



# Arts In Action

The degree to which the arts are included in our educational curriculum is totally inadequate. The arts are just as important as math and science in an education and just as important as any other endeavor in our lives.  
Ken Danby— From the Education Category

Volume 3, Issue 1

February 2011

*“The arts are an essential element of education, just like reading, writing, and arithmetic...music, dance, painting, and theater are all keys that unlock profound human understanding and accomplishment.”*  
William Bennett, Former US Secretary of Education

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*Students in high-quality school music education programs score higher on standardized tests compared to students in schools with deficient music education programs, regardless of the socioeconomic level of community.*

*Playing a musical instrument significantly enhances the brainstem's sensitivity to speech sounds. This relates to encoding skills involved with music and language. Experience with music at a young age can "fine-tune" the brain's auditory system.*  
— Nature Neuroscience, April 2007

## NORTH BIRMINGHAM ELEMENTARY **GIRLS ROCK!**

All of the girls in the North Birmingham Elementary School Band were treated to a “Girly Girls Rock” session presented by Chandra Temple of the Birmingham News. The session focused on Etiquette, Public Speaking, Career Choices and self-Esteem. Each girl was shown the proper way to eat a brownie, sit, stand, and make oral presentations. Miss Temple talked to the girls about her career and told them that it was not too early to begin thinking about what they would like to become in the future. The girls were given colorful beads to wear and they were crowned “Girly Girls” at the conclusion of the session.

### **VH1 SAVE THE MUSIC**

The North Birmingham School Band will be featured in the National E-Newsletter of VH1-Save The Music Foundation, Tamara Travis is the Band Teacher at North Birmingham, Mr. J.J. Watts, Jr. is the Principal  
*Submitted by: Tamara Travis*

## HUFFMAN HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR **Reflect and Rejoice: A Community Tribute to Martin Luther King Jr.**

Selected participants of the Women’s Chorus from Carver and Huffman participated in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration concert with the Alabama Symphony Orchestra on January 16, 2011.

Also, Huffman High’s choir member, Eric Thomas was selected as a member of the AVA All State Show Choir and will be at the AMEA Annual In-Service January 22-24, 2011.

*Submitted by: Clarence Janes*



## CARVER HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR

The Carver High School Choir, Band and Drama Department performed at the Historic Bethel Baptist Church, Collegeville, on December 19, 2010 to a packed house. Mrs. Gabrielle Jones, Drama Instructor choreographed the Production and Mr. Bobby Stringer, Choir Director arranged the music.

The Carver High School Choir will perform at the following churches for Black History Month: First Baptist Ensley, New Life Interfaith Ministries, New St. James Baptist and Calvary Resurrection.

FOX6 Good Day Alabama featured The Carver High School Choir on February 9, 2011.

The choir performed at Beville State on February 9, 2011.

In April, the choir will travel to San Antonio, Texas, to perform at the American Classic Music Festival.

*Submitted By: Bobby Stringer*

## HEMPHILL ELEMENTARY ACCELERATE IN GRAPHIC DESIGN

Hemphill Elementary initiated an accelerated Graphic Design class at the beginning of the 2010-2011 academic year. These classes will introduce students to graphic design as a form of visual communications through the use of type, image, form, and color. In addition, the students will learn basic computer operations, file management, and utilization of the multimedia desktop publication skills.

Also new to Hemphill’s art program is the implementation of multi cultural students artworks presented in a museum format in the school’s hallway. A Japanese theme was presented in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade hallway, and an African theme was presented in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade hallway. Hispanic and European themes will be forthcoming throughout the remaining school year.



*Submitted by: Howard Crosby* Mr. Howard Crosby and his Graphic Design Class at Hemphill Elementary

# Instrumental Music in Our Schools



## OSSIE WARE MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND

The Following students auditioned and will be performing in the Samford University Honor Band

- o Jonathan Etheridge, 1<sup>st</sup> Chair, Blue Band
- o Katera Gibbs, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chair, Blue Band
- o Dontae Merritt, 3<sup>rd</sup> Chair, Blue Band
- ◆ Red Band
- o Joshua Elmore, 3<sup>rd</sup> Chair, French Horn
- o Darryl Haygood, 7<sup>th</sup> Chair, Alto Sax

