

# *September 2009 Newsletter*



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# Welcome

We had another wonderful beginning to our new year! We look forward to a creative and fun year together. Again, we have a group of talented and motivated students who are focused and ready to receive an art education.

## Didn't make it to the Orientation?

If you did not make it to the Parent Orientation, you need to pick up a Foundational Studies or College Handbook. It includes our expectations, policies and dates to write on your calendar. It will most likely answer questions you will have if not now, later. If you have not signed a MSOA agreement form, you need to. You can either download it from our website or pick up one from our school office during school hours.

In the Orientation, we touched on the heart of the school, guidelines, and your part in making MSOA successful. We are beginning our seventh year, and although prices are increasing everywhere, we have not raised our tuition. We want to continue to make the school affordable. We do not get Government Grants or have outside funding. For this reason, we will be asking families to participate in the different fundraisers. We realize that not everyone can do them all.

We also mentioned in the Parent Orientation that you can help by standing behind the school in the different events and in celebrating your children at the end of the school year. Our school is not a business, but a ministry where your children can develop their artistic talent in a safe, and Christ-centered environment.

Art education is an important part of a student's overall education. The left and right brain is a muscle that needs to be developed like any other muscle. All week long, we encourage the left brain through reading, writing, math, memory, fact finding information, and believe it or not, music lessons. Creative art develops the right brain muscle. Often art is downgraded as a lesser part of a student's education. However, the great scientists, like Newton and Faraday, were able to not only see the numerical equation but also visualize the problem. They had a strong left and right side of the brain. The reason students struggle, and often forget math so easily, is due to seeing it only as a left-brain problem. Strengthening the right side of the brain enables students to develop whole brain thinking.

In conclusion, and basically this is a small summary of what was said during the Orientation, that if you see their art education as important, so will your children. Celebrate their work and encourage their progress. We are working with our students to make them successful and confident.

## Paper Towels Needed

If every student brought one roll of paper towels it will help us to keep the supply fee down. Every donation helps us to help your children. Thank you.

## Tuition and Supply Fees

There are still some who have yet to pay for September's tuition. It is imperative that we receive tuition on time, which is by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the previous month. In other words, September's tuition was due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of August. We would also like to remind all of you that October's tuition will be due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of this month. You can either bring it to school with you, or mail it to: PO Box 82, Clackamas OR 97015.

There is also a \$25 supply fee due at the beginning of every term. Our school would not be able to afford the basic supplies we provide such as pencils, paper, erasers, ink, etc without this fee. All students are required to pay the supply fee whether they are in our Foundational Studies program, our College program or those on scholarship. If you are only taking one class, then the supply fee is discounted to \$15. Thank you.

## Calendars

We will be doing the calendar again this year. If you would like a special page with your child's artwork on it, please email the picture you want in the calendar to Lisa Barnes at [lisa@msoaonline.com](mailto:lisa@msoaonline.com). All artwork must be approved. Make sure that you send the picture of the artwork over as large a file as you can to ensure the best quality print. We have pictures of most entries from the exhibit last fall and spring, so check with Lisa to see if we have the picture you would like in the calendar before sending. The calendars you sell can be personalized by your child's artwork on the front cover. They will be similar to last year's calendars, only this time there will only be one type of calendar (landscape format). If you do not pre-order a customized calendar, they will come with the school's logo on the front cover.

Select students who won last Spring People's Choice Contest will be featured in the 2010 Calendar. The school board is choosing which twelve winners will be featured.

## **Fundraisers**

We encourage parents to be involved in our fundraisers. We do need several parents to volunteer in a fundraising committee. If interested, contact Michelle Glassley at [michelle@msoaonline.com](mailto:michelle@msoaonline.com) to join or for ideas you may have.

## **Hinds Feet Musical**

At this point, we do not have enough interest in the Musical to make it a possibility. We are still open to it, and are working on the possibility. Pray for us as we continue to consider it. If we do it, casting will begin late September.

## **2009-2010 Student I.D.**

Why a student I.D.? There are places that discount to students who have an I.D. This usually is of special interest to the college student. Last year, to save costs, we did them ourselves. We can do it again, or we can send the ID's out for professional quality. Let us know what you would like to do. Getting a student ID card is optional.

## **MSOA Satellite School – Salem**

**~ Begins September 22<sup>nd</sup> ~**

Evie Fishkin, Moriah Dorsch, and Jenni Tipton will be overseeing the Salem satellite school this term. They will only be teaching introductory classes in Painting, Drawing, and Portrait. If you have any questions or if you would like to enroll, please contact Lori Ethell at [lethell@usvbs.com](mailto:lethell@usvbs.com).

# Meet our School Board in all its brilliancy!



Lisa Barnes, Kevin Kutcher, Evie Fishkin, Laura Fishkin, Sean Lavelle and Yvonne Kazmierowicz.

## Student Recognition

We have students at our school that we feel should be recognized for their efforts and achievements in the art world. This month, we have a few students that we would like to recognize.

