

Virginia

The Earth is a Beautiful Place: A Poetry Quilt

Ashlawn Elementary School

5950 8th Road, North, Arlington, VA 22205; 703-228-5270; FAX 703-534-3685

Submitted By: Rebecca Krause, Cindy Hicks, and Susan Mocker

Preschool through 5th grade students at Ashlawn Elementary School will participate in this hands-on project that is designed to engage their creative writing and art work while reinforcing writing skills. Students will devote some time to the reading and writing of poetry with the help of a parent volunteer, a poet who has done workshops at the school in the past. Each class will write a poem and design a quilt square on a chosen topic, based on the theme “the Earth is a beautiful place”. The writing of poetry is intended to give the students an opportunity to express themselves, identify their own emotions, and explore new ideas. The project will culminate with the completion and display of the quilt in the school, to coincide with National Poetry Month.

Cultural Exchange

Bishop Ireton High School

201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria, VA 22314; 703-212-5162; FAX 703-212-8173

Submitted By: Randall Eyles

Cultural Exchange is a unique program that gives the music department at Bishop Ireton High School the opportunity to commission Chilean composer Rafael Diaz to write a work for the Symphonic Wind Ensemble. The 35 students in the Wind Ensemble will spend seven weeks learning about the process of composition and the elements used and rehearse the commissioned work. Students will have hands-on projects, requiring them to compose short examples in the style of the composer in order to introduce them to the creative process of composition. A performance will be given for the entire school and guests. Students will then travel to Germany for their 30th international-concert tour where they will continue to perform the work.

A Day with Monet and His Friends in Giverny

Claremont Immersion Elementary School

4700 South Chesterfield Road, Arlington, VA 22206; 703-228-2500; FAX 703-228-2523

Submitted By: Faylinda Kodis, Joseph Herr, Viviana Novillo

This innovative program is a concentrated study of a group of master artists for first grade students at Claremont Immersion Elementary School. It is designed to introduce the students to well-known artists and art history, stimulate them to create art from real and imaginary sources of inspiration, develop eye and hand coordination, and learn to identify and discuss the ideas and emotions communicated through artwork. Students will learn about Monet and other artists before taking a trip to the National Gallery of Art, where they will view the paintings of the artists. After the visit, students will begin individual studies of an artist and research accordingly, utilizing children’s art books to write an artist biography. Other activities include the creation of a self portrait and impressionist style landscape painting, culminating in a visit to Kenilworth Park and

Aquatic Gardens where the students will share their knowledge of master artists in a setting reminiscent of Monet's gardens.

Learning through Leonardo

Drew Model Elementary School

3500 South 23rd Street, Arlington, Virginia 22206; 703-228-5825; FAX 703-979-0892

Submitted By: Constance J. Usoua

Learning through Leonardo is a multidisciplinary program designed to integrate the arts into the fifth grade science curriculum to form a model of study that emphasizes the importance of the arts in a complete education. Students will have the opportunity to learn concepts of science from a different perspective that reinforces their learning and increases their understanding while developing their creativity and art elements of design. The fifth graders at Drew Model Elementary School will engage in various activities based on the science-art connections of Leonardo DaVinci including observing and studying plants and seeds, painting animal and plant paintings with their knowledge, creating an ecosystem mural, and sculpting animals from clay. They will also visit the National Gallery to see the work of DaVinci, and the National Zoo to sketch animals. The program will culminate with an exhibit with integrated display of arts and science projects will be shown.

Community-wide Drama in the Public Schools

George Mason Elementary School

2601 Cameron Mills Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22302; 703-706-4470; FAX 703-638-9011

Submitted By: Rachel Alberts, Marci El-Baba, Kathy Clarke, Annie Vroom, Keith Perkins, and Nancy Sparks

Students at George Mason Elementary School will produce an original musical play titled "The History Mystery" about different mysteries throughout world history, written, created, and produced entirely by the faculty, parents, and students. This project integrates many learning objectives as the context of the play will include world history, geography, folktales and fables, and a dance and music component. Students will participate in all aspects of the performance, including acting, writing, vocal and instrumental music, staging and scenery design, and general performance production. As a collaborative effort, each student will contribute a part to the production that also serves to develop skills in art, music, and creativity. The eight-month long project will culminate in two different performances given by the entire school.