These Students auditioned and will be performing in the

- ABA District IV Honor Band:
- \* Jonathan Etheridge, Trumpet
  - \* Joshua Elmore, French Horn
  - \* Dontae Merritt, Baritone Horn

Two Students auditioned and made the All State Band

- o Jonathan Etheridge, Trumpet
- \* 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate, Dontae Merritt, Baritone Horn

Submitted by: Thomas Henderson

## WOODLAWN HIGH SCHOOL BAND

- Superior Ratings at Guntersville Marching Band Festival
- Performed at Stakeholders and community leaders breakfast at Woodlawn High School
- Performed in the City of Birmingham Christmas Parade
- Performed in Hooper City Christmas Parade
- Performed for Woodlawn Community Parade

Submitted by: Patrick Wright

*Music is about communication, creativity, and cooperation, and by studying music in schools, students have the opportunity to build on these skills, enrich their lives, and experience the world from a new perspective."*

*— Bill Clinton, Former President of the United States*

## DANIEL PAYNE MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND

Three (3) students from Daniel Payne Middle School Band made UAB's Honor Band

Alana Bennett & Kira Craig both made **White Band**; Alexis Davis made **Gold Band**.

Submitted by: Makella Moore

## A. H. PARKER HIGH SCHOOL BAND

Three (3) students from Parker High were selected to attend The Annual University of Alabama in Birmingham Honor Band and Clinic.

Students were: Kourtney Hill, Rickey Burrell, and Arin Hill.

Submitted by: Stanley Hall

## SMITH MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND

- ✦ On December 12, 2010 the Jazz band performed in a program to raise money for Toys for Tots at Allen Temple C.M.E. Church in Bessemer. This project collected over 1,300 toys for tots.
- ✦ On December 19, 2010 - The Jazz Band participated on a program at Mt. Mariah Church, Hueytown, AL. This program was designed to raise money for Bessemer Library.
- ✦ 140 students from Smith Middle School Band attended the Jazz Workshop at the Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame. The workshop was conducted by Dr. Frank Adams and Cleve Eaton

Submitted by: Robert Benton

## GLEN IRIS ELEMENTARY BAND

The Glen Iris 5th Grade Band will be performing on the Black History Program "Through a Child's Eyes" on February 25th at 9a.m. and 6p.m. in the school gymnasium. Musical selections will include "Kum Bah Yah" and an arrangement of "Go, Down, Moses". All are invited to attend.

Submitted by: Joe Glasgow



## CARVER HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA

Shearer K. Allen, a Junior at Carver High, is a peer mentor in the String class and a member of the Marching Rams band. Last year Shearer and other students in the Orchestra program were mentored by musicians from The Alabama Symphony Orchestra through their ASO Musician Mentors program. This partnerships prepared Shearer to not only be a peer mentor to other students at Carver, it also lead to her auditioning and being offered a position with the Alabama Symphony Youth Orchestra. We are very proud of Shearer and this significant accomplishment.

Submitted by: James E. Allen

Edited by: Dr. Hyatt, Dept. Head

## HUFFMAN HIGH SCHOOL BAND

The Huffman High School Band was selected as the "Fox 6 Band of the Week" during the fall 2010 High School Football Season for exhibiting quality showmanship and musicianship.

Submitted by: Philbert Andrew

## RAMSAY HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

- \* We applaud Concert Master Priemese Cunningham as she auditioned and successfully competed for membership in the Alabama Symphony Orchestra Youth Symphony. Priemese is a 1<sup>st</sup> Violinist.
- \* Performed for top educational officials in the state during the reception honoring A+ College Ready Schools and Scholarship recipients.
- \* 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the Columbus Day Parade
- \* Best Band Award at Miles College Homecoming Parade
- \* Concert Band and Concert Choir performed a Sunday evening Holiday Concert on December 12<sup>th</sup> for parents and the community in the Tomas Campbell Auditorium.
- \* Marching Band was chosen to represent the City and District at the Governor's Inauguration Parade in Montgomery, AL.

