

# The World Around Us



2010/2011 Our 31<sup>st</sup> Year!

## **Kindergarten: *Physical Theater with Gretchen Berg: Dec 2-13***

**[gbergarts@gmail.com](mailto:gbergarts@gmail.com)**

2007 Arts Educator of the Year Gretchen Berg will work with all Brunswick Kindergarten students and their teachers to bring classroom studies to life. Together they will create lively performances about mammals, planets, poetry—each class chooses their subject. All students will be actively involved in the creation and staging of their work, and all will play the roles of performers and audience members. The residency will culminate in an in-class or in-school performance. Gretchen was a member of Celebration Mime Theater and toured with New England Vaudeville Revue. Having earned a Masters in Education from Harvard University in 1998, she works extensively with teachers and graduate students, designing innovative ways to incorporate theater and dance in a variety of educational settings. You are always welcome to visit your child's classroom during Gretchen's workshops.

## **Grade 1/Primary Pod: *Songwriting with Martin Swinger: Oct 25-Nov 3***

**[www.martinswinger.com](http://www.martinswinger.com)**

First Grade and Primary Pod students will join Martin Swinger for Songwriting in the Classroom: music/language activity crossing all curriculums. Martin is a professional musician, songwriter and arts educator. He has been a visiting artist in hundreds of schools around the country, and has recorded 4 CDs, 2 specifically for children. Martin focuses 40 years of performing experience into award-winning original songs, traditional and contemporary Americana music, swing and jazz standards. A veteran of Boston Folk Festival and Kerrville Folk Festival, he is known for his sterling performance and vocal range, surprisingly diverse repertoire and engaging stage presence. With over a hundred performances a year, Martin's talent and experience prove to be a winning combination! Martin encourages parents and friends to visit classrooms and join in the fun!

## **Grade 2: *Antonio Rocha: Storytelling and Mime from Around the World: Oct 6-15***

**[www.storyinmotion.com](http://www.storyinmotion.com)**

Antonio will work with students and their teachers to choose subjects and cultures from which to learn and make performances. A native of Brazil, Antonio began his career in the performing arts in 1985. His work is an eloquent mixture of acting, mime and voice creating a very dynamic and unique experience. In 1988 he received a Partner of the Americas' grant to come to the USA to perform and study with Master Tony Montanaro. Since then he has earned a BA in Theater and studied with French mime Marcel Marceau. Mr. Rocha's unique solo shows of stories and mime have been performed from Singapore to The Yukon, in ten countries on five continents, including The Singapore Festival of the Arts, The National Storytelling Festival, The Kennedy Center, The Smithsonian Institution, The National Geographic, The Tales of Graz Festival in Austria, The Dunya Festival in Holland, schools in Kenya, Cape Town, The Fukugawa Edo Museum in Tokyo, The national Black Storytelling Festival and Conference as well as many others. Parents are welcome to join the circle.

## **Grade 3: *Prints, Ponds and Poems: Katherine Harman Harding: Nov 15-19, 29***

**[www.ospreycovestudio.com](http://www.ospreycovestudio.com)**

Beginning each class with a poem and learning about artists who came before us, students will proceed to making stencils and gelatin prints, each student creating a stack of paper prints to make into a simple book. Each classroom will also make a collective piece. Katherine says, "Ponds, ocean, rivers, streams contain the imagery suggested by studies of vernal pools, plants (biomes), and astronomy (the constellation Pisces). Brunswick is surrounded by, and surrounds water. The community is keenly aware of the integration of the physical space." She'll use examples of water imagery in words, and images like Matisse's cutouts throughout the workshop to inspire the students. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students are studying ponds this year, making Katherine's workshops a perfect fit. Katherine has taught for 30 years in schools, studios and other venues. Currently she teaches at Maine College of Art (MECA) as well as private and group workshops in her Freeport studio. Her work has been shown in exhibitions around the country and in Puerto Rico.

## **Grade 4: *Crazy Art Clocks with Julia Yeo: March 1-17***

**[yeomorton@hotmail.com](mailto:yeomorton@hotmail.com)**

Most recently famous for her Stop-Motion Animation workshops with 4<sup>th</sup> grade students (as shown at Frontier Gallery in Brunswick), Julia Yeo quickly became a local hero. Her incredibly fun projects and ingeniously planned residencies make her a sought-after teacher for children and adults. In this workshop, 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will make real working clocks using foam core as a base. They will be encouraged to collect materials on their own, as well as being supplied with many kinds of 2D and semi-2D parts and objects. Parent volunteers are highly encouraged to join us in the classroom for lots of intricate cutting, painting, gluing and assembling. Julia tells us that in a recent fundraising event, each young artist made 4 clocks with the intention of donating at least 2 to a silent auction. In the end, the students did not want to let their clocks go!

## **Grade 5: *American Songs Workshop with Josephine Cameron: April 25-May 11***

**[www.songwritingforkids.com](http://www.songwritingforkids.com)**

Josie's *Songwriting for Kids* uses traditional folk songs such as *Oh Susannah*, *Red River Valley*, and *Shenandoah* to teach the basics of songwriting. Learning and singing these old songs not only helps students absorb the most fundamental concepts involved in writing a song, but also gives students an opportunity to make a deep connection with history and show how music written 100 and 200 years ago can still hold meaning and depth for people living today. Josie's workshop will spring from the 5<sup>th</sup> grade Civil War studies. Students will join together as a group to write an original song of their own. Josephine has a MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Notre Dame. She has recorded four CDs. Her song "Long Track Blues" was recently included in the New York Times bestseller, *Hip Hop Speaks to Children: A Celebration of Poetry with a Beat*. She has been writing, performing, and working with children for the past 10 years.

Occasionally we take photographs for publicity purposes. Please notify your child's teacher if you do not want your child's photograph used for this purpose.

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