MAY 2019 CULTURAL ARTS COMMITTEE REPORT:

During the past month I completed the annual Cultural Arts Budget Survey for this school year, 2018-19. A request for information was sent out to the PTArts e-list for what each school is spending on Cultural Arts programming, including assemblies, workshops, and artist-in-residence programs. This survey was begun at least 17 years ago, and many school representatives report that it is helpful to them in working with their PTA’s to increase their Cultural Arts funding.

The results of the survey were sent out to the PTArts e-list, with responses from 17 schools (a smaller number than usual.) Of those that responded to the survey, 6 schools reported that their budget increased; 2 reported that it decreased; and 9 reported that it stayed the same as the previous year. The budgets reported this year ranged from $2,000 to $15,000.

Even if a school has no money budgeted toward Cultural Arts spending, it is still important for them to have some PTA and/or staff members join the PTArts e-list, so that they can learn more about what is available for the schools, including occasional free programs and grants.

To join the PTArts e-list, please send your NAME, EMAIL ADDRESS, SCHOOL & POSITION (Cultural Arts Chair, Co-Chair, staff member, etc.) to:

**PTArts-subscribe@yahoogroups.com**

Dates for the annual auditions held by the Superintendent’s Committee for Performances in MCPS, and for the MCPS Cultural Arts Showcases have been set:

Performer auditions will be held on September 3 & 4.

**The 2019 Cultural Arts Showcases will be held at the Carver Educational Center auditorium on OCTOBER 2nd & 3rd in the daytime (approximately 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.), and on OCTOBER 7th in the evening (approximately 6-9 p.m.)**

**PLEASE NOTE: These dates and exact times are subject to change**, depending on the availability of the auditorium. I will send out further information in the fall when the exact schedules have been arranged, following the September auditions.

On May 2nd, 2019, I received the “Distinguished Service to Public Education” award, in the category of Community Individual, from the Montgomery County Board of Education, for the 26+ years of Cultural Arts work I have done for Montgomery County Public Schools.

Priscilla Peterson

MCCPTA Cultural Arts Chair

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