

Stars of New Broadway Play *The Mountaintop* Visit Brooklyn HS of the Arts Students

Drama majors at Brooklyn High School of the Arts were treated to a once-in-a-lifetime experience when Samuel L. Jackson and Angela Bassett visited their school to discuss their new Broadway show, "The Mountaintop." In addition to the two celebrities, "The Mountaintop" writer Katori Hall and director Kenny Leon were present to answer questions from the students. The cast was introduced to the students by Chancellor Dennis Walcott, and various media outfits were on hand to record the students' experience. BHSA students read Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's final speech, "I've been to the Mountaintop," prior to meeting the actors and will see the Broadway play next week. CFN 107 gives BHSA staff, especially principal Margaret Lacey-Berman, a big thank you for organizing such an amazing event for your students!



Important Notice Regarding Researched-Based Rubrics

As mentioned in this week's Principals' Weekly: a research-based teaching framework, like Danielson's Framework for Teaching, should only be used for formative support of teachers; it **cannot** not be used for teacher evaluations. The new framework for teacher evaluations will not take effect city-wide for teachers and principals until DOE reaches agreements with the UFT and CSA, respectively, on its implementation. The only exception to this timeframe is in SIG funded Transformation schools. If you have teachers that you feel may receive a rating of "unsatisfactory," please contact your PODS leader for support around that language that should be used in feedback around both informal and formal observations.

Middle School Progress Reports are Out!

Congratulations to Meg Adams and her staff at Lab Middle School for receiving a grade of A on her school's Progress Report! Congratulations to Steve Rosenblum and his staff at IS 281 for receiving a grade of A on his school's Progress Report!

Teacher PODS are Launching Soon!

It's the date you've been waiting for! Our first teachers PODS meeting will be held on Thursday, October 6th from 4-6 pm. We are currently working on a location and we will announce it as soon as it is confirmed. Principals, please be sure to have your PODS applicants send Sammi their resumes!

Do Your Students Need Community Service Credit?

Reaching Out Community Services will be holding its 3rd Annual Walk Against Hunger and 2nd Annual Dog Walk Against Hunger event. The event will take place on Saturday, October 15th. Visit <http://rcsprogram.org/site/downloads/forms> for downloadable forms. Teensgiving 2011 will be held on Sunday, November 13th; please visit <http://www.92y.org/Uptown/Lillian-Sol-Goldman-Family-Center-for-Youth-Family/Teen-Center/Community-Service/Teensgiving.aspx> for more details.

Metropolitan High School Students at MoMA

Last year, students from Metropolitan High School formed a partnership with the MyBlock educational film program. The students were lent flip cameras and they filmed their blocks and posted them on an interactive map of NYC. MyBlock is currently being featured in an exhibit called "Talk to Me" at the Museum of Modern Art, which will be on display until November 7th. You can view the pilot film by Metro students at: <http://www.myblocknyc.com/#/video/id/424> and watch a video of student Shane Fernandez interviewing his father at <http://www.myblocknyc.com/#/video/id/1925> and a film by graduate Jessica George: <http://www.myblocknyc.com/#/video/id/1926>. Congratulations to students Victor Ruiz, Jessica George, Jamal Manning, Shane Fernandez, Diomond Mendez, Eileen Noyer, and Nicholas Beltran, who participated in the program and made very compelling short films about their neighborhoods. We are so proud of you and your school!

This Just In! Changes to 2012-13 State Tests

In order to reflect the New York State Common Core Learning Standard, CFN 107 has learned that in 2012-13, the following content changes will be made to state (3-5 and Regents) exams:

Literacy:

- 1) Balancing informational and literary texts (3-5)
- 2) Knowledge in the content areas (6-12)
- 3) Grade-level text complexity
- 4) Text-based answers
- 5) Writing from sources
- 6) Academic vocabulary

Math:

- 1) Focus
- 2) Coherence
- 3) Fluency
- 4) Deep understanding
- 5) Applications
- 6) Dual intensity

We know this news is vague, at best, but we are dedicated to bringing you Common Core information as soon as we know about it. If you have questions about the Common Core, please contact your PODS leader.

News About Ricardo

Congratulations to Ricardo Irizarry, who has taken a position as an assistant principal in the Bronx. He will be missed! Please send your data questions to Tracy Joseph (tjoseph6@schools.nyc.gov) or Sammi Oerlemans (soerlem@schools.nyc.gov).

