

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008

### SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**California State Testing (CST)** will begin April 29th at Bret Harte. Testing will take place over two weeks on **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday** of each week. The testing dates are **April 29th, 30th, May 1st, 6th, 7th, and 8th**. Students will test each day with their 1st period teacher. Any student sent out of testing on referral will be sent home for the remainder of the school day.

### **Bret Harte PTA Arts and Music Committee Presents its first School Wide Art Show.**

**Paved Paradise Perspectives on Human Nature** will take place May 8th- 30th. **Submissions are due** to the Parent Center by May 5th. The theme of the show is Our Place in the Natural World.

#### **Eligibility:**

- Artists must be students at Bret Harte Middle School
- Artwork must be original and have been executed in the past year (April 2007- April 2008)
- Artists do not have to be currently enrolled in a school art class

Medium: Painting, drawing, photography, mixed media

**Size Limitation:** Use anything you want to create your artwork: paper, wood, cardboard, etc; but nothing bigger than 20 inches in any direction.

**! Deadlines:** Bring artwork to the Parent Center on Monday May 5th, 2008. Your entry form should be filled out and attached (with tape or glue) to the artwork.

**Questions:** See Ms. Brubaker in the Art Room or email Carrie at [Carrielederer@yahoo.com](mailto:Carrielederer@yahoo.com)

#### **Important Dates to Remember:**

**Monday May 5th:** TURN IN ARTWORK! Drop off artwork at Parent Center before school, lunch period or 3:15- 4pm.

**Thursday, May 8th:** 4:00- 7:00pm Opening Party for artists, family and friends! The art show will be on view through May 30th.

**Friday, May 30th:** During Lunch Period: students/ parents pick-up artworks from Parent Center.

**Over 300 Dollars in Cash and Merchandise prizes will be given for works of Merit as well as other fun Gift Certificate Prizes!!**

### STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**8th Grade activities:** NOTE: Only students eligible for promotion according to the District guidelines will be eligible to participate in activities. The final computation will be made after the fifth marking period which ends on April 25th. Also any students suspended from school for any reason on or after April 1st, will not be allowed to attend activities. Be sure to attend your administrative detentions. Failure to do so will result in suspension.

### **8TH GRADE CLASS PICNIC: Has Been Cancelled!!!**

**Dinner Dance:** Thursday, May 29th, \$15.00, Last day to pay is Tuesday May 27th, 2008

Dance will be held at the Snow building @ Knowland Park from 8pm -11pm Pictures will be available.

**8th Grade Promotion: Wednesday, June 11, 2008 at 10 am**

Promotion will be held at the Scottish Rite Center and students are allowed 4 tickets each.

**Promotion attire: ALL STUDENTS MUST WEAR WHITE TOPS AND DARK BOTTOMS.** Girls may wear pants (black or Blue).

NOTE: Students may still be eligible for promotion, even though they may not have the 2.0 GPA

necessary for 8th grade activities.

### **8th grade Memorabilia:**

**Yearbook:** \$30.00, Last day to pay is Thursday, May 9th, 2008  
T-shirts and sweatshirts: Last day to pay, Friday May 16th, 2008

T-shirt: \$12.00  
Long Sleeve T-shirt: \$15.00  
Sweatshirt: \$30.00

All activities and memorabilia must be paid for with Cash only!

### **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

## **A Town Hall on California's Budget Crisis**

**Saturday, May 3rd**

10:00a.m. to 12:00p.m.

Encinal High School

210 Central Avenue • Alameda, CA 94501

Please join Assembly member Sandré Swanson at a town hall to examine California's budget crisis and its impact on our schools and other services. Empower yourself by being involved in the budget process. Help to ensure that the budget is fair; that it is not merely balanced on the backs of our children, the elderly, disabled and our women and men in uniform.

To RSVP please go to [http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a16/budget\\_townhall.aspx](http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a16/budget_townhall.aspx)  
For more information, please call the district office at (510) 286-1670.

## **YOUTH ROUNDTABLE ON TEACHER QUALITY**

Are you an Oakland public high school student?

Have you ever wanted a say in who your teachers are?

Come participate in a YOUTH ROUNDTABLE ON TEACHER QUALITY

**DATE:** Saturday, May 3rd, 2008 (NEW DATE!)

**TIME:** 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

**LOCATION:** Mayor's Office, Oakland City Hall

(1 Frank Ogawa Plaza, between 14th and 15th at Clay)

**FREE FOOD! A CHANCE TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!**

**TO REGISTER:** Please contact Helen Wu at (510) 238-3245 or email [hwu@oaklandnet.com](mailto:hwu@oaklandnet.com)

## **Parent Involvement Trainings to Increase Student Achievement**

Space is still available for the trainings listed below. Individuals who attend the San Diego training on May 22-23, 2008 (or have attended any of the California Parent Center's two-day trainings) are eligible to enroll in the Parent Involvement Liaison Certificate Program on June 5-6, 2008. (note: The Parent Involvement Liaison Certificate program is offered once per school year).