*Submitted by: Anita Dye*

Make Music a  
Part of Your Life



## CARVER HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING RAMS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- \* Superior Rating 2010 ABA District Competition
- \* Superior Rating 2010 Jazz Competition
- \* 3rd Place Heritage Marching Festival in Memphis, Tenn.
- \* Superior Rating and Best in Class for All-City Marching Evaluation  
Superior Drum Majors  
Superior Percussion
- \* Voted Best Sounding Band –Miles Homecoming Parade
- \* Chosen to participate and represent the state of Alabama in the 2012 Honda Battle of the Bands in 2012
- \* A documentary is being made by Honda featuring the Carver High School Marching Band for advertising the Honda Battle of Bands in 2012

*Submitted by: Dr. James Cornelius Smith*

*The future  
belongs to young  
people with an  
education and  
the imagination  
to create."*

*–President  
Barack Obama*

## A YEAR OF MUSIC ~ HUFFMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Students at Huffman Middle School have taken their music to another level. As the year comes to an end, both choir and band students can truly say, "THIS HAS TRULY BEEN A YEAR FOR MUSIC/PERFORMANCE in our SCHOOL."

The year started off with THE VULCAN BONES; a trombone choir of talented and educated musicians traveling all over the state of ALABAMA to different schools. Huffman Middle School was their first stop for the year 2010. Students got a chance to listen to sounds of excellence as they were in awe, during the performance by the Vulcan Bones. Several encores were given as the students wanted to hear more and more!!!!

The District 1 Christmas Gala officiated by Counselor Scales: December 3, 2010  
The Residents of District-1 got a glimpse of what the choir and band students are doing at Huffman Middle School. Students from both choir and band filled the North East YMCA as they displayed their talent and courage to the 500+ family and friends that were in attendance; the largest crowd some students have ever performed in front of.

Career Day at Huffman Middle School, December 8, 2010 featured the sixth Grade Choir. Guest Speakers from all over the state of Alabama were greeted by melodious sounds rendered by Huffman's sixth grade choir.

The Huffman Middle School Christmas Concert, December 13, 2010 was held in the gym. Parents, family members, friends, faculty, staff and administrators were in attendance as the choir and band students closed out the school year with MUSIC.

Finally, the Huffman Middle School Music Department was the 2010-2011 "One Class at a Time" Grant Recipient Winner.

*Submitted by: Nikolas Gilmore*

## WENONAH HIGH SCHOOL BAND

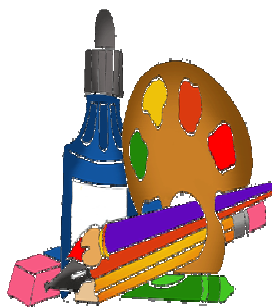
Band Accomplishments:

- \* Received an award for Best Pep Band at the UAB Science Fair
- \* Concert Band performed at the Nigerian 50th Independence Celebration
- \* Marching Band performed at the West End Library to kick off Teen Read Week
- \* Jasmin Parks, Tiana Owens, Marilyn Hall, Alexis Matthews, Tonyetta Smith & Amy Collins were selected to participate in the 2010 UAB Honor Band
- \* Marching Band participated in the Governor's Inauguration Parade January 2011

*Submitted by: DeWayne Moore*

# Visual Arts in Our Schools

## RAMSAY HIGH SCHOOL VISUAL ARTS



*"Arts education aids students in skills needed in the workplace: flexibility, the ability to solve problems and communicate, the ability to learn new skills, to be creative and innovative, and to strive for excellence."*

*– Joseph M. Calahan,  
Director of Cooperate  
Communications, Xerox  
Corporation*

The Visual Arts & Science Departments collaborated and developed a multidisciplinary approach with students. Presenting an abstract at the 1<sup>st</sup> CDC National Blood Disorder Conference in Atlanta. This large poster presentation by Freida Hall included ways of mentally and physically managing the invisible Blood Disorder Sickle Cell Disease through the Arts. The process of making art itself is extremely cathartic and therapeutic to many people. Hands on art experiences releases "Endorphins" which are small, protein molecules that are produced by cells in a persons nervous system and other parts of the body. As a result of this research the Visual Arts Department and AP students offered art therapy after school once a week to students, teachers, and parents suffering with sickle cell disease, lupus, and any chronic illness.

Advanced Placement (AP) Studio Art classes established a partnership with Space One Eleven Art Gallery and rode the "Dart" every Monday to the art gallery to work with professional artist from the community.

