

Northampton Education Foundation Board of Directors

Joe Bartolomeo	Gerald Budgar	Vicki Hicks	Susan Rosen, <i>Secretary</i>
Giovanna Bellesia-Contuzzi	Sallie Deans Lake	Julie Hooks Davis	Stan Schapiro
Dan Berger	Jack Finn	David Narkewicz	Nancy Sternbach, <i>Treasurer</i>
Peter Bigwood	Michael Flynn	Ellen Nigrosh, <i>President</i>	Martin Wohl, <i>Vice President</i>
		Mary Beth O'Connor	George Zimmerman
		Isabelina Rodriguez, <i>Superintendent of Schools, Ex-Officio</i>	

2008 Fall Fit 5K Funds Support Nature's Classroom

NEF received \$3000 as the beneficiary of the first annual Fall Fit 5K held by the Smith College Athletic Department on September 21, 2008. Over 500 people ran and walked to promote fitness and raise money for NEF and Smith Athletics. With those funds NEF was able to provide \$750 to each Northampton elementary school for scholarships for 5th graders to attend Nature's Classroom. Nature's Classroom is a unique educational experience, offering the very best in environmental education. Students attend and stay at the program site for five days. For Northampton students it has evolved into the culmination of their elementary school careers. We were so excited to be able to help.

The 2009 Fall Fit 5K was held on September 27 at Smith College. Two events were held - a 1.5 mile run/walk just for fun and a 5k/3.1 mile road race. The two main events were followed by a fitness festival at the college's Indoor Track and Tennis Facility that featured information about many health issues, and local health resources.

As of press time, we do not know the amount of funds raised that will go to NEF, nor has the Board of Directors yet decided how the funds will be used for this year. Thank you to Smith Athletics community for their support of NEF



NEF runners getting ready to race

AlumNite 2009

Alumni and friends of the Northampton Public Schools will gather at the fifth annual AlumNite event to enjoy a fun evening that benefits the NEF Endowment. The event features great food, music, dancing, and a raffle and will be held on Friday, November 27 from 7 to midnight at the Elks Lodge on Spring Street. Each year at AlumNite, we honor two distinguished Northampton High School alumni. This year we will recognize Jack Finn '66, co-owner of A2Z Science and Nature Store, yo-yo team mentor and active supporter of a number of community projects and organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce and NEF. We will also honor Ann Rundquist Gottert '97, co-founder of a global multimedia company based in Madagascar that produces features on educational topics around the world. She is also currently pursuing her Ph.D from the Gillings School of Global Public Health at the University of North Carolina. Further information and tickets can be obtained by contacting Jerry Budgar '64 at 584-2964. Tickets are \$20 per person.



The Northampton Education Foundation is an all-volunteer organization that relies on the energy, creativity and support of the community to realize our mission of strengthening our schools by enriching students' educational experiences. We rely on your help through the donation of your time and ideas as well as financial resources.

www.northampton-edfoundation.org

A Community Investment in Our Public Schools



NORTHAMPTON EDUCATION FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 44 • Northampton, MA • 01061 • www.northampton-edfoundation.org

Please Help Us Say Yes!

Dear Friends of NEF,

"Despite the budget cuts, it has raised our spirits and made us feel determined to carry on." "We are thrilled, and other teachers have grabbed hold of what we are doing too!" "The interest is very high--this is great! I am so grateful for the funding of this project!"

These are some of the things we have heard this year from recipients of NEF grants. There is no better way to make a direct impact on what goes on in our classrooms, and lift the cloud of discouragement during these challenging times than to **HELP US SAY YES** to the teachers, administrators, parents and community members who apply for NEF grants. In spite of the cutbacks and changes that everyone in our schools is coping with, creative plans are being hatched, grant applications will take shape from them, and we at NEF are eager to support them.

When you donate to NEF, you directly fund the Small Grants Program, and SO many students, teachers and parents are grateful to you for that! And we at NEF are energized by and grateful for your generous support of our work.

But here's the problem. Even though NEF has no paid staff, and all of

our work is done by our board and other volunteers, there is never enough money to fund all of the projects that teachers propose. Every year, we have to turn down worthwhile proposals that we would love to fund. Saying "no" to inspired teachers with great ideas is our hardest job, especially now.

When our schools turn to us with hope and excitement to fund their projects, we can only give away as much as we can raise—it's that simple. That's why we turn to you now to make the largest gift you can in support of our work. We depend on you, our donors, to please **HELP US SAY YES!**

Thank you again,
Ellen Nigrosh
President, Board of Directors

You can now donate to NEF by credit card!

Visit our website at
<http://www.northampton-edfoundation.org/donate.htm>

Dance! Baile! Drum!

The rhythms of African drumming and pounding feet resounded through the JFK Middle School cafetorium for a week this spring as 75 sixth graders and their teachers studied with Sekou Sylla, a professional dancer and drummer with Bamidele Dancers. Sylla, whose resume includes experience dancing with Les Ballet Africains as well as extensive college teaching, is a native of Guinea, West Africa. He had the students and their teach-

ers in constant motion during the morning session. Even the shyest students were unable to resist his infectious enthusiasm and the power of the drums. The cafetorium became an African village, with students performing traditional dances and also having a chance to improvise, as well as taking turns playing the drums with Sylla.