Creating and Illustrating Stories of Good Character

Grace Episcopal School

3601 Russell Road, Alexandria, VA 22305; 703-549-5067; FAX 703-549-9545

Submitted By: Susie Ellis

This program is designed to promote creative thinking about what it means to have good character, in addition to helping students learn to convey ideas through writing and

illustration. Kindergarten through fifth grade students will participate in various activities including discussing good character and writing a short story about an example of good character in a chosen situation. Students will attend an assembly with Cheryl Barnes, an artist/illustrator, where she will discuss creating illustrations for a book and the process involved in production. A seminar about illustration will follow and the students will create their own illustrations to accompany their stories. The final copies of the project will be bound and displayed at the school with each booklet opened to the page with the student's favorite illustration.

Beyond Arirang: Exploration of Korean Culture and Music

Haycock Elementary School

6616 Haycock Road, Falls Church, VA 22043; 703-531-4000; FAX 703-531-4097

Submitted By: Linda K. White, Gretta Sandberg, and Jack Layne

Beyond Arirang is a program for students that provides exposure to Korean culture and music while developing the fundamental skills of reading music rhythms. Six hundred and fifty elementary students in all grades will be involved, along with approximately 20 Korean students from McLean High School. Fourth and fifth graders will experience playing Korean instruments, while all students will attend the performances of Korean music by an ensemble from the Metropolitan area. This cultural program will give the students the opportunity to gain knowledge of Korean geography, history and culture through listening, singing, movement, guest lectures and ensemble performances, while forming relationships with high school students. The program is intended to give students a better understanding and appreciation of different cultures and music.

Clay Books

Holmes Middle School

6525 Montrose Street, Alexandria, VA 22312; 703-658-5900; FAX

Submitted By: Tom Wagner

Students at Holmes Middle School will participate in this project that gives them the opportunity to explore and develop language arts through the medium of clay by planning and constructing clay book sculptures. Students will brainstorm ideas connected with books including moveable type and printmaking. Each student will select a subject, a specific plant, flower or animal native to Virginia, for their book sculpture and will connect their ideas with scientific knowledge of flora and fauna of the region. The goal of this project is to have the students think creatively and critically to develop ideas and grasp concepts, use design elements to communicate ideas effectively, and make connections between visual arts and other subjects. The finished work will be displayed in the school showcase.

Step Up to Art: A Stairway Mural Project

Islamic Saudi Academy

8333 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, VA 22309; 703-780-0606; FAX 703-780-8639

Submitted By: Barbara Koltos

Students in grades three through eight will design and create a series of stairway murals that will depict the styles of several famous artists with assistance from art students in the senior grades. This project intends to expand the involvement of the students while increasing their appreciation and knowledge of art. Each class will choose an artist whose style will be displayed and research the work of that artist. With the help of the teacher and senior art students, preliminary drawings will be made along with plans on how to depict the artwork on the space allotted for their class. Through this project, the students will become aware of different works and styles of art and enhance the sense of art appreciation for the entire school.

Books Extravaganza

J.L. Simpson Middle School

490 Evergreen Mill Road, S.E., Lessburg, VA 20175; 703-771-664; FAX 703-771-6643

Submitted By: Elizabeth Chodrow and Nancy Buntin

Books Extravaganza is a school wide, cross-curricular project combining visual art, language arts, social studies, history, science and math in the creation of a traditional book by every student. Through this innovative project, students will gain a greater appreciation of the importance of art and its connection to other subject areas, learn bookmaking technique(s), reinforce academic concepts, and enhance unity and pride in the school. Students will create books with the help of the school art teachers in constructing, designing, and illustrating. Classroom teachers will assist in developing the content material. All books will be on exhibit during National Library week, culminating with an evening Book Extravaganza Reception in which families, friends, and community will attend in honor of the project.

Exploring Light and Pattern

Kenmore Middel School

200 South Carlin Springs Road, Arlington, VA 22204; 703-228-6800; FAX 703-998-3069

Submitted By: Jeff Wilson

Exploring Light and Pattern is an integrated visual arts, science, and language arts project in which seventh and eighth grade art students will become industrial designers and create functional lamps out of clay. Students will use and expand upon their knowledge of electricity while designing a clay lamp that emphasizes pattern and texture. Students will be required to select a motif and carry the motif throughout the design of their lamp. When finished, students will engage in a narrative writing exercise to describe the lamp making process and its importance, and discuss how they incorporated a single motif in each element of their design. In addition to focusing on science and visual arts objectives, this project seeks to build writing skills. A culminating activity will be the FocusFest Displays of Art Work, where the lamps will be displayed.

