

December 13, 2013



Noted Minnesota artist Ta-coumba Aiken opens show at Perpich

Perpich's December visual art exhibit, "Journey of the Spirit," opened Thursday in the Laboratory Fine Arts Gallery, featuring 2-D art by well-known public artist Ta-coumba Aiken. The show will be open to the public during regular center hours through December in the gallery outside the library. Aikin also spoke to the visual arts students on Thursday about his creative process.



Music student wins prestigious mentorship

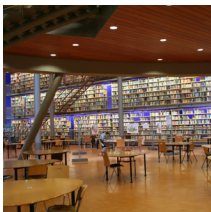
Senior music student, Jacob Dominguez-Nelson, was selected for the **Schubert Club's Composer Mentorship Program**. He is being mentored by composer in residence, Edie Hill, for this academic year. Over the course of the season, he will have lessons, study scores, receive guidance on the business side of composing, meet some of the Twin Cities' leading musicians such as Philip Brunelle and attend concerts. On April 17, 2014, a piece composed by Jacob for the Pavia Winds will be showcased at the Schubert Club's Courtroom Concert Series in St. Paul. Find out more at: schubert.org/blog



National Geographic photographer visits Perpich on Monday

Annie Griffiths, "**National Geographic**" photographer, will be speaking to the media arts students on Dec. 16, 2:30-3:30, in the performance hall. One of the first women photographers to work for "National Geographic," Griffiths has photographed in more than a hundred countries during her illustrious career. She has worked on dozens of magazine and book projects, including stories on Lawrence of Arabia, Baja California, Galilee, Petra, Sydney, New Zealand and Jerusalem.

In addition to her magazine work, Griffiths is deeply committed to photographing need around the world. She is founder and executive director of **Ripple Effect**, a collective of photojournalists who are documenting the programs that help poor women deal with the effects of climate change.



Perpich and Crosswinds win library grant

A joint project between the libraries of Perpich Center for Arts Education and Crosswinds Arts and Science School has won a \$17,900 grant from the Library Services and Technology Act Fund. "Literacy Equity: Engaging Resourceful Community Knowledge" will build and reinforce partnerships between school media centers and local community libraries so that both are better able to engage partnerships and resources in response to the emerging needs of their communities and provide targeted outreach to under-served populations.

In this professional development project, participants will develop literacies related to improving water quality (which ties to the environmental science program at Crosswinds) and building a cross-cultural school community around a particular community need. Participants will learn strategies for identifying and partnering with organizations, individuals and families to build collective literacy about the changing quality of our shared watersheds, and to better understand and share the cultural assets of the school and local communities.



Marketing results from the State Fair

Every year Perpich has a booth in the Education Building at the State Fair. During those 12 days, we talk to passers-by, parents, alumni, current and prospective students, teachers, legislators and community artists. We ask all those visitors to fill out contact cards if they are interested in finding out more about the school, professional development and outreach or the library.

This year we saw a 75 percent increase in the number of response cards filled out for the high school during the 2013 State Fair and an 85 percent increase in the number of cards filled out for professional development and the library. Those who filled out the high school cards have been receiving emails through our admissions MailChimp campaign, while the others were added to the mailing lists for their area of interest.



Knitting for the community

Please consider donating your old yarn, needles, pattern books and any other knitting supplies you can spare to the Community Knit Box in the Perpich Arts Library. The Knitting Club meets on Mondays during "Our Time" under the guidance of Mary Harding, dance instructor and knitting master, to learn knitting skills and put them to use by knitting items to donate to charity. The group is currently knitting hats for the homeless, and putting in extra time over lunch hours through winter break.



Literary arts grad working with women inmates

Katie Nichol ('00, literary) is the writing director for a project in Arkansas, the [Northwest Arkansas Prison Story Project](#). Nichol, who earned an MFA from the University of Arkansas, came to the storytelling project in July 2012 as a visiting artist and stayed. The project works with small groups of female inmates to put together stories from their lives, which are then performed by actors for audiences on "the outside." Nichol helps the inmate students with life-mapping exercises, poetry-writing prompts, songs and other readings. The women's writing is then edited down to performance length. "Sometimes it can be really hard when you hear stories full of pain," said Nichol. "And then you can bring in a poem and watch them go from not understanding it to analyzing it on a college level."



Field trip for junior media students

Junior media arts students attended a bookmaking workshop and tour at the Minnesota Center for Book Arts in Minneapolis this past week, where they created books to display their photographs. They also learned about the history of printing processes. Nancy Bundy, media arts instructor, reports that it was a rewarding experience for all.