This project, funded by an NEF Small Grant to teacher Julie Spencer-Robinson, reinforced the social studies curriculum, and included reading and writing about Africa – even preparing African foods. Another segment of this project centered on Latin America, and included instruction in Latin Dance by Gilberto Jimenez, a dancer, teacher, and incidentally a Northampton Police Officer.

In this innovative approach to classroom teaching, a guest teacher from the region being studied leads classes for a week, giving students an opportunity to listen to music, move their bodies, and experience a culture in an active way. To quote one of a group of enthusiastic boys, "the drumming is really fun; I wish we could do this every day," and from a young girl, the dancing "is great and we're learning about the meaning of the different steps." Based on the observation of 75 joyful, sweaty faces on one morning this spring, the project was a resounding success!



Thank You NEF Annual Fund Donors!

The following donors gave to the NEF Annual Fund from October 2008 through September 2009. Annual Funds dollars underwrite the Small Grants program as well as our yearly administrative costs. Thanks for your generous support of NEF and our schools!

Abboud, Joan
 Abuza, Hayat Nancy
 Ahrens, Lois and Miller-Mack, Ellen
 Akamatsu, Norma
 Allen, Jane and Levy, Daniel
 Alpers, Paul
 Ames, William
 Amherst Cinema/Pleasant Street Theater
 Andrews, Robert
 Anonymous
 Applied Mortgage Services
 Arbeitman, Laura and Herzog, Laurie
 Babbott, Margaret and Bryan, Jennifer
 Barham, George and Ruth
 Barone, Elizabeth and Sheirer, John
 Bart, Eleanor
 Bartolomeo, Joseph and Sarro, Lydia
 Batchelor, Linda and Thaler, Paul
 Baum-Hommes, Vicki and Hommes, Chuck
 Berenson, Ronald and Hannah
 Berger, Dan
 Bertram, Justine and Harry
 Bigwood, Guy and Jane
 Bigwood, Peter and Elizabeth
 Bimbane, Theresa
 Bissell, Robert and Janet
 Bleiman, Rita and Bruce
 Bloomberg, David
 Blumenthal, Barbara and Joseph
 Bond, Howard and Budnick, Sydna
 Borawski, Bob and Ann
 Bornstein, Linda and Reilly, Eugene
 Bott, Jeffrey
 Botter, Valerie
 Boucher, Yvonne
 Bouthillette, Nancy and Gerald
 Boynton, Robert and Nancy
 Bradbury, Nancy and Scott
 Brady, John and Nancy
 Brandt, Robert and Swedlow-Brandt, Joan
 Breznsnyak, Mary Lynn
 Brill, Lynne and Jon
 Broadside Bookshop
 Buettner, Brigitte and Gorra, Michael
 Burke, Penny and Dan
 Buttenwieser, Sarah and Baskin, Hosea
 Cahill, Eileen and Rosen, William
 Cenedella, Joan and Volkmann, Frances
 Charren, Debbie and Diehl, Timothy
 Christ, Carol
 Clayton DMD, James
 Clute, Martha
 Cohen, Adam and Reiter, Jendi
 Community Health Charities
 Conner, Richard
 Cook, Ellie
 Cooley Dickinson Practice Associates
 Cooper, Evelyn
 Cranshaw, Laura
 Curran and Berger
 Daily Hampshire Gazette
 Davis-Delano, Laurel and Linda
 Day, Leslie and Leona
 Deans Lake, Sallie and Lake, Kevin
 DeRose, Peter and Florence
 Detmold, John and Bess
 Dibrindisi, Joseph and Janet

Dinn, Nancy
 Easthampton Savings Bank
 Edelstein, Hyman and Sally
 Elkins, Dorothy and Stanley
 Elliott, Kathy
 Emerson, Mary and Oliver
 Faces
 Feingold, Barry and Yoss, Marci
 Feinman, Joel
 Felton, Nancy and Dansky, Joel
 Fierst, Pucci & Kane LLP
 Fine, Anne and Liebman, Jon
 Fink, Larry and Barbara
 Finke, Bruce and Coates, Beth
 Finn, Jack and Priscilla
 Finn, Joan
 Flandreau, Phyllis and Alexander
 Fleming-Ives, Jenny and Ives, Peter
 Florence Community Band
 Fogel, Pauline and Bruce
 Folchman, Ruth and Wagner, Richard
 Fraidstern, Leslie and Janet
 Friends of Lilly Library, Inc.
 Full Circle Adoptions
 Gare, Joice
 Gaustad, John and Gail
 Glading-DiLorenzo, Lise and Joanne
 Glazer, Penina and Mickey
 Goldman, Michael and Jette
 Goldsmith, Ellen and Levitt, Sam
 Goos, Kathy and Werth, Barry
 Gorman, Cleo and Ackerman, Ron
 Greater Northampton Chamber of Commerce
 Greenburg, Jacob and Lucy
 Haas, Peter and Zuckman, Julie
 Hampshire Educational Collaborative
 Hanauer, Cathi and Jones, Daniel
 Happy Valley Gifts
 Harris, Robert and Previty, Jeanne
 Hartry, Lucy and Johnson, Frandy
 Hawkins, Bruce and Ruth
 Helfand, Ira and Smith, Deborah
 Henle, James and Portia
 Hickok, Hastie
 Hicks, Vicki and Mazzallo, Janice
 Higgins, Mary Clare
 Hilltown Cooperative Charter Public School
 Hinckley, Richard and Jo Ann
 Hoffman, Elaine
 Hooks Davis, Julie and John
 Hoose, David and Jeanne
 Hooven, Fred and Haas, Heidi
 Hopp, Hanna W.
 Hotel Northampton
 Howe, Susannah and Nicholas
 Hubbard-Cole, Maxine
 Hunter, Pamela and Jefferson
 Isenberg, Caryl and Greenbaum, Steven
 J. Rich Clothing for Men
 Jacobson, Amy and Zashin, Lynn
 Jennifer's Hair Company
 Joe's Cafe
 Jones, Barbara and Konowitch, Martin
 Kaskey, Michelle and Gary
 Kaufman, Roger
 Kenefick, William

