

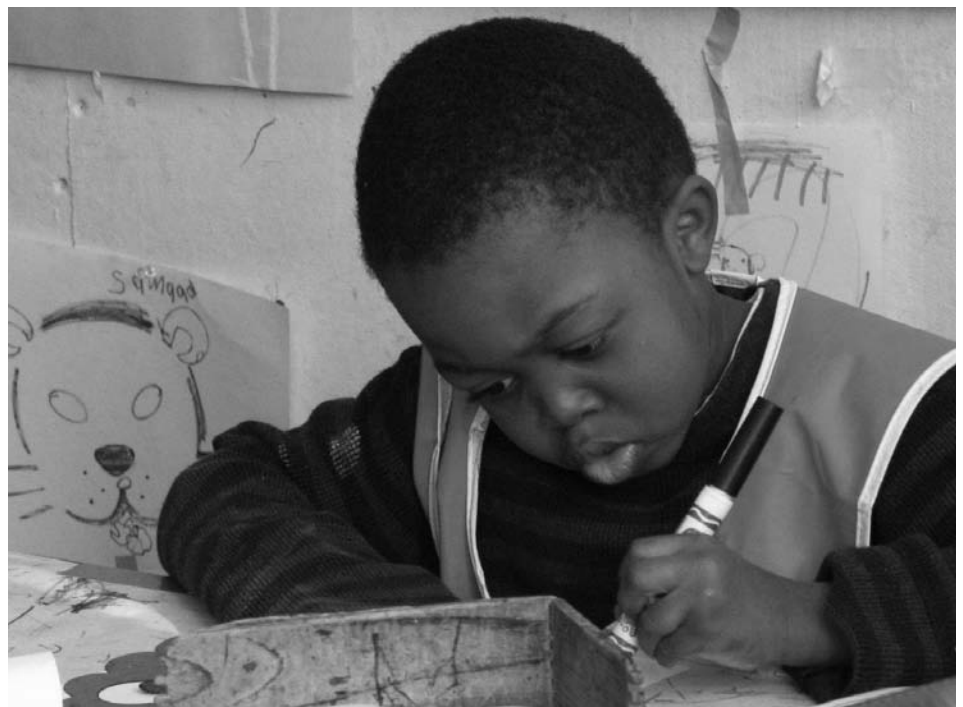
Notes

SPRING 2010

Study Confirms Settlement Preschool Students Ahead of Peers in School Readiness Scores

According to a new study, Settlement Music School's Kaleidoscope students show gains in standardized vocabulary scores three times greater than those demonstrated by their peers attending a nearby preschool with a traditional curriculum. The study, "Arts Enrichment and School Readiness for Children at Risk," was published in the first 2010 edition of *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, the field's recognized research journal. West Chester University assistant professor and psychologist Eleanor D. Brown conducted the study and found that Settlement's model program eliminates the achievement gap that typically exists between children from racial/ethnic minority backgrounds and majority group peers at preschool entry and exit. The study also finds Kaleidoscope children's language, literacy, math, science, and other school readiness skills are measurably improved through their music, dance and visual arts classes.

"Historically, minorities have been marginalized in all areas of education, but to a lesser extent in the arts," noted Brown. "This study strongly suggests that the arts may



"Settlement's Kaleidoscope is the only preschool program I know where the arts are being used in such a full, intentional and structured way to promote development in core school readiness skills."

increase the cultural relevance of education for children from racial or ethnic minority backgrounds."

While arts are often among the first programs to be eliminated when schools are facing budget cuts, this research shows that for some preschoolers, instruction in music, dance and art can be an

effective way to engage them in learning. Added Brown, "Settlement's Kaleidoscope is the only preschool program I know where the arts are being used in such a full, intentional and structured way to promote development in core school readiness skills."

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



When Settlement's first permanent site was built in South Philadelphia in 1917, the Mary Louise Curtis Branch was constructed so it could be converted into a hospital if the need arose. Beyond the services they provided that enhanced the quality of life for the school's core population of newly-arrived immi-

grants, Settlement's founders, Blanche Wolf Kohn and Jeanette Selig Frank, were thinking about the greatest needs of their time. The school was prepared to provide a place to tend to wounded soldiers returning from the Great War should there have been shortages in existing medical facilities.

