

Talent shines in the Talent Show

Talent reigned at this year's talent show. Approximately 110 kids danced, sang, joked and performed skits in 44 acts. Highlights included kindergartener Vera G. bravely singing *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star* by herself to 4th grader Jacob M.'s confident freestyle standup act to 4th graders Ben G. and Rohan C. nailing a song from *Hamilton* to the 5th graders Freddy D., Quinn T., Sam M., Michael R., and Odin G. bringing down the house with their version of Imagine Dragon's "Thunder".

The talent show, titled "Set it All Free" from the movie *Sing*, was organized by Monica Saydah, Lisa Kozinski and Amanda Ellis, who spent countless hours making it all happen. Thanks to Ed Schweitzer for creating the poster and program art.

In addition, the PTO wants to give a special thanks to Anna Harlan for organizing the Airgrams — the special shout-outs to performers read before each of the acts. The Airgrams and Ice Cream Social brought in more than \$215 for the PTO, while the concessions during both nights netted an additional \$366 for the PTO's programs.

Once again, the talent show gave our school's talented — and courageous kids — a place to show off their considerable skills over two nights on Beye's stage.

Top: *Thunder*, Quinn T., Sam M., Odin G., Michael R., and Freddy D.
Bottom L: Ben G., Maisie C. and Rohan C.
Bottom R: Eddie P., Ben L., Baxter M., Lucia B., Abigail T., and Lucy A.



NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we finish **February** and enter March, we also enter the last trimester of the 2017-2018 school year. As hard as it is to believe, most of the year is now in the rearview mirror and we have just a few months to make sure this is our best year ever! Hopefully you walked away from your recent conference with a good idea of what's clicking and what needs attention. We believe that attitude determines altitude and that effective effort is the key to sustained success. So, as important as what we will work on is *how we will work on it!*

March will kick off **PARCC** testing with some students testing before break and others testing when we return. Families of students in grades 3-5 will receive the detailed schedule for tests in reading and math. Students in 5th grade will have a statewide science test yet to come later in the spring and all students in grades 2-5 will still have one final round of MAP testing in May. You may have read recently that that the state is looking for a test to replace PARCC. While it is true that a request for proposals has been issued, it will be quite some time before we know what a new test would look like. We do know for sure it will be assessing the same standards.

Please consider joining Supt. Dr. Carol Kelley as she is working through the book *Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain: Promoting Authentic Engagement and Rigor Among Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students* by Zaretta Hammond. Details are available on the D97 website under the "Around the District" tab. Members of our faculty on the Building Leadership Team (BLT) are also ex-

ploring the book and looking for ways that we can help all students to see themselves in what we do and see their strengths as springboards to the rest of the work we have to do together.

As part of our **school improvement plan** (available on the D97 & school web sites), we are working to see more African-American students reading at a level that would predict they're on track to be college ready later in their school careers. We also have a goal to see more students receiving tier 2 and tier 3 supports in math accelerating their learning and making more than a year's growth in a year's time to get caught up. Lastly, we are focused on helping more students respond that they feel safe from bullies and that they are respected by other students. Teachers did a data dive this month to see where we are and to consider how we can meet these year-end goals. We'll be reporting out in June about how we did and how that should inform our goals and strategies for 2018-19.



Mr. E Drawing by Kayla S.

Kindergarten registration will begin soon. Appointments are available on designated days March and April at the district's administration building (260 Madison Street). Details regarding the dates, times and the documentation that will be required are all on the district web site at op97.org. Save the first Wednesday of May (5/3) for our Kindergarten open house at 2:30pm, where we'll welcome incoming K students and their families for introductions and a curriculum overview followed by a Q & A session and tours of the building. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to register early and to join us for the open house!

It will soon be time to fill **PTO leadership positions** as we begin to assemble the slate for next year's executive board. Whether you've been active before or not, we hope you'll consider stepping up and making a contribution and making sure the PTO represents the entire school community. We'd like every facet of our diverse community to be represented with moms, dads and guardians thinking about students of all colors, from all grade levels, working at a variety of levels. Please contact Co-President Stephanie Kloster-De La Rosa or me if you'd like more information or if you're ready to say YES!