Upcoming Workshops and Professional Development Opportunities

Deadline September 28th: Match Teachers with Mentors and Submit Your Mentoring Plan

Please match all new teachers as well as teachers who did not complete their mentoring hours in the Mentor Tracking System (<https://www.nycenet.edu/Offices/DHR/ntims/Secure/login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fOffices%2fDHR%2fntims%2fdefault.aspx>). Please note that the hard deadline is September 30th, but that is a holiday, so please match your teachers and submit your mentoring plan by September 28th. Teacher mentoring is compliance metric on which all principals will be evaluated. If you have questions about mentoring or your mentoring plan, please contact Elyse (ematthews@schools.nyc.gov) or Melvin Thompson at mthomps2@schools.nyc.gov.

September 28th: School Safety Plans Due

Initial submission of the school based Safety Plan is due on Wednesday, September 28, 2011. If there are any questions, please contact Jeff Mardy (jmardy2@schools.nyc.gov).

October 3rd: Distribute Military Opt-Out Letters

In accordance with [Chancellor's Regulation A-825](#), all high schools are to distribute [military recruiting opt-out letters](#) to all ninth through twelfth grade students and their families by October 3. The opt-out information must be entered into ATS at the UPCO function. If you have questions about the military opt-out letters, please contact Caroll at (cjimene9@schools.nyc.gov).

SEIS Encounter Attendance Training

Attendance for all services provided to all students with IEPs must now be entered in SEIS. Some of your Special Education Coordinators attended our training on September 7th and some of your related service providers may have been trained by their supervisors. These training/work sessions are for guidance counselors who provide mandated counseling, ESL teachers who serve Special Education students, SETTTS teachers, paraprofessionals, and any other related service providers who have not been trained. Each person needs to attend only one session. To register, please email Caroll (Cjimene9@schools.nyc.gov) or Abby (Amiller14@schools.nyc.gov). Please include the name and title of all attendees and the date/session they will attend.

October 3, 9:00-12:00, George Washington HS (priority given to GW schools), 549 Audubon Avenue, Manhattan

October 6, 9:00-12:00, Beacon High School, 227-243 West 61st Street, Manhattan

October 11, 8:30-11:30, Gregorio Luperon HS, 501 W 165th Street, Manhattan

October 11, 12:00-3:00, Gregorio Luperon HS, 501 W 165th Street, Manhattan

October 12, 9:00-12:00, Beacon High School, 227-243 West 61st Street, Manhattan

October 4th: Principals' Meeting at 335 Adams Street, 5th Floor, 11:00-1:00 (Please note the time change!)

Kim Marshall, author of [Rethinking Supervision](#) and the Marshall Memo, a weekly round-up of educational news and research, will be our guest speaker at our October principals' meeting. We'll be following up with an agenda shortly.

October 4th: High School, Transfer School, and YABC Progress Report Data Verification Deadline at 5:00 pm

All network high schools, transfer schools, and our YABC should ensure that summer Regents exam results, credits, graduation outcomes, and college readiness data are up-to-date in ATS and STARS by **October 4 at 5:00 pm** so that your new Progress Reports will reflect the most accurate data.

From Principals' Weekly:

- August graduates should be entered using the [DISC function in ATS](#) with a discharge date of 09/01/11. Documented SAT, AP, and IB scores can be entered using the [EVER function in ATS](#).
- Confirmed college enrollment from fall 2010 can be entered using the [CVER function in ATS](#).
- Courses that result in college credit can be identified using the [Instructional Model field in STARS](#).
- Math courses can be identified in the Core Subject field in the [STARS mass course activator](#).

If you have questions or concerns around Progress Report data verification, please contact Sammi (soerlm@schools.nyc.gov) and/or Tracy (tjoseph6@schools.nyc.gov)

October 6th: PODS Kick Off Event

Our first teacher PODS meeting will be held on Thursday, October 6th from 4-6 pm. We are looking forward to seeing two representatives from each school! More details will follow shortly!

NYSAA Training

This year's New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA) is administered from October 3 through February 10. For schools with NYSAA students who must complete datafolios this school year, please have all special education staff members who will be working with that student on his or her datafolio register to attend one of the all day trainings for NYSAA administration scheduled in each borough from [September 26 through October 19](#); [register](#) online ASAP. Schools with students required to complete datafolios this year were contacted by Abby.

