that all children have dinner before they come, but we do offer snacks and drinks. We usually play outside and then come in and play games and watch movies like a great, big sleepover.

It's a lot of fun and you can enjoy a great night out!

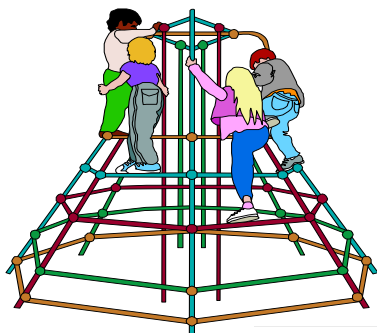
Spaces will be given to the first 20 children who are signed up.

We hope to continue to offer this service each month.

You can sign up for this Parent's Night Out by placing a note and check with your children's names and ages in Rayna's box in the Main Building.

Unfortunately we cannot provide care for children under the age of 3.

Siblings who do not attend our school are welcome to attend. We need to have at least 8 children to hold the parent's night out.



Our Planetarium Night

The Lodestar Planetarium is bringing their huge domed indoor planetarium to our school this Weds. night at 6:00!

Don't miss this special event!

There will be several 20 minute shows held in the indoor planetarium in the Unicorn room.

They are also bringing telescopes that will allow us to see Jupiter and Saturn up close!

There will be cool science demonstrations about comets and opportunities to learn new facts about outer space in the middle school.

There is no cost for this wonderful event!

National Geographic Geography Bee

Our school is going to participate in the National Geographic Geography Bee for the second year in a row.

The Bee will be held on Thursday, January 13th at 9:00 in our middle school. This is a nationwide contest for students in grades 4-8 who are not older than 15. With a first place prize of a \$25,000 college scholarship, plus other prizes, the Bee is designed to encourage the teaching and study of geography. Each school must hold it's own Bee and only one winner per school is allowed to take the written, qualifying test. The first place winner from each state then advances to the national level. Last year, Antonio Trujillo, our school winner, advanced to the state level after passing a difficult qualifying exam.

Questions at all levels of the Bee address geography in it's broadest sense. Some questions will require a knowledge of place-names and of the location of cultural and physical features. The distribution and patterns of language, religions, economic activities, populations and political systems will also be covered. Students may be asked about cultural and physical regions, or about physical phenomena, such as tectonic activity, landforms, climate, bodies of water, soils and flora and fauna. The changes in places and regions through time, including how people have modified the environment may be addressed. Tools geographers use such as maps, instruments, graphs and statistics may be the subject of other questions.

We encourage all students to visit the GEOBEE quiz at www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee

Most students who compete in this sort of competition, study all year long in anticipation of the Bee. We hope to get our students excited about geography, and in learning as much as they can about the world!

We strongly encourage all students to participate and start studying geography whenever you can! Everyone has a chance to win if they know their facts!

Parent Mailboxes and Email Addresses

Every parent has a mailbox. Please check your mailbox everyday if you can.

Payments and papers for the school can be placed in any of the following places:

Rayna's folder in the Badger class (on top of the mailboxes)

Rayna's mailbox in the main building (in the hallway on the Unicorn sign in table)

The drawer in the Middle School rolltop desk which says "All Papers and Payments Here"

PLEASE do not put any notices or flyers in other parent's mailboxes without first asking Rayna.

Please do not put birthday invitations in school mailboxes unless all the children in the class are invited!

PLEASE do not email any parents or forward information to parents on our school email list. This is only to be used for school-sanctioned communication.

Please note there is a Parent-to-Parent Community Bulletin Board outside the Stargazer Classroom and in the Middle School Lobby for parents to post notices about upcoming workshops, their own work, items for sale, wanted posters, etc... We can also place your community news and requests in this newsletter.

Recycled Art Show Success!

Our school had a wonderful turnout for the recycled art show this year. The Badger class and 7th Grade Fine Art class all did amazing and unique recycled art work which was accompanied by a full color photo of each artist and their work.

