



# Integrated Arts Academy

December 16, 2013

# NEWSLETTER

## Important Dates

**Dec. 17** Dragon Lantern Making  
and Dragon Tales  
6:00 pm Cafeteria

**Dec. 20** Friday Town Meeting  
2:15 pm TBA

**Dec. 23 - January 1**

**NO SCHOOL!**

**Enjoy the Holiday break!**

**Jan. 2** Thursday, School Resumes

**Jan. 20 and Jan. 21** NO SCHOOL

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## Next PTO Meeting

**Wednesday, January 8**  
6:00 pm

Pizza (at :45) and childcare available

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**The Integrated Arts Academy  
at H.O. Wheeler Facebook  
Page**



**The giving of love is an education in itself.**

**Eleanor Roosevelt**

## A message of Giving from the principal

IAA is a very special place. We exemplify the spirit of giving all year long. This was most recently experienced in our very successful Fill the Bowl event. Our third grade community raised over \$2000.00 for local hunger charities. But the giving does not stop there. We are constantly looking at ways to connect the arts and what we do at IAA, to our community. How can we make a difference? One of the most important things we do at IAA is develop a sense of community and foster a desire to help each other beginning at a very early age. The arts play a key role, but our hearts make the biggest difference. Ultimately we will base our success as a school on the character, kindness, and love exhibited by our students. Let me suggest a read aloud if you have a moment over the holiday. One of my favorite stories at this time of year is *The Gift of the Magi* by O. Henry. It touches on the selfless giving that we experience so often here at IAA.

Have a great break filled with much love for family and friends.

**Artfully,  
Mr. Bobby**

## Guidance News

**Kindergarten:** Second Step instruction continues with this week's lesson focusing on how two people can have different feelings about the same situation.

**Grade 1:** Mr. Lane and Ms. Robinson have taught about point of view and have had the students act out two different perspectives.

**Grade 2:** Recent lessons have focused on the concept of "self-esteem", often a hard word to define but we often come back to it through the elementary years. Once students understand how it is about how they feel about themselves and how it will relate to self-confidence, it seems to become easier to grasp.

**Grade 3:** Focus has been on empathy with selected readings How Do I Stand In Your Shoes, Alley Oops, The Boy Who Did Not Want To Be Sad, and Don't Laugh At Me.

**Grade 4:** Several lessons recently have been regarding prejudice as well as the idea of a "pilgrim" and how many people throughout the world continue to pursue freedom. Read to the class, Molly's Pilgrim.

**Grade 5:** Through viewing the video Walk This Way, and a follow up lesson, students had been exposed to 1) the challenges some of us face and the need to be accepting of all and 2) the behavior continuum from confusing behaviors to overt teasing to potential bullying and harassment situations.

**Mr. Lane**

## Vote for Move it!

### Move it!



#### **Move it! Move it! needs your vote.**

We are entered in a contest to win a **\$2500 grant** if we garner the most votes. MVP Health Care is offering this great opportunity and we would love your vote. All you have to do is go online and vote for Move it! Move it! You can vote once a day every day from now until January 27<sup>th</sup>. Please help us be one of the top ten vote getters and let all your friends and family know too.

The website is

<http://tinyurl.com/nvpsh9f>. Thanks for your support!

### Help with the Holidays

**For many families, the holidays are a very stressful time of year. Here is a program that is available for support with holiday gifts.**

#### Chances for Christmas

Call **777-5130** to get your family on the list & make an appointment to bring in your documentation. Once you are on the list you must visit the office in the Champlain Mill in Winooski with the following documentation:

- Photo ID - just for the person signing the family up (mother, father or guardian)
- Social Security Card for all children
- A piece of mail with your address

## Art News



*3rd grade students constructing in art*

3<sup>rd</sup> grade students were given the following parameters for their current sculpture project: *Work with a partner to construct a sculpture that stands on its own and has one moving part.*

Through their exploration of 3D materials the students have discovered a variety of building techniques, such as using a strong triangle as a base, creating tension with string, and making slit joints with cardboard. Their deep thinking, problem solving, and collaboration in this project have been inspiring.

Student quotes from their work time: "Do you think it will be more balanced if it has longer feet?"

"This wire doesn't seem strong enough to hold the weight of the cardboard. Let's try straws!"