### **Steve Johnston – a new student enrolled in our College program**

“ In August, God blessed Steve with the opportunity to storyboard for a movie. In April, he had gone to see a movie called *Come What May*, filmed by a Christian independent film company called Advent Film Group. At the time, he had given them his email address requesting information on future projects. In July George Escobar, the producer, sent out an email saying that they were looking for a young person with artistic ability that they could train to storyboard for their new movie, *One Good Man*. At the urging of his father, Steve answered the email and sent them copies of sketches that they requested, as well as some of his artwork. The next day they responded and asked if he would be willing to come to North Carolina to storyboard their movie. He was more than willing!

Last month he flew to North Carolina and spent a couple of weeks working with the director and storyboarding the film. A storyboard artist works as an interpreter. He listens to the director and then sketches out

the scene that the director sees in his mind. Those sketches are used along with the script to show the production crew and actors where they should be and how each scene should look.

After he came home, the producer invited him back again to come help with the filming, giving him the opportunity to watch his sketches flesh out into a movie. He sits with the director sketching out any changes and gets to watch the movie on the screen as it is being filmed.

Steve has been drawing all of his life. He has used art books and copying other's art to help him perfect his God-given ability. Because of years of hard work, when God presented this amazing opportunity, he was able to respond."

### **Moriah Dorsch – an Instructor and currently enrolled in our College program**

We want to encourage our students to join contests to showcase their art. Moriah has done just that when she entered the Aaron Brothers Online Photo & Art Contest. This contest was about "celebrating the beauty of American Life". The contest was looking for entries about all the spectacular things about our country and its different cultures. Moriah submitted her painting below, which happens to also be a portrait of her main character from the book she is currently writing. Congratulations Moriah on a job well done!



If you have entered a contest, we would love to hear about it and feature you in next month's newsletter. Send all your info to Lisa Barnes. We also want to congratulate all those who entered their artwork in the Oregon State Fair. We heard that some of you also placed at the fair! Our congratulations go out to all of our students.

## Free Advertisement for your Business

MSOA families – advertise your business in our monthly newsletters and on our website through December.

We want to help support our MSOA families by supporting their businesses. Look here first at what business you can support and help homeschool families continue to afford books and outside lessons for your children. We can make a difference in each other's lives. Write a description of your business, website address and other other contact information. Then send it to Lisa Barnes at [lisa@msoaonline.com](mailto:lisa@msoaonline.com).

## Singing Christmas Tree Performance

Janet Miletta, one of our Thursday school parents will be performing in Portland's Singing Christmas Tree again this year. If you order before September 25<sup>th</sup>, there is a reduction in the cost per-ticket. Be sure to mention Janet's name when ordering your ticket!

"It promises to be a fabulous, beautiful show where the true meaning of Christmas is proclaimed loud and clear!" ~Janet Miletta



## Performance Dates: November 27,28, 29 & December 3,4,5

Please visit their website for performance times and ticket pricing information:

[www.singingchristmastree.org](http://www.singingchristmastree.org)

To Order Tickets Call: 503-557-8733

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### Come see the Kannans perform!

"Just had to give an announcement so all of you could come support the ARTS and our three daughters. Coming up Sitara and Arunika will be performing in a musical theater company called KRAYON KIDS. See [www.krayonkids.org](http://www.krayonkids.org).

The show is called 'Gosh I hope I get it'.

Sitara will be dancing in many numbers, one en pointe and playing piano. Arunika has some parts as well and will dance and sing a song from the South Pacific. There is a lot of comedy in this show, including a hilarious spoof of Julia Child! You won't want to miss it and you can get your tickets ONLINE!

It will happen **November 6-8th and 11-13th**

Then Preeya, our ballerina, will be in Pacific **Festival Ballet's full length,**

### The Nutcracker

It will happen **December 11-13th!**

This company has as it's new artistic director none other than **John Magnus** who was the director of **Joffrey Ballet New York** and recently moved to Portland to head up this ballet company. He is choreographing the entire ballet and I am so excited to see it! Tickets will be available soon online at [www.portlandfestivalballet.org](http://www.portlandfestivalballet.org)." ~Debbie Kannan

## Prayer Requests

**David Ku**, a past college student, who went to MSOA for a short time, has been diagnosed with a serious brain tumor that has now spread from the left brain to the right side. His brain has swelled, and we are not sure exactly the extent of the tumor is. He will be staying with the Fishkin family until the 22nd, when his parents from Thailand will come to care for him. Pray for his healing and encouragement.

**Kevin Campos**, the 13-year-old boy who came to America for a heart transplant last year, has passed away. While waiting for his surgery, the Brownlow family brought him to our school in which we were honored to give him a scholarship. During his time with our school, the Lord gave him his new heart when he accepted Jesus' heart, by asking Him to be Lord of His life. We are grateful for the short time we had to be blessed by his life. Please pray for grace and peace for Kevin's family.

**Praise Report:** The Brownlows are praising God for keeping Jace safe through a recent abdominal surgery.