Many people admired our students work and, in fact, 7 students actually sold their artwork! The director of the show told us that this was quite unusual! Many people, including some art collectors from Colorado were very impressed with the work Amy has been doing with our kids. Norbu Francis and Becca Lenetsky won prizes for their art work and the following students sold works of art; Gioia Berlin, Mason Dowling, Maddy Etre, Micaela Reininga, Benjamin Michaels-Fallon, Tashi Swierkosz and Jesse Koehler.

To top it off, our 8th grade Fine Art students made recycled fashions for the show and several were brave enough to actually walk across the stage and down the runway at the fashion show! Grace Reininga and Takeo Royer won an award for their "Burlap Cowboy" outfits which Betsy Fulreader helped them design. Arin Dineen also won an award for her "Plastique Chic" outfit made entirely out of plastic bags and duct tape. Her hat was covered with hundreds of golf stops which had people stopping her all night, asking what her hat was made of. Koral Gordon wore a stunning outfit made of ties, strips of fabric and an old girl scout sash entitled "Cut Cloth Superhero" and Sacchi Royer modeled a beautiful outfit called "Red Curtains" which was designed by Nyssa White.

The entire art class worked together to make all of the outfits and had a lot of fun in the process. They felt especially encouraged by the large number of students from our school who were in the audience cheering them on. Several students said that they hoped this

Stargazer Sayings

The Stargazers have been working on an expedition about Space and Stargazing and the first Astronomers. After a visit to Chaco canyon, Jende said, "I think it's amazing that the Chaco people just came there, guided by their hearts."

When the students in Connie's group were being given a planet to study and research, Jamie said, "I don't really care which planet I get, because I want to be a good team member!" Later, after Jamie found out that he had been given Mars to study, he said, "Is that because I'm such a red hot writer?"

Jacob asked Chintan, "When is the moon going to explode?" Chintan asked, "What do you mean?" Jacob replied, "Well, you said it was going to be a new moon today."

Chintan was referring to a movie the class had seen about galaxy travel. Child 1: It said it would take a year to get to the other side.

Child 2: To get to the other side of what?

Child 1: To get to the other side of the galaxy.

Child 2: Was that in the movie?

Child 3: You wouldn't make it!

Chintan: It would maybe take lifetimes, right?

Child 3: Right, and then none of you would make it!

Child 1: And by the time you get back, you would probably be old.

Child 2: Oh yeah.

Chintan: You'd probably be dead.

Child 1: You'd be generations dead!

Child 3: Because you couldn't take your helmet off!

Peace Day

On September 21st, our school participated in a worldwide Peace Day event. At 12:00 noon, all of our students gathered along with millions of others around the world to make a wish for peace. Students of all ages shared their wishes and Ann Atkinson sang, "Imagine" for the whole school. It was a moving ceremony.

Peace Day has been supported by the Dalai Lama, Nelson Mandela and countless other leaders around the world as a small but important step toward world peace. On this day, all countries are asked to refrain from fighting so that aid agencies can bring supplies in and give people everywhere at least one day of peace. You can visit this website for more information about the movement, www.peaceday.org.

Our Peace Jam students all wrote the Mayor of Santa Fe asking that he declare September 21st International Peace Day. They never thought they would receive a letter back. They not only received a letter back, but an official proclamation from the mayor making Sept. 21st Annual Peace Day in Santa Fe! You can see the proclamation hanging in the middle school lobby. The students were thrilled and got their first taste of how they can make a difference if they work together.

Many students shared their thoughts about peace with us.....

Wouldn't world peace be incredible? But, is it only a fantasy, a dream of wonder? Or could it become a reality?

Coltran Hophan-Nichols

Free as the wind. Fast as the wind.

Peace makes me feel like a bird. Peace is one place like heaven. The state of mind is different, yet, very, very mysterious. Peace is not easy to explain. Why can we and why can we not?

As long as peace is in the world, it will not be destroyed. It's a legend that is going around my head.

But what do you think?

As birds fly through the air, I feel more peaceful.