Kenny, Peter and Donna
 Keppler, Anne Fisher
 Klepacki, Skip
 Kohler-Gray, Susan
 Kopf, Silas and Linda
 Kotz, David and Pfeifer, Karen
 Kriebel, George
 Krogius, Tor and Halper, Sarah
 Kumon of Northampton
 LaFleur, Dorothy
 Laga, Robyn and Mike
 Langdon, Katherine
 Lapointe, Nancy and Johnson, Jina
 Larmon, Marcy
 Lathrop Communities, Inc.
 Laurila, Jim and Lee, Lin
 Levay, Roselyn and Bradley
 Lieneck, Marjorie
 Loving, Christopher
 Lowenthal, James and Brooker, Mary Beth
 Mackler, Dianne and Pascucci, David
 Majumder, Sanat and Flora
 Marvelli, Alan and Claudette
 Mass Mutual Financial Group
 McKenna, Maureen and Donnelly, James
 Michaelson, Holly
 Miller, Davina and Joshua
 Miller, Naomi
 Miller, Virginia
 Millman, Loraine
 Minnick, Terry and Lisa
 Misterka, Joseph and Judith
 Monahan, Cynthia and Ward, Edward
 Mongeon, Arthur
 Moran, Nancy
 Morley, Linda
 Moulding, Richard and Janet
 Murphy, Michael and Glackin, Brigid
 Murray, Peg
 Narkewicz, David and Mikich, Yelena
 Nasser, Merry
 Natenshon, Howard and Caine-Natenshon,
 Rosemary
 Nemetz, Dorothy and Todd, John
 Newman, Bill and Melcher, Dale
 Newman, Katherine Foote and Cyrus
 Nigrosh, Ellen and Barry
 Northampton Chamber of Commerce
 Northampton Lions Club
 Northampton Police Relief Association
 Northampton Veterinary Clinic
 O'Brien, Ken and Mary
 O'Brien, Michaela
 O'Connor, Mary Beth and Tom
 O'Leary, Annette
 Olshansky, Daniel and Garlock, Nancy
 Osborn, Carlene and Lawrence
 Osborn, Francis
 Paradise Copies
 Pastoriza LLC
 Peoples Bank
 Petegorsky, Elizabeth and Stephen
 Petersson, Suzanne and Robert
 Pick, Stephanie and Spound, David
 Pioneer Landscapes Inc.
 Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
 Premo, Allen

Raphael, Andrea and Reily, John
 Reckhow, David and Wanat, Catherine
 Reed, Jeanne
 Reeves, Nancy and Eric
 Rifken, David and Shelley
 Rigali and Walder Orthodontics
 Robinson, George and Moulton, Janice
 Rockwell, Lindsay
 Rogers, Jean
 Rosen, Susan and Amy, Douglas
 Rosenberg, Henry and Hicks, Katherine
 Ruggiero, Theresa and Corliss, Duke
 Ruggiero, O.D., Theresa
 Rundquist, Marcea and Robert
 Ryan, Meg
 Sajdak, Bruce and Wurtzel, Barbara
 Sasson, Howard and Green, Betsy
 Sasson, Turnbull and Hoose
 Savarese, Joseph and Cathy-Ann
 Schapiro, Stan and Wiener, Joan
 Schifter, Deborah and Schiffmann, Alan
 Schwartz, Pamela and Feldman, Joel
 Select Tours
 Shanahan, Edward and Ann
 Sherry, Michael and Egan, Nancy
 Siegel, Andrew and Lois
 Silver, Marie and Scott
 Silverman, Risa and Hellwig, Ryan
 Simon, Karen
 Skinner, Pamela
 Smith, Pamela
 Smith College
 Soliwoda, Roberta
 Spector, Lee and Neimark, Rebecca
 Stamm, Patricia and Michael
 Stevens, Craig
 Stifler, John and Law, Louise
 Sullivan, Kate and Carlson, Larry
 Sullivan, Virginia
 Susskind, Bob and Monica
 Szawlowski, John and Doris
 Taylor, Merle and Ruth
 Tenero, Stanley
 Thayer, Adin
 The Montessori School of Northampton
 Topal, Simone
 Trader Joe's
 Tudryn, Kathleen
 Umbach, Timothy and Linda
 Unger, Janet
 United Way of Hampshire County
 VCA Inc.
 von Klemperer, Elizabeth
 Walunas, Tammy
 Warner, Heather and Rice, Scott
 Weiss, Mikal and Welli Yeh
 Weitzman, Peter and Travis, Diane
 Whalen, Peter and Ugone, Janna
 Whalen Insurance
 Wohl, Ariana
 Wohl Family Dentistry
 Wojcik, Emily
 Worden, Gary and Sandra
 Yasinski, Lorraine and Desmond, Daniel
 Zewski, Stanley
 Zimmer, Jean
 Zuchowski, Edward and Deborah

The Great Northampton Adult Spelling Bee

Thank You!

