



FALL 2004

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**A NEWSLETTER
FOR FAMILIES**

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SCHOOL PARTNERS

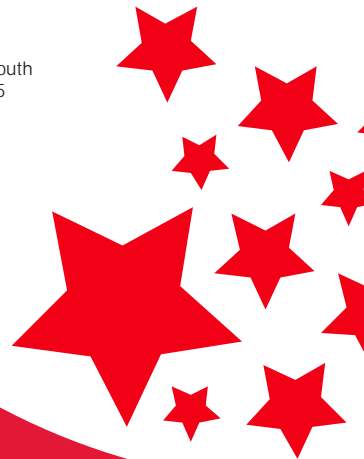
Anne Sullivan Middle School, Anwatin Middle School, Franklin Middle School, North Community High School*, South High School, Southwest High School, Humboldt Junior High and Washington Technology Magnet Middle School, St. Paul.

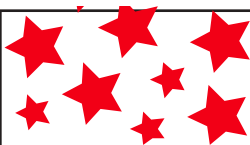
*Founding Partners

Project SUCCESS is a youth development organization that works with students over a six year period to help them develop life-skills that can transform their lives. Through in-school, goal-setting workshops, an innovative theater program, after-school one-on-one services and additional programming students learn to make choices and plan for their future.

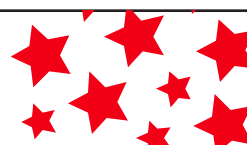
CONTACT US

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The Theater Experience



The Theater Schedule

The following is an overview of our theater schedule to date. This calendar will be added to regularly. Please watch your mail for our invitations. We look forward to seeing you at the theater.

Reserving Tickets

For each play offered, you will receive a formal invitation sent by mail. Each student/family may receive up to 4 FREE TICKETS and each school staff member may receive up to 2 FREE TICKETS. Information to reserve tickets will be included in your invitations.

Tickets are provided through our theater partners' education funds or sponsored by our generous supporters.

Transportation and Childcare

We are able to provide transportation, childcare for children under 10 (theaters do not allow children under 10 to attend performances), and chaperones for those students not accompanied by an adult. If you are in need of transportation or childcare, please let us know when you reserve your tickets.

Also, if you have transportation and would like to help by driving another family, please let us know when you reserve your tickets.

SEPTEMBER	9, 10, 11 & 12 23 & 26	Death of a Salesman Recent Tragic Events	Guthrie Jungle	N, S S
OCTOBER	TBA TBA 12, 15, 17 & 28	Our Country is Good The Miser Pygmalion	U of MN Jeune Lune Guthrie	N, S AS, AN, F, H, WA SW
NOVEMBER	11 & 19 18 & 28 20, 21 & 27	Black Comedy Under Milkwood A Christmas Carol	U of M Jungle Guthrie	TBA AS, AN, F, H, WA AS, AN, F, H, WA
DECEMBER	2 & 12 9 TBA TBA	A Christmas Carol UDT Lorie Line Black Nativity	Guthrie U of M Orpheum Penumbra	AS, AN, F, H, WA S, SW N, S, SW AS, AN, F, N, H, WA
JANUARY	16, 20, 23, 27 & 30	Oedipus the King	Guthrie	S
FEBRUARY	10, 18 & 25	Evening of Puppetry One Acts	U of M	TBA
MARCH	5-27 15, 19, 20, 25, 29, 30 & 31	Fire Ball As You Like It	Great American History Theatre Guthrie	TBA AS, AN, F, N, H, WA
APRIL	5 TBA TBA TBA	As You Like It Some Enchanted Evening Rumblings The Laramie Project	Guthrie Showboat MN Dance Theater U of M	AS, AN, F, N, H, WA AS, AN, F, H, WA TBA TBA
MAY	14, 17 & 22	She Loves Me	Guthrie	TBA

Next to each play are letters that represent the schools that the play is being offered to:

AN= Anwatin
AS= Anne Sullivan
F= Franklin
N= North

S= South
SW= Southwest
H= Humboldt
WA= Washington



Recently I received an email from a North High student who graduated two years ago. In it she explained ". . . when I first entered high school I hated school and had no intention of going to college. I thought that because my parents were so poor, that I couldn't get in. When I received an F in math I told one of the Project SUCCESS leaders and she helped me to raise my grade the following semester. From then on, I received all A's in high school. Now I am a junior at the U of MN and I'm majoring in Political Science and double minoring in Korean and Communication Studies. I have a 3.5 GPA and (because of scholarships and grants) my school tuition is paid."