Dima Voorhees

Peace is not war! It is something you do to make a difference in your life. Peace is not about being mean to others. To wish a world with peace...that is my wish. The world needs it.

Sarah Colvin Weber

Peace to me means joy to the whole wide world. I think that peace is a great thing that we should have in every home.

Camila Rivera

To me, peace means love and compassion, not fighting. When I hear the word, peace, I think of peace signs, smiling faces, flowers, soldiers going home to their families, my mom. I wish for world peace! Peace day should be everyday!

Rikki Carroll

I think Peace is no war or fighting throughout the countries. Be nice to one another and share with everybody if you can. Always be loving and if you have a problem, resolve it, without war. Peace is

Peace is the opposite of war. Today we saw a real live peace bird and it ran into the window and Connie went outside and picked up the peace bird. It didn't die. It was so beautiful. It had green and yellow wings and the whole class got to pet the bird.

I love peace!

The peace bird brought me peace, because it all of a sudden ended up on Peace Day. When the bird came my heart opened up with joy and it felt so good that the Peace Bird was there. You can never really explain peace, but you can feel it.

Ben Bajema

I think peace means being in harmony with other people and feeling love for the world.

Lucas Weiss

Peace means to be nice and follow the Golden Rule. The Golden Rule is: do unto others as you would have others do unto you.

Cora Cliburn

We have to be nice to all the people and they will be nice to you. If you don't be nice to other people, they are not going to be nice to you. So, we have to respect other people.

Peace means that you can help other people and even animals, like if a little birds falls out of her house. You can respect and care for other people. That means helping other people.

Alejandra Ortiz

Well, I think peace is when everyone gets along, and nobody fights and everyone treats people with respect.

Elle Jansen

To me, peace means respect and freedom from strife and war.

Norbu Francis

I think peace means love for everyone from your heart and no war anywhere.

Corey Leatherwood

What does peace mean to you?

It means you can feel it in your heart. - Jacob Moreno

Peace means being alone. - Alliya Chatterjee-King

Peace means it's quiet and everybody's happy and food in my tummy makes me happy. - Lauren Sarkissian

Peace means loving everybody's country. - Ryan VanderHam

Peace means loving Mother Earth. - Jasmine Kennedy

Peace means sharing stuff. - Merari Santos

Peace means no war. - Wesley Jansen

Peace means a moment of silence, a moment of freedom, a moment of time for yourself. - Brass Coggins

Peace means no one would get hurt. John Michaels Fallon

Peace means love and care. - Julia Michaels-Fallon

Peace means being with my mom and dad. - Eli Jasna

In this day, in this time, today may seem ironic, but it still should be celebrated. Today we should remember the poor people that died in the heartless attacks on 9/11. We should pray for the brave heroes who have given their lives to defend our country. Today, we hope that when the red mist of war clears, we can live without fear of terror, without worry of the children's safety, without fear of plots against freedom, that is what I wish to see in the future.

Clayton Lobaugh

SF School for the Arts EBAY AUCTION

Thanks to Pam Michaels (mom of John, Julia and Benjamin) we now have our very own ongoing Ebay auction!

If you would like to help raise money for the school, you can donate an item or a service (free computer consulting or a weekend at a cottage in Red River) to our Ebay auction site. 100% of the proceeds will benefit our scholarship fund. Pam is doing all of the work for us!!

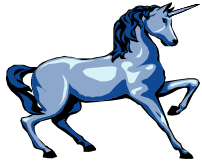
If you have an item you would like to donate for auction, please follow these steps:

1. Email the name and complete description of the item to **SFAAuctions@aol.com**. Include the size and weight of item. The date and place of original purchase. The purchase price or appraised value of item. Describe any special features (original art, signed works, limited editions, historical value etc.)
2. Include the minimum acceptable sale price of item.
3. Note if there are any special shipping, handling or packaging instructions.
4. Our digital photography class (Fridays, 3:15-4:30) can take photos of your item or you can bring in 4-6 clear, sharp close-up photos of the item in digital format (against a white or neutral background) and email them to **SFAAuctions@aol.com**
5. Upon completion of the auction of your donated item, you would then bring the item to school for Pam, so she can pack and ship it to the new owner.

