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Mantua PTA Alert News

November 6, 2012



The Auction is OPEN!

The Mantua PTA Auction opens today! Go to the [AUCTION WEBSITE](#) to request a bidder number and start bidding. There is something for everyone on your holiday list: wine tasting, Amazon gift cards, theatre tickets and more.

The first category "Services and Entertainment" closes Tuesday, November 13th. Bid early and often to raise funds for Mantua Elementary!

The Book Fair is Coming

Mantua's annual Book Fair is right around the corner, with set-up beginning on November 8th! Please note: the flyer that went home last week had an error.

Anyone who wishes to volunteer can sign up [HERE](#).

We particularly need help during the Thanksgiving Luncheons on November 14th and 15th. If you have any questions, please contact [Lori Recher](#). Thank you!

Next PTA Meeting: This Friday

The monthly PTA meeting will be held this Friday, November 9th at 9:30 a.m. in the Mantua Cafeteria. This year the PTA is alternating its monthly meeting schedule between day and evening meetings to help accommodate varying parent schedules. There is no better place to learn from our principal Mrs. Fernandez about today's

hot school topics. Come say hello to Mrs. Fernandez and our assistant principals, Mrs. Tingler and Ms. Alley.

Thanksgiving Luncheons Next Week

Families are invited to join their children for Mantua's Thanksgiving Luncheon, which will be celebrated on two days. Parents and children in grades 4-6 will celebrate on Wednesday, **November 14th** and grades K-3 will celebrate on Thursday, **November 15th**. You received information about the Luncheon in last week's Tuesday folder. Please return your reservation form by this Friday, November 9th. If you have any questions, please call the school at 703-645-6300.

Mantua Drama Club Presentation

Mantua Drama Club presents "Treasure Island." Join us as a cast of 75 students bring this enjoyable story to the stage on Friday, **November 16th** at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, **November 17th** at 2:00 p.m. in the Mantua Elementary School gymnasium. Tickets at the door: \$5 for adults, \$3 for students.

Picture Make-Up Day

Picture make-up day will be held on Wednesday, **November 7th** in the morning only.

Instructions for Portrait Make up Day

Students may be photographed on make up day if:

1. Student was absent on initial portrait day

2. Student has a defective image

3. Student wants portrait retaken - (student must return the original portrait package order with ALL portraits purchased on make up day.)

4. Student wishes to order portraits on the Pre-Order plan and be re-photographed for the new package.

Any student planning to have a picture retaken on November 7th should stop by the main school office and pick up a new Pre-Order envelope price list.

Art Reflections Program: Deadline is this Friday

Create a dance, draw a picture, write a story or a poem! The Arts Reflections Program is here! If your child has a love of the arts, this program is for them! This competition is open to all elementary grades K-6. Categories include: dance choreography, music composition, film production, photography, literature, and visual arts. The 2012-13 theme is "The Magic of the Moment." How does it work? Have your child think about the theme, create an original piece of work in any of the above mentioned categories, and then submit that work no later than **Friday, November 9th** in the PTA office mail box. It's THAT easy!! An entry form went home in recent Tuesday folders but if you did not receive one, please click [HERE](#) to download one. If you have any questions or need further information, please email [Lori Prendergast](mailto:Lori.Prendergast).

Student Directory: IMPORTANT UPDATE

The PTA is in the process of creating this year's student and family Directory. The front office's new system has created some challenges for the process, and the

Directory will be released later than usual, but **HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:**

Each family has received a system-generated email soon, containing your family's current information. Please monitor all parent email in-boxes for the message, and follow the directions given to update or confirm your desired Directory information. Families without an email address on file were sent a paper version of the email.

The deadline for updating your information will be **November 11th**. At that point we will close corrections for the printed Directory, although you can request changes to the online directory after that day by contacting the [Web Parent](#).

Order Your Mantua Yearbook

It's time to place an order for a Mantua yearbook! Please note that in order to cut PTA costs, yearbook orders will be placed **ONLINE** only. You should have already received an email from Jostens directing you to their [website](#). If you experience any difficulty, please contact the [Yearbook Committee](#).

The price of the yearbook is \$25 and orders can only be placed and paid for through Josten's [website](#) or by phone at 1-866-282-1516. Jostens also offers an "e-check" option on their website. Please order your yearbook in the next couple of weeks to avoid late order charges.

We are very proud to announce and congratulate our winners of the yearbook cover contest held among 6th grade students! The artwork of Lucy Clarke (Mrs. Lewis) and Alina Jones (Mrs. Anderson) will be featured on the front cover and Savina Yang's (Mrs. Andersen) will be on the back cover! Several other impressive entries from Christina Kearney, Kevin Liang, Marlaina Horewitz, Rayna Lifland, Skye

Ehlert, Katrina Day, and Sarah Tadlock will be used as backgrounds inside the yearbook.

Order information was sent home last week in your child's Tuesday folder. If you have any questions, please contact us by [email](#) or call Yelena Jones at 703-501-9597.

Art Room Request

The art room requests donations of baby food jars. If you are able to donate, please run the jars through a hot cycle in your dishwasher and thoroughly dry them before delivering them to school. The lids are not needed.

Counselor's Corner

November is National Career Awareness Month

VA Career View website provides free career searches, interest inventories, games, and fun facts. Visit <http://vaview.org>. This week's highlighted career: Digital Artist. For more information and resources, go to <http://vaview.org/k5/whats-that/unusual-occ/digital-artist>.

