

JUNE 2019/YEAR-END CULTURAL ARTS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Cultural Arts Committee began the 2018-19 school year by holding a workshop as part of the MCCPTA Fall Training event. We provided information for participants on how to hire performers for their school assemblies, workshops and artist-in-residency programs; how to advocate for increased budgets for cultural arts programming (giving the results of the annual Cultural Arts Budget Survey); free programs that are available, etc. A guest speaker at the workshop was Seda Gelenian, who is Chair of the Superintendent's Committee for Performances in MCPS, and is also the producer and coordinator of the Cultural Arts Showcases.

This year, due to conflicts that a number of the performers had, we held only two days and one evening of Cultural Arts Showcases, on October 2nd, 3rd, and 11th. At the Showcases, we distributed the 2018-19 MCPS Performing Arts Catalogue, as well as brochures from the performers, and pertinent information for all Cultural Arts Chairs. (Schools that did not send a rep to the showcases had a catalogue mailed to them.)

The **2018-19 MCPS Performing Arts Catalogue** and many of the Showcase performances that have been videotaped can be seen on this website: <http://www.biglearning.org> Click on "Cultural Arts Showcases" and you will see them both listed. The password for viewing the videos is "**culturalarts**", all one word.

As Chair of the Cultural Arts Committee, I serve as Moderator of the "**PTArts**" e-list, which is the best way for Cultural Arts reps to communicate with each other about performers they have liked or not liked, and to receive announcements about upcoming Cultural Arts Showcases and other events. I also post any information I receive about grants or free performances, so it is **IMPORTANT** for every school to have one or more representatives on this e-list. **To join, please send your NAME, EMAIL ADDRESS, SCHOOL & POSITION (Cultural Arts chair or committee member, staff member, etc.) to: PTArts-subscribe@yahogroups.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 are to be held at the Carver Educational Center auditorium on OCTOBER 2 & 3 in the daytime (approximately 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.), and on OCTOBER 7 in the evening (approximately 6-9 p.m.)

*** Please remember that these dates and exact times are always subject to change, due to heavy demand for use of the auditorium. I will keep everyone informed if there are any changes.**

Priscilla Peterson
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