

# S A G E NEWSLETTER

ST. LOUIS ASSOCIATION  
FOR  
GIFTED EDUCATION

ADVOCATING FOR THE SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, AND EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN

## Arts Ahead Academy completes successful first year

by Dr. Sunny Pervil, Professor of Education, Maryville University

The first year for the Arts Ahead Academy went beyond all expectations. Forty sixth grade students, gifted in visual arts from nineteen different school districts, enjoyed working in both two and three-dimensional mediums. The program is a tribute to cooperation. It is funded in part by the State of Missouri and a small tuition payment.

A committee of dedicated teachers and administrators who volunteer their time oversees the program. The Ladue School District generously donates classroom space. There are four

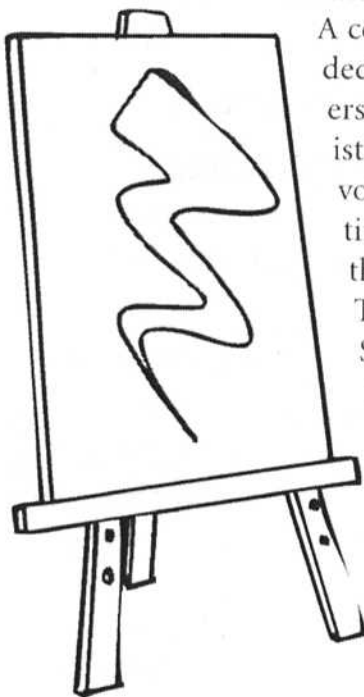
scholarships awarded for the program.

Four teachers who are certified in both Art Education and Gifted Education provide the instruction for the program. Karen Engelkenjohn teaches gifted in the Ladue district, Amy George and Kate Wottowa teach art in the Mehlville School District, and Lois Jacobs teaches art in Valley Park. These teachers are the heart and soul of our program. They are passionate about the visual arts and convey that passion to the students. Process is important to these teachers. It is important to them to get the students to think and become self-critical.

On Tuesday May 2, 2006 the students had their first gallery opening in the lobby of Ladue Middle School. They celebrated the

completion of their first year and shared their favorite pieces from their year of work. Their products included self-portraits, morph drawings, artist trading cards, book redesign, three dimensional sculpture, and paper cutting. Certificates were awarded. Parents, teachers, and students shared a delightful evening.

Next year the program will service both sixth and seventh grade students. The new sixth grade students will finish screening in June. Last year's sixth graders will continue with the program. The instruction goes for sixteen weeks a semester at a cost of \$80 a semester. Four more teachers will be selected to teach in the program. Ladue will continue to house the classes. ☼



# Calendar of Events

DATE	PROGRAM	LOCATION	TIME
July 31-Aug. 3 & Aug. 7-10 Call 618-235-2700, ext. 5393 for info. & application	<b>Kids on Campus</b> Summer program for grades K-8	Sponsored by Southwestern Illinois College & Assoc. for Bright Learners Education	9 - 12 p.m.
July 31 thru August 9	<b>College for Kids</b>	St. Louis Community College- Meramec Campus	
Wednesday August 9	<b>SAGE Book Fair at College for Kids</b>	SLCC-Meramec Campus	8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
October 15-17	<b>Missouri Conference on Gifted Education</b>	Tan-Tar-A	
November 1-5	<b>NAGC Conference</b>	Charlotte, NC	

Check our website at [www.giftedsage.com](http://www.giftedsage.com) for current information.

GAM - Gifted Association of Missouri

MODESE - Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

NAGC - National Association for Gifted Children

SENG - Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted

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The St. Louis Association for Gifted Education, a non-profit organization, provides resources and support for gifted and talented children as well as promoting programs which meet their social, emotional, and educational needs. Membership (includes SAGE Newsletter and library privileges) is \$20 per year.

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