Throughout its history, Settlement has sought ways to respond to the community's greatest needs and to provide points of entry to quality education for people who might otherwise have been overlooked or marginalized.

The findings in the recently published study that is the subject of this issue's cover story are significant because they add to the growing body of scientific evidence that arts-based early education prepares students for success in school and in life and that the benefits are far-reaching and long-lasting. Study results show that Kaleidoscope's arts-enriched curriculum eliminates the achievement gap that exists between preschoolers whose lives are affected adversely by poverty and those who live in more affluent environments. By incorporating the arts into everyday learning activities, Kaleidoscope teachers show students how to trust, to communicate effectively, and to achieve goals and nurture individual talents.

Dr. Eleanor Brown, co-author of the study, is founder and director of the Early Childhood Cognition and Emotions

Laboratory. Her many years of research on the influence of poverty and economic stress on children's lives—particularly on how children's emotional well-being affects their ability to learn—appears in many scholarly journals. She and her colleagues hope to publish future findings on how and why the arts-based approach to learning in the Kaleidoscope arts enrichment model has such a positive impact.

Settlement's investment in providing quality educational experiences benefits both the individual and the larger community. An important factor to long-term economic growth in any community is the quality of the workforce. Gaining confidence and independence—whether performing in front of the class as a preschooler or interviewing for a job—is a valuable skill repeated throughout a person's life.

Positive early learning experiences, like those that take place every day in Settlement classrooms around the six branches, strengthen a child's attitude toward school, start children on a path to independence, teach creative problem-solving skills, and produce positive effects a young person can carry into a successful future.

Settlement isn't only about teaching people to become better musicians, dancers and creative artists. It's about teaching people to discover and expand their individual talents and capabilities, no matter what form those talents take; it's about helping people learn to become productive members of society.

As we move into the 21st century, the world may be different than it was a century ago, but Settlement remains an anchor in the community; a place where people connect with others to discover the things we all have in common.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Patricia Manley". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Patricia Manley
Interim Executive Director

Fundraising Update



Work has begun on the new Willow Grove Branch on Davisville Road. See construction photos and updates on our blog, <http://settlementmusicschool.blogspot.com>. This new facility is the centerpiece capital project of the School's Centennial Campaign.

- The December 13 concert celebrating Bob Capanna's long and distinguished tenure as executive director of Settlement Music School raised close to \$50,000. In recognition and appreciation of his steadfast commitment to the School's longstanding mission of service and access, Settlement has established the Robert Capanna Tuition Assistance Fund to provide financial aid to students in need.
- The National Endowment for the Arts awarded Settlement \$50,000 to support arts faculty salaries in the Kaleidoscope Preschool Arts Enrichment Program and \$20,000 in support of Settlement's Advanced Study Program.
- Settlement's Centennial Campaign has raised \$20.5 million, or 82% of the \$25 million goal. We are most grateful to the more than 100 donors who have supported this effort so generously.

For more information about these programs and how you can support them, please visit the School's website at www.smsmusic.org or contact Katharine Sokoloff, Director of Development at (215)320-2682 or ksokoloff@smsmusic.org.

EXPLORE...

Settlement Music School on the Web

Have you checked out Settlement's blog lately? Visit us at <http://settlementmusicschool.blogspot.com> to keep up-to-date on everything happening at the School, including progress on the Willow Grove project.

Have you noticed us on Facebook? Join our group. Meet new friends. Share experiences. Find out about the latest Settlement events.

Do we have your e-mail address? Send yours today to info@smsmusic.org. You'll get first notice of key events, special offers and helpful reminders.

2010

Summer Camp

Settlement Music School is currently enrolling students for a variety of summer camps for children ages 4 –18 along with six weeks of individual lessons for continuing youth and adult students and those who wish to try out music lessons in a more relaxed time of the year.