Balance Across the Curriculum

Kenmore Middle School

200 South Carlin Springs Road, Arlington, VA 22204; 703-228-6800; FAX 703-998-3069

Submitted By: Shauna Dyer, Lee Dorman, Sandra Morris, Mary Jo Sheehy, and Nancy Tiernan

Balance Across the Curriculum is an interdisciplinary unit that places the art work of Alexander Calder at the center of the curriculum. Students will first learn the visual art principle of balance, the elements of color and shape and how they relate to the construction of a mobile. After attending a performance about Alexander Calder, given by sculptor and actor Kevin Reese, and a mobile making workshop, students will explore the concept of balance in social studies, math, science and language arts. This multi-disciplinary approach will allow students to learn through a variety of disciplines to fully understand the concept of balance. As a culminating activity, the students will go down to the National Gallery of Art to see Alexander Calder's mobile.

Puppets from Mali

Little River Elementary School

43464 Hyland Hill Street, South Riding, VA 20152; 703-444-8000; FAX 703-444-8005

Submitted By: Karen Hassinger

Puppets from Mali is an innovative project that combines cultural studies with all the fine arts, including music, art, and dance, to encourage students to engage in performance. The fifth grade students at Little River Elementary School will learn about Mali, puppet construction, 3-D sculpture, and African drumming and dancing. They will create puppets and perform in conjunction with drummers that will be choreographed by the music teacher. The performance will be given to the other students and parents during the school wide Fine Arts Festival.

Exploring West African Culture

Long Branch Elementary School

33 North Filmore Street, Arlington, VA 22204; 703-228-4220; FAX 703-875-2868

Submitted By: Rob Jacobus

The third grade classes at Long Branch Elementary School will explore West African culture through storytelling, block printing, and percussion accompaniment using the Anansi folk tale books. Each class will script a play, block print fabric for costumes, and create a musical background with percussion instruments to support the story. This project is designed to combine the language arts and social studies with art and music, in order for students to gain a better understanding of West African culture. The experience will culminate in a two-part musical play for the parents and the community.

Painting Virginia's History

Lovettsville Elementary School

49 South Loudoun Street, Lovettsville, VA 20180; 703-771-6700; FAX 703-771-6703

Submitted By: Cheryl Suitor

Painting Virginia's History is a program designed for the fourth grade students at Lovettsville Elementary School to learn about Virginia's landscape through a field trip to Balls Bluff Battlefield and an art activity. Students will sketch after direct observation of the natural setting of the historical site and learn the significance of the site to the civil war. This sketch will become the basis for an acrylic painting in the art classroom under the direction for the landscape artist C. Clay Ward and art teacher Cheryl Suitor. As part of the final display, the students will write a paragraph discussing their reaction to the project and a critique of their own painting. Paintings and written work will be displayed throughout the school.

Mantua West African Celebration

Mantua Elementary School

9107 Homer Court, Fairfax, VA 22031; 703-645-6300; FAX 703-645-6397

Submitted By: Jennifer Watkins

This program brings the Kantouran West African Dance Company to perform at the Mantua Elementary School's West African Celebration for the students in kindergarten through second grade. This experience will integrate classroom learning objectives, visual art, physical education, and music. The students will learn about the culture of West Africa through this program and will participate in many hands-on activities. This project brings local artists into the school community and highlights the rich cultural diversity of the area, which support the underlying aspects of this celebration—community building and multi-cultural awareness.

Sculpture Garden

Margaret Brent Elementary School

2125 Mountain View Road, Stafford, VA 22556; 540-658-6790; FAX 540-658-6799

Submitted By: Joyce Leatherwood

Sculpture Garden is a school-wide collaboration in which the students will create sculpture for permanent installation in a courtyard sculpture garden. Each grade level will produce a different type of sculpture for the garden according the appropriate skill level. All of the students will see examples of public art and sculpture gardens through the use of the internet, slides and/or books. Art class discussions will be held where students will be able to brainstorm ideas and draw sketches of these ideas. This activity covers many different learning objectives including history, social studies, math, art and architecture, and science. Through this project, students will develop their eye and hand coordination, motor skills, and gain knowledge in all the different subjects, while creating their own feature of public art within the school.

