

What we've been up to
and what's upcoming!

Institute Trains Wolf Trap in ELL

It was a warm day in September, when Georgia Wolf Trap ELL training began for Teaching Artists. Pictured below, l/r are Teaching Artists Ambo Tazanu, Carol Jones, Jaehn Clare in foreground, Leanna Lambert, Amy Cain, John Jaramillo, Manny Rivers, and Barry Stewart Mann. ELL stands for English Language Learners, those who speak a different first language. And this training is focused for students in PreK to K,



many of whom will have smiles as big as Charlotte House's (pictured

at right), when they get to work with her Wolfie puppet, that she is shown training with. So how did this all come together and how does it work?

The training results from the \$1.1 million U.S. Dept. of Education Grant reported in the Jan./Feb. 2009 issue of "Institute News." The Alliance ranked first out of 15 awardees to introduce young ELL students to the theatre art form and build verbal communication abilities.

Master Wolf Trap Teaching Artist, Nancy Meyer (photos on page 6), led both experienced and new-to-Wolf Trap Teaching



continued on page 6

Table of Contents

Drama Partners	..... Oakhurst ES Explores "Change" and Prepares to See "Mulan"	..... Page 2
	Nesbit ES Student Interview with Rosemary Newcott	..... Page 2
Middle Stages	..... Garrett MS Exhibit in Gallery 100 & 8th Grade Explorations	..... Page 3
	Columbia MS's Aristotelian ABCs	..... Page 4
Georgia Wolf Trap	..... Dresden ES - Photos of Wolf Trap in Action	..... Page 4
Student Voices	..... In Their Own Words	..... Page 5
In Memoriam	..... Richard Schmid, Educator, Theatre/Film Artist, Friend	..... Page 7
Institute Funders	..... David & Carolyn Gould and Gannett Foundation	..... Page 7

Drama Partners

Oakhurst ES Explores “Change” and Prepares to See “Mulan”

Teaching Artist, Barry Stewart Mann (at right) used actor’s tools with a variety of stories in Heather Whitman’s First Grade class at Oakhurst ES in Decatur to explore “change,” the grade level’s



shows the boy growing. And below, he is running.

The final picture with Ms. Whitman shows the “sound orchestra” retelling Raczk’s “Snowy Blowy Winter.”

These exercises not only



Expedition Unit. Life cycles, weather, and emotions were explored in Shel

reinforced the Expedition Unit and students’ reading skills but will lead into the



Silverstein’s “The Giving Tree” and Bob Raczk’s “Snowy Blowy Winter.”

In the top photo with Barry, Silverstein’s boy is picking apples. The photo, 2nd row left,



concept of “change” used and shown in the Alliance production of “Mulan,” that these first graders will see.

-----#-----

Nesbit ES Student Interview with Rosemary Newcott



Hi my name is Raegan Meyers [shown at left with Teaching Artist, Kim Bowers-Rheay] and I interviewed the director of Disney’s “Mulan” at the Alliance Theatre,

Rosemary Newcott. I interviewed her because I thought it would be exciting and interesting. While I was creating the questions for her, I was nervous because I thought she would

think they were too childish. It turned out that she enjoyed the interview and so did I. I would like to thank her for taking her valuable time to answer these questions. I am glad I had the chance to interview her.

Q- As a child did you ever think of being a director?

RN- “I never thought of myself as a director when I was a child’ but I did put on original (especially at Christmas) with my brothers and sisters and I was often the director”

Q- How did you become a director?

continued on page 5

Click to return to page 1

Middle Stages

Garrett MS Exhibits in Gallery 100

Garrett MS Art Teacher, Susan Dowling, is shown above, surrounded by her proud, young student artists, who are, themselves, surrounded by a sampling from their exhibition in the Woodruff Art Center’s Gallery 100.

The Alliance production of “Middle School: The Musical” and Teaching Artist, Ambo Tazanu’s residency helped inspire this outpouring of art. As Ms. Dowling explained, “The theme and motivation for Garrett Middle School’s art exhibit was to express student self-identity within the middle school environment. The exhibit represented 6th, 7th and 8th grade student artwork.

“Student artists created 1) cubism style self-portraits using oil pastels; 2) two sided personal identity paper-mâché masks depicting maturity and growth through their middle school years using collage techniques; 3) experimental watercolor methods on paper; and 4) action painted abstracts with acrylic paint on canvas.”

