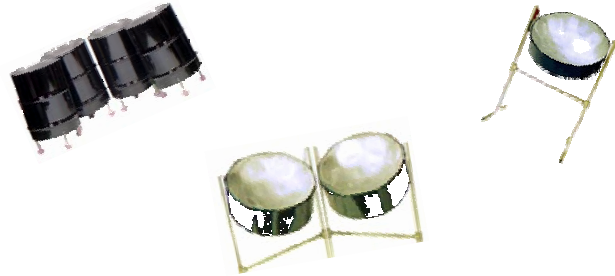




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The Rhythm Project is a community engagement program of the Virginia Arts Festival involving elementary, middle and high school students from Portsmouth, Virginia Beach and Norfolk Public Schools. Special thanks is extended to these cities and to our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

The *Rhythm Project* is supported in part by the Surdna Foundation, the D. Baker Ames Charitable Foundation and the following municipalities and/or their Arts and Humanities Commissions:
Norfolk, Portsmouth, Virginia Beach.

VIRGINIA ARTS FESTIVAL

The Rhythm Report

Volume 35

Summer/Fall 2011

Greetings,

The summer is winding down and the Rhythm Project is gearing up for another exciting year of service to the young people of the Hampton Roads community through our six steel pan programs and GSA African drumming program. The summer brought us many memorable moments including: the graduation of ten All Stars students who have all gone on to work on higher education degrees, a 15th anniversary celebration reception involving participants of the first ever Rhythm Project ensemble, and a vibrant summer jobs program.

Rhythm Project staff are now putting things in place to recruit students for the upcoming academic year in several of our programs in Norfolk, Portsmouth and Virginia Beach. Audition dates are listed inside this edition of the Rhythm Report as well as on our website. Please help us get the word out about the ensembles the Rhythm Project offers so we can involve as many students as possible this year. As always, thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

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

Robert Cross
VAF Executive Director

Dave Longfellow
R.P. Associate Director
(757) 282-2815

J. Scott Jackson
VAF General Manager



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Performance/ Activity Calendar

Saturday, September 17, 2011

Isle of Wight County Fair
All Stars
Isle of Wight Fair Grounds
Windsor, VA
2:00-3:30 pm

Saturday, September 24, 2011

Virginia Symphony Orchestra
Young Musicians Showcase
All Stars
Chrysler Hall Dress Circle, Norfolk, VA
7:15-7:45 pm

Saturday, October 22, 2011

Hampton VA Medical Center
All Stars
Hampton, VA
6:00-8:00 pm

Saturday, November 5, 2011

Gloria Dei Lutheran Concert Series
All Stars
Hampton, VA
7:00-8:30 pm

Sunday, November 20, 2011

Rhythm Project Showcase Concert
All Stars
Roper Theatre, Norfolk
5:30 pm

Visit us online at:
www.rhythmproject.org
or email:
ssubero@vafest.org
For a full calendar listing

RHYTHM PROJECT

Summer 2011 Performance Review



All Stars Perform at Town Bank Fountain in Town Point Park, Norfolk



A well synchronized frontline wows the crowd at Virginia Carib Fest. (left)



Rockin' bass steelpan player moves to the scintillating music at Norfolk's Light Rail Opening Celebration at Mac Square Station. (right)

Complete List of Summer Performances (June - August, 2011)

Miller Oil Foundation Fundraiser: 52nd Street, Virginia Beach (6/6)

Society of Government Meeting Professionals Convention: Half Moone Cruise and Celebration Center, Norfolk (6/29)

Camp Parkitan: Sarah Bonwell Hudgins Center, Hampton (6/27)

Fountain Field Days: Town Point Park, Norfolk (6/29)

20th Annual Crab and Seafood Festival: Ocean View, Norfolk (7/16)

Salvation Army Kroc Center Fundraiser: Half Moone Cruise and Celebration Center, Norfolk (7/28)

Virginia Carib Fest: Town Point Park, Norfolk (8/6)

Wells Fargo Community Celebration: Scope Plaza, Norfolk (8/10)

Norfolk Light Rail Opening Celebration: Mac Arthur Square Station, Norfolk (8/20)

Auditions will be held as follows:

Hampton Roads Rising Stars - 9/19 and 9/26
Virginia Beach Rising Stars - 9/22 and 9/29

Junior All Stars - 10/13
Norfolk Rising Stars - September (TBD)

Visit www.rhythmproject.org for more information

Rhythm Project 15th Anniversary Celebration



Current students, parents and several Rhythm Project alumni attended a reception to celebrate the Rhythm Project's 15th Anniversary on June 25. The event featured performances by returning and incoming All Stars students as well as the 2011 graduating class.

The 15th Anniversary Celebration followed a week-long summer camp during which students had the opportunity to interact with guest clinician Leon "Foster" Thomas. Thomas is a former World Champion Steelpan soloist and an accomplished jazz performer.

Ten graduating All Stars were recognized at the reception. They received mementos as well as \$500 scholarships.



Students listen attentively as Guest Clinician Leon "Foster" Thomas delivers instruction for performing one of his compositions. (left)



See the All Stars perform their brand new repertoire in a collaborative performance with the Virginia Children's Chorus Sunday, November 20, 2011 5:30 PM Roper Theatre, Norfolk