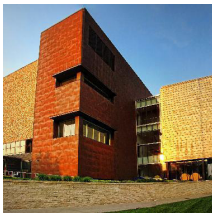
Gun violence unconference on Saturday

Southside Family Charter School is sponsoring an “unconference” tomorrow, 11 a.m.-12:45 p.m. at St. Joan of Arc Hospitality Hall, 4537 3rd Ave. S., Minneapolis. The unconference is to “explore the many facets of gun violence prevention and commit to action.” At an unconference participants determine the agenda, and instead of presentations there are conversations. This event is designed for young people from grades five through college, and the adults who care about them, to share their expertise and concerns with the wider community. To attend, please RSVP to 612-767-7467.



Artsience mentor supporting student project work

Scott Robertson, business consultant, mentored three Perpich artsience teams the afternoon of Dec. 11. The students presented their ideas for this year’s project and Robertson provided feedback and ideas to further develop their projects. The artsience theme this year is energy of the future. The artsience ideas-in-progress exhibit will open in the visual arts gallery Wednesday, Feb. 26, 5-7 p.m.



Media arts instructor cooks for art

Aki Shibata, media arts instructor, created a “[First Dates](#)” exhibit at Rochester Art Center recently that consisted of cooking a meal and eating it with a stranger, all in view of visitors to the museum. Aki is a behavioral artist, working to create everyday scenarios to see how average people respond. Her guest in Rochester was a local medical student.

“What’s left for me is just the conversation of the moments that I had with that person,” said Aki in an MPR story about the show. “It ends up creating the behavior that only exists in that moment and experience that we get to have together.”



“Perpich English instructor weighs in on ‘Old Boy’”

Sun Yung Shin, English instructor, is a fan of Korean cinema and, in anticipation of the Spike Lee remake of the Korean revenge classic, “Old Boy,” she wrote an essay analyzing the more subtle themes of the original movie. You can read her article here: [“You’ll Split Into Two People’: The Orphan as Specter in Park Chan-Wook” \(Oldeuboi\)](#) in the publication “Gazillion Voices.”



Media students' photomontage work showing in cafeteria hallway

Junior media arts students' digital photomontage exhibit features work in which they used montage and collage techniques in Adobe Photoshop to design, photograph and create image composites based on the theme metamorphosis. Students chose the metamorphosis of culture, self or nature for their piece. These images were one of three created as part of the Introduction to Digital Photography unit. "Many students in the class had very little or no experience with Photoshop prior to November when we started this unit," said instructor Nancy Bundy. "They did a great job." You can also check out some of their work on our [Pinterest media arts board](#).



Perpich alum has show in Boston Children's Museum

Intercellular artist and Perpich graduate Melanie Rose Peterson ('02, visual) used the knowledge she's gained as a massage therapist and yoga aficionado to create large anatomically-inspired sculptures for a recent exhibit at the [Boston Children's Museum](#). This exhibit features pieces made of found and recycled materials and was influenced by images of fibroblast cells.



A request for support from the Perpich Foundation

For those of you who may not have seen it, the Perpich Foundation sent out an end-of-the year fundraising appeal. By donating, you will help to continue or improve programs and initiatives that Perpich cannot, or is restricted from, funding out of its general budget. Donations to the annual campaign can be made by going to www.perpich.org and selecting "Make a Contribution." Any amount of support is sincerely appreciated.

Lots to do at Perpich before winter break

Just as the dance program is winding up its winter performances tonight and tomorrow night (7:30 p.m., Black Box Theater), the music students are preparing for their concerts on Thursday, Dec. 19, at 7:30 p.m. and Friday, Dec. 20, at 2 p.m. in the Performance Hall. Also on Thursday evening is the opening of the senior media arts photography exhibit at 5:30 p.m. in the Tony Basta Gallery. The alumni art exhibit will open right after winter break in the visual arts gallery on Jan. 10.



Free dental care available in February

School nurse Wendy Sandstrom passes along this information to the Perpich community. On Feb. 7-8, 2014, free dental services for children will be available in many locations across the state through the “Give Kids a Smile” campaign. Locations and additional details are on the website along with information sheets in English, Spanish, Hmong, Somali, Russian and Vietnamese.

Calendar

Dates

Dec 11–14	Dance Performances 7:30 p.m.
Dec 14	ACT Test
Dec 19	Senior Media Arts Exhibit 5:30 p.m.
Dec 19	Music Concert 7:30 p.m.
Dec 20	Music Concert 2 p.m.
Dec 23–Jan 3	Winter Break
Jan 6	Classes Resume

Perpich Arts High School	6125 Olson Memorial Highway	Sue Mackert
Perpich Arts Outreach	Golden Valley, Minnesota 55422	Executive Director
Perpich Arts Library	perpich.mn.gov	763-279-4160

If you have news or events, please email: communications@pcae.k12.mn.us. Follow us on Facebook: [Perpich Facebook Page](#), [Twitter](#) and [Pinterest](#)