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#38

# MDOE arts ed newsletter



## GREETINGS FROM ARGY'S CUBBY

with a view of the STATE HOUSE DOME at the Department of Education

### SUMMER VACATION

How often have you heard a non-educator remark about how easy teachers have it with summers off? During most of my 30 years of teaching I took advantage of summer to become a better teacher. I attended and presented workshops, enrolled in graduate classes, created art work, read and went to the beach to spend time with my sons. Most of those excursions to the beach were with friends, who weren't only moms, but also, teachers. Many of our conversations

were about teaching! After years of teaching I noticed that I was working at teaching, in the classroom, after school and also on summer vacations. Recently, I had the good fortune to celebrate my birthday on (almost) a perfect day. I went kayaking with a friend, who is a teacher. We started paddling first thing in the morning before the wind came up in Belfast, and headed down the coast. We came back in a bit of a breeze and were glad to set foot on the beach after three hours. We had a delightful lunch and

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"Art is not what you see, but what you make others see."

Edgar Degas

visit at a bookmakers home. Throughout the day our conversation, wove in and out of teaching. Did I learn anything? You betcha, every step of the way. When teaching is in your bones, heart and soul, it is about how to be better at what we do and how to create a learning environment where every student can be successful. Educators know that doesn't come easily, we need to work at it IN and OUT of the classroom. I believe teaching is one of the most important professions. It takes dedicated, passionate teachers everyday. As arts educators we are lucky because not only do we enjoy being with students teaching, but for many of us, what we teach is our avocation. At this point I hope you've rested up from the busy school year and are involved in some form of learning so when you step back in during the next school year you're renewed to reach your students! Every student deserves the best you have to offer!

### **itunes K12**

Be sure and take some time and explore itunes K12 this summer. You will find resources for VPA. If you are interested in contributing content by creating a podcast, please email me [argy.nestor@maine.gov](mailto:argy.nestor@maine.gov) Check it out: <http://deimos3.apple.com/WebObjects/Core.woa/Browse/education-maine.gov.1585826197>

### **GIFTED AND TALENTED**

As part of the establishment of Gifted and Talented programs, opportunities must be provided for students with exceptional abilities in the VPA's. During the 2008-09 school year School Administrative Units are required to plan programs and in 2009-10 programs must be implemented. I have created a document to serve as a guide to help with establishing G/T Arts programs. The document, can be found at <http://www.maine.gov/education/lres/vpa/standards.html> If you have resources to contribute, for others to learn from, please contact me [argy.nestor@maine.gov](mailto:argy.nestor@maine.gov)

### **JOB OPENINGS**

\*\*\***Brattleboro** Union High School, Brattleboro, VT high school photography instructor. For more info contact Gary Blomgren, Arts Dept. Head, 131 Fairground Rd., Brattleboro, VT 05301. Deadline: 7-21 or until filled.

\*\*\***Council of Chief State School Officers** is seeking applicants for the position of Program Assistant for its Arts Education Partnership. For more info <http://www.aep-arts.org/>

\*\*\***Northwest School of the Arts**, Principal, Charlotte, NC. For more info contact Carolyn Allred, Chair, NWSA School Leadership Team, 1415 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte, NC 28216.

### **CENTER THEATRE**

"Journey to the Center of the Earth", shows until July 17th. Info [www.centertheatre.org](http://www.centertheatre.org)

### **WHITNEY ARTWORKS**

Yeshe Joseph Parks is part of a two-person gallery show, July 30-Aug. 30th, Congress St., Portland, for more info: [info@WhitneyArtworks.com](mailto:info@WhitneyArtworks.com)

### **VT STATE DANCE FESTIVAL**

Sat. Nov. 22nd. For more info please call: 802-626-1356, [rebecca.mcgregor@lyndoninstitute.org](mailto:rebecca.mcgregor@lyndoninstitute.org)

### **ME HYSTERICAL SOCIETY**

Appearing at "Birdland Jazz Club" in NYC, July 18th. For info [www.mainehysterical.com](http://www.mainehysterical.com)

### **BATES DANCE FESTIVAL**

I recently spent a delightful afternoon visiting Bates College. What a treat to watch the participants faces of the Young Dancers Workshop, ages 13-18; such joy and passion! I am creating a series of podcasts on the many facets of the Bates Dance Festival. Director Laura Faure and Registrar Nancy Salmon shared the history and details. I had the opportunity to meet and tape two young men who have attended the festival for several years. For more info on programs or performances [www.batesdancefestival.org](http://www.batesdancefestival.org)

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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