Free Life-Skills Curriculum Materials, Training, and Support

There is still time to register for one of the many half-day training sessions for the Life-Skills curriculum. This free initiative that provides you with resources/ideas for your advisory sessions, as well as anti-bullying resources. Christina White, Assistant Principal at N.Y.C. Lab School, who attended the training in the Spring stated, "Overall, we found the Overcoming Obstacles training to be very useful. . . The training was hands on and allowed us to become familiar with the curriculum first hand. We are now utilizing lessons and other activities from the Gifting Initiative to serve as a structure for our 9th grade peer advisory program." Participant receive curriculum materials which include activity-based lessons, reproducible student worksheets, journal writing opportunities, reading assignments, technology connections, and curriculum assessments and the Overcoming Obstacles Anti-Bullying Handbook. In addition, all participating schools will have ongoing support from the Overcoming Obstacles Staff. To register team members for an upcoming training, submit the attached [registration template](#) to Dr. Margarita Suero-Duran at msuerod@schools.nyc.gov.

New Leaders Opportunity

New Leaders for New Schools has developed a new program called the Emerging Leaders Program (ELP). It is geared towards teachers, coaches, and assistant principals. If accepted into this program, they will take on-line and in-person courses (either after school and/or on weekends) in Personal Leadership, Instructional Leadership, and School Culture Leadership. The course assignments are specific job-embedded tasks that are designed to improve student achievement at your schools in real time. This program will be free of charge to the participant. For more information, visit <http://www.nlns.org/EmergingLeaders.jsp>. Please note that all nominations are due by Friday, September 30, 2011. If you have any further questions, please contact Sammi at soerlem@schools.nyc.gov.

ESL Compliance Reminders

ESL Extension of Services Requests – Deadline Extended.

You now have until October 7th for data entry using the BEXS function in ATS for Extension of Services Requests. The principal's certification will be available for printing on October 11th. The principal's certification and the A-7.1 form are now due on October 21. Delivery instructions will follow.

The first delivery of LAB-R Documents is October 5th by noon to your [Borough Assessment Implementation Director](#).

Please ensure that parental choice is being entered in the [new screen \(ELPC\)](#) in ATS for all new admits with a home language other than English. If the student is identified as an ELL, as per the LAB-R exam, orientation and parental choice information must be entered on this screen. If the student is not as ELL, as per the LAB-R you must still enter this screen, enter an 'N' in the first line and enter the date that the exam was administered.

The 2011-2012 LAP Submission Form and supporting materials can now be downloaded from <http://schools.nyc.gov/Academics/ELL/KeyDocuments/Language+Allocation+Policy.htm>.

Maria Broughton will not be the CPS for our network this year. Our new Compliance Performance Specialist is William Manekas.

Enrichment Opportunities for Your Students

Museum of the City of New York

Saturday Academy at the Museum of the City of New York is a free six-week program for students interested in American History or SAT preparation. There are no fees, no homework or testing and all course materials are provided. Students can apply for this great opportunity by October 6th. Download an application from http://www.mcny.org/education/Saturday_Academy.html

College Access Workshop Series for High School Counselors Registration - Deadline extended to September 28.

College counselors are invited to attend a six-session workshop series providing up-to-date information and strategies to help students find suitable colleges and support families with financial planning. Please have your college advisor/counselor register using the following link: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/doecollegeaccessb>. Please note there is a \$250 fee for participation. Additional information about the workshop series can be found here: <http://schools.nycenet.edu/DSS/SSOselection/SchoolSupportWeekly/081711/DOECollegeAccessSeriesFlyer.pdf>

Preview of some of our Election Day Offerings:

For Guidance Counselors: Working with Victims of Trauma

For New Teachers and Other Interested Staff:

Classroom Management

For Deans: School Climate & Behavior Management

For Interested Staff: Breaking the Bully-Bystander-Bully Cycle

Spotlight: CFN 107 Welcomes New Schools to our Family!

We would like to welcome four schools to our CFN 107 family! We'd like to welcome Dusty Miller, principal of the NYC Museum School, (in Chelsea), Gracie Villalona, principal of Mott Hall High School (in Harlem), Fausto de la Rosa, principal of Unity High School for Urban Technologies (in Midtown), and Mike Lanaghan, principal of Metropolitan Soundview, (in the Bronx). We are so pleased to have these schools as part of CFN 107 and we look forward to collaborating with their staff and supporting them both operationally and instructionally. Please join us in welcome these four wonderful schools!

Nancy's Blog of the Week

Every edition of the Green Onion will feature a blog recommended by Nancy.

This week, Nancy recommends Larry Ferlazzo's Websites of the Day. Larry recommends a daily website to enhance teaching. Check him out at [http://larryferlazzo.edublogs.org/!](http://larryferlazzo.edublogs.org/)