Their projects were inspired by contemporary sculptors Theo Jansen and Sarah Sze.

Remember to check out the art studio blog, [iaaartstudio.tumblr.com](http://iaaartstudio.tumblr.com), for more updates!



*3rd grade students constructing in art*

## Dear Parents & Community Members,

As it is essential that we provide every student with a safe learning environment that allows them to be successful in their education, we launched a survey in January, 2013 asking you to weigh in on the important topics surrounding school safety. The survey helped us to identify procedural and facilities improvements and your feedback assisted us in executing critical changes over the last several months to increase safety in our schools.

Based on survey results, one of our primary goals was to enhance security protocols throughout the District. This included installing camera infrastructure, intercoms, and door releases at all schools. So far, we have installed cameras and buzzers at Burlington High School, Flynn, Hunt, and the Integrated Arts Academy. In addition, at Champlain, Flynn, Smith, Hunt, the Integrated Arts Academy, and the Sustainability Academy, we have reconfigured all doors to lock from the inside. We are also installing swipe card readers at every school. We continue to enforce the policy requiring all guests to first check-in at the main office of the school they are visiting. Fire Marshal Barry J. Simays recently completed an external facilities audit of our buildings. We scored well overall, and have issued work orders to address minor violations. An internal audit is currently in progress.

We have a vision to prepare every student for college and career readiness and we strive to create an educational climate that is safe and nurturing. Our partnership with the community has enabled us to make significant progress towards this vision and your continued support of these improvements is deeply appreciated. This ongoing collaboration will ensure that every student has the necessary resources and support to achieve their highest intellectual and personal potential.

Sincerely,

**Jeanné Collins, Superintendent**

## 5th Grade News



*Students work with Food Guru Bonnie Acker*

This is a perfect time of year to think about community, food, and..... fractions! One of the highlights of our year was cooking a community meal that the 5th grade shared together before the Thanksgiving break. With the guidance of the fabulous Bonnie Acker and a group of amazing volunteers, over a two day period students chopped garlic and colorful veggies to make a delicious meal that included soup, rainbow sesame slaw, enchiladas, and cranberry sauce. It was wonderful to be in a room together, discussing and tasting local vegetables, and basking in the warmth of a shared experience. Cooking of course involves fractions, which we have all been exploring in our math groups. Our next math unit that will start after break focuses on volume, another concept that links well with cooking. We look forward to creating more meals together in 2014!

We also recently started a new Integrated Arts unit focused on political cartoons and argument writing. We are exploring how political cartoons and argument essays share many features, especially a strong point of view. Our overarching topic will be whether sugar should be taxed in Vermont, an issue that the legislature explored last year. The topic brings together three of our favorite things - art, literacy, and food!

**Ms. B and Mr. Whitman**

## First Night Burlington



Calling One and All First Night Dancers! Show your IAA Spirit! Please join us for the Dragon Parade on First Night December 31. IAA Participants will receive *free admission tickets* to the First Night events. Email Bonnie Hooper for more details: [turtleisle@pshift.com](mailto:turtleisle@pshift.com)

**IAA Lantern Making  
TOMORROW  
Tuesday**

**December 17th 6:00**

We will make lanterns, and tell stories about Dragons. It is a school and community art making event. Attendance is not required for participation in the parade. All friends and family are welcome to attend.

Hope to see you all there!



Four students perform an original adaptation of the fable "The Miser and His Treasure."



## 2nd Grade News



We are working harder than ever as we finish up 2013 in the Second Grade! Our students have been busy writing plays, learning new spelling words, solving (and creating!) increasingly-complex math word problems, and learning how to be a caring and collaborative community of learners. Here are three websites in which you can view the learning in Mr. Leal's classroom.

<http://lealgrade2.weebly.com/mr-leals-class>  
<http://www.touchcast.com/2ndgradefun>  
<https://twitter.com/2ndGradeFun>

We are excited for 2014! Have a great break, everyone!

