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# Mantua PTA Alert News

## March 15, 2011



### PTA Nominating Committee Formed

Thanks to the three volunteers who have stepped up to form the nominating committee for next year's PTA Board. Monica Cameron, Shannon Murphy and Lori Prendergast will be sending out notices in the next few weeks seeking volunteers who might be interested in serving. If you are thinking about getting involved, or have questions, please contact Monica Cameron at [monica.cameron@cox.net](mailto:monica.cameron@cox.net), Shannon Murphy at [shannon.murphy29@verizon.net](mailto:shannon.murphy29@verizon.net), or Lori Prendergast at [Loripren@yahoo.com](mailto:Loripren@yahoo.com).

### Mantua Spring Carnival March 26

Calling All Super Heroes! The Mantua Spring Carnival is Coming! Be sure to join us for the Super Hero Spring Carnival on March 26, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. New this year will be wristbands, which will allow UNLIMITED play at all of the game booths except the climbing wall and dunk tank. Come to the carnival and enjoy the cakewalk, face painting, and games. For just \$2, see how high your family can climb the rock wall or test their pitching arms at the dunk tank. Don't forget to bring some money for food and cotton candy. With new games and prizes, there will be something for everyone!

Wristbands are \$20 for the first, and \$15 for additional bands at the time of purchase, with a \$60 per household cap. Wristband sale hours will be: Thursday, March 24, 8:30-9 a.m.; Friday, March 25, 8:30-9 a.m. and 6-8 p.m.; Saturday, March 26, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Contact carnival co-chairs Sally Meyer, [smeyer824@verizon.net](mailto:smeyer824@verizon.net) or Julie Lifland, [julielifland@yahoo.com](mailto:julielifland@yahoo.com) with questions.

### Spring Picture Day Scheduled for March 24

Individual and class portraits will be taken March 24. There will be no make-up for spring photos. If portraits are not paid for on the day they are taken, a proof will be sent home and parents will have to order online. Late payments will not be accepted.

### *Kids Care Club Book Collection Update*

March is half over and Mantua's Kids Care Club (KCC) has collected more than 550 books (our goal was 250 books) to donate to the Starlight Foundation (<http://www.starlight-midatlantic.org/>)! The collection box will remain near the front entrance for the rest of the month. Books should be new or gently used for children birth to 18. Thanks to all who contributed. It shows the community just how much Mantua cares.

### *PTA Art Reflections Final Cluster 3 Results*

This year Mantua had a record number of entries go onto the cluster 3 level. The following students won awards at the cluster level:

#### *Outstanding Interpretation (1st place)*

Kayley Snyder for Film Production-intermediate grades (3rd-5th)

#### *Award of Excellence (2nd place)*

Amelia Kim for Visual Arts-primary grades (K-2nd)

John DeCarlo for Visual Arts-middle grades (6th-8th grades)

#### *Award of Merit (3rd place)*

Vijay Suruthikha for Musical Composition-primary grades (K-2nd)

Maya Heinzen for Photography-intermediate grades (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>)

Sammy Hong for Visual Arts-intermediate grades (3rd-5th)

Congratulations to all of our Mantua students who participated in this year's Art Reflections program!

### *Chat 'n' Chew Program Wraps Up*

Mantua has not had a book club program in a few years, but this year it returned as the Chat 'n' Chew Program. Fourth, fifth, and sixth graders enjoyed a discussion once a month in the library during their lunch period for the months of December, January, February and March. Thank you to the 10 parent volunteers who came once a month to lead their group in the book discussion. The PTA received positive

feedback about this program and the students who participated really enjoyed themselves. None of it would have been possible without the help of Lesley McKnight, Beth Goldberg, Gloria Bownas, Teresa Willebeck-LeMair, Elizabeth Philip, Tracy Stickley, Trish Salopek, Adele Logan Galen, Megan Holtlander and Margaret Scheele.

### *Box Tops, Labels for Education*

Congratulations to Ms. Cutrell's class! Her kindergarten class will receive a special prize for collecting the most Box Tops labels during the spring contest period. Our goal was to earn \$1,500 this year - enough for one classroom SmartBoard. Thanks to all who have sent in labels, we have earned \$1,722 so far.

#### *Labels for Education*

Mantua is collecting Labels for Education UPC labels found in various products such as Campbell's soups, Prego, Post Cereals, and Pop Secret. The collection of these labels will help us earn points to redeem for art supplies, electronics, PE equipment, teacher and classroom resources and lots more. You can just put these labels in the Box Tops collection box. These labels also will be counted toward future contests so make sure to label your bag with the teacher's name and grade on it.