As always, I welcome your thoughts, ideas, questions, comments, concerns or causes for celebration. Please feel free to email, call, or make an appointment to stop by. You have a perspective that only you can bring, and I always appreciate getting to hear it and to know someone and their context just a little better. Thanks for your ongoing support of your learner, their teachers and their principal!

Sincerely,
Jonathan Ellwanger, Principal

NEWS FROM THE BEYE PTO AND BOOK FAIR

BEYE **MY** SCHOOL

<http://www.beyeschoolpto.org>

Dear Beye Families,

We've welcomed — and are about say goodbye — to February!

With all the cold and snow this month, you would think it's winter in Chicago. The month has heated up with lots of family fun. We hope you had a chance to enjoy the Talent Show and Pancake Breakfast the weekend of Feb 1-3 and the Harry Potter and Indian Cooking Demo and Dinner Beye-In parties.

Thank you for your continued participation in the Parent-Teacher Conferences. Your support for this important time for teachers and parents to connect is so helpful in making the experience focused and productive.

We hope you had a chance to attend the new Morning Math Meet Up that took place on Sat, Feb 24 and was spearheaded by Beye's Diversity Council, DIVCO. It was a great opportunity to learn more about the way your child is being taught math so that you can be fully prepared for all their homework questions.

Stay healthy and warm. Spring is around the corner!

Stephanie Kloster-De La Rosa and Denise Franta, Co-Presidents Beye PTO

SNOW ISN'T A MATCH FOR THE BOOK FAIR



To paraphrase the movie Frozen, the “cold and snow never bothered us anyway”. Despite being shut down on Friday due to an unexpected snow day, the February Beye book fair was snowy and successful. Mr. E encouraged the Beye community not to despair, there would be one more day for the book fair! Sure enough, some dedicated volunteers came in on Saturday to keep the fair going for one more day. And so many families strapped on their boots, skis, snow shoes, or loaded up their sleds, braving the snow to get to the book fair. Thank you to all the families and volunteers who supported the fair. With your support, the money raised will go to funding books for the Media Center.

--Submitted by Morgen Alexander-Young, Book Fair head



Top: Viviana D., Stephanie K., and Morgan A.

Bottom: Book fair volunteers Katherine K. and Sue D.

BEYE PTO PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Once again, the pancake breakfast proved to be a fantastic way to build the Beye community while filling bellies. Students were delighted to see their favorite teachers show up as celebrity flippers including Ms. Steinke, Ms. Helm, Mr. Gray, Mr. Withers and Mr. Simatic. In addition, the Gospel Choir, led by Mr. E., dazzled with gorgeous, inspirational songs.

The pancake breakfast wouldn't be possible without the work of countless volunteers, including Jenn George who headed it up. All the profits from the breakfast will support PTO programs.



BEYE PTO PANCAKE BREAKFAST CONTINUED...



Top L: Jennifer A., Jenn G.
Top R: Gospel Choir
performing
Middle L: Parker M, Sam-
my F, Noah G, Trevor M
Middle: Ms. Helm, Mr.
Withers, Mr. Gray,
Mr. Simatic
Middle R: Sara N., Jenna S.
Bottom L: Gospel Choir



BEYE PTO FUN FAIR



Saturday, April 28th

The PTO needs YOUR help for this year's raffle items!

