

Contact:
Brenda S. Thomas
brenda@bcrac.org
570.268.ARTS (2787)



Students at Blossburg Elementary create a
Pirate Ship with Theatre Artist Rand Whipple

Press Release

**For Immediate Release
May 13, 2009**

**Bradford County Regional Arts Council
Arts in Education Programs
Information Packets and Request for Funding Forms now available**

Bradford County Regional Arts Council announces Arts in Education Programs available for the 2009-2010 school year: Information packets include details on the following programs: the Artist in Residence program, Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Contest for High School students, and the Endless Mountains Digital Film Festival.

The Artist-in-Residence program places practicing professional artists listed in the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts' statewide *Directory of Artists in Residence* in host organizations such as schools, day care centers, youth groups, rehabilitation centers, and special needs facilities, for an extended time period. Host organizations and artists work together to develop and implement an artist residency designed to engage students, teachers, and the community in the creative process within one or more art forms. Intended to enhance existing curriculum or address community issues, the residency concentrates on a core group of participants but benefits the entire organization and community through workshops, presentations, and culminating events.

For Immediate Release

more

The National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation, joined with the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and Bradford County Regional Arts Council to kick-off *Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest*

Poetry Out Loud builds on the recent resurgence of poetry as an oral art form. Consider the immense popularity of rap music and poetry slams among our young people. The program encourages the nation's youth to learn about great poetry by memorizing and performing this great work. This helps students master public speaking skills, build their self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage.

Starting at the classroom level each fall, teachers are provided with free multimedia curriculum materials – a poetry anthology, audio guide, teachers' guide, posters, and comprehensive website, <http://www.poetryoutloud.org>, all according to national educational standards – to augment their regular curriculum with poetry recitation and a school-wide competition. Champions advance to a regional competition with those winners advancing to the state finals. Last year's state finals were held in the Governor's Residence in Harrisburg and televised by Pennsylvania Cable Network. Our state champion will represent Pennsylvania in Washington, DC. In spring of 2010, ***Poetry Out Loud*** will award over \$100,000 in scholarships to students and grants to schools.

Schools, pre-schools, day care centers, Head Start Centers, community organizations and any other non-profit groups in Bradford, Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Sullivan, Tioga and Wyoming Counties interested in any of the above mentioned programs should contact Brenda S. Thomas, BCRAC, at 570-268-2787 or brenda@bcrac.org to receive an information packet.

The Northern Tier Partnership for Arts in Education (NTPAIE) is one of many regional service providers selected by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts (PCA) to work in partnership with the state in designing and creating initiatives on a regional level to make a significant impact on arts in education opportunities across the state. The NTPAIE is facilitated by the Bradford County Regional Arts Council and serves Bradford, Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Sullivan, Tioga, and Wyoming Counties.

More information at <http://www.bcrac.org>