### *Mantua Heritage Showcase and Literacy Night April 7*

The annual event highlights the many cultures represented within the Mantua school community. In addition, classroom teachers will be on hand to show parents what their students have been doing this year as part of Literacy Night. Heritage Showcase is from 6 to 7 p.m. in the gym and Literacy Night is from 7 to 8 p.m. in classrooms.

### *Important Upcoming Events*

Thurs. Mar. 24: Spring Individual & Class Photos

Sat. Mar. 26: Mantua Carnival

Mon. Apr. 4: School Closed for Teacher Workday

Wed. Apr. 6: PTA Meeting

Thurs. Apr. 7: Heritage Showcase & Literacy Night

### *National PTA Launches Anti-Bullying Initiative*

Please see the informational fliers in the following links if you have concerns about

bullying: [What You Should Know](#), [What You Can Do](#), [How to Make Sure Your Child Doesn't Become the Bully](#), and [Where You Can Go to Find Help](#).

### Town Hall Meeting on Student Discipline

Mason District School Board Member Sandy Evans and Fairfax County Supervisor Penny Gross will hold a town hall meeting on Saturday, March 19, to address troubled teens and student discipline. The meeting will take place at Falls Church High School Little Theater from 1 to 3 p.m. See the Town Hall announcement [HERE](#).

The school board started reviewing student discipline issues this week. To see Ms. Evans' recent newsletter column on student discipline issues, please go to her website at [evansschoolboard.blogspot.com](http://evansschoolboard.blogspot.com).

### Parent Workshop: "Ten Secrets to Stop Defiance and Power Struggles"

Kirk Martin and his son Casey will be presenting a free parent workshop on "Ten Secrets to Stop Defiance and Power Struggles," on Wednesday, March 16, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, at George Marshall High School, Falls Church. Go to [Celebrate Calm](#) to watch a preview.

### Techstravaganza Day at TJHSST on April 9

Techstravaganza is a science, technology, math, and engineering exploration day sponsored by Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology's TWIST students (Tomorrow's Women in Science and Technology). It is intended for upper elementary (approx. grades 3-6) and middle school students and their parents, who will have the opportunity to conduct hands-on science experiments, as well as witness demonstrations and speak to scientists. Activities will be run by TJHSST students and faculty, as well as professionals from sponsoring organizations, including Exxon Mobil, Northrop Grumman, NASA, Women in Technology, and others. Techstravaganza is free and all are welcome! For more information, click [HERE](#).

### Woodson Precisionettes Dance Camp, April 4

The last Woodson Precisionettes Dance Camp of the year will be held Monday, April 4 (a teacher workday). It will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a parent/guest show at 1:30 p.m. The dancers will learn a dance routine, dance techniques, have a camp

picture taken and make a craft. The fee is \$50. Contact camp coordinators Made Weaver, at [madelynweaver@yahoo.com](mailto:madelynweaver@yahoo.com), or Anne Foster, at [anne.foster55@yahoo.com](mailto:anne.foster55@yahoo.com), for information, or to obtain a registration form.

### Woodson Girls Basketball Camp

Campers will learn about the fundamentals of basketball in addition to basketball skill work. Daily fun activities include "Wear Woodson Colors Day," "Player of the Day Recognition" from each team, "Aspire Higher Idol Day," and "Karaoke." The camp is June 27-July 1, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., for ages 8-14. Click [HERE](#) for more information and an application form.

### Toiletries Being Collected for Family Pass Organization

For a yearlong National Junior Honor Society project, the Luther Jackson Middle School 8th grade students of Group Nine are assisting the Family Pass Organization in collecting items to help families that are financially struggling. These families need a little extra help to get back on their feet, and taking care of the cost of their daily necessities will be of a great help. Please support Family Pass by donating materials such as travel-sized deodorants, body washes, and dishwashing and laundry detergents. A collection box is located in the front hallway. Contact the group at [groupnine1j@gmail.com](mailto:groupnine1j@gmail.com) with questions.

### Alert News Contributions

Send items via email to [alertnews@mantuapta.org](mailto: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，请联系雷晓春女士。电话：703-425-1097 电子信箱：[sabrina.lei@yahoo.com](mailto:sabrina.lei@yahoo.com)

한국어로 번역된 뉴스를 받아보시기 원하시는 분은 크리스티씨께 연락주세요. 전화 703-865-8065, 이메일 [choichristie@yahoo.com](mailto:choichristie@yahoo.com).

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

Si desea recibir una copia de esta informacion en Espanol, porfavor llame Gabriel Numbela a 703-573-6375 or e-mail a [ganumbela@hotmail.com](mailto:ganumbela@hotmail.com).

For more information, please visit our website:

[www.MantuaPTA.org](http://www.MantuaPTA.org)

Sincerely,

Mantua Elementary School PTA