-----#-----



Click to return to page 1

Garrett’s 8th Grade Explorations

Pictured left and right are Jarred Cowart’s 8th graders being led through a drama warm-up session by Teaching Artist, Ambo Tazanu. This preparation is for exploratory work with imaginative experiences of the environments of a beach, a football game, and a party.

-----#-----



Middle Stages (Grades 6-8) Same number of sessions, collaborative planning and GPS curriculum infusion as Drama Partners with a concentration on playwriting skills and dramatic character development based on students’ discussions of the play’s themes and their relationships to the students’ life experiences.

Middle Stages

Georgia Wolf Trap

Columbia MS's Aristotelian ABCs



At left, Teaching Artist, Ambo Tazanu, reviews the Aristotelian ABCs with Lois Jonneen Edward's class at Columbia MS. "The six elements

that Aristotle believed makes a good play," Ambo explained to the students, "are plot, character, thought, diction, spectacle, and music."

-----#-----

Dresden ES - Wolf Trap in Action

Master Wolf Trap Teaching Artist, Nancy Meyer (at right) and Dresden's Kim



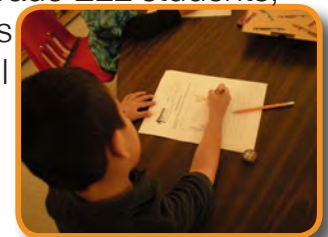
Nicholson (at bottom) create



more than a little enthusiasm among



Ms. Nicholson's first grade ELL students, as all



the pictures show!

-----#-----

Click to return to page 1

Middle Stages (Grades 6-8) Same number of sessions, collaborative planning and GPS curriculum infusion as Drama Partners with a concentration on playwriting skills and dramatic character development based on students' discussions of the play's themes and their relationships to the students' life experiences.

Georgia Wolf Trap Regional Program — Early Learning Through the Arts (Grades PreK-K) Eight week residencies in 25 kindergarten classrooms and professional learning for teachers and teaching artists.

Student Voices

Clairemont ES Voices

From Kim Bowers-Rheay’s residency with Clairemont’s 3rd grade Junior Dramaturgs on “Mulan”:

“As dramaturgs, “we are helping the theatre and doing something important. We are focusing on the details and helping them spiral out like a flower.”

-----#-----

Nesbit ES Student’s Interview with Rosemary Newcott

continued from page 2

RN- “I took directing classes in both undergrad and graduate school also my first professional Theatre job was directing “Alice in Wonderland” at The Academy Theatre

Q- Did you sacrifice anything to become a director?

RN- “I could probably make more money in a different field and directing takes hours of extra [homework] but it is worth it. (Plus, I have a very understanding husband.)

Q- Do you write plays? How many have you written?

RN- “I DEVISE plays meaning that I work with a company of actors who contribute to a text that I organize into play. (I have created many of these!)”

Q- How many plays have you directed?

RN- “I have directed so many I lost count.”

Q- Do you enjoy directing? Why?

RN- “I love directing-Actors and designers, stage crews and theatre staffs are all creative and wonderful people! I also love to see story come to life before my eyes and I love to see actors living new exciting lives up there on

Oakhurst ES Voices

From Barry Stewart Mann’s residency in Rob Yongue’s class, after a second session focusing on the actor’s voice:

“After you were here last time, after school I played some games, then I practiced my voice, mostly high and low.”

-Gerry Boudreau IV

From Alvone Scott’s class, after a lesson exploring emotions in Dr. Seuss’s “Yertle the Turtle”:

“I liked being creative and doing my own stuff.” -Bailey Pringle

“I liked doing different emotions.” - Samuel Cooper

-----#-----

stage. Also I love watching audiences become part of a whole new experience!”

Q- Who is your favorite character in Mulan? Why?

RN- “Mulan is my favorite characters because of her devotion to her father her bravery and her honesty.”

Q- Why do you think Mulan risked her life for her father?

RN- “Mulan felt it was her duty to save her father’s (and family’s) Honor. She was also concerned about her father’s health if he were to try to serve.”

Q- Why do you think Chinese history is important to us?