Artistic Connections

Mount Vernon Center

8515 Old Mount Vernon Road, Alexandria, VA 22309; 703-619-3300; FAX 703-619-3397

Submitted By: Irvin Kalugdan, Desmond Dawkins, L. Marvella Frey, Randall Merrifield, and Matthew Butterfield

Artistic Connections is a project designed to increase awareness of the relationship between artistic forms of expression, such as music, visual art, and world literature, through the production of a compact disc and an arts show. It will be produced by the students in Mount Vernon High School's sub school 5 program for students with emotional disabilities, in collaboration with various teachers. Students will learn about the various aspects of music, art and literature in their respective classes. They will begin to create their own works of art and learn about all aspects of an artist's life. They will also work on the CD, which will contain music written, performed, produced, and recorded by the students. The focus of the project is to create art with the purpose of commenting on issues such as global and current events, lives of the students, and their perspectives on similar themes. The year long project will culminate in a Fine Arts Festival and production of a compact disc.

Pop Art and Contemporary Culture

Mount Vernon Center

8515 Old Mount Vernon Road, Alexandria, VA 22309; 703-619-3300; FAX 703-619-3397

Submitted By: L. Marvella Frey

This project is designed to introduce the art students in Mount Vernon Center to Pop Art and the influence of Andy Warhol and his contemporaries' art pieces. It includes a trip to the Corcoran Museum to see the Andy Warhol exhibit and having the students develop and produce their own project by their interpretation of the show and our contemporary culture. Students will be required to integrate their response and understanding of Pop Art and reflect it in a creative mixed media art piece that demonstrates their original ideas with some aspect of current culture. Students will have the opportunity to use a wide range of mixed media including paint, printed material, collage, and printmaking. The finished pieces will be displayed at a March show, celebrating both Youth Arts Month and Music in the school.

Just Imagine

Oakton Elementary School

3000 Chain Bridge Road, Oakton, VA 22124; 703-937-6100; FAX 703-937-6197

Submitted By: Margie Campbell

Just Imagine is a creative program which interjects the theater arts into the second-grade writing curriculum of Oakton Elementary School. Students would participate in workshops given by actors Laura Hull and Oren Sandel of Creative Cauldron, who will bring the children a new medium for exploring the essential story-building tools of setting, character, and plot development through drama and creative self-expression. Students will apply the learned concepts to their own stories and stage two of the best ones.

Naturalist Notebooks

Patrick Henry Elementary School

4643 Taney Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304; 703-461-4170; FAX 703-823-3350

Submitted By: Victoria Walchak

This innovative project will engage the student in activities that synthesize the knowledge and learning modalities of three key disciplines: art, science, and language, in addition to stimulating the creative thinking of the student. Students will develop individual sketchbook/journals detailing their observations, questions, and thoughts concerning the natural world and the animal kingdom. A collection of specimens will be available for the students to observe and sketch. Students will discuss their findings and observations as a class and create a painting of an imaginary animal that combines two or more of the specimens together.

Admiring Audobon

Polk Elementary School

5000 Park Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304; 703-461-8614; FAX

Submitted By: Ashley Shelton

The Admiring Audobon project presents the opportunity to intertwine different branches of learning by having the students participate in the creation of artwork while incorporating a science lesson component. The entire student body at Polk Elementary School will create outdoor bird sculptures and an outdoor watercolor landscape painting. Students will compare and contrast the characteristics of birds native to the United States. John J. Audubon's artwork will serve as inspiration for the students, who will discuss his paintings and make appropriate additions to their own artwork. Upon completion of the sculptures, the students will paint them. The sculptures will be placed in the school's courtyard.

Colonial Arts Program

St. Ambrose Elementary School

3827 Woodburn Road, Annandale, VA 22003; 703-698-7171; FAX 703-698-7170

Submitted By: Lisa Phillips

The Colonial Arts Program is an innovative, inter-disciplinary program that transports the students to 18th Century Virginia and allows them to experience life and the Arts in the colonial times. The fourth grade students at St. Ambrose Elementary School will participate in multiple cultural and Arts activities and presentations that enhance their integrated Music, Arts, History and Social Studies curriculum. This program will include the production of a class quilt, a woven rag rug, numerous art activities, and a trip to George Washington's Mt. Vernon Estate and Gardens. The culminating activity would be on Colonial Day, when the students dress in costume and enjoy different presentations and art activities.