If anyone has a first-edition signed book, art, jewelry, mineral specimens, fossils, books, old lunchboxes or games, dolls, collectibles etc...anything that you think might sell on Ebay and is relatively easy to ship, we would love to give this a try!

Pam would appreciate any packaging materials anyone has- boxes, packing peanuts, shipping tape or envelopes, paper rolls.

Please spread the word to friends and family! Anyone can donate and everyone can look at our EBAY site and shop as well!



Unicorn Quotes

Noa Noa: “It’s a village, Cerrillos Village. It’s so cute, it’s a perfect town full of all these little people.”

Cole: I lost my watch so now I won’t know when it’s Christmas time.

Wyatte: You have to be quiet like mice when you go in the hallway cause in the Stargazer classroom they might be studying and get attracted!

**Chime: You have to tell the teacher if anybody gets pinched and feels sad.
Barrett: Yeah, and you have to tell the teacher if people get hurt by biting dolphins.**

**John: Santa Fe School for the Arts is about learning to read and do math.
Cole: Santa Fe School for the Arts is about football too.**

Gabriel: I wish to help the little puppies in the world.

Adrienne: (to Nicole)I wish I had a scarf. I need a scarf to protect here (gestures to her neck) cause it’s cold and it’s cold, it itches. Do you got coffee?

Jade: I’m glad Ethan was born because I knew him when he was a baby. I liked it when he was 3. (Ethan was turning 6 and Jade is now 3.)

Madeline: I’ve been at this school for 50 years. And I still go here!

**Suzanne said, “Lewis, you’re very knowledgeable about Dinosaurs. Where did you learn all that information?
Lewis replied, “I’ve got a big brain.”**

**John (to Russell)- Russell, tell me, what’s it like having a little sister? Is it cool?
Russell- yeah, it’s cool....but she bugs me everytime!**

Peace Jam & Sustainability

Our school Peace Jam club is going strong and is dedicating themselves to making a change in whatever ways they can. The club was instrumental in helping to get International Peace day declared in Santa Fe after a letter writing campaign and is now working on creating a workshop for teaching peace to students. They also hope to completely transform an ordinary vehicle into a Peace Car/Van by covering it from head to toe with objects of peace. This idea was inspired by the shell car that visited our school last month. Does anyone have a car or van that they would let us transform, inside and out?

The students in Peace Jam feel very strongly about making a difference in the world. They have watched videos about peace and conflict all over the world and have had great discussions about their views and feelings about what is going on in the world today. The club has decided to create a fun workshop that they can offer to younger students, which will help show them ways to be peaceful in their own lives. They will offer this workshop first to students at our own school and hope to eventually offer it at other schools. The students are working to create fun activities for the students that will give them real tools to use in everyday life. They plan to make a short film to illustrate what they are doing and send it to other schools as well. The students are also concerned about human rights and are helping to organize our Heifer fundraising.

The environment is also one of the top concerns for this group and many of our younger students too. As you have heard, our integrated study curriculum will soon begin to focus on our plan to become a sustainable school community. The United World College students made sustainability the focus of the work they did with our students when they visited this fall after hearing about our plans to create a green campus. The United World College students each shared about their own country's sustainable traditions. They talked about the use of sustainable technology and helped our kids to think about their own lives and how they can help our environment.

Three of our 8th grade students recently attended a youth sustainability conference at Monte del Sol charter school which was sponsored by Earthcare and Ecovercity. The students attended workshops and listened to speakers from organizations around the country. The organizers of this event hope to get young people involved in understanding sustainability and saving our planet!

Grace Reininga and her mom Hennie recently attended an inspiring Bioneers conference in California. Founded in 1990, Bioneers is a nonprofit organization that promotes practical environmental solutions and innovative social strategies for restoring the Earth and communities. Grace and her mom went to a youth conference which was attended by thousands of young people all of whom had the chance to hear stories from people who are making a great difference around the world. Please be sure to ask Hennie or Grace about it if you would like more information about the Bioneers movement.