- The Beye Fun Fair is a major source of revenue for the PTO — and the raffle is one of the reasons why. Please donate items for the raffle! Donations are tax-deductible and you'll be listed as the charitable donor.
- Have something around the house that you're not using? We'll take it! We are looking for gift cards, tickets to a sporting event, concert tickets, tickets to a play, season passes/guest passes at a museum or the zoo, unopened board games and stuffed animals. In short, we're looking for anything in great condition that we can use as a raffle item or giveaway at this year's Fun Fair.
- Want to buy something specifically for the raffle? We'll take it! We're also looking for games, books, gift baskets, educational items, gift certificates and other items that would appeal to elementary school-aged children and adults.
- We'd also like charitable donations! If you or your spouse work for others, ask your company or organization if they are willing to make a charitable donation. If you're self-employed, consider offering your services as a raffle item. It's a great way to gain extra exposure for your business, while benefiting the PTO.
- All proceeds from the raffle go directly to the PTO. These funds support all of the special enrichment experiences for our children, such as Opera for the Young, Hubbard Street Dance Company, as well as improvements for the school such as the recent auditorium upgrade.

Your generosity and kindness is much appreciated and benefits all of our Beye school children!

To donate or with questions, contact:

Suzanne Cronacher, scronacher@gmail.com or Jen Kellogg, jkellogg11@gmail.com.

--Submitted by Suzanne Cronacher, PTO Co-VP Special Events

BEYE-IN PARTIES

MARCH BEYE-IN PARTIES

WINE TASTING: MARCH 3

Enjoy a night of mingling with fellow Beye parents, nibbling on some yummy apps and tasting wines from across the west coast. We will be tasting wines that are exclusively grown and produced on the West Coast. Take a trip on US 101 through the wines of the west!

For ADULTS: \$30 EACH

3 X 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT: MARCH 10

Organize a team or sign up as an individual (and we'll put you on a team). All teams are co-ed. Adult teams must have at least one participant from the Beye community but can be organized by parents, guardians, teachers, staff, or administrators.

Tournament participants receive a T-shirt! Prizes for the winners!

K-2nd Graders: Show off your skills on the court in the Free Throw Contest! Compete against other students in your grade to see who can make the most baskets before time runs out! \$5 to play. Prizes for the winners in each grade level!

ENTRY FEE: \$10.00 per individual and \$60.00 per team.

Teams can have up to 6 people, with 3 people on the court at one time.

**Buy Tickets: <http://www.beyeschoolpto.org/beye-in.html>
before they sell out!**

Interested in hosting a party? Email: jkellogg11@gmail.com

BEYE DISCOVERY



BEYE PTO'S AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM WITH A FOCUS IN ART AND SCIENCE

<http://www.beyeschoolpto.org/beye-discovery.html>
beye.discovery@gmail.com

Beye Discovery Highlights: Mid-January through mid-February, 2018

It's always amazing to see what new shapes and patterns emerge when repeating a simple shape. Our students "played" with multiple $\frac{1}{4}$ circle shapes cut from phone book pages and discovered they could create fox faces, turtles, "PacMan", and more. We then used oil pastels to make our patterns (and characters) come alive. We invite you to stop by our display in the main hallway by the office through February to view this work.

**Each February, during Black History month, we honor African American artists and scientists.
This year, they include:**

Astronomer and Mathematician Benjamin Banneker (1731 - 1806) who accurately predicted solar and lunar eclipses; created a wooden clock from carved wooden cogs that accurately kept time and chimed on the hour; published a number of almanacs; and as a free black man, petitioned Thomas Jefferson for the civil rights of those enslaved. To learn more about Banneker via a K-5 age-appropriate animation, visit this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DKnwyVR4P88>.

As a tribute to Banneker and in light of the "Super Blood Moon" on January 31st, we made paintings on denim fabric with the super moon in the background as a large glowing orb rising above the horizon. In the foreground, students depicted a scene focused on a specific place or animal illuminated by the magnificent moon. To understand the "how and why" of our recent "Super Blue Moon" we watched a short video by NASA: <https://science.nasa.gov/science-news/news-articles/a-supermoon-trilogy>.