### **CLOSING THE GAP: USING PARENT INVOLVEMENT TO INCREASE STUDENT SUCCESS AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT**

Presented by The California PARENT Center  
In consultation with the California Department of Education  
San Diego, CA May 22-23, 2008  
**Parent Involvement Liaison Certificate Program** – 2008 Course  
Los Angeles, CA June 5 - 6, 2008

### **Who Should Attend?**

The conference is recommended for participants from all schools, and is especially designed for Program Improvement districts and schools.

Teams from districts and county offices of education (and individuals) are encouraged to attend. School teams should include: an administrator, teachers, parent leaders, and parent liaisons/paraprofessionals. School Site Council members and PTA/parent organization members should also attend.

### **Conference Content:**

- Using successful partnership strategies at elementary, middle and high school levels to increase student achievement.
- Using research-based recruitment strategies to increase parent and community participation in partnership activities.
- Setting up an effective action team to plan partnership activities that meet NCLB parent involvement requirements.
- Identifying the strengths of your culturally and linguistically diverse school community and building a welcoming school climate.
- Identifying strategies to build parent leadership skills.
- ! Finding funds to support partnership activities.
- Providing opportunities to meet parent and school leaders from other county offices, districts and schools to learn what programs and practices are working for them.

**For more information including location and registration forms for all trainings, please visit our website at: <http://parent.sdsu.edu/services/conferences/> or contact Beth Sondak at 619-594-4756.**

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**No Child...an award-winning play about teaching and learning through the arts in public schools** is coming to the Berkeley Rep Theatre--**May 11- June 1!** Special opportunities for teachers and students include discounted student matinee performances and free teacher professional development.

In an incredible solo show, No Child... Nilaja Sun plays an entire classroom of children, their teachers, their parents, the principal, the janitor and even a security guard - transforming her nine-year adventure as a teaching artist into a 70-minute master class on heartbreak, humor, and hope.

Sign up now to take advantage of special discounts and free teacher ! trainings provided by the Alliance for Arts Learning Leadership.

### **Opening Night Performance**

No Child...

May 12, 8PM

This fundraiser benefits student arts-learning in Alameda County.

Tickets are \$50 and includes a special Q&A session with Nilaja Sun.

**For ordering information, please go to :**

**<http://www.berkeleyrep.org/ticketing/calendar/index.aspx?monthDropDown=2008:5>**

**And enter promotion code 3542 when prompted!**

## **Middle School and High School Matinee Performances**

No Child...

May 14 & 15 at Noon

Tickets \$10 plus free chaperone tickets

The matinee includes Q & A session with Nilaja Sun and free Teacher Study Guide with suggested classroom activities linked to California Standards for English, History and Theatre.

To schedule a group, please contact Jessica Modrall at 510 647.2978 or [jmodrall@berkeleyrep.org](mailto:jmodrall@berkeleyrep.org).  
[http://www.berkeleyrep.org/school/matinee\\_book.asp](http://www.berkeleyrep.org/school/matinee_book.asp)

## **Tupac Amaru Shakur Foundation Oakland Leadership and Arts Camp**

Creative Writing, Art, Vocal, Dance and More

**Registration Deadline:** June 6, 2008

**Camp Dates/Times:** June 16-20, 23-26, 2008 – 1-4pm

**Friends and Family Reception:** June 28<sup>th</sup> 3pm (Open to the Public) Tickets \$20.00

**Tupac Amaru Shakur Foundation and Arroyo Viejo Recreation Center**

**7701 Krause Ave (near Bancroft)**

**Oakland, CA 94605 – Phone: 510.615.5755**

**For registration info visit: [www.TASF.org](http://www.TASF.org) or [TASF0671@aol.com](mailto:TASF0671@aol.com)**

## **Music Scholarships**

The application for the 2008 Ida Altenbach Scholarships are now available. These scholarships are to be awarded this summer by the Distaff Singers organization. The purpose of these scholarships is to provide funding for music education and is available for schools and organizations in Oakland. Please check the Distaff Singers website <http://www.distaffsingers.org/> for more information about their organization and the scholarships that have awarded in the past.

Please feel free to forward this email to any interested teacher, parent or administrator in your school or program. The application deadline is June 1, 2008.

Sincerely,

Cathy Fisher

2008 Scholarship Chair

**Bret Harte Middle School Announcements: If you have items to include in our weekly email announcements, please call us or send them electronically to [bhparentcenter@yahoo.com](mailto:bhparentcenter@yahoo.com). If we receive them before 11:30 a.m. on Fridays, they will be included in the messages posted on Friday afternoons.**

**Have a great week!**

**The Parent Center**

**Room 102**

**879-2068**