



SPRINGHURST QUARTERLY

The Whole Child School

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Students Publish Folksy Tales

Springhurst students published their first collection of short stories this past spring. Inspired by African folk tales, the students each wrote an illustrated story for the volume. The young authors ranged in age from 3½ to 9 years old. They spent several days preparing the stories and then creating pictures to accompany each one. The final draft was sent to a publisher for reproduction and bindery. Entitled *Folksy Tales*, the hardback book was available as a limited edition to Springhurst families and friends. Based on the success of the project, it will surely become a Springhurst tradition. Although you can't find a copy on Amazon.com, you are welcome to stop by and read a copy in our school library. One of the eleven tales appears on page three of this newsletter. ■



Enrolling Now!

Enrollment for the 2001-2002 school year continues but space is limited. Springhurst has a few openings at all levels from ages four to 12 — early kindergarten to sixth grade.

The enrollment process includes visiting the school, submitting an application and test scores, and a teacher recommendation. There are no application fees or charges beyond our reasonable tuition.

Springhurst is an appropriate choice for gifted children who need a challenging, highly individualized school experience. Limited financial assistance is available, including special scholarship opportunities for school-age girls.

If you are interested in our exceptional school, please call or write to schedule a visit. Contact us via e-mail at admissions@springhurst.org or phone 425-827-7617. ■

Springhurst In Spain

Springhurst sponsored its first international summer program this year, sending school director Seth! Leary and a group of gifted students from area schools to Spain from July 30 to August 13. While there, they attended the Biennial Conference of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children in Barcelona. Following the conference, they embarked on an 11-day guided tour of Spain. The 14th Biennial Conference of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children, co-sponsored by Centro Huerta del Rey, brought



Students & Seth! in Barcelona

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The Latest From The Lab

The Springhurst computer lab has been upgraded again, this time with a set of brand-new computers from Compaq. Some of the older computers were replaced in the process,



while additional machines were added to keep our student-to-computer ratio at 2:1. This resulted in new computers for student use, as well as an upgrade of our two servers. While more and more schools are adding computers, few have 100%

networked, modern machines with dedicated Internet access like Springhurst does. ■



Fall Lecture Series

Springhurst and The Springhurst Project are pleased to announce our fall lecture series. Parents and teachers are welcome to attend this free series. Each of the lectures will be held at the **Redmond Regional Library** in Meeting Room 1 from **7 PM to 9 PM**. The library is located at 15990 NE 85th in Redmond. Parking is limited, so please arrive early and carpool when possible. For updates and more information, please visit our web site. Mark your calendars!



The Challenge of Parenting Gifted and Talented Children — Andrew Mahoney • September 20, 2001

Counselor and family therapist Andrew Mahoney has spent 15 years exploring and developing frameworks for the counseling and psychotherapy of gifted and talented people. Based in Herndon, Virginia, Andy often presents his work at national conferences, symposiums, consultations and training workshops for fellow counselors, educators and parents. His web site is www.counselingthegifted.com.

Workshop Description: During his Springhurst engagement, Andy will discuss some of the unique concerns for gifted children and their parents. Topics will include: What it means to a child to be gifted; needs of gifted children in educational, social-emotional and developmental areas; underachievement in school; a parental support system.



Social and Emotional Needs of the Gifted — Sharon Lind • October 17, 2001

Sharon Lind, a private consultant in Kent, Washington, is President and Board Chair of SENG (Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted), and member of the National Association of Gifted Children Board of Directors. Sharon is scheduled to be a featured speaker at the 2001 Washington Association of Educators of the Gifted and Talented conference.

Workshop Description: Parents and professionals who work with gifted individuals know that "idealism, self-doubt, perceptiveness, excruciating sensitivity, moral imperatives, desperate needs for understanding, acceptance, love — all impinge simultaneously" on these individuals. This workshop offers an overview of the unique social and emotional needs of gifted individuals and provides strategies for addressing and supporting those needs. Areas to be discussed include: 1) understanding giftedness, 2) understanding intensity, 3) reconciling moral concerns, 4) receiving affirmation from others, 5) finding community or affiliation, 6) dealing with feelings of differentness, 7) having appropriate expectations, 8) developing interpersonal skills, and 9) recognizing and dealing with stress.