The Northampton Education Foundation would like to thank all the businesses, organizations and individuals that helped make the 9th Northampton Adult Spelling Bee a resounding success. Their support will help enrich the educational experiences of students and teachers in all of Northampton's public schools.

EVENT UNDERWRITER: Easthampton Savings Bank



Alpers, Paul
 Amherst Cinema/Pleasant Street Theater
 Applied Mortgage Services
 Arbeitman, Laura and Herzog, Laurie
 Batchelor, Linda and Thaler, Paul
 Berger, Dan
 Bigwood, Peter and Elizabeth
 Bloomberg, David
 Bornstein, Linda and Reilly, Eugene
 Bott, Jeffrey
 Bradbury, Nancy and Scott
 Broadside Bookshop
 Clayton DMD, James
 Cooley Dickinson Practice Associates
 Curran and Berger
 Daily Hampshire Gazette
 Deans Lake, Sallie and Lake, Kevin
 Dinn, Nancy
 Easthampton Savings Bank
 Feinman, Joel
 Fierst, Pucci & Kane LLP
 Fine, Anne and Liebman, Jon
 Florence Community Band
 Fraidstern, Leslie and Janet
 Friends of Lilly Library, Inc.

Full Circle Adoptions
 Hampshire Educational Collaborative
 Happy Valley Gifts
 Hartry, Lucy and Johnson, Frandy
 Hickok, Hastie
 Higgins, Mary Clare
 Hilltown Cooperative Charter Public School
 Hooven, Fred and Haas, Heidi
 Howe, Susannah and Nicholas
 Isenberg, Caryl and Greenbaum, Steven
 Jennifer's Hair Company
 Kriebel, George
 Lapointe, Nancy and Johnson, Jina
 Lathrop Communities, Inc.
 Michaelson, Holly
 Miller, Davina and Joshua
 Miller, Naomi
 Minnick, Terry and Lisa
 Natenshon, Howard and Caine-Natenshon,
 Rosemary
 Newman, Katherine Foote and Cyrus
 Northampton Chamber of Commerce
 Northampton Lions Club
 Northampton Veterinary Clinic
 O'Brien, Michaela

Paradise Copies
 Pastoriza LLC
 Pick, Stephanie and Spound, David
 Pioneer Landscapes Inc.
 Raphael, Andrea and Reily, John
 Rockwell, Lindsay
 Ruggiero, O.D., Theresa
 Ryan, Meg
 Sasson, Howard and Green, Betsy
 Sasson, Turnbull and Hoose
 Select Tours
 Silverman, Risa and Hellwig, Ryan
 Smith, Pamela
 Stifler, John and Law, Louise
 Thayer, Adin
 The Montessori School of Northampton
 Trader Joe's
 United Way of Hampshire County
 VCA Inc.
 Walunas, Tammy
 Warner, Heather and Rice, Scott
 Whalen Insurance
 Wohl Family Dentistry
 Zimmer, Jean
 Zuchowski, Edward and Deborah

And thank you to: Master of Ceremonies Kelsey Flynn, WHMP; "Word Wizard" Rich Cooper; Cooper's Corners and State Street Market

Word Pronouncers: Clare Higgins, Mayor, Northampton, Michelle Bernhard, Northampton High School, Tom Reney, producer & host of "Jazz à la Mode" at WFCR/88.5 FM

Judges: Karen Jarvis-Vance, Director, School Health Services, Nancy Athas, Principal, NHS, Bryan Lombardi, Vice Principal, NHS, Isabelina Rodriguez, Superintendent, Northampton, Kathy Service, MS, RNC/NP, CDDN, Janet Gary, VINS President

Projectionists: Christina Petersen and Cynthia Monahan

Timekeepers: Julie Kurose and Vicki Bonne-Hommes

Readers Aloud: Joan Finn and her lovely daughters, Kim Goggins & Megan Grygorzewicz

The Queen's Honey Bees: Ava and Julia Hicks-Mazzallo

and the Queen Bee Herself: Jeanne Hoose



The Bests(p)ellers were the winners of this years spelling bee once again, courtesy Frandy Johnson

Save the Date
 for the 10th Annual
 Northampton
 Adult
 Spelling Bee
 March 24, 2010