Artist-in-Residence at Stenwood Elementary School

Stenwood Elementary School

2620 Gallows Road, Vienna, VA 22180; 703-208-7600; FAX 703-208-7697

Submitted By: Sally Donnelly

An artist-in-resident, Paul Hurteau, will spend one week at Stenwood Elementary School immersing the students in the African culture. He will work daily with the students in second and third grade, preparing them to give a multi-cultural performance in front of the school. He will also visit the other grades once during the week to tell an African tale and to read his self-written African poems. At the end of the week, the whole school will gather as an audience for the performance given by the second and third graders. Students will learn about the weather and seasonal changes affecting life, Mali, and varied types of literature. This program will impart to the students' knowledge in several disciplines including language arts, science, and social studies.

Books Alive

Sunrise Valley Elementary School

10824 Cross School Road, Reston, VA 20191; 703-715-3800; FAX 703-715-3897

Submitted By: Kris Barna

The first grade students will participate in a creative writing workshop led by the author/illustrator team of Pamela Duncan Edwards and Henry Cole, who have published over 21 children's books. They will use humor and hands-on activities to explain the steps it take to bring a book to print. Students will learn about book dummies, press sheets, chopper machines, buildings, and publishers. The project is intended to bring the book-making process alive and empower students to begin writing stories themselves.

Early American Crocks

Sunrise Valley Elementary School

10824 Cross School Road, Reston, VA 20191; 703-715-3800; FAX 703-715-3897

Submitted By: Cheryl Allen

The fourth graders at Sunrise Valley Elementary School will create an early American crock, led by artist Marianne Cordyack. Each student will make a pottery crock using the coil method. This project will serve to teach the students about the early Colonial period of Virginia's history in a memorable and tactile way. It combines art and history, using a hands-on activity to help the students effectively understand the culture and lifestyles of the Virginia Colonial period.

Myriad Visions

Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology

6560 Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA 22312; 703-750-8300; FAX 703-750-5010

Submitted By: Judith H. Bello

This project engages students in analyzing artistic depictions in myriad media—literature, theatre, sculpture, painting, film, photography—of conflicts between conscience and

authority across cultures and eras. Students in four tenth grade English classes will apply critical thinking skills and the writing process to works of art and would collaboratively share, develop and revise ideas, creating an insightful commentary about a series of particular works of art expressing the same theme. At the conclusion of this process, students would create videotapes of some students describing and analyzing each work, which would impart their insight about the ways in which each artists portrays a conscience-authority conflict and the significance to the student today. These videotapes may possibly be made available to regional middle schools for use in their character education programs.

Keep the Rhythm Going

Victory Elementary School

12001 Tygart Drive, Bristow, VA 20136; 703-257-0356; FAX 703-257-0356

Submitted By: Susan M. Black

Fourth and fifth grade students at Victory Elementary School will study and play the music curriculum “World Music Drumming” created by Will Schmid. Students will use positive characteristics of discipline, respect, and unity to achieve precise percussion ensemble performances. This program is designed to help students learn success, understand and learn about the different cultures of Africa and Latin America, and provide students a creative outlet that boosts self-confidence through performance. Students will practice their listening and cooperation skills through various activities. A musical performance will take place at the end of the program.

Artists in Residence

Wakefield High School

4901 South Chesterfield Road, Arlington, VA 22206; 703-228-6700; FAX 703-575-8832

Submitted By: Wendy Singer

Artists in Residence will bring two local potters to Wakefield High School to conduct workshops with the Sculpture students. The artists will share their professional experience, history of potter, properties, and various techniques used in creating clay artwork. The focus of the project will be learning to throw pots on the wheel under the direction of the professional potters. Students will create their own wheel thrown pottery. This project provides the students with the opportunity to meet and learn from professional artists and enhance the curriculum by providing students with demonstration and instruction.