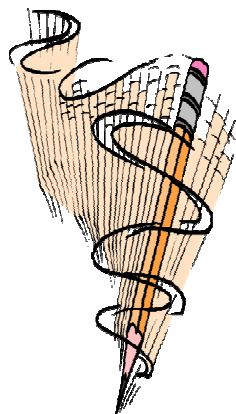
AP Studio Art students restored the map in front of Vulcan Park's Museum by painting the map located on the sidewalk at the entrance. Cartography is the study and practice of making maps. Combining science, aesthetics, and technique; Cartography builds on the premises that reality can be modeled in ways that communicate spatial information effectively.

AP students created artwork before the student body at the Arts Department Annual Christmas program. All five (5) pictures are 5ft.X 5ft. and were completed as the choir sang and orchestra performed. The art work will be on display in the schools' foyer until January 31, 2011.

Art students participated in the VSA Project called, "Take a Walk in My Shoes." Students walked to South Highland Presbyterian Church to create art with senior citizens suffering with Alzheimer's disease. Stimulating conversations and promoting memories were shared as they painted walking canes and old shoes.

Thirteen AP Students will attend National Portfolio Day at the end of January 2011. National Portfolio Day is an opportunity for those who wish to pursue an education in the visual and related arts to meet with representatives from colleges accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

*Submitted by: Freida Hall*



## CARVER HIGH SCHOOL VISUAL ARTS

Students in Susan Pearson's art classes at Carver High school have been busy with projects that make the school a more enjoyable environment for the whole student body. Last semester they did several big projects that were on display throughout the school. These included a Spanish Independence Day display that they did in partnership with the ELL class, Surrealistic mural with Halloween Spin, Positive and Negative Shapes Art display, and Christmas banners. This semester her students are already busy doing illustrations for words from the weekly school-wide vocabulary list, which are on display in the foyer.

*Submitted by: Susan Pearson*

*Edited by: Dr. Hyatt, Dept. Head*

## WENONAH HIGH SCHOOL VISUAL ARTS

Wenonah High art students accomplishments:

- \* PTA Reflections Art Competition submitted by Marcus Williams (from the "Tom Sawyer Exhibition")
- \* Wenonah High School students artwork displayed for viewing at the Birmingham Museum of Art.
- \* Vulcan Park Exhibition Hall displayed Metallic Sculptures by Keyonna Richburg, Eric Moore and many other students from the Birmingham Metro area. The students were taught to create metallic sculptures by skilled artist during Sloss Furnaces Youth Apprenticeship Program. The exhibition lasted from September 20—November 29, 2010.

*Submitted by: Byron Hughes*

## JACKSON-OLIN VISUAL ARTS

Ms Standifer Art classes studied Native American Art and made beautiful Totem poles from recycled materials.

*Submitted by: Henrietta  
Standifer*

## CARVER HIGH SCHOOL VISUAL ARTS

Art students in Dr. Hyatt's class played an integral part in Carver High School's successful entry in the B.E.S.T. Robotics Regional competition at UAB. Schools from all over the region competed with not only robots, but with elaborate displays and t-shirts designs as well. Dr. Hyatt's art students, who partnered with the Pre-engineering class to create the "Rambots" team, designed and built the beautiful Japanese themed display to accompany the robot, designed and painted team logo banners, and created a team t-shirt design. Both the display and overall team placed 8th, just missing the making it to state. This was the Rambots first real year of full competition against over 30 teams, most of whom have been competing for many years. The Carver Rambots look forward to placing in the top 6 this next year and going on to win the state-level competition!

*Submitted by Dr. Margie Hyatt*

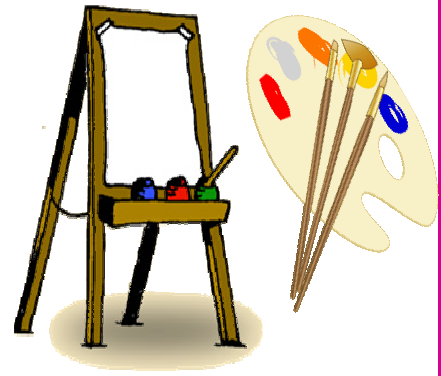
**Visual Arts Continued.....**

**ROBINSON ELEMENTARY VISUAL ARTS**

Every year students at Robinson Elementary participate in AIA Dream Architecture contest. Robinson Elementary students are active participants, receiving numerous awards each year. This years theme is Design your "Dream Zoo."

