

# Community Collaboration Grants 2011-12

## **Keesha's House: a Literacy and Movement Theater Initiative for Young People**

Keesha's House, a youth literacy and movement theater initiative will work with LACS students on a multi-arts curriculum designed to promote, develop and expand the use of the arts as creative expression while teaching to core literacy standards. Fourteen weekly creative movement and theater skills classes will be taught, culminating in school and community performances of the student's work.

## **South Hill Artist in Residency Program**

Community artist Jorge Cuevas will partner with South Hill Elementary School for three weeks to teach Latin American culture through dance, music, visual arts, storytelling and food preparation. The entire school, PreK through 5th grade, plus parents, will be involved.

## **Girl Empowerment: Social Transformation through the Visual Arts**

Project Look Sharp and Nia Nunn Makepeace will work with girls at BJM to provide an opportunity to strengthen their self-concept while critically examining the influences of media/ entertainment industries and social pressures. The project will engage participants in healthy forms of self-expression that can dismantle negative perceptions.

## **Voices Beyond Borders**

Visiting film director Nico Celik will partner with The Cornell Theater Arts Department on a workshop for high school, middle school, TC3, and Cornell University students. Workshop participants will learn how to create a documentary film about their own neighborhoods, encouraging them to think critically and politically. Participants will learn how one can make a positive difference in a community and even internationally through art and theater.

**Hangar Theatre's *It's a Wonderful Life: a Live Radio Play*** One grade level (8th) and all of LACS attended the Hangar Theatre production of *It's a Wonderful Life: a Live Radio Play*.

## **Career Key Student Assessment**

Challenge Industries is piloting use of the on-line Career Key Assessment for Special Education students in 9th through 12th grades at Ithaca High School as a starting point in their transition to careers.

## **Raising Awareness and Sensitivity to People with Disabilities**

Performing Arts for Social Change from the Center for Transformative Action will work with the Fingerlakes Independence Center (FLIC) and the LACS Students for Social Responsibility to create a presentation for the entire LACS student body to gain awareness and sensitivity to the realities faced by people with disabilities.

## **Mentor-Student Program**

The Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County 4H Youth Development Program will work with Susie Kossack on a 6th grade Mentor-Student Program at Boynton. Community mentors will be trained to work with high risk students providing individualized support.

## **Northeast Elementary Food Garden**

Audrey Baker, School Garden Consultant, will work with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins

County Gardens 4 Humanity (G4H) program and students at Northeast Elementary to build a food garden and implement a nutrition learning program within the school community.