

The Partnership Elementary Cultural Arts Program



The PTA at Partnership Elementary School has made a strong commitment to bringing the Arts to Partnership. The Cultural Arts program is designed to supplement the creative thinking that is taught routinely in our classrooms. The Cultural Arts program is comprised of visiting artists, residencies, and performing artists such as dancers, theatre groups, musicians, singer/song writers and storytellers. Additionally, each grade level has a team of parent volunteers that teach art and art appreciation and/or music, dance and movement to the children at Partnership Elementary.

The 2007-2008 Partnership Cultural Arts Series includes Donna Washington, a storyteller, two different performances from the theatre troupe Theatre IV, *The Magic of African Rhythm*, an African dance group, and *Almost Recess*, an a cappella singing group. A year-long Spanish Language Residency for all students K-5 is also being funded through the Cultural Arts Program.

All of this is designed to expose the children to art forms that they would not typically experience in the classroom. The visiting artists supply the teachers with educational guides which discuss how the performances or workshops can enhance or be folded into the curriculum.

Partnership students also have the opportunity to participate in the **National PTA's Reflections** program, a very popular and successful program that addresses all six of the standards for parent and family involvement. Each year, the National PTA Reflections program recognizes outstanding student works in literature, musical composition, photography, and visual arts. We encourage Pioneers to submit their original works in these cultural arts categories. School-wide winners are recognized and move on to district level competition.

