



Wisconsin Teachers of Local Culture

September 08, 2011

Hello Wisconsin Teachers of Local Culture!

With good wishes to you all for a great semester and academic year, here's the first of the new season's Local Culture News of Note.

Anne

LOCAL CULTURE IN THE NEWS

Bright colors spark positives in students

Kenosha News (subscription required)

WHEATLAND — "Wheatland Center School students returned to a vibrant, colorful atmosphere Thursday — classrooms of fuchsia, lime green and bright orange inspired by a trend in European schools that associates bright colors with bright minds. "We knew the school needed to be painted but we didn't want to use the same old stale color pallet that gives schools an institutional feel," said administrator Jason Tadlock."

Migrant children learn at Hardy's Art Camp

Door County Advocate

"The Hardy Gallery recently completed its Art Camp, held in conjunction with Gibraltar School's Migrant Education Program. The program takes place annually during a three-week period in July and August, when a large group of migrant farm workers arrives in Door County to help harvest the Peninsula's cherry crop. The Hardy's involvement with the program dates to the early 2000s."

Making friends in faraway places

Racine Journal Times

"High schooler Mary Zicarelli watched as Nicaraguan youth performed traditional folklore dances, acting out scenes of daily life like washing clothes and farming. In exchange Mary and her group of American students showed the Nicaraguans the "Cha Cha Slide," playing

the instructions-based dance tune off someone's iPod. This cultural presentation was just a small part of Mary's two-week summer trip to Nicaragua. She traveled there in July with other southeastern Wisconsin students to learn about Nicaraguan culture and volunteer wherever needed."

Forbes totally hearts Eau Claire, ranks us high on 'Best Small Places' list

Volume One Magazine

"We're blushing. Forbes keeps a list of the Best Small Places for Business and Careers in the entire goll-dang country and guess who's sitting at number 38? Little ol' Eau Claire. Yep, Forbes likes us. Maybe we'll start returning its calls."

TECHNOLOGY AND TEACHING

Project Classroom: Transforming Our Schools for the Future

The Atlantic

"In 2003 the iPod was a relatively new gadget for listening to music. Billboard ads showed young people dancing, iPods in hand. Few people would have pinpointed this newfangled Walkman as a powerful teaching tool."

EVENTS

Local German Club Hosts International Plattdeutsch Conference

WSAW

September 9 – 11

"The Pommerscher Verein German Club of Central Wisconsin is hosting the 16th annual International Plattdeutsch Conference at the Holiday Inn and Suites in Wausau, September 9-11. Plattdeutsch, also known as Low German was the preferred language of many of the Pomeranian immigrant families who settled in Lincoln and Marathon counties and has survived in Central Wisconsin for over 150 years."

Music Fest replaces Polish Fest, but polka music will be part of the event

Wisconsin Dells Events

September 9 - 10

"The event replaces the annual Polish Fest. Polish Fest started as Polish Day in 1987, a one-day picnic with no music, run by the Polish Club of the Wisconsin Dells. In 1990 Patrick Cukierka and Richard Makowski took control of the event, added music and called it Polish Fest. As the event grew it needed larger venues. It moved from a site known as the "Dells Crossroads," to Riverview Park, and to Makowski's hotel where it stayed until 2005. In 2005, the festival moved to Mount Olympus where it stayed until this year, when it became Music Fest."

Green Bay filmmaker Meghan Parkansky showcases craziness of Packers fans in documentary

Gannett Wisconsin Newspapers

Sept. 10: Kroc Center, 1315 Lime Kiln Road, Green Bay. 7 p.m.

Sept. 12: De Pere Cinema, 417 George St., De Pere. 7 p.m.

Sept. 14: Fox Cinema Cafe, 400 Third St., Menasha. 7 p.m.

Sept. 19: Downer Theatre, 2589 N. Downer Ave., Milwaukee. 7 p.m.

"When time finally expired in the fourth quarter of Super Bowl XLV in Arlington, Texas, Packer fans in and around Cowboys Stadium screamed, hugged and wept. Not Meghan Parkansky. Sure, she was excited her hometown Packers had defeated the Pittsburgh Steelers to bring the Lombardi Trophy back to Titledown, but she had work to do. The 25-year-old was busy filming the elated fans in green and gold filing — and fist-pumping — out of the stadium for her documentary "eXtreme. Loyal. Victorious ... The Packers Fan Experience."

10 cents buys a book at Milwaukee Public Library sale

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

September 17

"Two great notions: books and cheap."

Wisconsin Science Festival highlights connection between science, art

UW Madison News

September 23 – 25

"What happens when you mix one part Aldo Leopold, another part Frank Lloyd Wright and add a pinch of Indiana Jones? Anyone can find out with a visit to the first [Wisconsin Science Festival](#), an educational and fun-filled exploration of science and art taking stage across several sites in Madison from Sept. 22-25."