They are also, active in participating with the visual displays for the annual Auntie Litter Parade.

*Submitted by: Rebecca Gibb*



**BROWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ART CLASS**

Nº Kayla Slaughter, a 4th Grade student at Charles A. Brown Elementary; is the winner for the Most Creative Greeting Card, Sponsored by Better Basics.

*Submitted by: Pamela Asher*

**MINOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ART CLASS**

Minor Elementary, 5th Grade student Kiayah Woodruff won Honorable Mention in the Christmas Card Contest in December 2010.

*Submitted by: Ahmad Austin*

*The curriculum for a basic education in the arts is everyday life lived with intensity.*

*Learning is an art, and all students are artists.*

*Young people who participate in the arts do better in every phase of their lives.*

**Arts Education Essential to Complete Education for the Whole Child**

***Theatre Arts in Our Schools***

**JACKSON-OLIN HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA**

We had 12 students to attend the Trumbauer Theatre Competition; 8 of those students went on to the State Finals at the University of North Alabama December 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 2010.

1<sup>st</sup> Block Theatre I class produced the play "Don't You Love Me?"

*Submitted by: Yolaine Joseph*

**WILKERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL THEATER**

Wilkerson Middle School Drama Club, "Wilkerson Live Productions" in conjunction with The Birmingham Children's Theatre is spreading the word about youth homelessness. Homelessness affects many students in the Birmingham City area as well as around the world.

Middle School-aged students have written and will perform two plays throughout the Birmingham area. The "Homelessness Tour," began on February 9th and will continue through March of 2011.

Cedric Sparks and the Division of Youth Services will sponsor transportation to various schools. The drama students of Wilkerson Middle School are so excited about the performances and being able to share an uplifting message that should encourage students of all ages. All shows will be free of charge - schools interested in booking a show should call 205-231-2740

Hansel & Gretel will be our spring show on May 13th at the Virginia Sanford Theater at 7:00p.m.

*Submitted by: Ke'Eta Porterfield*





# Choral Music in Our Schools

## PARKER HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR

- \* Sang at Respect Thanksgiving Concert with Ossie Ware Mitchell, Jackson-Olin, Wenonah High, and Carver.
- \* Sang at Classic Revival at St. John A.M.E. with Stillman College Choir, Alabama A&M Choir and Alabama State Choir.
- \* Chrystal Turner had a successful audition and will sing with AVA's All State Honor Choir in March.
- \* Christmas Concert entitled "O Holy Night" was held at Trinity Baptist Church on Graymont
- \* Chrissian Body, a winner in the local Q-talent search represented in Dothan, Al at the state talent search. She placed 3<sup>rd</sup> at the state event.

*Submitted by: Charles Brown*

*"Music gives us a language that cuts across the disciplines, helps us to see connections and brings a more coherent meaning to our world."*

*– Ernest Boyer,  
President,  
Carnegie  
Foundation*

## JACKSON-OLIN HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR

Jackson-Olin Choir participated in 6 community based performances around the city of Birmingham through out the holiday season.

*Submitted by: Tracey Hooper*

## MINOR ELEMENTARY CHOIR

Students performed a Christmas Program for their Adopters- Protective Life on December 13, 2010. Each grade level performed a song and the Choir sang "A Good Time Was Had by All".

*Submitted by: John Greer*

## GOING ELEMENTARY CHOIR



Going Elementary School presented their last Christmas program entitled "Christmas and memories of Going: A Gator Tribute". The third, fourth, and fifth graders' presentations took place at 9 am, while the kindergarten, first, and second graders' program was at 1 pm. Each program had special guest, including former and present teachers and students sharing stories of Christmas moments at home, wintertime play, and events that took place at Going Elementary. The morning program featured present day students telling stories and singing popular holiday songs and Ray Ingram, who was in the first graduating class of Going in 1969, sharing stories of making new friends with students from the schools that merged together to create C. J. Going Elementary and how Going's mascot became "Al" E. Gator and not a muskrat.