Financial and scholarship support is available for all camps.

Summer String Camp

Mary Louise Curtis
Jenkintown

Ages 7-14

June 21 – July 2, 2010
Monday through Friday
9am to 3pm

Cost: \$630

This intensive two-week session includes two ensemble rehearsals, sectionals, supervised practice time, theory and music appreciation classes and chamber music coaching (for more advanced students). A healthy snack will be provided in the morning, but students should pack their own lunches. Enrollment is limited to 30 students per location.

Summer Jam Camp

Mary Louise Curtis
Germantown

Ages 12-18

June 21 – July 2, 2010 (GTN)
10 Days
Cost: \$650

July 6 – 16, 2010 (MLC)

9 Days

Cost: \$610

Monday through Friday
9am to 3pm

This two-week intensive session is for drums, electric guitar, electric bass keyboard, vocalists and song writers.

Students join bands, record original works in a professional studio, play a live performance and learn all aspects of producing and playing jazz, blues, and rock music with a group. Faculty members are professionals who teach at Settlement Music School and who are recognized for their work in their own bands.

Placement audition dates are Saturday, April 17, 1-4pm at GTN and April 24, 1-4pm at MLC. Call either branch to schedule a 10-minute audition slot.

Summer Arts Camp

Mary Louise Curtis
Germantown

Ages 4-7

July 6-30, 2010
Monday through Friday
9am to Noon

Cost: \$630

This arts camp provides daily activities in music, dance and visual art. Families are invited to a presentation of the students' work during the last week of camp. Healthy snacks are provided. Students must register for full four-week session.

Summer Music Theatre Camp

Camden

Ages 6-12

July 6-30, 2010
Monday through Friday
9am to Noon

Cost: \$175

The four-week session will provide singing, dancing and acting activities. Students will be grouped according to age and families will be invited to an informal presentation of the students' work during last week of camp. A healthy snack will be served each day.



NEW THIS YEAR

Summer Guitar Camp

Kardon-Northeast

Ages 12-18

July 19 – July 30, 2010
Monday through Friday
9am to Noon

Cost: \$300

This two-week intensive session offers guitar students the opportunity to learn and improve their skills in a variety of musical styles, including classical, jazz, rock and blues. Classes will explore various technical and stylistic points in each genre. Topics include: influential performers and their styles, improvisation in music, and the experience of performing in a group.

For more information on any camp, visit www.smsmusic.org or contact your branch directly.

Mary Louise Curtis – (215) 320-2600

Germantown – (215) 320-2610

Kardon-Northeast – (215) 320-2620

Jenkintown – (215) 320-2630

West Philadelphia – (215) 320-2640

Camden – (856) 541-6375 or

(215) 320-2660

SAVE THE DATE!

School-wide Open Houses

Saturday, June 5, 10 am-1 pm

Register for summer and fall instruction, learn more about our programs, meet our faculty.

Check with your local branch or www.smsmusic.org for details.



Q & A with Martha Glaze-Zook, Music Teacher, Settlement's Kaleidoscope program

Martha Glaze-Zook's relationship with Settlement began in the 1970's when she played French Horn for the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Settlement's then Executive Director Sol Schoenbach recruited her to teach advanced students at Settlement. Years later, after she left the Orchestra to stay home and raise her children, she returned to Settlement first as a Children's Music Workshop teacher, then full-time in 1990 as the music teacher in the newly created Kaleidoscope Preschool Arts Enrichment Program. She's been there ever since and in 2008, was named a Settlement 100 Honoree.

In her time with Settlement, Glaze-Zook has helped build Kaleidoscope into a program that a recent West Chester University study showed provided substantial academic advantages to low-income children (see cover story) entering kindergarten. Below, Glaze-Zook discusses how Kaleidoscope has been able to provide these advantages.

Q: What separates an arts-based preschool program from a traditional preschool model?