FUNDING

The Great American Teach-Off

Americans for the Arts

Know a great teacher who fosters innovation and creativity in the classroom? They could win \$10K! <http://bit.ly/oWLMRU>

Think Outside the Classroom

Americans for the Arts

Target is offering Field Trip Grants to send school kids to museums, plays and other out-of-classroom learning experiences. <http://fb.me/HUCHkGVG>

Nominations Invited for Carnegie Corporation of New York/New York Times I Love My Librarian Award

The Carnegie Corporation of New York ,et al, Philanthropy News Digest

Deadline: September 12

"The Carnegie Corporation of New York/New York Times I Love My Librarian Award encourages library users in the United States to recognize the accomplishments of exceptional public, school, and college librarians. Administered by the American Library Association, with support from Carnegie Corporation of New York and the New York Times, the awards program seeks nominations that describe how a librarian is improving the lives of people in a school, campus, or community."

Original iPhone Film Fest Call for Entries

Screen Magazine

Deadline: September 30

"The Original iPhone Film Fest (OIFF), a groundbreaking online contest showcasing iPhone filmmaking, is excited to announce that it is now accepting submissions for its inaugural event. Entries will be accepted through September 30, 2011 and winners announced in October. In addition to an online showcase, the winning films will receive prizes provided by Zacuto USA, ALM Live, iStabilizer, and Geneva Lab with a grand prize of an iPad2."

For folks in Dane County:

Distinctly Dane Special Grant Opportunity

Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission

Deadline: October 1

"The Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission re-introduces a special grant opportunity honoring Dane County's 175th Anniversary Celebration in 2011 (see www.danecounty175.org). Funding is provided by the County, along with Madison Gas & Electric Foundation, Dan Erdman, Electronic Theatre Controls and Cuna Mutual Group. Distinctly Dane focuses upon our sense of place, belonging, and identity as expressed by Dane County voices. Dane County's past, present, and future will be featured in selected grant projects. The Commission hopes this theme inspires new local arts, culture and history projects and programs representing a broad range of topics such as our Native American ancestors, agricultural roots, conservation legacy, ever-growing ethnic and cultural diversity, devotion to sustainability, mixture of rural, natural and urban landscapes, locally-grown, shared values, aspirations for the future of our Dane County home, and more."

American Indian Language Grants

DPI ConnectED

Deadline: October 14

Applications for [American Indian Language Revitalization Grants](#) are now available. Public school districts or cooperative educational service agencies (CESAs) that partner with a tribal government are eligible to compete for approximately seven to ten grant awards of up

to \$35,000 (potentially more for consortium awards). Funds may be used for activities related to providing instruction in one or more tribal languages as curricular or co-curricular offerings, such as curriculum design, creation of appropriate assessment instruments, professional development activities, language related activities for parents and community members, instructional delivery, and program evaluation.

Art, Video, Music, Writing Contests from WASB

DPI ConnectED

Deadlines: November, 2011

"The [Wisconsin Association of School Boards](#) (WASB) has announced guidelines for its Student Art and Video contests (deadlines are in November), as well as its Music Showcase and Write and Illustrate Your Own Picture Book! competitions (deadlines are in June). Winning entries in each contest will be displayed at the 2012 State Education Convention, January 18-20 in Milwaukee (the top musical groups get to perform there). The [Wisconsin Art Exhibits and Awards](#) are open to public school students in grades 7-12. The [WASB Student Video Contest](#) gives students the opportunity to develop creative, thought-provoking videos individually, in a small group, or as a class project. Students must be in grades 7-12. Musical groups from grades 6-12 may send audition tapes to the [Music Showcase](#). For [Write and Illustrate Your Own Picture Book!](#), teachers submit up to 10 of the most exemplary picture books per classroom (any K-12 public school student is eligible). To hold these competitions, WASB collaborates with the [Wisconsin Art Education Association](#), the [Wisconsin Educational Media Technology Association](#), and the [Wisconsin School Music Association](#)."

RESOURCES

Festival Radio

Smithsonian Institution

All the sounds from this year's Smithsonian Folklife Festival are streaming for free on the Smithsonian's Folklife Festival website, including the music of Colombia and sounds from countries the Peace Corps serves, as well as *Smithsonian Focus's* favorite, *Boogie Woogie Piano from Smithsonian Folkways*, which features driving rhythm combined with stylized, syncopated bluesy improvisations. Adapted for guitar and other instruments, the boogie-woogie sound has become one of the most distinct idioms in the American blues repertoire.

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