

## **Arlington Educational Enrichment Fund – Funding the Future!**

*The AEEF congratulates our Fall 2007 grant recipients:*

### **Weather & Time: Weather Station & Sundial at the Bishop Playground**

Students at the Bishop School will leave the classroom behind, moving outside to study weather and planetary science. An AEEF grant will furnish the Bishop School playground with a sundial and other traditional (that is, non-electronic) weather instruments such as weather vanes and rain gauges. Students will make direct observations and measurements, engaging in hands-on data collection to reinforce concepts studied in the classroom.

### **Learning from International Friendship**

In collaboration with volunteers from the Arlington-Teosinte Sister City Project, Brackett teachers will develop a curriculum based on life in the village of Teosinte, El Salvador. Fourth graders will gain global awareness by experiencing elements of life in another country through art, music, writing and literature. Spanish students from Arlington High School will translate letters for a letter exchange between Brackett fourth graders and children in Teosinte. (Supported by the AEEF Martin Luther King, Jr., Fund.)

### **Colonial Times**

This spring, Bishop third graders will present the "Thirteen Colonies", a full-length musical play, to the entire school community. Preparing for this production will provide a fun way to reinforce students' knowledge of important characters and events from American History. Fourth and fifth graders at Bishop will join the third graders in preparing the production, working on teams to design the set, costumes, and props. (Supported by the AEEF Performing Arts Fund.)

### **Exploring the World Above Us: Understanding Weather**

The Peirce Science and Math Enrichment Committee is committed to finding more ways for students to learn science through hands-on experiences. Thanks to a grant from the AEEF, Peirce students will participate in a school-wide kite demonstration/workshop and will explore and observe weather phenomena through the use of basic weather monitoring instruments.

### **Thompson Photography Book**

In the spring of 2007, an AEEF Snap Grant supported the founding of a Photography Club at Thompson. Now AEEF is providing additional funds to create and distribute a book that displays, celebrates, and publicizes students' photographs. This book will also provide a permanent record of the many enrichment events that are an integral part of the Thompson School experience.

### **Beauty is Not Black and White**

Using the Dove Campaign for Real Beauty and Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye* as inspiration, students in Leia Richardson's Women and Literature class at Arlington High School will create an art installation that depicts girls and women doing things that they care about. This display will challenge society's perceptions and offer a more inclusive vision of beauty for the high school community to consider. (Supported by the AEEF Women in Professions Fund.)

### **Sharing the Pride at Stratton**

As a continuation of the Stratton Pride project funded by AEEF in the fall 2006, Stratton students will design and create quilt squares representing one of the Stratton **PRIDE** characteristics (**P**erseverance, **R**espect and **R**esponsibility, **I**ndependence, **D**etermination, or **E**mpowerment). The quilt squares will be joined to create Pride Quilts for each grade, and the quilts will be displayed at a school-wide Art Night and other venues in town.

### **Playing with Poetry**

Andrew Green of Potato Hill Poetry will visit the Peirce School for a school-wide assembly followed by workshops in every classroom that inspire students to experiment and create their own poems. The finished works will be part of an evening, school-wide Poetry Jam in April.

### **Where I Come From**

Victor Cockburn from The Troubadour Program will make multiple visits to Dallin kindergarten classes to develop literacy skills through poetry and song writing while exploring racial and cultural diversity. The project will culminate in a performance for all Dallin students.

### **Bridging the Gap: Poetry Out Loud**

Arlington senior citizens will join Ottoson sixth graders in workshops and performances as they learn about, create, and perform poetry. Poet Jessie Brown will lead the workshops, which augment units taught by sixth grade teachers.

### **Primary Source Membership**

With partial support from the AEEF, Arlington Public Schools will become a member of Primary Source, a non-profit organization that promotes education for global understanding. This membership will permit teachers in all of Arlington's public schools to access materials and attend seminars and workshops related to non-Western history. This exposure will greatly enhance English and Social Studies curricula with topics relating to Japan, China, Africa, and Latin America.