Thank You to All of Our 2009 SOS Book Fund Donors

Aalfs, Joann
 Abbott, Varnum and Joan
 Ahrens, Lois and Miller-Mack, Ellen
 Andros, Dorothy
 Bailey, Ralph
 Baker, Isabel
 Banerjee, Maria
 Bartolomeo, Joseph and Sarro, Lydia
 Bateman, Claire
 Batson, C.W.
 Bay State Perennials
 Becker, Harry and Tesini, Jan
 Berger, Rae and Dan
 Berlin, Steve
 Bernier, Lorraine
 Bertram, Justine and Harry
 Beyel, Karen and Silverman, Joe
 Bimbane, Theresa
 Black, Barbara
 Blaustein, Judith
 Bouthilette, Rita and John
 Bowman, John and Francesca
 Bridgman, Daniel and Leibsohn, Dana
 Bridgman, Spencer and Patricia
 Britt, Lindsey
 Buettner, Brigitte and Gorra, Michael
 Burck, Marcia and McColgan, Edward
 Butt, Muhammad and Shabnam
 Cadieux, Remember
 Cahill, Eileen and Rosen, William
 Canby, Natalie
 Cardinal, Sandra
 Carlson, Kate
 Caron, Jamie
 Cernak, Anne
 Chapin-Bishop, Hillary
 Christakos, Deborah
 Church, Dwight and Rosemary
 Cohen, Adam and Reiter, Jendi
 Cooper, Evelyn
 Cranshaw, Laura
 D'Errico, Lisa
 Davis-Delano, Laurel and Linda
 Deans Lake, Sallie and Lake, Kevin
 Decowski, Piotr and Ineke
 Delisle, Lois
 Denig, Nancy
 DeRose, Kelly and Charles
 Dibrindisi, Joseph and Janet
 Dibrindisi, Michael and Elizabeth
 Doering, Sarah
 Donahue, Tim
 Dyar, John and Diane
 Elkins, Dorothy and Stanley
 Elkins, Sara
 Etkin, Maddy and Hayward, Jeff
 Fong, Herman
 Garrett, Jane
 Gerver, Pernell
 Glazer, Penina and Mickey
 Goos, Kathy and Werth, Barry
 Gorman, Cleo and Ackerman, Ron
 Griggs, Margot
 Grimaldi, Nicholas

Griswold Industries
 Gronim, Judith
 Grubinger, Lenore
 Haas, Peter and Zuckman, Julie
 Haas, Walter and Florence
 Haggerty, Rick
 Hannon, Christine
 Hartry, Lucy and Johnson, Frandy
 Hawkins, Bruce and Ruth
 Hay, Katherine
 Heady, Lyn
 Healey, Patricia
 Hedgepeth, Christy
 Hess, Marjorie and Talaber, Rudolph
 Hill, Arthur and Agatha
 Hirschberg, Ellen and Gryska, Mark
 Hoover, Sandra
 Isherwood, Nicholas and Lauren
 Johnson, Dorothy
 Jonas, Robert
 Jones, Barbara and Konowitch, Martin
 Kaminski, Maureen and James
 Kane, Esther
 Katz, Jane
 Katz, Sheri
 Kelliher, Paul and Joanne
 Kenefick, William
 Klare, Michael
 Klepacki, Mary and Charles
 Knight, Deirdre Sabina
 Kusiak, Anne
 L'Heureux, Gerard
 LaFleur, Dorothy
 LaFleur, Dugald and Janet
 Langdon, Katherine
 Lavender, Valerie
 Lewis, C. Stanley and Karen
 Lieneck, Marjorie
 London, Naomi
 Lovett, Irene
 MacInnis, Elaine
 Mackler, Dianne and Pascucci, David
 Majumder, Sanat and Flora
 Mandeville, Carey
 Mark, Jennifer
 Martin, Bonnie and Charles
 McGarty, Catherine
 Meckel, Barbara
 Miller, Margaret and Christopher, John
 Mintz, David and Farley, Shawn
 Monahon, Cynthia and Ward, Edward
 Mongeon, Eugene and Beatrice
 Moriarty, Howard and Audrey
 Morley, Linda
 Morris, Al and Mary
 Murphy, Keirnan and Carol
 Murphy, Robert
 Murray, Peg
 Nemetz, Dorothy and Todd, John
 Newbury, Catherine and David
 Nigrosh, Ellen and Barry
 Novak, Clayton and MacDonald, Stephanie
 Novotny, Leah
 O'Brien, Christine

O'Leary, Nina and Steven
 Olmstead, Katie
 Omasta, John
 Osborn, Francis
 Osepowicz, Edward and Susan
 Paglia, Christine
 Parent, Robert
 Perrier, Muriel
 Phippen, Morey and Adams, Brian
 Picard, Vivian
 Positive Connections
 Powers, Gladys
 Rajam, Elizabeth
 Reckhow, David and Wanat, Catherine
 Rhoads, Susan and Mark
 Rick, Ann and O'Reilly, John
 Riddle, Margaret and Bob
 Rifken, David and Shelley
 Robinson, David and Linda
 Robinson, George and Moulton, Janice
 Rodriguez, Sylvia
 Rosen, Susan and Amy, Douglas
 Rossi, Sandra
 Rothman, Stanley and Eleanor
 Russell, Joel and Gottdiener, Mari
 Sajdak, Bruce and Wurtzel, Barbara
 Sanchez, Verna
 Sass, Christine and Jon
 Schwartz, Pamela and Feldman, Joel
 Seney, William and Virginia
 Sharp, Janet and William
 Sheehy, Lisa and Bloomquist, Eric
 Silver, Marie and Scott
 Skera Gallery
 Slay, Lesley
 Sokoloski, Bette
 Soliwoda, Roberta
 Sparko, William and Evelyn
 Spencer, Benjamin and Ebner, Martha
 Stevens, Craig
 Strauss, Suzanne
 Tenero, Stanley
 Titelman, Peter and Baker, Katharine
 Tucker, Marjorie
 Turati, Jeanette and Almanzar, Jeanne
 Tyler, Kelly
 Tymoczko, Maria
 Uhlig, Andree
 Ultra Gal
 Umbach, Timothy and Linda
 Urbank, Rob
 Vitols, Elsa
 Warren, Nicholas
 Wheeler, Harold and Deborah
 Wineburg, Shoshannah
 Wisch, Judith
 Wohl Family Dentistry
 Worden, Gary and Sandra
 Wright, Patricia
 Wroblewski, Helen
 Zimmer, William and Marsha
 Zuchowski, Edward and Deborah

Rags to Stitches

“This class really helped broaden my horizons. Reading writers from other places and our discussions about our culture and how we perceive the world made me interested in reading more.” **“Woman at Point Zero was my favorite book because this Middle Eastern story was narrated from a woman’s point of view and the main character believed in herself when faced with serious challenges”**. These are just a sampling of the comments I heard when I visited Mr. Brill’s class on world literature.