Helping Children Cope With Natural Disasters

Perhaps most important to keep in mind, are these tips for helping children in terms of crisis and stress:

- Try and keep routines as normal as possible. Kids gain security from the predictability of routine, including attending school.
- Limit exposure to television and the news.
- Be honest with kids and share with them as much information as they are

developmentally able to handle.

- Listen to kids' fears and concerns.
- Reassure kids that the world is a good place to be, but sometimes bad things happen.
- Parents and adults need to first deal with and assess their own responses to crisis and stress.
- Rebuild and reaffirm attachments and relationships.

(Borrowed from the American School Counseling Association. For more information and resources, please visit

<http://www.schoolcounselor.org/content.asp?contentid=699>.)

Summer Enrichment Opportunities

UVA's Curry School of Education is offering 2013 Saturday Enrichment Programs for students in grades K-5. For more information, visit their website at <http://curry.virginia.edu/sep>. Need-based Financial Aid is available.

Support Mantua While Shopping on Amazon

Please support Mantua when you shop for the holidays, birthdays and gifts! By using the Amazon link on the Mantua PTA website, you can shop (privately and securely) and Mantua can receive up to 10% of your purchase. To get started, simply go to the [PTA website](#) and start shopping! By accessing Amazon through the Mantua PTA website, you will be on your way to shopping and supporting your favorite school!

A Message from FCPS: Rescheduled Date for Listening Tour on Fairfax

High-Lanier Middle Scope of Boundary Study

Fairfax County Public Schools has rescheduled one of the dates for a listening tour for parents and citizens to help determine which schools are included in the scope of study of the upcoming Fairfax High-Lanier Middle School boundary study. The meetings scheduled for October 29th at Fairfax High School and October 30th at Frost Middle School were cancelled due to inclement weather. The meeting at Fairfax High School has been rescheduled for Monday, November 26th, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Citizens who registered for the meeting at Frost Middle School are welcome to sign up for the November 5th meeting at Robinson Secondary School, the November 12th meeting at Woodson High School, or the November 26th meeting at Fairfax High School.

The boundary study, which will begin in early 2013, will address current and projected overcrowding in Fairfax High and Lanier Middle Schools. Those planning to attend the listening tour meetings are asked to register [online](#). Interested residents can also submit questions and comments [online](#) through Friday, November 30th. More information about these listening tour meetings is available [online](#).

Important Upcoming Events

Tues. Nov 6: Silent Auction BEGINS!

Wed. Nov 7: School Picture Make-Up Day

Fri. Nov 9: PTA Meeting

Fri. Nov 9: Book Fair BEGINS!

Fri. Nov 9: Reflections Contest Deadline

Fri. Nov 9: Deadline for Thanksgiving Luncheon Reservations

Wed. Nov 14 & Thurs. Nov 15: Thanksgiving Luncheon

Woodson Presents "Bye Bye Birdie!"

Woodson High School presents their production of the musical "Bye Bye

Birdie." Upcoming shows are this coming weekend on **November 9th** at 7:30 p.m. and **November 10th** at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

"Yes, You Can Raise Financially Aware Kids" Workshop Rescheduled

Understanding how to raise financially aware kids is important so that children learn what they can do with money early in life. By forming good financial habits early, your children can apply what they learn at home as they grow to face financial expectations in the adult world. Join us on Wednesday, **December 5th** at 7:00 p.m. (rescheduled from October 29th) for this informative workshop. We'll discuss money values, allowances, putting your money to work, smart spending and understanding a child's needs versus wants, and how to involve kids in the family finances. Our guest speaker will be Sam Eisen, fellow Mantua resident and Virginia Chapter Director of the Foundation for Personal Financial Education (FPFE), a non-profit 501c3 organization dedicated to financial awareness in the community. Child care will be available for a nominal fee. More information can be found [HERE](#). Contact Margaret.Scheele@yahoo.com to register or with any questions.

Woodson High School Craft Show

Please come to the Holiday Happenings Craft Show, where you will find over 90 crafters! You can get your holiday shopping done in one day and give that special someone a one of a kind handmade gift. Or, come find a little something for yourself. The show will take place on **November 10th** from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. There will be concessions and a bake sale.

Alert News Contributions

Send items via email to alertnews@mantuapta.org.

Submissions MUST be received by the Friday before distribution in order to be included.

如果您需要一份中文的曼图亚小学校园新闻周刊，请联系潘红女士。电话：703-939-3403 电子信箱：hpan.home@gmail.com.

한국어로 번역된 뉴스를 받아보시기 원하시는분은 크리스티씨께 연락주세요. 전화 703-865-8065, 이메일 choichristie@yahoo.com.

Nếu quý vị muốn nhận tin tức "the Alert News" được dịch ra tiếng Việt , xin liên lạc sonha60@hotmail.com

Si desea recibir una copia de esta informacion en Espanol, porfavor llame Gabriella Numbela a 703-573-6375 or e-mail a ganumbela@hotmail.com.

2012-13 FCPS & PTA Calendar at a Glance [HERE](#)

Mantua Parent Handbook [HERE](#)

* Stay informed all year long by visiting our website: www.MantuaPTA.org

* Are you on Facebook? Stay informed by joining us: [HERE](#)

Sincerely,

Mantua Elementary School PTA

