

Performing Arts News

October/November 2012

Kindergarten

Students did a really great job so far and learned a lot of German children's songs such as *Alle meine Entchen*, *10 kleine Zappelmänner*, *Es gab eine Mutter*, *Liebe Schwester tanz mit dir*, *Es tanzt ein Biba-Butzemann* etc. As it is getting spooky and dark we are working now on songs, *102 Gespensterchen* and also the traditional St. Martin song *Laterne, Laterne*. As a part of drama education, children learned some German children's rhymes as well as theater games.

First grade

In first grade we are working on Middle-Eastern and Asian music as a theme. Children have learned Hebrew, Arabian, Kurdish and Chinese songs and dances. In the next couple of weeks we are going to focus on Halloween and St. Martin songs.

Second grade

Second graders are busy with the St. Martin project. Along with this project they have learned some basics of choral singing and conducting. You can see the outcomes of their work on November 4th, Sunday, from 4pm to 6pm at the Landmark Center.

Third grade

Students are working on the unit about Native Americans. Along with songs and dances students learn about ancient traditions of storytelling, and they get to know the rich treasury of the Dakota and Ojibwa traditions.

Fourth grade

Fourth graders focus on music in 20th century and on African-American traditions. Students learned about the origins of jazz, blues and gospel music. We are going to jump ahead and prepare a German pop-song for St. Martin's Day. In November we will work in depth on Rock and Roll and Country music.

Fifth grade

Students continue learning about medieval music, and the history of musical notation. They got to know Gregorian chants, Minnesang (troubadour music), and we are soon going to discover medieval city music.

Sixth grade

Sixth graders continue the Cabaret project and focus now on developing their own stage characters. We touched on the variety of music and theater forms in Cabaret, and in November, we will focus on dance and poetry in cabaret.

Seventh and Eighth grade

Students are working on basics of theater art: warming-up, observing, miming, and improvisation. They are also focusing on teamwork and composition. Students were asked to complete a worksheet and to write a self-evaluation that would show evidence of their work. The recent assessment will be used to create a two minute long drama piece using the following accessories: an apple, a ring, and a mirror. The background of this project is the 200th anniversary of Grimms' Fairy Tales.

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