The afternoon program featured singing by each grade level and more stories. Former teacher Ms. Gwendolyn Little, who taught in the early 1970's, Ms. Kathy Effinger, whose sons also attended Going, shared special moments. Ms. Effinger included her son's memory of a time capsule buried on the schools property, which they hope to locate before the school closes in May. 75—100 people attended each program.

*Submitted by: Joy Smith*

## CHRISTIAN K-8 SCHOOL CHOIR

General music classes at Christian K-8 School performed a Christmas program where all grade levels performed various Christmas selections. A special theatrical production was presented by the 2nd grade class "Twas the Night Before Christmas". The band under the direction of Mr. Kelvin Benion performed three beautiful Christmas selections.

This event was very well attended by parents and students

*Submitted by: Connie Cotton*



## AVONDALE ELEMENTARY CHOIR

During the first part of the year, our big event was our Christmas program. Each grade did their own songs and some songs were sung with all participants. This was an evening program so parents could come. It's always our largest attended program of the year.

Included in the music selections were pieces we did for All-City. The children also performed on Orff instruments, alone, and with other kids singing.

Our 4th & 5th grade choir performed in the Christmas program. They also were invited to sing a concert for JBS Day Treatment Center a few blocks away from the school. This was the 3rd year in a row they have invited us to come sing. The choir sang a 30 minute concert for the patients at the center

*Submitted by: Dan Marlow*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### FEBRUARY

16<sup>TH</sup> – PRE-DISTRICT EVALUATIONS

BOUTWELL AUDITORIUM/ 8:00AM – 3:00PM

18<sup>TH</sup> – DISTRICT-WIDE ARTS EDUCATION IN-SERVICE

CARVER HIGH SCHOOL / 8:30AM – 3:00PM

22<sup>ND</sup> & 24<sup>TH</sup> - DISTRICT IV

MUSIC PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

HOMWOOD HIGH SCHOOL– ALL DAY

MARCH– “MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH”

ALL CITY STUDENT ART EXHIBIT

CENTRAL OFFICE/LOCAL SCHOOLS

3<sup>RD</sup> – STARTING A STRING PROGRAM IN YOUR SCHOOL

CARVER HIGH SCHOOL / 4:00PM – 5:00PM

14<sup>TH</sup> THRU 18<sup>TH</sup> – SPRING BREAK

SCHOOLS CLOSED

24<sup>TH</sup> THRU 26<sup>TH</sup> – JAZZ BAND FESTIVAL

ALABAMA JAZZ HALL OF FAME / 9:00AM – 3:00PM

### APRIL

4<sup>TH</sup> – SELECTING ORCHESTRA MUSIC FOR CONTEST

LINCOLN / 4:00PM – 5:00PM

5<sup>TH</sup> – ARTS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

LINCOLN / 4:00- 5:00PM

14<sup>TH</sup> – COMPUTERS & INSTRUMENTS

LINCOLN/ 3:30PM – 5:00PM

25<sup>TH</sup> THRU 29<sup>TH</sup> – ALL CITY SILENT AUCTION

BOUTWELL AUDITORIUM / 8:00AM-1:00PM

25<sup>TH</sup> – K-8/MIDDLE SCHOOL CHORAL EVALUATIONS

BOUTWELL AUDITORIUM / 8:00AM-12:30PM

26<sup>TH</sup> – HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL EVALUATIONS

BOUTWELL AUDITORIUM / 8:00AM-12:30PM

27<sup>TH</sup> THRU 28<sup>TH</sup> – BAND/ORCHESTRA EVALUATIONS

BOUTWELL AUDITORIUM / 8:00AM-1:30PM

ARTS EDUCATION OFFERINGS  
2010-2011

Elementary Schools	Art	Band	Orchestra	Music	Dance
Arthur	√				
Avondale	√			√	
Barrett	√			√	
Brown	√				
Central Park	√	√			
Council			√	√	
EPIC		√		√	
Gate City		√		√	
Glen Iris		√		√	
Gibson					
Going				√	
Hemphill	√			√	√
Hill				√	
Jackson				√	
Lee				√	
Lewis					
Minor	√	√		√	
North Birmingham		√			
North Roebuck				√	
Norwood		√			
Powderly					
Price				√	
Princeton	√			√	
Robinson	√	√		√	
South Hampton				√	
Sun Valley	√			√	
Wilson	√				
Wylam				√	

