



Community High School District 115  
Lake Forest Elementary School District 67



Kyle A. Schumacher  
Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services

**TO:** Dr. Harry Griffith  
**FROM:** Kyle A. Schumacher  
**DATE:** March 17, 2010  
**RE:** Update in Fine Arts during March, Youth Arts Month and Music in our Schools Month

The **6th grade percussion** section was invited to participate in the **Elk Grove Percussion Festival** in March. They were the **only middle school** group in attendance. The kids played well and received great comments from the judges and other participants. Congratulations to director Gina DeGregorio and all her students for representing District 67 at this event.

The **Deer Path Middle School 6th, 7th, and 8th grade choirs** recently performed the **world premiere of "Eternal One"** written by the **Director of Choral Activities at Northwestern University, Dr. Robert A. Harris**. Dr. Harris visited Deer Path in February to work with each choir, and also conducted the world premiere at the Deer Path Choir Concert in March. A special thank you goes to District 67 and the **Spirit of 67 Foundation** for making this commission possible.

From February 24th – February 26th, **seven Deer Path students**--Gillian Smith, Katie Terry, Lilly McAweeney, Sarah Porter, Elizabeth Zordani, Madison Peper, and Cassidy Lenstrom--participated in the **American Choral Directors Association, "Central Division Girls' Honor Choir."** In order to participate, each student had to make an audition CD that included a vocal solo, two scales, and an a cappella performance of "My Country Tis Of Thee." Only 85 students across Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan were selected. The choir was conducted by **Dr. Lynn Gackle, Associate Professor of Music at Baylor University**. Over a two and a half day period, the students spent over eighteen hours rehearsing in preparation for their performance. The final performance was truly remarkable and exceptional. These students should be commended for their hard work and dedication to choral music.

On March 9th, **8th grade student, Madison Peper** performed a **vocal solo** during a performance of Adolphus Hailstork's "Done Made My Vow," at **Northwestern University's Pick-Staiger Concert Hall**. This piece was performed by the Northwestern University Chorus, and Chamber Orchestra, and also featured tenor soloist Richard Drews and soprano soloist Sunny Joy Langton. Madison was the featured child soloist in the piece, and spent numerous hours in rehearsal preparing for

this unique opportunity. **Deer Path Choir Director Ben Gray** also participated in the NU chorus for this performance.

On March 3, **140 8<sup>th</sup> grade band, orchestra and choir students** and chaperones flew to **Orlando** to participate in a variety of learning opportunities, performance venues and enjoy Disney! While the flu bug made its way around the group, the overwhelming response was a **positive “thumbs up”** for a great trip and a great performance opportunity.

March was the month of Art with **three different art shows opening** in Lake Forest that featured the work of District 67 artists. The first show celebrated artwork of students from **Deer Path Middle School** and was held at the **Lake Forest Library**. Thanks to **Jill Mickey** (7/8 art teacher) and **Brian Wolf** (5/6 art teacher) for their wonderful guidance of our young artists and their hard work in setting up the beautiful displays.

Due to the recent renovations at Lake Forest Library, the **K-4 art show** has been moved to **Gallery 300** on the first floor of the Admin Center. Gallery 300 came alive with a rainbow of colors as work from our young artists was beautifully displayed by **Maria Galluzzi (Everett), Cathy Tkachuk (Sheridan), and Lisa Vlamis (Cherokee)**. Each day students and their parents are stopping by to look at the artwork and marvel at the creativity that is displayed all around them.

**Deer Path Art League** sponsored a gallery opening featuring work from our three elementary schools and the winners of the **DPM APT sponsored art fair**. Thanks to the APT, and the K-4 art teachers for their work to help make this possible. In addition, **Lisa Vlamis, Cathy Tkachuk, and Maria Galluzzi work with an afterschool program in North Chicago** and had artwork from these programs displayed.

On Sunday, March 21, the **North Suburban Symphony** performed a joint concert with the Lake Forest High School Orchestras at the Raymond Moore Auditorium. **DPM orchestra director Sarah Truding** plays in the NSS and was able to play alongside the students she and her colleague **Diane Rener** started in 4<sup>th</sup> grade over five years ago. What a wonderful opportunity for our LFHS students to perform with a semi-professional orchestra.

Thanks to all our musical and visual artists for a phenomenal month of sights and sounds.