Self-taught Artist Horace Pippin (1888 - 1946), loved to draw and didn't have money for supplies, so he drew using small charred pieces of wood from the fireplace. As a soldier in WW1, his right arm was badly injured. For therapy, he began painting, using his left hand to control his right arm. To better understand Pippin's challenges and moved by his perseverance to draw and paint, we immobilized our right arm and guided it with our left hand while drawing. It was difficult, but for those with a passion for art making, it made sense that Pippin would not give up on the artist within him. He succeeded in creating paintings about family stories, his neighborhood, current events and biblical scriptures. To learn more about Horace Pippin, "A Splash of Red" by Jen Bryant is a wonderful picture book for elementary school children available at the Oak Park Library.

Elizabeth Catlett (1915-2012) created prints, paintings, drawings and sculptures that portrayed the dignity of the lower working class. She advocated for civil rights and drew on her own experiences as an African American woman growing up in the segregated south. Inspired by Catlett's prints of Harriet Tubman and Angela Libre, we are in the process of printing self-portraits that focus on the dignity of all.

BEYE DISCOVERY CONTINUED...



Top L: Ascencion, Family Painting, Top Middle: Walking Man, Giacometti; Top R: Valen, Sweet Potato Print; Middle L: Viviana Nick Cave-Inspired Doll; Middle: Zachary, left hand helping right drawing; Middle R: St. George and the Dragon Martorell; Bottom L: Jenna, Left hand helping right drawing; Bottom Middle: Lucy, Sweet Potato Print; Bottom R: Hank, Nick Cave-Inspired Doll

BEYE DISCOVERY CONTINUED...



Top: Gabe, Sweet Potato Print
Bottom: David, Nick Cave-Inspired Doll

Nick Cave (b. 1959) has created over 500 “Sound Sculptures” that can be worn in a performance or that can be displayed as a sculptural object. Many are very colorful, heavily embellished and made with a variety of materials, from sticks to feathers and sequins. Cave is concerned with matters of race, identity and gender. Ms. Gillet asked the students to create “dolls” inspired by Cave’s sound sculptures, to embrace differences and to do away with labels. Students could use precut shapes for their dolls or create their own. A variety of materials including patterned fabric, sequins, buttons, feathers, beads, googly eyes, and found objects were available to create the dolls. Every “doll” made was unique and quite a treasure!

For Teacher Institute Day on January 26th, we enjoyed a Field Trip to the Art Institute of Chicago. Our docent, Ann Alexander, led us on a wonderful tour titled “Self, Family, Community”. We viewed sculptures and paintings such as Henry Moore’s “Reclining Figure”, Picasso’s “The Old Guitarist” & “Mother and Child”, Brancusi’s “Golden Bird”, Giacometti’s Walking Man II, Seurat’s “A Sunday on La Grande Jatte”, and Martorell’s “Saint George and the Dragon” (the students were especially interested in this masterpiece!). Ms. Alexander posed questions about each artwork for us to glean insights and welcomed the students’ individual interpretations. Before heading back to Beye, we walked through Millennium Park. The view of the Chicago skyline with the winter landscape in the foreground was quite beautiful, however the students were more impressed by “Cloud’s Gate”, aka “The Bean” and the extremely funny distorted images of themselves created by the reflective surface.

Resourcefulness is guiding principle in Beye Discovery and we made some fantastic prints with the pages of an out-of-date book and a few sweet potatoes past their prime. The sweet potatoes were sliced into circles, ovals, hexagons, and octagons. We used gel food coloring rather than paint to make our prints. That way, the sweet potatoes could be composted following the activity. The students could use the sweet potatoes as a stamp, but it was also fun to slide them and swirl the inked slices to make different effects. Printing on the book pages rather than plain paper added an extra dimension to the work. Individually and collectively, these were very successful and will be on display in the main hallway outside the Beye Office through March. We hope you will stop by and have a look!

Beye Discovery is an enrichment program of the Beye PTO that offers children opportunities for exploration and growth through creative project-based learning in art and science. It is facilitated by Jocelyne Adkins, Program Director, and Maia Gillet, Teaching Assistant. For questions about Beye Discovery please contact: Jocelyne at beye.discovery@gmail.com or visit our Beye Discovery webpage at <http://www.beyeschoolpto.org/beye-discovery.html>

BEYE DISCOVERY CONTINUED...