Gifted Students and Meaningful Learning — Seth! Leary • November 14, 2001

Springhurst founder and director, Seth! Leary, has been implementing his curriculum for the gifted since the school opened in 1997. Following the work of educational pioneers Robert Hanie and Marion Brady, Seth! presented a curriculum model at the 2000 Washington Association of Educators of the Gifted and Talented conference.

Workshop Description: All children, perhaps especially the gifted, want to make sense of their world. From infancy they are forming a view of the world and mechanisms for organizing what they know. When parents and teachers build on these relationships rather than dismantle them, they help children learn in meaningful ways. Find out how your child's classroom and other learning environments can be tailored to the child and maximize her or his potential for learning. ■

How The Dragon Got To Komodo Island

This story was written by Alexander, age 6, and appeared in our Folksy Tales book.

Once there was an island called Komodo Island. There was a female Komodo Dragon who kept urging the others to cross the water to Komodo Island. Soon she got tired of urging the others on so she crossed herself. Once she got to Komodo Island, the Komodo dragon was very hungry. Luckily there was a lot of food on Komodo Island.

Back on the mainland, one of the Komodo dragons decided to cross the water. The other Komodo dragons agreed so they crossed. All the Komodo dragons got very hungry but they kept swimming. But one Komodo dragon died. One day, a turtle swam by. The turtle was very rich. So the Komodo dragons asked him for some meat. The turtle said to catch some fish. The Komodo dragons said they could not find any fish. So the turtle said he would find some fish. When he got back, the turtle had a lot of fish. When the Komodo dragons were finished, they thanked the turtle and swam on.

Once the Komodo dragons saw Komodo Island, they swam very fast. Then a huge shadow appeared. The Komodo dragons stopped. Then a huge wave rose up. The komodo dragons shot out of the water and landed with a splash. Then a bolt of lightening shot from the sky. Then it started to rain-and hard.

The situation was becoming desperate. The Komodo dragons swam hard but the current was too strong. The storm lasted for a month. Suddenly the clouds disappeared and the sun came out. The waves turned into ripples. The lightening vanished and Komodo Island came into sight. Now that the storm was over, they could swim.

The first thing they saw when they got to Komodo Island was the female Komodo dragon. She had been waiting for them on the beach. The Komodo dragon that had led the Komodo dragons said for her to marry him. The female Komodo dragon agreed. Soon they got married. They gave birth to 15 children and never swam again. ■



Our New Teacher

Fresh off the boat from the Midwest, Jennifer McClain recently completed her Masters degree in art education at The Ohio State University. Besides taking classes and working on her thesis during her graduate school years, she



had the joy of teaching children of all ages in art museums and at the Columbus College of Art & Design. Jennifer attended college at a private liberal arts school in Michigan where she received her BA in art and design. Between college and grad school, Jennifer conducted a pre-k classroom at La Petite

Academy. Her combined experiences of school and work have developed into a teaching philosophy that understands that children (and adults!) learn best by doing. Jennifer believes that the purpose of all education, whether in math, art, science, history, or reading, is to enable young people to discover what it means to be human and learn about life. It is her goal to provide students with rich opportunities to explore their worlds and create their own understandings of life without dictation by adult minds. She sees her role in the classroom as that of facilitator, motivator, encouragement-giver, and advisor. Welcome, Jennifer! ■

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together a global multicultural community of educators, parents, researchers, and members of business and government, all sharing a common goal—to support the education of gifted and talented youth worldwide. The Youth Summit, "Building a New World Together", was held concurrently with the World Conference. The Springhurst group made up six of the seven U.S. student participants. The students engaged in a variety of activities including: sociocultural events, city excursions, and discussions about societies. The World



Seth! & Sam in Toledo

Council was formed over 20 years ago and held its 12th conference here in Seattle in 1997.

The next conference will be held in Australia in 2003. Springhurst will likely send another delegation. Stay tuned! ■