Elementary School Fine Arts: 11 Arts – 8 Band – 19 Choral – 1 Orchestra – 1 Dance  
Elementary School Teachers/Directors: 9 Art Teachers – 6 Band Directors – 12 Choral Teachers –  
1 Orchestra Directors – 1 Dance Teacher

K-8 Schools	Art	Band	Music	Debate
A.G. Gaston K-8		√		
Christian K-8	√	√	√	√
Hudson K-8	√	√		
Inglenook K-8		√		
Phillips Academy	√	√	√	√
Washington K-8	√			
Wenonah K-8			√	
Whatley K-8		√		

K -8 School Fine Arts: 4 Arts – 6 Band – 3 Choral –2 Debate  
K-8 School Teachers/Directors: 4 Art Teachers – 6 Band Directors – 3 Choral Teachers – 2 Debate Teacher



Middle Schools	Arts	Band	Music	Drama	Debate
Arrington		√	√		
Bush		√			
Center Street	√				
Daniel Payne		√			
Gaskins		√			
Glenn		√			
Green Acres					
Huffman		√			√
Ossie Ware Mitchell		√	√		
Putnam					
Smith		√√			
Wilkerson				√	

Middle School Fine Arts: 1 Arts – 9 Band – 2 Choral – 1 Drama – 1 Debate

Middle School Teacher/Directors: 1 Art Teacher – 7 Band Directors – 2 Choral Teachers – 1 Drama Teacher – 1 Debate Teacher

High Schools	Arts	Band	Music	Orchestra	Dance	Debate	Drama
Carver	√√	√	√	√			√
Huffman	√	√√	√√				√
Jackson – Olin	√	√√	√			√	√
Parker	√	√√	√				
Ramsay	√	√	√	√	√		
Wenonah High	√	√√	√				
Woodlawn	√	√√	√				
Riggins (TOAR)							

High Schools Fine Arts: 8 Arts – 7 Band – 5 Band Assistants – 8 Choral – 2 Orchestra – 1 Dance – 1 Debates - 3 Drama

High School Teachers/Directors: 8 Art Teachers – 12 Band Director – 8 Choral Teachers – 1 Orchestra Director – 1 Dance Teacher – 1 Debate Teacher – 3 Drama Teachers

	TOTAL
SCHOOLS WITH FINE ARTS PROGRAMS	51
FINE ARTS PROGRAM	103
FINE ARTS INSTRUCTORS	99



"I believe arts education in music, theater, dance, and the visual arts is one of the most creative ways we have to find the gold that is buried just beneath the surface. They (children) have an enthusiasm for life a spark of creativity, and vivid imaginations that need training – training that prepare them to become confident young men and women."

## **STRAIGHT A's: Arts Advancing Academic Achievement**

The Arts Education Department of Birmingham City Schools received a 1.2 million dollar grant from the U.S. Department of Education to infuse arts into the curriculum at selected schools. The grant is titled, "Straight A's: Arts Advance Academic Achievement".

Straight A's will be implemented in 4th grade classrooms over a three-year period in nine Birmingham City Schools: Avondale, Central Park, Councill, Glen Iris, Hemphill, North Roebuck, Robinson, South Hampton and Whatley.

Each school year, every 4th grade class in all participating schools will have four nine-week guest-artist residencies focusing on each one of these disciplines: visual arts, music, dance and drama. Each residency will be conducted by a different artist specializing in one of these arts disciplines.

For every residency, the artist will team teach with the classroom teacher to cover specific goals and objectives of the Alabama Course of Study. The artist will collaborate as a teaching partner in intensive curriculum mapping and lesson planning with participating school faculty.

Working with the UAB Center for Education Accountability, the project team will assess the impact of arts-integration academic partnerships between classroom teachers and teaching artist on fourth grade literacy and mathematical skills. Straight A's will support the classroom partnerships through ongoing professional development for both artist and teachers.

Arts integration: the basis of Straight A's teaching methodology, is the combination of one arts discipline with another subject area in which both are addressed equally and the connections between the subjects are natural and improve the learning of each other. Every lesson plan must align with standards and core competencies from the Alabama Courses of Study.

**John H. McAphee, Jr., Arts Education Coordinator**

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