Our students will have the opportunity to transform our campus and learn first hand how you can build and sustain a community in a way that is in tune with nature. We are currently grant writing for our living lab and sustainable campus design. We hope to be able to soon hang up the first draft of our plans! Anyone who would like to help us with these undertakings should please email the school at santafeschool@aol.com and let us know.

Famous Portrait Painter To Visit Our School!!

On Thursday, November 18th, Ned Bittinger will visit our school! Amy Birkan, our art teacher, has arranged this special visit, Ned is an award-winning portrait painter who also enjoys painting figurative scenes, landscapes and illustrations.

Ned will talk with our older students about illustrating and painting and will then do a portrait drawing of one of our students or family member! We are currently selling raffle tickets to win the chance to have a portrait drawn by Ned. The tickets cost only \$2 each and the winner will sit for Ned for 2 hours on Thursday morning while other students observe. If the student who wins is too young to sit for 2 hours they will win a book illustrated by Ned.

Influenced by such great artists as John Singer Sargent, Ilya Repin, Valentin Serov and N.C. Wyeth, Ned uses an art technique called "alla prima", meaning "at the first" in Italian. Because this method requires the skillful manipulation of wet paint, his brushwork appears fresh and spontaneous, giving his paintings energy and immediacy.

During the last eight years Scholastic Press has commissioned him to illustrate several children's books. His most recent book came out in April of 2003, "When the Root Children Wake Up", by Audrey Wood. His last book, "Rocking Horse Christmas", written by Mary Pope Osborne was chosen by The American Booksellers as their "Pick of the Lists". His second book, "The Blue and the Gray", written by Eve Bunting, was selected by The International Readers Association as their "Teacher's Choice" and by the children of Indiana for their "Hoosier Young Readers" Award. In 1995 the American Library Association awarded Ned's first book, "The Matzah That Papa Brought Home", by Fran Manushkin the "Notable Children's Book" Award.

Ned has won numerous honors and commissions for his work including:

Honors Award for portraiture, Portrait Society of America's international portrait competition, 2004

Honors Award for portraiture, Portrait Society of America's international portrait competition, 2003

Commissioned to paint portrait of Abraham Lincoln for the US House of Representatives, 2004

Commissioned to paint portrait of Congresswoman Lindy Boggs to hang in room dedicated to her in US Capitol

Commissioned by the U.S. State Dept. to paint official portraits of James A. Baker III

and Lawrence Eagleburger, Secretaries of State, 1994, 1995 and Lawrence Eagleburger, Secretaries of State, 1994, 1995

Commissioned to paint portrait of Shirley McLaine for Motion Picture, Guarding Tess

Commissioned by the Pentagon to paint two Chiefs of Staff of the Army, Gen. Vuono and Gen. Sullivan 1992

Commissioned by the Darden School Foundation of the University of Virginia- portraits of Colgate Darden, Dean Haig, and Dean Higdon 1996 – 1999

Commissioned by University of Virginia Law School to paint three portraits - 1998

Benefactors portraits for Elon College, Burlington, N.C., 1995

Commissioned to illustrate books for children by Scholastic, Inc., 1993-

Selected as Exhibiting Artist in Moscow by Washington/Moscow Art Exchange, 1991

Mural series for Montgomery Co. Public Schools, 1988-89

Benefactors portraits for Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA, 1988

Awarded grant by The Washington D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities, 1986

Kreeger Awards Competition, Hayes Freedman Purchase Prize, Washington, D.C., 1982

David Lloyd Kreeger Award, The George Washington University, Washington, D.C., 1981

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE THE CHANCE TO WIN A PORTRAIT OF YOURSELF, YOUR CHILD, OR
A FAMILY MEMBER, PLEASE BUY A RAFFLE TICKET FROM THE OFFICE BEFORE**