RN- “The world has become very small-we need to have knowledge and respect for all cultures-it is how we learn about the truths that connect us all as human beings.”

continued on page 7

Click to return to page 1

Institute Trains Wolf Trap in ELL

continued from page 1

Artists through two full days of workshops. It becomes apparent that as trainees internalize and make workshop information their own, the fun they have while learning will inevitably transfer to their Wolf Trap students. (See

photo, below, of pink haired, Sarah Onsager, presenting to Jeanene Williams, Ambo Tazanu and others.)

In October, this same quality training continued with Classroom Teachers from our Partner Schools, who were unable to attend the ELL training session during the 2009 Summer Seminar. (See bottom photo.)

This ongoing professional learning for Classroom Teachers consists of 1) being coached by Teaching Artists in drama techniques on site in their classrooms over the course of the school year; 2) being enrolled in ongoing professional learning experiences with master



Wolf Trap teachers; and 3) being supported in their increasingly independent use of these drama strategies.

Teaching Artist, Jaehn Clare below, Reads Aloud to Esther Jackson ES's K-Class. "Read Aloud" is a specific technique to introduce students to a new story. The entire story is read without stopping so students can experience its entire arc before



discussion. Addy Daniel, at left, leads a Read Aloud lesson with her K-Class. Below, Jaehn and Jonathan Blase lead a song with his K-Class. And at bottom, Linda Rayne and her K-Class explore a story's movements and feelings.



As the Institute's ELL Training expands, more and more young children from low-income and language minority families are starting



first grade with the skills needed to make the same continuous progress expected of all first grade students.



-----#-----

Click to return to page 1

Institute Funders

David & Carolyn Gould Donation

A very special “Thank You!” goes out to David and Carolyn Gould for their generous \$10,000 donation to support the work of the Alliance Theatre Institute for Educators and Teaching Artists.

-----#-----

Nesbit ES Student’s Interview with Rosemary Newcott

continued from page 5

Q- Do you come to every performance or just some?

RN- “I wish I could go to every performance –but once the show is running- I need to work on other projects. I do try to see the show at least once a week.”

-----#-----

Mark Your Calendar!

- January 25 — Eric Booth Book Club Meeting (every last Monday through April 26, 2010)
- January 31 — GCA Mails Unused Funds Form to ACE Grant Schools
- March 1 — GCA Unused Funds Form Due to GCA by ACE Grant Schools
- June 7 — **Summer Seminar:** PLAY Day for ACE Grant Alumni Schools
- June 8-10 — **Summer Seminar:** Wolf Trap & High School Collision Plus Schools with Featured Guest Artist, Barry Kornhauser
- August 31 — GCA FY2010 Final Report Due from ACE Grant Alumni Schools

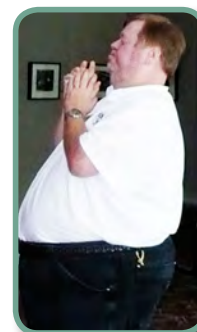
Gannett Foundation Grant

The Gannett Foundation joins the growing list of supporters of the Alliance Theatre Institute for Educators and Teaching Artists with a \$1,000 grant. Thank you, Gannett Foundation!

-----#-----

Richard Schmid, Educator, Theatre/Film Artist, Friend

Richard left us on New Year’s Eve. But he left his indelible mark on us all. Shown at left during a 2009 Summer Seminar workshop, his enthusiasm and love of his art and the untold number of students his career touched is as appreciated as it will be missed. Thank you, Richard!



-----#-----

Click to return to page 1



Carol Jones, Director
Institute for Educators
and Teaching Artists
1280 Peachtree Street NE
Atlanta GA 30309

For more information contact
Michele Mummert, Assistant Director
404.733.4708
michele.mummert@woodruffcenter.org
or go to
<http://alliancetheatre.org/education.aspx?id=180%20>

If *Institute News* was forwarded to you and you’d like your own free subscription, please click **HERE**.

Alliance Theatre Institute for Educators and Teaching Artists is made possible by support from Callaway Foundation, City of Atlanta Office of Cultural Affairs, Fulton County Arts Council, Gannett Foundation, Georgia Council for the Arts, Goizueta Foundation, David & Carolyn Gould, William Randolph Hearst Foundation, U.S. Department of Education, and Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation.