Thanks to a grant from NEF, Mr. Brill was able to buy the selection of books he wanted his students to read, works from different times and different continents. The students were exposed to a variety of great books, from classics like **All Quiet on the Western Front**, to less known, more contemporary masterpieces. Orhan Pamuk, ’09 talked to me about reading **My Name is Red** and learning about how papermaking changed from the Chinese to the Arab method in the 8th century, and Mike Cronin told me his favorite part was making his own paper and his own illustrated book.

NEF Endowment Supports Green Action in Our Schools

This year marks the 3rd consecutive annual distribution from the NEF Endowment Fund, which continues to prove its steady value in providing a permanent source of funding for the educational needs of Northampton’s public schools. By June, 2010, an impressive three-year grand total of \$115,730 will have been distributed, encouraging innovation and collaboration in all areas of school curriculum, faculty development and extracurricular programs.

This year the Green Action In Northampton Schools (GAINS) Program will receive a \$15,000 one-year grant. Students, principals, teachers, and staff of the Northampton Public Schools will collaborate with concerned citizens, the Northampton Energy and Sustainability Officer, the Waste Management Supervisor of Northampton’s DPW, the Hitchcock Center for the Environment, and the Center for Ecological Technology. Green Teams in each school will work on innovative, cross-disciplinary learning experiences that tackle real-world environmental problems.

The Endowment is also providing the remaining \$10,900 for the 3rd year of the “Northampton Environmental Education Program” (NEEP), which has generated citywide excitement and will accomplish its

Plant Sale Sets New Record

The 2009 SOS Plant and Garden Sale was held on Saturday, May 9. Despite a mixed forecast, the loyal crowds appeared and bought in record amounts. We raised just under \$10,000 from perennials out of local gardens, vendor fees, Smith Voke compost, and raffle tickets. New this year were wooden garden structures donated by Smith Voke and local woodworkers that brought in an extra \$1000.

Led by Judy Leeds, Jim Levey, and a core group of master gardeners, the Plant Sale involved over fifty donors and volunteers, including parents of current and former Northampton students, members of the National Honor Society from Northampton High, and members of the community who shared the bounty of their own gardens. A local quilter donated one raffle prize, and students from Smith Voke assembled the other. Area

I realized Mr. Brill’s class had benefitted from another NEF grant: Ms. Jaffe’s project on illuminated manuscripts and papermaking. Their two projects were originally unrelated, but their collaboration merged literature and art. When the class visited the Smith College Rare Book Room, our NHS students were able to see an Islamic Koran and other illuminated manuscripts. They arrived prepared to understand that a book can also be an art object. This interdisciplinary approach is a wonderful example of how NEF inspired two dedicated teachers to fulfill our mission.

Courtesy Giovanna Bellesia-Contuzzi

You can now donate to NEF by credit card!

Visit our website at

<http://www.northampton-edfoundation.org/donate.htm>

three-year goal of incorporating environmental education into all the elementary schools. NEEP has generated so much interest that it has attracted additional funding from other sources to expand its ongoing projects.

Last year “Bridges: Bridging the Gap between Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten and First Grade” received its first \$20,000 to use the “Emotionally Responsive Teaching and Learning” model to help transform Northampton’s early education program. Principals and early-ed teachers have enthusiastically welcomed this model for supporting the healthy social development and self-regulation skills of our youngest students, which will receive its second and final \$20,000 from the Endowment this year.

There has never been a better time for you to consider the NEF Endowment Fund in your present and future giving plans. It is the premier method by which gifts, bequests, appreciated assets and property can become a permanent source of support for our childrens education. We can also help arrange a Charitable Annuity to support you and Northampton public education in perpetuity. We look forward to assisting you in any way possible to enrich and enhance Northampton public education. Thank you for your vision, generosity and commitment!

businesses, including garden centers and supermarkets, also made valuable contributions, and as always, we received significant discounts on printed materials from Paradise Copies, and on tents and tables from Northampton Rental Center. Thanks to all for making and keeping this event a Northampton institution.

In 2009, the SOS Book Fund distributed over \$17,000 to our public schools for the purchase of textbooks, library books, and educational software. School Councils developed proposals for spending the funds, which were reviewed and approved by the NEF Board. In addition to the Plant Sale, the Book Fund is made possible through the generosity of donors to the annual census appeal, and by participants in the Positive Connections long-distance phone service.

25 Small Grants to Teachers Awarded in Fall and Spring totaling \$40,866

Inspiring Young Writers (1st year)

RFKRR \$1,991
Margaret Riddle, Paula Drabek, Cindy Berry, Sara Simmons
The goal of this project is to inspire students to write fluently. A consultant will lead a series of eight writing workshops in each third grade classroom. As a result, students will be able to recognize the strengths and teachers will learn how to lead the workshops themselves. Each student's favorite writing will be published in a class booklet. In addition, a writing workshop for the entire faculty will be offered so that other grade levels may benefit as well.

