

Dates to Celebrate!

Asian/Pacific American Heritage

National Physical Fitness & Sports

National Bicycle Month

The Month of May

Memorial Day

May 30

Donut Day

Oscar the Grouch's Birthday

Stand For Children Day

June 1

National Fishing and Boating Week

June 4 -12

D-Day Anniversary

June 6

Donald Duck's Birthday

June 9

Flag Day

June 14

Father's Day

June 18

Revised Emergency Disaster Guidelines Coming Soon

The C.E.S. Leadership team has revised the Emergency/ Disaster Guidelines for all C.E.S. sites. The new flip charts, on florescent yellow card stock, will be distributed upon their arrival from the printer. Please replace your florescent green flip charts with the 2011 revised flip charts, and be sure to review all safety protocol in the chart, as procedures may have changes. If you have any questions, please contact your division administrator.

TMMS Science Students Receive \$10K Grant to Study Bioremediation in Bridgeport

TMMS sixth and seventh grade science classes have been awarded a \$10,000 Toyota Tapestry Grant provided through a partnership between Toyota Motor Sales the National Science Teachers' Association.

The grant offers K-12 science teachers the opportunity to develop innovative projects to enhance science education in the school and/or district and will fund a sixth and seventh grade environmental research investigation into Bridgeport brownfield sites and bioremediation during the 2011-12 academic year.

The sites, mainly factories that have been closed and are now abandoned, house petroleum wastes that leak above and below ground.

The 2009 Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection's list of Petroleum Contaminated or Potentially Contaminated Sites lists 35 pages of leaks and spills in Bridgeport.

Through the grant, students will be encouraged to investigate and evaluate existing clean up processes and perhaps develop a more creative, environmentally responsible and inexpensive clean up solutions for petroleum spills.

The grant includes a field trip to the Connecticut Science Center to view the Plant Earth exhibit and to explore a hands-on soil investigation.

Through research, experimentation and data analysis from the oyster mushroom soil remediation investigation, students will create an informative video that can be shared with a broad audience to inspire the greater Bridgeport communities, as well as local and state governments, to expand methods of bioremediation for petroleum-contaminated soils.

For more information on the grant and the environmental research investigation project, please contact Carmen Andrews, Six to Six Science Specialist, at ext. 6794

Getting to Know...Anthony DeQuattro, Music Department Chair at RCA



Current Number of Years at C.E.S.: I'm not sure, but I've taught in four different RCA buildings.

What is the last book you read? *Statistics for Dummies*

What is your favorite book? *Goodnight Gorilla*

What is the one thing you love most about education? Teaching is like telling secrets. You know something others don't know and you cannot wait to tell them. The classroom is like WikiLeaks but with less chance of you being arrested for treason.

What was the last movie you went to see? Toy Story 3 – and I cried.

If you won \$20 million in the lottery, what would you do? Put it in numerical order by serial number.

If you were written about in the newspaper, on the front page, what would the headline say? Aliens abduct Connecticut man – return him 5 minutes later shaking their heads.

What was your first job? Playing bass drum in a marching band supported by a 'completely legit' Italian social club in Providence, RI. I was 13 years old.

What do you like to do in your free time? Grade papers.

Did you ever admire a famous person? Tim Wakefield – a pitcher for the Boston Red Sox. He's selfless, has never done drugs, and has never been ejected. Of course, shouldn't that describe *all* professional athletes?

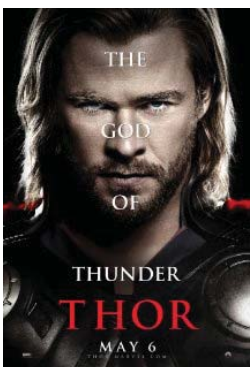
Is there something you wish you could do over again? Why? No! Star Trek has taught me that if you change the past you change the present, and my present is pretty groovy.

What things do you find yourself doing that you said you'd "never" do? Teaching.

What is your most memorable moment in your career thus far, something you will never forget? I caught Joel Grey when he fell off the stage in Hartford.

What is something that you are really proud of and why? My students – come to our Free Performances on Wednesday, June 1 @ 7:00 and Thursday, June 2 @ 7:00 at RCA – to see why! You won't regret it!

What are the goals you are still working toward? Becoming an effective teacher.



MOVIE REVIEW: THOR (2011)

commentary by TDP student Thomas Thierry

Superhero movies aren't a new thing. There have been numerous Batman, Superman, and Spiderman movies, but as far as I know, there has never been a superhero movie like that of Thor (2011). Thor, while certainly not an obscure figure in the comic book community, does not have the mainstream popularity of Batman and Superman, so it's only natural that Batman and Superman had movies first.

Thor the movie has been long overdue, and it doesn't disappoint.

...See THOR continued on page 4

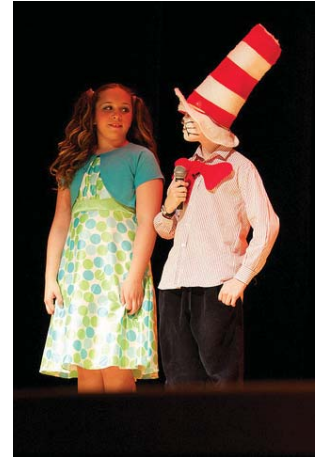
Six to Six Students Present Seussical Jr. on TMMS Stage

On Monday, May 9 and Wednesday, May 11, the Thurgood Theatre cast of 39 actors from grades 4-7, plus six additional students behind the scenes presented *Seussical Jr.* the musical to fellow students, staff, families and the community.

