

THE SOULARD SCHOOL NEWS

April, 2009
www.soulardschool.org

head of school notes

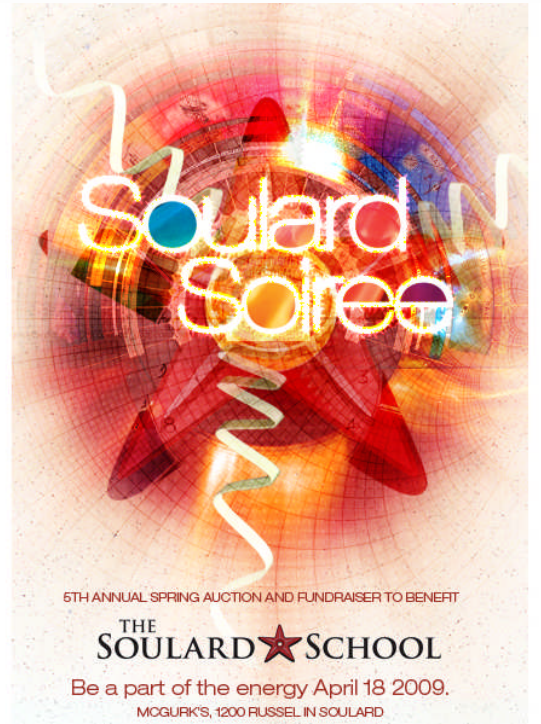
The theme of this year's Soiree is **Energy**. Energy itself is neutral. It is the **human factor that makes it negative or positive**. Children are a natural source of **Renewable energy**. The Soulard School's unique interdependent collaboration with its families is a form of **alternative energy**. And the **School's recent birthday party** required both types of energy and celebrated a third – our **sustainable energy**. Every student contributed to the decorations where positive energy fell from the ceiling and radiated from the walls. **Their positive energy is a constant source of inspiration** to me. While children do consume a great deal of energy, their **energy output is also very significant; not just in quantity, but in quality** as well. Honoring this was the motivation behind the commitment that started 5 years ago. And given that more than 90% of small businesses fail within the first 5 years (and probably more in this economy), a celebration was certainly in order. **It was a great party**. On one of the stars that hung from the ceiling, **a student summed it up best when she wrote:**

"All things at The Soulard School make me want to fly."

- Kelly Bock



The Subjunctive Classroom recently took a fieldtrip to White Flag Projects to see an exhibit of **Gaylen Gerber's** work. There they were treated to a tour by White Flag founder **Matthew Strauss**. In this exhibit Gerber uses color to confuse the viewer to make them consider how the context effects our perception. (Yes, they can tell you what context and perception mean.) These grand ideas will be brought back to the studio where the class will use some of Gerber's ideas as they prepare their own works for the Student Art Show at the end of the month.



soulard soiree

TICKETS TICKETS TICKETS

Lock in the \$40 ticket price by turning in your ticket stubs & money by this **Monday, 4/6**. After that, ticket prices go up to \$50. Make sure you return the ticket stubs with the attendee info filled out on the back – it will make check-in go much faster.

DONATIONS

The **deadline for donations** is also this **Monday, 4/6**. Please let Sarah Christman know about any donations you're getting even if you don't have them "in hand" yet.

updates

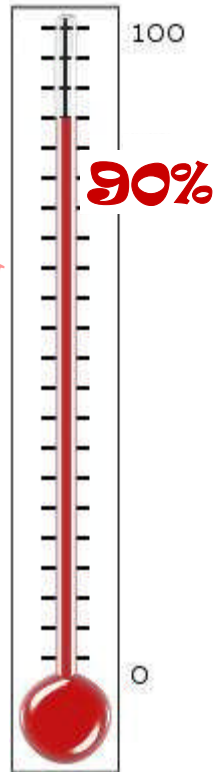
annual giving update

We're getting close! So far the school is 90% of the way to our goal of 100% participation. Has YOUR family contributed to the Annual Giving Campaign yet?

3 Classrooms have reached 100% and had an **ice cream party** (compliments of the Parent Association).

Congratulations
Mosaic,
Subjunctive &
Quietude
classes!

