

CULTURAL ARTS COMMITTEE  
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**The annual MCPS Cultural Arts Showcases are being held this month on:**  
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 2<sup>nd</sup> (9:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.)**  
**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 4<sup>th</sup> (9:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.)**  
**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 11<sup>th</sup> (6:00 - 9:00 p.m.)**  
**THURSDAY, OCT. 12<sup>th</sup> (6:00 - 9:00 p.m.)**

The Showcases are the perfect opportunity for cultural arts reps from all the schools to view the wide variety of performances available to the schools. ADMISSION IS FREE, everyone is invited to attend, and parents are welcome to bring their children with them. The Cultural Arts Committee will be staffing the registration desk at the Showcases. All school representatives are asked to sign in on arrival and each school will be given one free copy of the MCPS Performing Arts Catalogue.

The Showcases are held at the Carver Educational Center Auditorium at 850 Hungerford Drive in Rockville. A different performer is presented every 15 minutes, and each of the four days has different performers. The exact schedules for each day are being posted on the PTArts e-list, and on the Delegates e-list as they become available. Please note: schedules may change depending on the performers' availability, but whenever possible, I do update this information on the e-lists.

In September the Superintendent's Committee for Performances in MCPS auditioned 13 new shows. Ten of them were approved and are being added to the 2017-18 MCPS Performing Arts Catalogue, which will be available in hard copy at the Showcases and online at: <http://www.biglearning.org> Click on "Cultural Arts Showcases" and you will see the catalogue listed. On the same website you can see VIDEOS of many of the performers who have appeared in previous Cultural Arts Showcases. The PASSORD to view the videos is: **culturalarts**

The PTArts e-list, designed to serve the needs of cultural arts reps from the schools, is the best way to get information about the Showcases, occasional free performances, and to network with each other. Please make sure that your school has one or more PTA and staff members on this e-list. To join, please send your **Name, Email School, and Position** (cultural arts rep, staff member, etc.) to: [PTArts-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:PTArts-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

On September 16<sup>th</sup>, I presented a workshop on Cultural Arts for the MCCPTA Fall Training. Information was provided on how to start and run a cultural arts committee in your school; how to hire performers for assemblies, workshops and artist-in-residence programs; opportunities for free performances; where to apply for grants, etc. And on September 26<sup>th</sup>, I spoke at the Delegates Assembly about the upcoming Showcases and the importance of the arts in our children's education.