Martha Glaze-Zook: First and foremost, arts teachers in particular are in a position to spot and address developing problems that would interfere with the early learning process. We engage in so many cross-curricular activities that require gross motor skills, like skipping or dancing, fine motor skills, such as sculpture and drawing, and cognitive or speech skills, like echo singing. In the process of leading these activities, I see right away whether sensory motor skills or eye-hand coordination is giving a child difficulty. If they're having trouble with a movement or skill, I make sure to pay attention to that student and give them the help they need. In the Kaleidoscope program, there are three Artist Teachers, in addition to a regular classroom teacher, who are all focused on developing and monitoring these skills within the children. The premise that we work on is that all children in the program should become the best possible learners and members of society that they can be.

Q: How important is the arts side of the children's education?

MGZ: I came to the conclusion long ago that I didn't care if the children couldn't keep a steady beat or match pitch. If they can do that, if they can sing in tune, that's great. That's icing on the cake, but the actual cake part of the program is the self-regulation and the skills that allow them to be successful after they leave here. The arts piece of the program allows us to provide a rich learning environment for the children. One of the primary skills we teach the children is how to be active learners. When they first enter Kaleidoscope, they're very squirmy and can't sit still. We have little games about how we sit, with specific instructions on how we put our hands on our legs and keep them still and quiet. We put on our listening ears and our thinking caps and keep our eyes on the activities. Little by little, they get into the routine of being active learners. If they don't have these social and academic skills in place, then they're already at a disadvantage when they start kindergarten. We're able to help eliminate that disadvantage.

Q: What is a typical activity in Kaleidoscope's music class?

MGZ: I like to think of each activity as an evolving process. For instance, I wrote a little song about a carpenter, which I've been using in class this year. We'll sing the song in class, but we'll also incorporate movement by using our musical instruments as hammers and saws. Then later in the week, I was able to accompany that class of students to the library and help them find a few books about carpenters and tools. The children were very excited to learn more about carpenters because we had sung about them all week. Music and movement lead to an interest in reading and learning.

Q: How has Settlement been able to create a program like Kaleidoscope?

MGZ: Settlement Music School has provided a laboratory for me to see what works and what doesn't work in early childhood education. We've really been able to push the envelope of what's been possible by combining multiple artistic disciplines with regular classroom work. You don't have to do the things that have always been done. And now we're in a position to say to other institutions, "Take a look at Settlement Music School's program, come visit and see what happens here and how effective it can be."



STUDENTS

On January 16, the Yale Glee Club stopped by the Mary Louise Curtis Branch to meet and perform with Settlement's **Gleeksman-Kohn Children's Choir**. Its director, Jeffrey Douma, introduced the glee club as one of the oldest collegiate choruses in America, and went on to say that the group had been men-only for its first 100+ years since Yale didn't admit women students until 1969.

"What!? That's not fair!" The reaction from the front row of fifth- and sixth-grade girls from the Gleeksman-Kohn choir was immediate and audible—they were astounded that such a policy had ever existed. However, they were reassured by the sight and sound of the current co-ed ensemble from New Haven and soon, more than 180 students from four Settlement branches and Yale were singing pieces for and with each other including madrigals and welcome songs from around the world.

Rae Ann Anderson, director of Settlement's choir, encouraged the students to interview each other during the break and to exchange e-mail addresses. Both groups enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about each other.

Names in the News is a bi-annual compilation that highlights interesting and unique accomplishments of Settlement Music School students, faculty, staff and board. A complete list of Names in the News submissions for the last six months can be found at www.smsmusic.org.

A classical guitar trio including **Julien Blancon**, 16, **Gideon Shils**, 14, and **Zachary Margolies**, 17, played at the kickoff party for the Mt. Airy Business Association's Decemberfest. All three are students of Marisol Rampolla.

David Buzaglo, 16, baritone voice student of Judith Turano, was a finalist in The Classical Singer competition for high school vocalists, held at Temple University in January.

Philip Carter, 17, violin student of Lee Snyder performed the first movement of the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with the Ambler Symphony in February and again in March with the Philadelphia Sinfonia.