Come on Thrive, Chrysanthemum,
Enigma & Nursery! You can do it!



thrive update

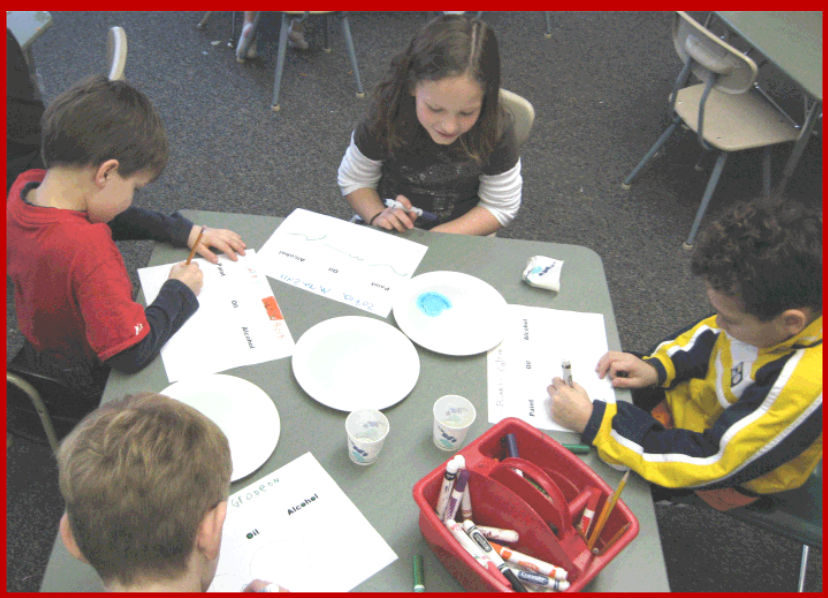
Today we went to the **Kemper Museum** on (Washington University's campus) to see the **Eero Saarinen** exhibit. I liked the chair and airport exhibits because their designs were the most interesting. At the Kemper, in the permanent exhibit room, it had only 2% of their paintings on display. After that we had lunch at the base of the arch. We rode to the top in trams. In my tram was **Sarah, Mirabai, Jina and Amy** and myself. I took lots of pictures at the top and had a great day.

- **Sasha Mothershead**, Thrive student

enigma update

The Enigma Class has spent time **exploring liquids and their characteristics** this year. In this experiment, we added different liquids to water to **see how they reacted**. We added paint and watched it spread. We added oil and noticed that it would not mix with water. Finally we added rubbing alcohol and watched it make the water quiver and create a dry spot in the middle of the puddle. We **recorded our findings and discussed** it as a class.

- **Brandy Hux**, Enigma Teacher



events & happenings

garden work day

Our Landscape Committee will be working around the school **this Saturday, April 4 from 12:00 – 2:00 PM.** If you have time to stop by, we'd be happy to have help. **Bring a rake, shovel, gloves, etc.** We will also need help with watering new grass this spring and over the summer. Please let **Kristine Mothershead** know if you can help with a week or two. Thanks!

teaching peace parade

At the Soulard School we are teaching each other peace everyday, but we have chosen **Earth Day as our special day to parade through the neighborhood**, singing our song. Please join us on **Wednesday, April 22 at 10 AM.** for our parade. The parade should last around an hour. Just in case you've forgotten the words, we'll send home a copy of the song with the weekly update on Friday so you can practice with your child. For those of you who have not heard the song yet, you're in for a treat! This is **a tradition which began at the Little School**, and the **students look forward to it every year.**



Jina & Amy Han – Thrive Rm.
Suzanne & Mick Han

Tyra Syverson – Chrysanthemum Rm.
Mary & Joe Syverson

Essence Thompson – Mosaic Rm.
Ebony Doss

Shuron Jones – Aftercare Specialist
Sarah Klein – Quietude Class Teacher

art & garden festival

The Art and Garden Festival will be **Saturday, May 30,** the day after school finishes. This is our end of the year celebration with lots of food and fun activities for students and their families. We've changed the time this year to **4-7 PM.** so we can **avoid that summer sun** while we wait for the trees in our garden to grow. We'll have **sign-ups for help with preparations** and on that day, but for now ...

SAVE THE DATE!