Top L: Yusef, Bird of Prey and Super Moon; Top: R: Cloud Gate, Millennium Park; Middle L: Striking a pose at AIC; Middle R: Shape Play; Bottom L: Shape Play, PacMan; Bottom R: Salma_Wolf and the Super Moon

VOLUNTEER AT BEYE

Beye School's PTO fundraising team is looking for volunteers! Time commitments vary. Get involved as much as you would like. Meet new people and show your kids your school spirit. Visit the PTO home page and scroll down to the bottom of the page to indicate your interest(s): www.beyeschoolpto.org; www.beyeschoolpto.org/volunteer.html.

CONNECT WITH US



www.op97.org/beye



Beye School Families



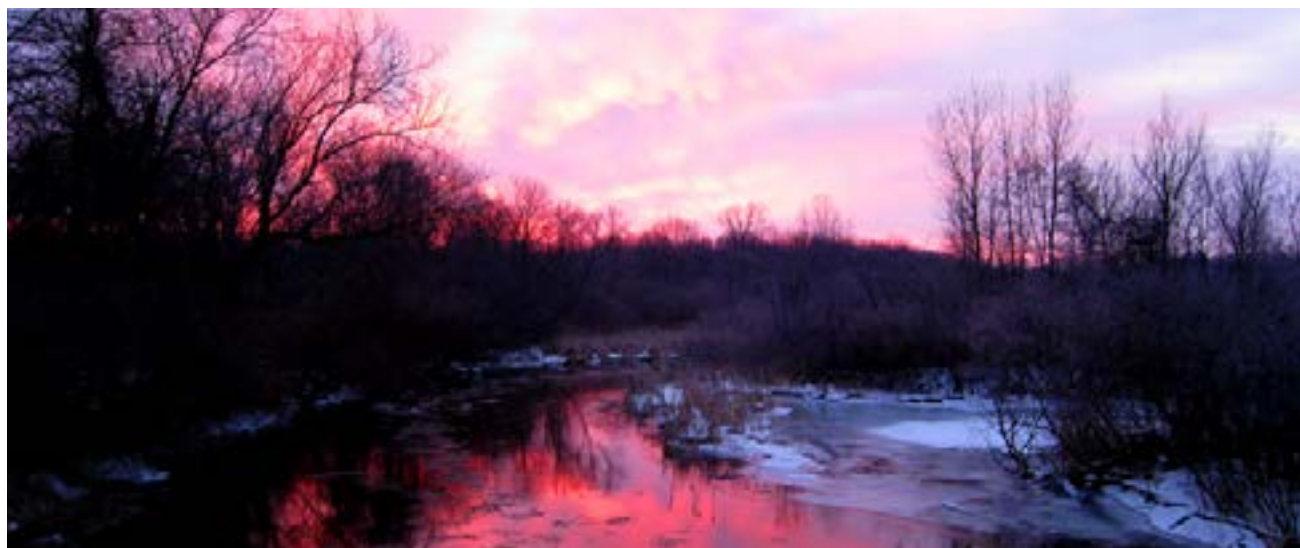
Mr E: @BeyeTheWay

ABOUT BEYELINES

The Beyelines is an online and hard copy newsletter of Beye School that is distributed monthly in an effort to highlight activities and events that have already occurred at Beye School, both in the classroom and outside the classroom. Articles may be written by Beye School Parents, community members, teachers, and students.

All articles should be submitted to beyelines@beyeschoolpto.org.

BeyeBytes Newsletter: If you are not currently receiving BeyeBytes email newsletter and would like to be added to the list, please send and email to beyebytes@gmail.com.



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The new design of the BEYELINES is inspired by the Blue and Green Line trains which run through Oak Park. The small circles on the blue and green lines are representative of the train stops along those lines which pass through our town. The fonts used are DIN Condensed, Chosence, and Times New Roman.

FEBRUARY 2018 **BEYELINES**