An Ecoquest

Westfield High School

4700 Westfield Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151

Submitted By: Sue Bark and Sue Nidzgorski

Students in Westfield High School’s Photo 1 class will participate with seventh grade students in the honors science class at Stone Middle School in various activities. This cross-curricular program is designed to increase awareness of the local ecosystems through guest speakers, data collection and a photographic assignment. A nature

photographer will visit the students to share and highlight information. Students will produce their own photos that will be matted, framed and displayed at Westfield High School's annual Pyramid Art Show. The works will also be exhibited at Stone Middle School.

Docents Divine

Westlawn Elementary School

3200 Westley Road, Falls Church, VA 22042; 703-241-5100; FAX 703-241-5197

Submitted By: Alice Long and Emily Schantz-Dunn

Sixth grade students at Westlawn Elementary School will collaborate with their peers and art teacher to research a selected painting from the National Gallery of Art and become experts on both the artist and the history of the painting. They will become docents on a Saturday field trip to the National Gallery of Art that will include their families. The project intends to foster appreciation for the museums in our area and enlighten the students' understanding of the relationship between art and history.

West Meets East

Whitman Middle School

2500 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306; 703-660-2400; FAX

Submitted By: Ellen Rosenthal

This project is designed to encourage students to learn about the art techniques and aesthetics of another culture while providing a hands-on experience of creating actual works of art. Eighth grade intermediate art students will take a trip to the Smithsonian's Sackler Freer Gallery on the National Mall in Washington DC, with a focus on Chinese painting. The students will also have the opportunity to create their own Chinese Ink paintings in a studio art lesson. Through this project, the students will learn about the forms and techniques of an Asian painting tradition and create original artworks using traditional Asian ink painting materials. Their artwork will be displayed at the school with wall text that addresses the similarities and differences between Asian and Western painting traditions. This exhibition will serve to educate the rest of the school community.

Connecting Our Teachers Through "Creative Connections"

Woodburn Elementary School for the Fine and Communicative Arts

3401 Hemlock Drive, Falls Church, VA 22042; 703-208-7718; FAX 703-208-7689

Submitted By: Leah Greenblatt

This project will provide the framework for an "integration library" at Woodburn Elementary School, which will be introduced to teachers during monthly workshops. The workshops will provide classroom teachers with the support needed to integrate lessons in their own classrooms. Resources will be used to supply lessons, teacher program guides, fine art prints, assessments/studio guides, vocabulary cards, and artist cards. This

program would promote the integration among lessons with different subjects, which is a method to help students learn new information in a creative manner.

Music Composition Master Class

Yorktown High School

5201 North 28th Street, Arlington, VA 22207; 703-228-5400

Submitted By: Kristin Snyder

This program will bring Sajay Mishra, a local Guitar player and composer, to play his original compositions and give students in the Guitar program tips on how to improve their original work. The 75 students in the Yorktown Guitar program will bring their original songs to Sajay Mishra in a master Class format, in which suggestions on how to fill out parts, improve parts or enhance the composition are given, and students learn from each other. The students will perform at a concert at the end of the school year.

Faux Finish Painting Workshop and Set Painting

Yorktown High School

5201 North 28th Street, Arlington, VA 22207; 703-228-5400; FAX 703-228-5430

Submitted By: Carol Cadby

Professional artist, Ginny Loving, will teach a one-week set painting workshop to the students enrolled in Technical Theater, introducing them to a variety of faux finishing techniques. She will also assist the students in painting sets for the Spring Musical *Seussical*, which is being used to encourage literacy among younger students. Learning the faux finishing techniques will greatly enhance the scenery, contributing to a success. Students will also gain valuable instruction in learning painting skills and an artistic approach to set design and painting.

Comedy Improvisation Workshop

Yorktown High School

5201 North 28th Street, Arlington, VA 22207; 703-228-5400; FAX 703-228-5430

Submitted By: Carol Cadby

Comedy Improvisation Workshop will bring a series of workshops, conducted by The Comedy Spot, designed to develop student talent and offer in-depth training in improvisation techniques. This workshop series and the partnership with The Comedy Spot intend to bring professional community resources to all students and to elevate the profile of improvisation as a performing arts medium. The workshop will be open to all Yorktown High School students, who will have the opportunity to hone their performance skills and gain confidence by devising scenes, demonstrating mental quickness, and depicting emotion on stage.