27 volunteer hours

Have you fulfilled your 3 hours per month of volunteering for the school? If not (or even if you have and would like to help more!), we have lots of events and work to do in the last two months of school. Please check in with Teresa if you need ideas. If you have not signed up for a **Soiree Committee**, we **need help** with some jobs during the evening which don't take you away from the fun, but which really help. Also, remember to **log your volunteer hours** in the small file box on the file cabinet outside Teresa's office door.

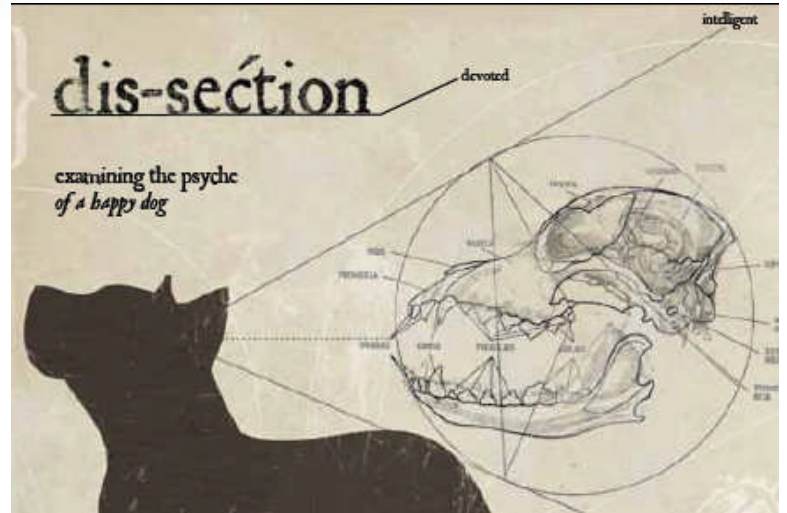
events & happenings



matthew rice ... visiting chef



The Mosaic and Thrive students were treated to a demonstration from **Matthew Rice**, pastry chef from **Niche**, during a nutrition class. Matthew explained his work as a pastry chef and discussed **ways to make desserts healthier**. Students assisted in preparing a pineapple upside cake and homemade frozen yogurt, and even got to sample the final product.



Dog Tales: A Collection of Short Stories from the Canine Perspective, written, illustrated, designed and hand bound by the Thrive Room students of The Soulard School specifically for Dissection. A limited run of 57 books will be made for sale!

You write like a....dog!

About two months ago, I **pitched this idea to the Thrivers** to see if they were interested in participating and with **resounding enthusiasm** we have worked together to make the project even more than I had imagined. We have been meeting officially on Tuesday afternoons, but many of our friends will come to me throughout the day with **questions and ideas about their work** or about **creating the book**. First, I shared examples of **work written from the perspective of a dog** and we discussed the importance of character development, they **wrote their own personal narrative** from the point of view of a dog, some characters are inspired by dogs we know and others are entirely fictional. Now we are **editing** the written work, creating the **illustrations** and next week will start the **design/layout**. Finally, we will **hand bind** the books (a limited edition of **57 copies will be created for sale**).

- **Katie Clancy**, Quietude Teacher

Please join us Saturday, April 25, 2009 at The Old Orchard Gallery to enjoy the artwork created by local artists, Katie Clancy and Lynn Terry as well as, prints, comics, crafts, and written work created by the students of The Soulard School. Proceeds from all hand-made merchandise and artwork benefit Mutts-n-Stuff.



parent association

parent assoc. elections

Congratulations! 2009/10 PA Board NEW OFFICERS

Vice President

★ Kristin Reeder

Secretary

★ Sharon Linde

Homeroom Support Co-Chair,
Elementary

★ Maria Medina

Community Outreach Co-Chairs

★ Sarah Bliss

★ Kathy Kitipitayangkul



Thank you to Jim Barnes, Kristin Reeder, Rhonda Holt, Hala, Maggie & Quinn for tie dyeing the school shirts and making them look so fantastic!

social events committee

UPCOMING ... The Social Events Committee is planning an **April outing** too, on the Professional Development Day. It will be on **April 24**, so **SAVE THE DATE!**

first tuesday coffee



April 7th, 8:30 AM

hosted by your Parent Association

May 5th, 8:30 AM

hosted by the Administration

birthday party ... recap

What do YOU love about the Souldard School?

