

Thoreau Elementary School

Children's Programs

2017-2018

~ Children's Programs are 100% funded by the Thoreau PTG ~

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Wednesday, September 27 <i>Kindergarten</i> 9:15am</p> | <p>Museum of Fine Arts - Artful Adventures (Fine Arts) Artful Adventures programs are customized to include hands-on materials, pictures from the Museum's collections, and an art-making activity. This year Thoreau Kindergarteners learned about fantastical creatures in the Museum's collection and then created masks using varied materials.</p> |
| <p>Wednesday, October 11 <i>Grades 1 - 5</i> 10:00am 2:20pm</p> | <p>Odds Bodkin (Storytelling/Empathy) Three age-appropriate tales with music and compelling character voices teach how kindness works best. Bullying is not mentioned. Instead, the stories teach by example. Completely entertained, students participate, raise their hands and answer Odds' intriguing ethical questions..</p> |
| <p>Wednesday, November 1 <i>Grade 2</i> 9:20am</p> | <p>Discovery Museum - Physical Changes of Matter (Science) Investigating the physical properties of solids, liquids and gasses has never been so much fun! In this workshop, dry ice and liquid nitrogen make learning the phase changes very dramatic as together students and teachers change liquid water to gas, shatter flowers and rubber bands, use a banana as a hammer, and even shrink solid metal in just a few seconds.</p> |
| <p>Friday, November 3 <i>Grade 1</i> 9:30am</p> | <p>Brian Lies (Author/Illustrator) NY Times best-selling author and illustrator of many children's books, most notably the 'bat series' (<i>Bats at the Beach, Bats at the Ballgame, etc.</i>), Lies will take students into the world of writing and illustrating children's books. Showing his original artwork and the many drafts that make a book, he brings a powerful message of believing in yourself and not giving up.</p> |
| <p>Wednesday, December 13 <i>Grade 3</i> 9:30am</p> | <p>People of the East - Wampanoag Native Americans (Social Studies) Students will learn about the daily life of the Wampanoag in the 17th century, as well as their current lives and communities in a presentation filled with colorful photographs as well as artifacts of traditional life, such as wooden bowls and spoons, animal furs and tools. Wearing modern clothing and speaking from a modern perspective, presenters will discuss the story of their people in both past and present times to impart an understanding of the connection the Wampanoag and other Native People have to Mother Earth, their seasonal way of life and their respect for all living beings.</p> |
| <p>Friday, December 15 <i>Kindergarten</i> 9:15am</p> | <p>Ron & Amy Schmidt (Author/Illustrator) Husband/wife author/illustrator team combine high energy with unique artistry to present their extremely popular program that introduces students to poetry and writing. Their irresistible book, <i>Dog Gone School</i>, pairs school-themed poems with photographs of dogs riding the bus, visiting the school library, and tuning up for music class.</p> |
| <p>Wednesday, January 10 <i>Grade 2</i> 9:20am</p> | <p>Discovery Museum - Light & Lasers (Science) As students compare white light and laser light they identify key properties including how light must be reflected in order to be seen. In this hands-on workshop, students work with flashlights, prisms, lenses, and a variety of materials that block, reflect, or allow light to pass through.</p> |
| <p>Wednesday, January 31 <i>Grade 3 and 4</i></p> | <p>David Coffin - Music from the King's Court (Fine Arts/Science) With his complete set of nearly 50 beautifully crafted and unusual instruments, David</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| 9:30am 1:30pm | demonstrates period examples of music written for each particular one. He illustrates with humor and vitality the evolution of the Early Winds as well as neatly inserting a "Science of Sound" unit that informs as it entertains. |
| Wednesday, February 7 <i>Grades 4 & 5</i> 2:00pm | Azilee's Porch Productions: I, Too, Sing America (Social Studies) This show is a celebration of stories drawn from African, African-American, and Caribbean oral traditions. Our journey begins with Langston Hughes, takes us over the Atlantic to Africa, discusses the triangle trade in the Caribbean, and brings us back to the shores of the United States with stories from African-American tradition. Fun for all and geared for all ages. Children will leave repeating the stories and singing the songs. |
| Thursday, March 8 <i>Grade 4</i> 1:30pm | Matt Tavares (Author/Illustrator) Boston-born and bred author/illustrator Matt Tavares helps students understand the process of writing (including rewriting, revising, researching, and sketching (and re-sketching...)). Matt aims to show kids that a lot of work goes into making a book, and even their favorite authors and illustrators don't usually get it right the first time. |
| Friday, March 16 <i>Grade 1</i> 9:30am | Rhythm Kids (Fine Arts/Social Studies) Local favorite Tom Foote comes to Thoreau to present an African drumming workshop that has everyone jamming together on drums, shakers, bells, woodblocks and more. All are involved in this musical event which connects to the Grade 1 Ghana Unit. |
| Tuesday, April 24 <i>Grade 3</i> 9:30am | Wingmasters - Birds of Prey (Science) Julie Anne Collier & Jim Parks, who have devoted their lives to caring for injured birds of prey, will give a presentation aimed at increasing understanding and appreciation of North American birds of prey. Julie, who is also part Creek and Chicksaw Indian, will highlight the strong connection between Native Americans and birds of prey. |
| Wednesday, April 27 <i>Kindergarten</i> 9:15am | New England Aquarium: Tidepool Alive! (Science) Using guided imagery, a child-size costume and live animals, students will explore and interact with local tidepool animals while learning basic biology and anatomy. |
| Wednesday, May 2 <i>Grade 3</i> 9:30am | Grace Lin (Author) Award winning author/illustrator Grace Lin (author of Newbery Honor Book <i>Where the Mountain Meets the Moon</i>) will show students the path she took to become a children's book creator, including reading from one of her books and a Q & A session. The presentation will include a focus on how Lin's personal experiences shaped her work and the value books play in many cultures. |
| Tuesday, May 15 <i>Grade 1</i> 10:30am | Tanglewood Marionettes - The Dragon King (Fine Arts) Large, beautifully crafted marionettes and colorful sets bring classical tales to life. This year they will bringing Thoreau their award-winning production, <i>The Dragon King</i> . |
| Wednesday, May 11 <i>Grade 5</i> 9:15am | Drumlin Farm (Science) Drumlin Farm's Ark Outreach program is a hands-on, experiential program that brings teacher naturalists to the school. Students will discover tracks and signs of our local wildlife and learn why animals are able to survive and thrive in their niche and the varied seasons of MA. |