This is what Project SUCCESS is all about. But something magical happens in our work with the students. Their dreams are coming true. I wish I could express to you how much I learn from these students. There are no words to describe the joy we feel after every workshop. I can't tally the number of smiles, or the amount of laughter, or the victory cheers we've witnessed over the course of this journey.

As we move into a new school year and our 10th year of Project SUCCESS I want to thank each of you, parents, students, educators and community members. Thank you for contributing to the dreams and the futures of the 8000 students we serve. And thank you for making our dreams come true. As Eleanor Roosevelt has said, the future DOES belong to those who believe in their dreams.

Adrienne

Adrienne Diercks
Executive Director

How the Program WORKS

We realize the teenage years are critical ones for every young person. That is why our program is designed to serve every student for six years—from middle school through high school. The program is comprised of these components: Goal-Setting Workshops in the Classroom, Theater Experiences, One-on-One Assistance, College Tours and Special Programming. All components work within the Project SUCCESS philosophy, which is to provide a non-judgmental, supportive setting where students can express themselves and be heard, and where they learn to assess themselves and their options regarding their future. All program components are designed to help your student gain confidence in creative thinking, decision making, goal setting and resourcefulness while developing the skills to plan for the future.

School-based Workshops

Our staff of professional facilitators lead workshops based on specifically-designed curricula developed for each grade level. Last year, we delivered 2,936 workshops to more than 8,000 young people in eight Minneapolis and St. Paul middle and high schools.

Working together with teachers and school administrators, our curriculum has become an integral part of English/Language Arts classes, ensuring that our program reaches every child in every school. Students participate in a classroom workshop once a month for a total of eight workshops per student, per year.

The curriculum guides young people through a variety of unique exercises, experiences and discussions to help them look at their interests, their strengths and desires for the future. We then work with them to set specific goals and take particular steps towards those goals. We call this process "dreaming with your eyes open," and 90% of participating students report taking a positive step toward achieving their goals.

Theater Experiences

We believe in the power of theater to illuminate the world. We use professional theater as a springboard to inspire students and to help them look at the real issues they face. With the help of our 16 professional theater partners, we offer you and your student the opportunity to attend between six and twelve theater experiences a year. These are not school field trips, but tickets to evening and weekend performances. We work with theaters to choose the appropriate plays, we coordinate every element of the experience including providing transportation and childcare, and facilitate post-theater discussions with the performers and directors. Please see our theater schedule included in this newsletter.

One-on-One Assistance, College Tours and Special Programming

High school students need attention and assistance planning for their future. So we offer a one-on-one counseling program in after-school sessions. Our facilitators help students with reviewing and filling out applications for college or financial aid, finding job opportunities and seeking the resources necessary to make life after high school a positive, productive experience. Facilitators are also available to visit with students who are in the process of figuring out what they want to do after high school.

State and national college tours are an important part of this one-on-one assistance. In the 2003-04 school year, Project SUCCESS facilitators took 500 high school students on college tours in Minnesota, Illinois, Georgia, Wisconsin, and Washington D.C..

Other specialized programming we offer includes:

- 1) school produced musicals and performances
- 2) summer trips to the BWCA and
- 3) all-school field trips to the theater

The Project SUCCESS Team



Adrienne Diercks, Founder and Executive Director. (B. A. English, Whittier College). Adrienne began Project SUCCESS in 1994. She was a 1999 Minneapolis Award Winner for her outstanding accomplishments and contributions to the City of Minneapolis, and The Minnesota Alliance for Arts in Education named Adrienne as their 1997 recipient of their Community Member Arts Advocate Award.



Jenny Batten, Associate Program Manager – College Tours and Theater. (B.A. and M.F.A. Theater Arts, University of California, Irvine). Jenny has worked for the Guthrie Theater, Utah Shakespearean Festival, Illinois Shakespeare Festival, and the Mark Taper Forum's Classic and New Works Festival.



Liz Bedard, Director of Development and Communications. (B.A. Journalism: focus Public Relations and Marketing, University of Minnesota). Liz has worked in development and communications for local non-profits, and on a number of state and national political campaigns. Her volunteer work includes the Saint Paul Festival and Heritage Foundation (board member), Saint Paul Winter Carnival, the Saint Paul Children's Hospital, and Children's Safety Centers.



Natalie Bowers, Theater Coordinator. (B.A. Theater Arts, University of Minnesota). Natalie was a Project SUCCESS participant while a Minneapolis high school student. She is a strong supporter of the arts. She loves theater, film, dance, museums and all forms of music. She has done volunteer work for the Minnesota Fringe Festival, Free Arts and the Minneapolis Film Festival.



