

NOVEMBER 2018 CULTURAL ARTS COMMITTEE REPORT:

The annual MCPS Cultural Arts Showcases were held on October 2nd, 3rd, and 11th. A total of 41 different artists/shows were presented; eight of these were new shows this year (meaning that they were just auditioned and approved in September by the Superintendent's Committee for Performances in MCPS.)

There are now over 150 performers listed in the MCPS Performing Arts Catalogue, though many do not participate in the Showcases due to scheduling conflicts. However, each year there is a different mix of performers in the Showcases and many performances have been taped for cultural arts representatives to view online. To see these videos online, go to: <http://www.biglearning.org>. Then click on "Cultural Arts Showcases". The shows are listed alphabetically and you will see "Showcases A-D, E-H, I-L", etc. **The PASSWORD to view the videos is: culturalarts**

Copies of the 2018-19 MCPS Performing Arts Catalogue were distributed at the Showcases, one copy per school, and schools that did not send a representative will have a catalogue sent to their principal. I also distributed other important information for cultural arts reps, including directions for joining the PTArts e-list. This e-list is geared toward cultural arts representatives from the schools, but is open to anyone interested (not the performers themselves however.) To join, please send your Name, School, Position, and Email Address to: PTArts-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Attendance at the Showcases this year usually ranged from 15 to 25 audience members. Only a total of 20 schools were represented (some sent several people), which continues to concern us as this is only one-tenth of the schools in Montgomery County! We also had a number of librarians looking for performers for their presentations, and a few people from other counties attending. Notices were sent to all schools of the upcoming Showcases, and to MCCPTA, and I also put regular announcements on the PTArts e-list, but am eager to hear any suggestions as to how to get more of an audience for our wonderful performers!

Priscilla Peterson
MCCPTA Cultural Arts Chair
PrisFP@verizon.net