CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE



Photo By Pell Osborn

This student from the Edwards Middle School is focused on finishing his part of the Video.

Edwards Middle School students enter film festival

By Marianne Salza

A group of students from the Edwards Middle School in Charlestown have worked together to create a three-minute video that has been entered into the Youth Film Festival sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) and the National Properties Project (NPP). The goal of the festival is to make a short film that answers the ques-

tion: What would vou do with \$1 trillion - for yourself, your family, and your community? Participants must consider the money spent yearly on the US military, wars abroad, and in tax cuts for the

"The students are excited about this animation, and they should be! It's an engaging piece," says Pell Osborn, Founder and CEO of MotionArt Inc., an animation studio that opened in Boston in 1982.

Osborn directed and supervised 11 classes, which were sponsored by the Charlestown Working Theater, with help from Edwards Middle School teacher, Ms. Linda Yu. The professional animator is one of the creative teaching partners with the Massachusetts Cultural Council, visiting schools around the commonwealth, and teaching them animation education through

(EDWARDS SCHOOL Pg. 5)

Warren-Prescott expands Autism and Science Programs

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

As a never-ending goal to create additional educational opportunities for all students in Warren-Prescott, Principal Michele Davis has brought in some heavy hitters in the fields of science and special education. This year, autism behavioral specialists will be among the staff at the Warren-Prescott to establish additional readiness skills for all children with autism enrolled at Warren-Prescott. In addition, acclaimed scientists from Massachusetts will be working with students in grades 4-8 to

enhance technology and science curriculum as well as enhance science and technology curriculum.

Applied behavior specialists from the New England Center for Children (NECC), a non-profit research and education center, will be working closely with students, teachers and parents in the autism program to improve readiness skills for general education curriculum, build better social cues and encourage new methods of teaching children with autism.

Dedicated in transforming the lives of children with autism through education, research and

technology, NECC is providing essential skills for Warren-Prescott's autistic community based on proven teaching methods and over 35 years of research and practice. NECC has created the Autism Curriculum Encyclopedia (ACE) which is an interactive database containing assessment tools, lesson plans, teaching materials, and student performance reports for more than 1,300 skills drawn from curriculum used at NECC.

Improving science and technology skills among elementary and

(WARREN PRESCOTT Pg. 5)

Menino pushes new goals in State of City address

Anyone wondering if Mayor Thomas Menino is ready for another term, they had their doubts quelled Tuesday night during his State of the City address at Fa-

Menino received a six minute standing ovation from the 800 plus attendees that packed the

There was no doubt everyone there was hanging on every word to see if there was any hint of a reelection bid. The speech took a somber tone at the beginning with



Mayor Thomas Menino on Tuesday

the Mayor reflecting on his health and mortality saying simply "I'm

(Address Pg. 7)

All the World Is A Stage

David Sullivan appearing in production of "Oliver"

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

David Sullivan, a nine year old resident is now appearing in the Wheelock Family Theatre's production of Oliver. David is appearing asone of the orphans in the production that will run through February 24.

Adapted from the novel Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens. Book, music, and lyrics by Lionel Bart. Directed by Susan Kosoff. Musical direction by Jon Goldberg. Choreography by Laurel Conrad. Scenic design by Anthony Hancock. Lighting design by Franklin Meissner, Jr. Costume Design by Charles G. Baldwin.

With Charlie Clinton as Oliver Twist, , Dan Dowling Jr. as Mr. Bumble*, Neil Gustafson* as Mr. Brownlow, Joelle Kross as Charlotte, Cliff Odle*as Mr. Sowerberry, Gamalia Pharms* as Widow Corney, Matt Phillips as Noah Claypoole, Deb Poppel as Mrs. Bedwin, M. Lynda Robinson* as Mrs. Sowerberry, Brittany Rolfs* as Nancy, Jane Staab* as Fagin, Jeffrey Sewell as Dodger, Timothy John Smith* as Bill Sikes, and Caroline Workman as Bet.

*Members of AEA

Oliver Twist quickly learns the grim realities of life for a young

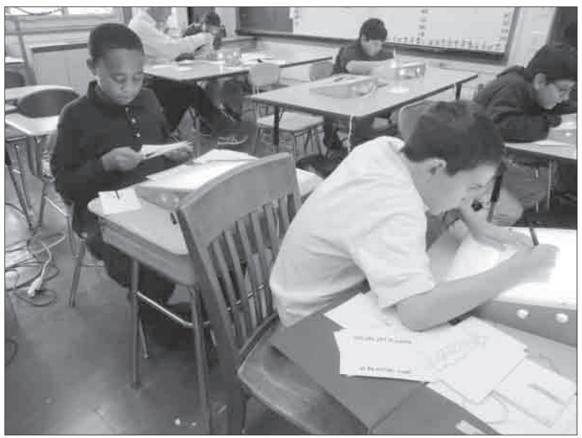


Local resident David Sullivan

boy on his own as he navigates the slums, thieves' kitchens, and night-shelters of Dickens' London. Lighter in mood than the original story, Lionel Bart's musical captures perfectly the larger-thanlife characters of the novel, as it embodies Dickens' "fiery indignation against wrong, his glowing faith in humanity, and his firm belief in the certain triumph, in the end, of right over wrong.'