Jason Brown, Facilitator - Southwest High School and Anwatin Middle School. (B.A. English, Mount Union College, Ohio). Jason has worked as dramaturg at the Guthrie, set designer for Theater in the Round and currently serves as Literary Manager for Outward Spiral Theatre Company.



Ann Carter, Facilitator - Southwest High School and Franklin Middle School. (B.A. Sociology/Women's Studies, Indiana University). Ann has traveled overseas to Europe, where she spent two years working on farms, with families, in cafes and in theaters. Ann has worked with juvenile detention centers in London with the Spare Tyre Theatre Company and with Interaction Theater Company.



Jenny Catchings, Facilitator - North High and Anne Sullivan Middle School. (B.A. Candidate College of St. Catherine). Jenny has worked as an instructor with the Menniger Youth Program and as the Youth Director at her church. Jenny is a volunteer for the Minneapolis Public Schools.



Pip Gengenbach, Facilitator - South High. (B.A. Theater, St. Olaf College). Pip studied in Istanbul, Marrakech, Cairo, Paris and London. He worked as a camp counselor at YMCA Camp Ihduhapi, teaching kids of all backgrounds to swim, canoe and fish.



Kris Klocke, Associate Program Manager – Theater and Administration. (B.A. English, St. Cloud State University). Kris has worked with young people in various aspects including coaching a third grade basketball team, counseling at the Southdale Y's Camp Kici Yapi, and tutoring students through NIP.



Jeffrey Lusiak, Facilitator- Special Projects. (B.A. Theater, St. Mary's University of Minnesota). Jeffrey has co-directed the Project SUCCESS Anwatin Play, been an educator and director at Illusion Theatre, been a directing intern at the Guthrie Theater, and is currently the artistic director of Outward Spiral Theatre Company.



Idowu Reuben, Facilitator - Humboldt Junior High and Washington Magnet Technology Middle School. (B.A. Psychology, Tuskegee University). Idowu also teaches African dance and culture for the Amandla Chapter - 21st Century Youth Leadership Organization, and has taught hip-hop dance and culture classes at the Minneapolis Drum and Dance Center in South Minneapolis.



Project SUCCESS

COLLEGE TOURS

We encourage students to join us for any of the college tours we offer at Project SUCCESS or to visit college campuses with their families. We offer each of our high schools several chaperoned visits to colleges all over Minnesota and two out-of-state trips each year. It's an important step for students looking ahead to their future. For some a campus visit will inform them instantly whether or not that particular campus fits their goals. It also allows students the opportunity to decide if college is the right choice for them.

Although the in-state college tours are offered at no cost to the students, a modest fee is charged to students for out-of-state tours. We strive to keep costs at a minimum by staying in local youth hostels and cooking large family-style meals. We also offer partial and full scholarships.



2004-05 SCHEDULED TOURS

In-State Tours

- Augsburg College- N
- Carleton College- S, SW
- College of St. Scholastica- S, SW
- Dunwoody- N, S, SW
- Minneapolis Community and Technical College- N, S, SW
- Southwest State- N
- St. Cloud State- N
- St. Olaf College- S, SW
- University of Minnesota- S, SW
- University of Minnesota, Duluth- N, S, SW
- University of St. Thomas- N, S, SW

Out-of-State Tours- N, S, SW

- University of Illinois in Chicago
- DePaul University, Columbia College
- University of Chicago
- Northwestern University
- Loyola University
- Lake Forest College
- Additional out-of-state tour TBA

CODE: N=North High, S=South High, SW=Southwest High

One-on-One

AFTER-SCHOOL WORKSHOPS

At Project SUCCESS we want to help prepare students to face their future with enriched imaginations, increased confidence, positive outlooks, clearly-defined goals, and well-planned strategies for success. To help facilitate students' research we hold after-school workshops at our three high schools where students can get help in narrowing down their college choices and exploring options for their future.

These workshops are offered every week at all high schools we serve.

WEEKLY WORKSHOPS

North	Thursdays	Room 368	3:15-5:00
South	Thursdays	Room 238	3:15-5:00
Southwest	TBA	TBA	3:15-5:00

SPECIAL ALL DAY WORKSHOPS

South	Saturday, October 9	10:00-5:00
Southwest	Saturday, October 9	10:00-6:00

Please visit our web site at www.projectsuccess.org for more details.

