

# VIRGINIA ARTS FESTIVAL

## The Rhythm Report

Volume 30

Spring/Summer 2010

Greetings,

The end of a school year is always a bitter-sweet time for Rhythm Project staff and students. It is a time when we celebrate our accomplishments as a team and as individuals; but amidst the celebration are also tears that symbolize both joy and sorrow. The joy of knowing that those among us graduating have successfully completed a significant part of life's journey, and the sorrow that comes with letting go. This year, the Rhythm Project wished two graduates well before beginning the search for new talent to carry on the All Stars legacy. The ensemble is now in preparation for the Summer Jobs Program including at least seven performances for which All Stars students will receive a stipend. As always, thank you for your support and we hope to see you at our performances this summer.

Sincerely,

Sophia Subero  
R. P. Director  
(757) 282-2823

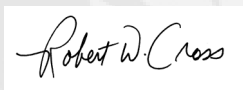
Dave Longfellow  
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Robert Cross  
VAF Executive Director



J. Scott Jackson  
VAF General Manager



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### Performance/ Activity Calendar

Thursday, July 15, 2010

Shinning Stars Conference  
All Stars  
Cavalier Hotel  
Virginia Beach, VA  
6:00 - 8:00 PM

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Virginia Association for Teachers of  
Consumer and Family Science Con-  
ference  
All Stars  
Cavalier Hotel, Virginia Beach, VA  
5:30 AM - 6:30 PM

Sunday, August 1, 2010

Towne Center Performance  
All Stars  
Virginia Beach Towne Center, VA  
6:00 - 9:00 PM

Saturday, August 7, 2010

Virginia Caribfest  
All Stars  
Towne Point Park, Norfolk, VA  
Time TBD

Saturday, August 28, 2010

Seawall Art Show  
All Stars  
High Street Landing, Portsmouth, VA  
11:00 AM—12:00 Noon



Visit us online at: [www.rhythmproject.org](http://www.rhythmproject.org)  
Send email to: [ssubero@vafest.org](mailto:ssubero@vafest.org)



# Rhythm Project Year in Review 2009-2010



Comprised of eight ensembles, the Rhythm Project served over 120 students in the cities of Portsmouth, Norfolk, Hampton and Virginia Beach during the 2009-2010 academic year. Rhythm Project ensembles played for a total estimated audience of over 12,000 in the past year within the Hampton Roads community and across the US mainland. With over 50 collective performances, Rhythm Project students demonstrated tremendous growth artistically and have benefited from the sense of achievement received through performance.

## **Rhythm Live! was a great success!**

With a cast of over 60 high school students from the *Rhythm Project All Stars*, the *Governor's School for the Arts African Drumming Ensemble* and the *Governor's School for the Arts Dance Department*, this year's presentation was well received by an audience of over 2000 attending three performances.

The **8th Annual Rhythm Project Showcase Concert** held on November 20, 2009 featured 4 Rhythm Project ensembles including the *Hampton Roads* and *Virginia Beach Rising Stars* and a collaborative performance by the *All Stars* and *Salem High School Steelband*.



Included among the *All Stars'* 28 performances this year were concerts at the St Mary's Home for Disabled Children, Norfolk, the 2009 SYTA Convention, Virginia Beach, Norfolk's Harborfest and Lucy Addison Middle School, Roanoke, VA.

The **2009 Rhythm Project All Stars Summer Jobs Program** included performances at the 17th and 24th Street Stages at the Virginia Beach Oceanfront, the Seawall Art Show, Portsmouth and Baltimore's Harbor View Festival.

The *Norfolk and Hampton Rising Stars*, *Salem* and *Phoebus High School* ensembles received high praise from teachers and students after performances at their host schools' **Winter and Spring Band Concerts**.



# **Congratulations to the Rhythm Project *All Stars* Grand Champion Winners of the 2009 and 2010**

## **PANorama Caribbean Music Fest Steelband Competitions**

The Rhythm Project *All Stars* walked away with the Grand Champion Award for the second consecutive year at the 8th Annual PANorama Caribbean Music Fest.



The competition, held at the 24th Street Oceanfront Park, Virginia Beach, featured 21 steelbands hailing from 8 different states in the continental US. The two-day event began on Friday, May 7 with sectional steelband workshops which culminated into a massed band performance in the afternoon. Rhythm Project students were able to interact with and learn from accredited clinicians during these workshops.



Saturday's competition included performances by 5 Rhythm Project ensembles, namely: the Norfolk, Virginia Beach and Hampton Roads Rising Stars, Salem High School Steelband and the All Stars. All ensembles delivered well executed performances.



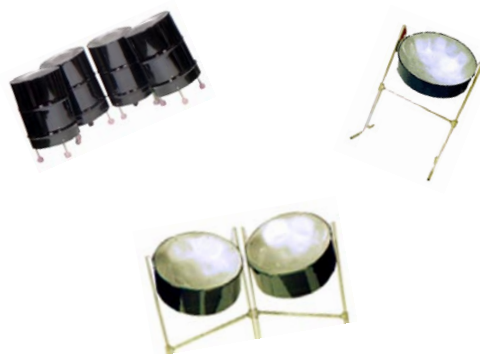


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The Rhythm Project is a community engagement program of the Virginia Arts Festival involving elementary, middle and high school students from Portsmouth, Virginia Beach, Norfolk and Hampton Public Schools. Special thanks is extended to these cities and to our sponsors.

The *Rhythm Project* is supported in part by the Tidewater Children’s Foundation, the D. Baker Ames Charitable Foundation, the Dick and Donna Wood Unrestricted Endowment Fund of The Portsmouth Community Foundation and the following municipalities and/or their Arts and Humanities Commissions: Hampton, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Virginia Beach.