David Sullivan, appearing in

Sullivan Pg.5)



Students from the Edwards Middle School in Charlestown entered the "What would you do with \$1 trillion" film festival, and created "An Animated Trillion Dollar Alphabet," which can be viewed on Youtube,

SULLIVAN (continued from pg. 1)

the production as one of the hungry orphans, is a Charlestown resident and a 3rd grade student at The Advent School in Beacon Hill. David has appeared in several productions at the Charlestown Working Theater. These include the role of Boy Scrooge in A Christmas Carol, William Shakespeare in an adaptation of Twelfth Night, and most recently Sir Max in King John. David enjoys playing the piano, singing with the Boston Children's Chorus, playing soccer and studying mathematics. Wheelock Family Theatre is a professional, non-profit theatre associated with Actor's Equity, the union of professional actors

and stage managers. Located on the campus of Wheelock College, Wheelock Family Theatre seeks to improve the lives of children and families through the shared experience of live theatre. Wheelock Family Theatre has been recognized both locally and nationally for its commitment to accessible, multi-cultural, multi-generational productions for all families.

Oliver! January 25 - February 24 Friday nights at 7:30; Saturday

& Sunday matinees at 3:00; School vacation week matinees (Tue 2/19-Fri 2/22) at 1:00

Tickets: \$30, \$25, \$20; Teens Take-over Fridays: \$15

tickets@wheelock.edu

Website: WheelockFamilyTheatre.org

Location: 180 The Riverway on the campus of Wheelock College in Boston's Fenway district

Parking: Discounted parking at MASCO garage at 375 Longwood

MBTA: Fenway or Longwood on Green Riverside Line (D train); CT busses to Beth Israel

Access: The Theatre is wheelchair accessible. All performances are Open Captioned. Final weekend performances are interpreted in American Sign Language and Audio-described.

\$506,500

\$327,000

\$525,000

\$457,000

\$408,500

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EDWARDS SCHOOL (continued from pg. 1)

a course that he has developed.

Edwards Middle School students - Alejandra Bonilla, Jacob Boutilier, Dan Rui Chen, Kendrick Echeverri, Jairo Lazo, Jingsi Li, Qianyi Luo, Juan Rubio, Kevin Wall, Jia Wen, and Steven Williams - designed LineStorm animation, which combines hand-drawn and computerized animation, and is synchronized to music. It requires a lot of planning, pre-visualization, organization, arithmetic, and collaboration.

'We try to make the animations really smooth, and in order to do that, you have to create a lot of drawings," explains Osborn about the time-consuming, arduous work. "Each student created 10 drawings for every second of time that the animation runs."

Osborn explains the animation process in small steps with fun exercises that result in a finished series of sequential drawings. The Edwards students created "An Animated Trillion Dollar Alphabet," which can be viewed on YouTube and lists the massive amount of items that one can purchase, while illustrating the enormous federal budget. There are drawings of children riding a school bus, which exhibits the 40,800,000 automobiles that could be bought with \$1 trillion, 1,250,000,000 possible dishwashers, or potential 5,000,000,000 Nintendo DS games.

"I became more interested in teaching how the process of anima-

tion works. It's much more fulfilling and fun," says Osborn. "One of the things I've always loved doing is de-mystifying the animation process, so when my students watch an animation, they'll appreciate how it's done."

Students were given the opportunity to expressively design how their names would be credited at the end of their colorful anima-

"The students felt comfortable enough with the animating process to really begin to think creatively about how they wanted their names to move," Yu adds excitedly. "This gave students the feeling of ownership over the film, which up until that point I don't think they realized how much animating they had done."

Now the Edwards students find themselves critiquing commercials and TV programs, and pointing out blinking/walking cycles, methods of continuing the motion without needing to make thousands of sketches.

The "What Would You Do With \$1 Trillion" festival culminates April 13-15, 2013 in Washington, DC, where AFSC and NPP will hold a youth leadership conference, film screening for members of Congress, and a free public screening.

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