Kindergarten and the Bauhaus (1st year)

RFKRR \$2,000
Andrea Egitto, Michelle Smiarowski, Susan Lavallee, Ann Desmond, Barbara Kowalski
Kindergarteners and their fourth grade learning buddies will explore the study of form and design using teaching styles from the Bauhaus art school in Germany. The students will visit the Bauhaus exhibit at the Smith College Museum of Art and subsequently create collages, weaves, block structures, mosaics, and together with a master carpenter they will build tables and benches for their classroom.

Enchanted Circle Theater Arts Residency (2nd year)

JSS \$2,000
Holly Ghazey, Paula Welchman, Kathleen Bredin, Mark Dean
An Enchanted Circle Theater artist will spend 3-4 months working with 5th graders, who will research, write, improvise, produce, and perform plays for local public performances. Students will identify stories on themes including local history, conflict, and community resolution. The NEF grant will be supplemented by three other grants for this project.

Rhythms of the World (1st year)

JSS \$1,700
Kim O'Connell, Leslie Farlow
Two artists from The Bamidele Dancers and Drummers will work with K-5 students on songs, dances, and instruments of West Africa. The music teacher will work with students on pieces in preparation for an all-school concert.

Smile – Photography and Bookmaking (1st year)

JSS \$2,000
Maria del Carmen Garcia, Mary Ellen Reed, Parmalee Jones
This project will integrate photography and literacy for Kindergarteners. Students will receive disposable cameras and be invited to take pictures at home and in their neighborhoods. The photographs will be turned into books which each student will write or dictate. Parents will be involved in various aspects of the project.

Families with Power/Familias con Poder (3rd year)

JSS \$1,000
Mary Cowhey, Kim Gerould, Janet Namano, Norma Cardona
This project uses basic concepts from the National Writing Project, with local family leaders modifying them for our community. A Family Writing Project will be held at the

Meadowbrook Apartments Community Room over six weeks. Two-hour sessions co-facilitated by FWP parents and teachers will feature free writing, sharing published writing, and modeling particular writing styles. The project will conclude with a published bilingual anthology and community reading. The results of the project will be documented to make it replicable.

Plena Drumming Artist Residency (1st year)

JSS \$2,000
Mary Cowhey, Eneida Garcia, Lesley Farlow
Last school year an after-school plena (Puerto Rican) drumming program resulted in the formation of a student drumming group called Los Pleneritos. The current project will revive Los Pleneritos, featuring its members as "teaching assistants" to the third, fourth and fifth grades, during the artist residency classes led by professional plena group, Los Callejeros. Subsequently Los Callejeros will perform for the whole school. Finally, Los Pleneritos and Los Callejeros will offer a ten-week after-school drumming program for students and their families.

For Whom the "Belle" Tolls (1st year)

JSS/NHS \$1,390
Susan Ebitz, Suzanne Strauss
After studying aspects of Emily Dickinson's biography and poetry, students at NHS and fourth graders at JSS will partner four times for the purpose of developing and deepening their understanding of Dickinson and the beauty of her work. Docents from the Emily Dickinson Museum will visit and share artifacts and background material appropriate to the development of the students. Later, the two school groups will visit the museum together and use Dickinson's poetry as a model to write their own at the very place where she composed 1800 poems.

Creating a School Garden (1st year)

JSS \$2,000
Mary Bates, Mary Ellen Reed, Jen Reed, Brigitta Sebesta
The goal is to create a school garden that functions as a viable outdoor classroom. A garden educator will assist teachers and students in the design and planning of the garden, with an emphasis on spring and fall crops. Teachers will use the garden for hands-on, place-based investigations, and real-life applications of concepts and skills in the areas of science, social studies, and math. The timeline for this project necessarily extends from the spring into the fall of 2009.

Dance! Baile! Drum! (1st year)

JFK \$1,000
Julie Spencer-Robinson
Seventy-five sixth-graders will learn Latin American and West African dance from native teachers. The two weeks of intensive dance and drumming instruction complement the varied approach to teaching about Latin America and Africa, which will also include: reading and writing, researching chosen topics, cooking food from the regions, and creating Latina American and African art projects.

Middle School Science Fair (1st year)

JFK \$1,386
Joan Tabachnick, Lesley Wilson, Kate Parrott
During class, and in after-school sessions, teachers will work

with students to develop projects tied to the science curriculum and well-suited for exhibition. A science exposition will then be held over two days, with students presenting their work within the school. The PTO will host an evening reception for students, parents and teachers, in which three experts from the community will examine the projects and present each student with a winner's certificate for successful participation.

Monumental History of the Pioneer Valley (1st year)

FLC \$2,000
Randy Gordon, Jason Scavotto
Students will research a given town in Hampshire County, visit the chamber of commerce and/or historical society, locate and identify all known statues or other monuments, photograph them, research the significance of each in terms of local and national impact, and create a web page with the findings. A print book will also be created and presented to each town that was studied.

Theater Improv (2nd year)

FLC \$2,000
Chip Kaufman, Heidi Haas
A theater consultant will meet with students twice a week throughout the spring for warm-up, check-in, and theater improvisation games. Students will also read plays, watch videos, and attend one or two live performances, focusing on three African American female artists. Students will have the option to perform either their own work or their adaptation of these playwrights' works.

