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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 Norfolk, Portsmouth, Virginia Beach and York County. Special thanks is extended to these cities and to our sponsors.

The Rhythm Project is supported in part by the Surdna Foundation, The Hampton Roads Community Foundation, the Batten Educational Achievement Fund of the Hampton Roads Community Foundation, the Norfolk Consortium, D. Baker Ames Charitable Foundation, and the following municipalities and/or their Arts and Humanities Commissions: Norfolk, Portsmouth, York County, and Virginia Beach.



VIRGINIA ARTS FESTIVAL

The Rhythm Report

Volume 42

Summer/Fall 2013

Greetings,

It seems like only a few weeks ago that we had our fall recruiting drive and suddenly the summer is upon us. The final weeks of school brings with it several performances that wrap up two semesters worth of dedication for Rhythm Project ensembles throughout the region. Please support our ensembles during the performances listed on the right and be sure to catch the All Stars throughout the summer. While we are excited and look forward to the warm months ahead, it is also important to take a look back at our accomplishments this past year.

The 2012-2013 academic year was quite a successful one, with more than 140 students being impacted by the Rhythm Project in Norfolk, Portsmouth, Virginia Beach and York County. Our eight ensembles will have performed for over 40 events by the end of the school year. With the change in the season from spring to summer also brings with it a staffing change for the Rhythm Project.

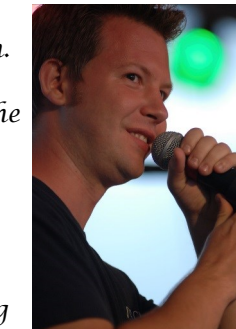
We are pleased to welcome Sade Constantine, who will take on the position of Associate Director, while Dave Longfellow will be promoted to the Director position. Sophia Subero will be leaving us for pursuits in the Washington D.C. metro area. Thank you for your continued support of the Rhythm Project. We look forward to seeing you this summer!

Sincerely,

Dave Longfellow
RP Director
(757) 282-2823

Robert Cross
VAF Exec. Director

Scott Jackson
VAF Gen. Manager



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Performance/ Activity Calendar

Wednesday, November 6, 2013

Larchmont Auditions (4th and 5th Graders)
Larchmont Elementary Schools
3:30-6:00 PM

Sunday, November 10, 2013

Norfolk Education Foundation
All-Stars Combo
Temple Israel, Norfolk
TBD

Saturday, November 23, 2013

Grand Illumination Parade
All-Stars
The Plot, Downtown Norfolk
4:30-8:30 PM

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

RHYTHM PROJECT

Summer 2013 All-Star Camp REVIEW



With summer rolling around it was time for the All-Stars annual summer camp to start up again. This year's camp was held from June 17th – 21st and featured steel-pan arranger, composer, and performer Mr. Liam Teague. Mr. Teague who serves as an Associate Professor and Co-Director of the Steel-Band at Northern Illinois University gave an amazing clinic to the students, while teaching them four new arrangements including one original piece. The students retained the music, having full day rehearsals for five days. Learning four songs within five days is no easy task, but with their dedication they pulled it off, performing each of the selections for their parents, as they played with one of steel-pans best.



Congratulations to our graduating seniors !!

Class of 2013:

Charles Cicero and Jacob Barritt

dlongfellow@vafest.org or 757-282-2823 for more information or to book the Rhythm Project

YOUNG-KNIGHTS RISING STARS

P.B. Young Senior Elementary School Gets their start!

The *Young-Knights Rising Stars* was established during the summer of 2013. Beginning in July and ending in August the program focused on reinforcing the basic musical skill through weekly access to steel-drums. Meeting every Friday for two hours (10am-12pm) roughly 20 fifth graders were able to learn basic steel-pan techniques, develop their listening skills, and participate in a group amongst their peers as a musical unit.



Starting September 2013, the program has been incorporated as part of the 5th grade scheduling block. Meeting every Tuesday, and Thursday for an hour each rehearsal, these Rising Stars are instructed on a level that helps to cultivate their musical and technical fluency. With high levels of participation it is expected that, throughout the school year the ensemble will learn a musical repertoire, able to be performed at upcoming school, or community events.



R.P. All-Stars Summer Events In Pictures

Caribbean Festival



Portsmouth Children's Museum



King's Grant Presbyterian Church



Childtime DayCare



Operation Smile



East Beach