**Mr. Leal**

The magic of winter is seen in the eyes of the students that first day we step out to recess and they see snowflakes falling! Building on their excitement, we incorporated the biography of Snowflake Bentley into our unit, learning how to identify the main events of a person's life and exploring what his art meant to him - he brought beauty into the world. Working with the snowflake theme, we designed a winter wonderland mural complete with hexagonal snowflakes and snowmen problem solving. We are enjoying learning about the scientific process as we explore a variety of experiments focus on snow, ice, heat and look forward to creating our own snowflake through observing how crystals form. We are hoping for a HUGE snowfall, so we can make ice cream with snow!

**Mrs. Decarreau**

## Student Opportunities

### FREE!

**FlynnArts Classes at  
First Night Burlington  
For Kids birth - grade 5  
Tuesday, December 31, 11 am-2 pm**

**The Flynn opens our children's classes to anyone who has ever wondered what a FlynnArts class is like. Contact the FlynnArts Coordinator at [802-652-4537](tel:802-652-4537) or [flynnarts@flynncenter.org](mailto:flynnarts@flynncenter.org) to sign up!**

**11 am:**  
[Creative Dance](#), gr K-5 and  
[Music Together](#), ages 0-5

**12 pm:**  
[Creative Dance & Drama](#), ages 3-4  
[Creative Drama](#), gr K-1

**1 pm:**  
[Ballet](#), gr K-1  
[Creative Drama](#), gr 2-4

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## Burlington City Arts STUDIO ART Classes

Scholarships are available for BCA Art Classes. If you are interested, please contact: Education Director, Melissa Steady at [msteady@burlingtoncityarts.org](mailto:msteady@burlingtoncityarts.org)

**Clay and Craft** Ages 6-12  
Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup>  
8:30-4:00pm

Instructor: Kim Desjardins  
Location: BCA Clay Studio  
\$85 / \$76.50 BCA Members  
You'll get to make all kinds of artwork on your day off from school at our Clay Studio! We will work on various individual and group craft projects and engaging clay projects, including a taste of the pottery wheel. A great way to have fun with different kinds of media, there's something for everyone! Space is limited, all materials are provided. Students must also bring a bag lunch and snack. Parents are invited to an art show at 3:30pm

*BCA continued...*

## STUDIO ART SATURDAYS

### Itsy Bitsy Fashion Design

Ages 6-8  
Saturday, February 1  
1:00-3:00pm  
Instructor: Joanna Elliott  
Location: BCA Center (135 Church Street)  
\$25 / \$22.50 BCA Members  
Bring your favorite doll (American Girl dolls welcome) and become a miniature fashion designer. Learn some basic hand stitch sewing techniques and create some fashionable outfits and accessories for your doll!

### Free Wheelin'

Ages 6-12  
Saturday, February 15  
1:00-3:00pm  
Instructor: Kim O'Brien  
Location: BCA Clay Studio (250 Main Street)  
\$25 / \$22.50 BCA Members  
Come play with clay on the potter's wheel and learn how to make cups, bowls and more in our clay studio. Price includes one fired and glazed piece per participant. All supplies provided.

### Fashion Design

Ages 8-12  
Saturday, March 8  
1:00-3:00pm  
Instructor: Amy Wild  
Location: BCA Center (135 Church Street)  
\$25 / \$22.50 BCA Members  
Spend the afternoon altering old clothing into new trendy styles using methods such as cutting, painting, re-sewing fabric and adding embellishments. Students will also learn quick and easy fashion design techniques to transform drab duds into something exciting. Bring old clothes or fabric to incorporate into your designs. All other supplies included.

### Free Wheelin'

Ages 6-12  
Saturday, April 5  
1:00-3:00pm  
Instructor: Kim O'Brien  
Location: BCA Clay Studio (250 Main Street)  
\$25 / \$22.50 BCA Members  
Come play with clay on the potter's wheel and learn how to make cups, bowls and more in our clay studio. Price includes one fired and glazed piece per participant. All supplies provided.

### Darkroom Photo

Ages 8-12  
Saturday, May 17  
1:00-3:00pm  
Instructor: TBA  
Location: BCA Center (135 Church Street)  
\$25 / \$22.50 BCA Members  
Create unique, one of a kind images with light and objects in our black and white photographic darkroom!

# Integrated Arts Academy • Snapshots

## Fill the Bowl Raised over \$2000.00

### Way to Go IAA Third Graders!!!



I have a simple philosophy:  
Fill what's empty. Empty what's full.

*Alice Roosevelt Longworth quotes*