The Broadway musical was selected as the performance after a very successful *Midnight at the Black History Museum* one-scene play was staged last year.

The drama club began rehearsal for *Seussical Jr.* in November. Musical and acting roles were funny and dramatic, allowing the actors to expand their skills as performers.

A portion of the musical was funded through a grant from the C.E.S. Foundation.



C.E.S. Staff Invited to Golf in Agency-Wide Tournament for Reduced Rate of \$185.

Are you an avid golfer? Perhaps you're a beginner who would like to try 18-holes in a fun-filled tournament to raise money for a great cause? This year, the Golf Tournament Planning Committee is offering all C.E.S. staff the opportunity to golf in the Annual Agency-wide Golf Tournament at the reduced rate of \$185/golfer. This year's tournament, at the Harry S. Brownson Country Club in Shelton, CT will be held on Monday, June 27. The fee for golfing includes a buffet luncheon, drinks, snacks and beer on the course, a commemorative golf umbrella and canvas tote bag, cocktails and buffet dinner reception. Golfers also have an opportunity to compete in a putting, longest drive, and closest to the pin contests, as well as a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction with tickets to Yankees games, Mets games, The Jimmy Fallon Show, restaurants, theaters and more! For more information or to register your foursome, call x 8827. Don't have a foursome? Don't worry! We'll partner you with other golfers without a foursome and you can make new friends too!

spring production:
THEATER

Anon(ymous)

Separated from his mother, a young refugee called Anon journeys through the United States, encountering a wide variety of people -- some kind, some dangerous and cruel -- as he searches for his family. From a sinister one-eyed butcher to beguiling barflies to a sweatshop, Anon must navigate through a chaotic ever-changing landscape in this entrancing adaptation of Homer's *Odyssey*.

May 26 and 27 at 7:30 p.m.
Black Box Theater, RCA

For ticket information, call 203.365.8930

Special Education Highlights

- PLC/DLC & TDP held their family pasta nights during the month of April. As usual, this event is a huge success and a fun time for our students, staff and their families.
- SERC sponsored a "Transition Panel" for school district transition specialists. Representatives from Department of Developmental Services (DDS), Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS), Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), Board of Education and Services for the Blind (BESB), Department of Health (DPH) and Department of Children and Families (DCF) informed the group on the services available from their agency and answer any questions.
- Following the Transition Panel meeting, members from area districts had an opportunity to meet Kate Watkins, C.E.S.' newly hired Resource Counselor for the BRS Resource Initiative, and learn more about the goals and services for this initiative. This presentation included representatives from Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS), Special Education Resource Center (SERC), and the Connecticut State Department of Education.
- The second Assistive Technology Focus Group Session was held on April 14th. Thirteen representatives from 12 area districts attended this session which focused on TextHelp Read & Write Gold software presented by Kimberly Nix.
- PLC/DLC "Mom's Night" was held on April 14. Mom's had an opportunity to relax and meditate during a Mom's Night Yoga Session.
- The TDP Parent Support Group met on April 26. A representative from The Kennedy Center was their guest speaker and spoke on the topic of available after-school programs.
- RISE held a parent/student evening open house on April 26th. This meeting gave everyone an opportunity to socialize and acknowledge the Sacred Heart Peer Buddies. It also involved our Sacred Heart University liaison, Donna Bowers, collecting evaluation feedback from the parents about their impressions of RISE program services.
- TDP held their Middle & High School Honor Roll Breakfast on April 27.

THOR continued from page 2 ...

Thor the movie is so good because there's a nice balance between action, drama and humor. Fights aren't thrown into the story line for no reason, and, unlike a certain arachnid superhero, Thor doesn't start angsty, until he has something to angst about.

The story starts off simple enough. After nearly starting a war with the Frost Giants by leading a reckless attack, Thor (played by Chris Hemsworth) is banished to the human world by his father Odin, and stripped of his magical war hammer, the source of his power. The movie follows him as he attempts to recover his powers, with assistance from Jane Foster (played by Natalie Portman) a scientist studying wormholes.

The ensuing story is very interesting, the characters are consistent, and the relationships all make sense. Although I'm not an expert on Norse mythology, the movie doesn't stray too far from it, and what inconsistencies there are with mythology can easily be attributed to the fact that the "Gods" of Asgard have passed into human legend. This means that the stories would obviously be corrupted by time and oral storytelling. It's actually quite brilliant.

Portman excels in her role, as does Hemsworth and the rest of the characters.

There are some problems with the film. The most obvious is the Frost Giants. It's not that they are poorly developed characters; it's that they simply aren't developed enough.

The Frost Giants are only developed through vague hints in the dialogue, which would have been sufficient if they only appeared briefly, but they are extremely important to the plot. Just one additional scene about them would have helped immensely, but we never get a chance to see more than their war councils.

Another issue that occasionally arises is that some of the fight scenes are a bit confusing when watching them for the first time. Watching the scenes a second time helps understand what's happening, but some of the fighting is far too flashy and hard to follow.

Despite these issues, the movie manages to tell an entertaining story that successfully captured my interest far more than most superhero movies.

I give the movie a 9.5 out of 10.



Welcome New Hires!

PLC Kathryn Pember

spring production:

DANCE

L'Enfant Et

Les Sortilèges

A ballet set to a French Opera by Ravel

May 19 & 21 at 7:30 p.m.

Main Stage, RCA

For ticket information, call 203.365.8930