Rags to Stitches: Enriching Middle Eastern Curriculum (1st year)

NHS \$1,350
Ernie Brill, Sheryl Jaffe
A unit on Islamic/Middle Eastern literature will include studying the history of bookmaking, calligraphy, and paper-making in the Islamic world. Students will create their own handmade paper, books, and calligraphy, inspired by their readings and study of Islamic culture.

Science Olympiad (1st year)

NHS \$1,434
Susan Biggs
Forty-seven AP Chemistry students will attend the local Chemistry Olympiad competition in March, with the prospect of sending individuals on to the national and international Olympiads. NHS teams have had impressive results in past years, including, in 2004, sending two students to the nationals.

Yoga in the Classroom (1st year)

Leeds \$2,000
Hollie Marron, Janet Spearance, Karen Bryant
Eight teachers will take part in classes to learn yoga, and in after-school sessions they will be trained and supported as they use yoga in their classrooms.

Inspiring Young Writers (2nd year)

RFKRR \$2,000
Margaret Riddle, Paula Drabek, Cindy Berry, Michele Andrews, Greg Kerstetter
For the Fall 2009 semester. This project, funded in Spring

2009, is a continuation of the Inspiring Young Writers program described above.

Middle School Mentors (1st year)

JFK, RFKRR \$2000
Linda Hamashima Umbach, Sal Canata
Fifteen JFK students will be trained to become peer mentors, and then be paired with RFKRR students as part of the after-school program. An adult advisor and several after-school coordinators will provide the training and program oversight. At the end of each peer mentoring session, the JFK student mentors and their advisor will meet for processing, support, and additional training.

Jazz Education for Middle Schoolers (1st year)

JFK \$2,000
Claire-anne Williams
This project will introduce 140 traditional band students to styles, influences, and practitioners of jazz. Subsequently, 20-25 jazz band students, in grades 6-8, will take part in three hands-on, skill-building clinics led by Northampton-area musicians. New arrangements will be acquired and the school's band drum will be upgraded. The band leader will lead weekly jazz band rehearsals.

Dance! Baile! Drum! (2nd year)

JFK \$1,000
Julie Spencer-Robinson
Seventy-five sixth-graders will learn Latin American and West African dance from native teachers. The two weeks of intensive dance and drumming instruction complement the varied approach to teaching about Latin America and Africa, which will also include reading and writing, researching chosen topics, cooking food from the regions, and creating Latin American and African art projects.

Literacy Through Photography (3rd year)

NHS \$1,000
Kate Way, Michael Jacobson-Hardy
This year-long project will serve fifteen to twenty "underachieving" students, who will borrow the project's cameras to document their lives, both in and outside of school. The focus will be on combining written and visual literacy as a means



Teachers and Students Exhibiting Their Work on the Belle of Amherst

NEF Showcase

Teachers exhibiting NEF-funded projects mingled with members of the Northampton Chamber of Commerce in the Hotel Northampton ballroom on June 10, 2009, as part of the Chamber's monthly "Arrive at Five" event. At booths showcasing projects in the arts and sciences, teachers explained their projects, demonstrating how the small grants they received are used to create innovative and exciting projects that benefit students in all the schools in the city.

The Hotel Northampton, A2Z Science and Learning Store, MetLife Financial Group of Massachusetts and Ink and Toner Solutions generously sponsored the event. Thanks to them, and to the Chamber, the event fulfilled its goal of bringing together two groups that collaborate in supporting the vibrancy of our schools.



Margie Riddle, Principal of RKFRR and Jack Finn, NEF Board at NEF Showcase

of expression, and on producing work of quality and depth which reflects the students' lives. The final phase of the project will be to select and combine various photographs and writing from each student into a group show to be exhibited in the area. At each step along the way, students will be learning skills deeply embedded in both language and image-based literacy.

Art and the Three R's (reduce, reuse, recycle) (1st year)

NHS \$1250
Martha McCormick
The Graphic Design class will design logos or other "Green" designs for reusable shopping bags and possibly tee shirts, and print them using the silkscreen method. These items could be used by the students themselves, for art department fundraising, and/or for funding to replenish printing supplies to continue the project.

Culinary Competition (2nd year)

SVAHS \$2,000
Nelson Lacey
All interested students take part in eight weeks of after-school training in the areas of menu building and design, food cost, plate presentations, garnishing, hands-on practice with different foods, equipment and cooking methods, and

practice working in competition-like conditions. Five students will be selected to take part in the state-wide Pro-Start culinary competition, with a chance at advancing to the national level.

Exploring Ocean Ecosystems (1st year)

SVAHS \$1725
Mary Belge
Seniors in the Environmental Science class will supplement their study of ocean ecosystems and the effects of climate change with a day-long field trip to the New England Aquarium and a whale watch, where they will be accompanied by a marine educator. It is anticipated that this will be the first time that some of the students have seen the ocean.

Veterans in the Classroom (3rd year)

SVAHS \$1,000
Rob Wilson, Kathy Brown, Matthew Gilbert
The project will bring volunteer veteran speakers, trained by the Veterans Education Project, into classrooms to give presentations that will complement the History, English, Health, Violence Prevention, and Substance Abuse Prevention curricula. Speakers will share compelling stories about important historical eras, drawn from wartime and civilian life experiences, from the 1940s to the present.



Leeds School Teachers Ruth Mackenzie and Michelle Subocz showing off Family Math Night