Students and staff wrote (or drew) on this theme to **celebrate the Souldard School's birthday**. Their responses -- **friendships, teachers, the pond and recess**, to name a few -- decorated the McGurk's room for the March 26 party, along with birthday wishes in many languages from the after-care students and a **beautiful paper cake** created by **Kathy Kitipitayangkul**. The **photo montages of the school's history** were a big hit (don't forget to take your pictures home if you haven't already!). It was especially fun to see Thrive and Mosaic friends as preschoolers! Edible art was provided by culinary arts students, whose **chocolate sheet cake was the centerpiece** while more than a hundred voices **sang "Happy Birthday" to the school**.

**School Closing
Reminder**
4/24 – Prof. Development

THE SOULARD SCHOOL

Thank You to Mona Parsley &
RE/MAX Gold/St. Louis Premier
for providing color copying of
the newsletter

2008/09 SCHOOL CALENDAR EARLY CHILDHOOD & ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

APRIL

3	F	2:30 – 3:30 PM	□	Student Assembly
4*	SA		❖	Garden Work Day
4	SA	5:30 – 10:30 PM	□	Parents Night Out
6	F	6:00 PM	+	Deadline for Auction donations
7	TU	8:30 – 9:00 AM	❖	First Tuesday Coffee – hosted by the Parent Assoc.
17	F		+	Sliding Scale Application due
17	F	2:30 – 3:30 PM	□	Student Assembly – Families invited
18	SA	7:00 – 10:30 PM	□/❖	Soulard Soirée Auction & "Fun"raiser
22	W	10:00 AM	□	Teaching Peace Parade
24	F	all day	⊙	School Closed – Professional Development
24*	F	tba	❖	Social Events Committee Outing

MAY

tba*	tba	10:00 AM – 2:00 PM	□	Student Art Show – open to all
2	SA	5:30 – 10:30 PM	□/❖	Parents Night Out + Parent Social
5	TU	8:30 – 9:00 AM	❖	First Tuesday Coffee – hosted by the Administration*
20	W	tba	❖	Work Night for Art & Garden Festival
22	F	2:30 – 3:30 PM	□	Strings Assembly – Families invited
25	M	all day	⊙	School Closed – Memorial Day
29	F		–	Last Day of School
30	SA	tba	□	Art & Garden Festival

JUNE*

1-5	M-F	9:00 AM – 3:00 PM		Camp Soulard – Science in Your Own Backyard (science experiments)
8-12	M-F	9:00 AM – 3:00 PM		Camp Soulard – Life's a Beach (summer fun with water, sand, etc.)
15-19	M-F	9:00 AM – 3:00 PM		Camp Soulard – Back to the Future (fossils, pyramids, life in the past)

JULY*

No elementary camps during the end of June through July

AUGUST*

3-7	M-F	9:00 AM – 3:00 PM		Camp Soulard – The Art of Storytelling (photography, art, etc.)
10-14	M-F	9:00 AM – 3:00 PM		Camp Soulard – On Stage (two week drama camp)
17-21	M-F	9:00 AM – 3:00 PM		Camp Soulard – On Stage (continued)

* New (or revised) events added to the calendar each month are noted with an asterisk. Last updated 4/3/09.

Key:

- ⊙ School Closed
- School Events
- △ Vacation Care Only
- ❖ Parent Association Events
- + Mandatory Attendance/Deadlines

camp soulard

Camp Soulard will be back by popular demand this summer! Camp is for **students entering grades 1-7** and will be held from 9-3 each day. **Aftercare is available** until 6 p.m. each day for an additional charge. **Before care is available** from 8:00 each morning free of charge. Each week will have a different theme. At this point, the schedule is set, but the themes are not yet certain.

The **cost for summer camp** is \$145/week (the drama camp is \$280 for the two-week session). Aftercare is \$55/week.

The week of Aug. 24 and the two days of Aug. 31 and Sept. 1 will be **Vacation Care only** for those elementary students who need it. This is due to limited staff availability, as we will be doing professional development and beginning of the year meetings for teachers. You will receive more information about this with the camp brochure that will come home soon. The next school year begins September 2.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

The Soulard School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. The Soulard School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.