FACULTY, STAFF & BOARD

This past fall, piano faculty **Meral Guneyman** performed with the Brussels Philharmonic Orchestra in Belgium. In November, she gave a masterclass and performed at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University in Houston. In January, she released an album, "Danzas Tropicales," on which she performs a collection of piano compositions dedicated to Latin dance rhythms with pianist Dick Hyman.

In November, **Joseph Nebistinsky** joined the Development staff as Corporate and Foundation Relations Manager.

Central Board of Trustees member **Ruth Perry** was named to the Bishop's Advisory Council on Music for the Diocese of New Jersey. Perry also accompanied soprano Deborah Ford in two selections for the World Aids Day Service that was held at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in December.

Percussion faculty members **William Kerrigan** and **Susan Jones** performed on composer George Crumb's *The Winds of Destiny*, a piece that was nominated this year for a Grammy in the Best Classical Contemporary Composition category.

In January, viola faculty **Nina Cottman** and her group, the Copeland String Quartet, raised more than \$800 for the Red Cross Haiti Relief Fund at a concert at The Church of the Holy City in Wilmington. The performance was an entry in the group's third season of concerts held at the church.

Teacher Training Institute for the Arts Coordinator **George Alley** expanded his role with the School by taking on the job of Assistant Director of Early Childhood Programs.

Violin faculty **Daniel Elyar** performed *Dido and Aeneas* in March with the Mark Morris Dance Company in Moscow, Russia.

Continued from page 1

Study Confirms Settlement Preschool Students Ahead of Peers in School Readiness Scores



According to the Director of Settlement's Early Childhood Programs, Ms. Tarrell Davis, "We know how arts learning promotes the early development of deep learning and the future acquisition of real knowledge. Young children must have an arts-rich, sensory-based learning environment to successfully prepare for the increasingly challenging curriculum they will meet in school." (To learn more about Settlement's arts-integrated programs, see profile on Kaleidoscope faculty member Martha Glaze-Zook, page 5.)

Settlement Music School created the Kaleidoscope Program in 1990, in cooperation with ARAMARK, (formerly ARA Services), to help low-income, inner-city children develop school readiness skills through a fully integrated curriculum that includes intensive work in music, dance and visual arts each day. The program currently serves 110 Head Start-eligible children at the Mary Louise Curtis and Germantown Branches through partnerships with the Learning Tree Head Start of the Philadelphia Presbytery and the School District of Philadelphia Head Start program. It is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and has achieved the highest rating in the Keystone Stars program of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Kaleidoscope is a national model program and was recognized with a Coming Up Taller Award from the President's Council on the Arts and Humanities in 1996 for the quality and uniqueness of its work and for its unusual commitment to documenting impact through independent evaluations and research. Although many independent studies have documented Kaleidoscope's effectiveness, this most recent study by Brown and co-authors Elizabeth Armistead and Barbara Benedett, both former administrators of the Kaleidoscope program, is the first to be published in a major, peer-reviewed journal. ■

UPCOMING CONCERTS & EVENTS

CZECH AMERICAN MUSIC BRIDGES FESTIVAL

Thursday, March 25, 7 pm

Free

Mary Louise Curtis Branch

Yuval Waldman, violin (New York)

Tomas Visek, piano (Prague)

KNOWLTON LEADERSHIP PROGRAM WORKSHOP: BODY AWARENESS FOR MUSICIANS

Sunday, April 11, 2 pm

Free

Mary Louise Curtis Branch

This hands-on workshop will introduce students to the Alexander Technique, a method for improving performance through listening to the body

2010 ANNUAL CONCERT

Sunday, April 25, 2 pm & 5:30 pm

Free

Mary Louise Curtis Branch

2009-2010 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI RECITAL SERIES

Sunday, May 2, 3 pm

Tickets \$20

Mary Louise Curtis Branch

Leonard Nelson Hubbard, Grammy-award winning bassist, founding member of The Roots hip-hop band

GLEEKSMAN-KOHN CHILDREN'S CHOIR CONCERT

Sunday, May 2, 5 pm

Free

Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral

3723 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104

ADULT CHAMBER PLAYERS LECTURE SERIES

Wednesday, May 5, 11:30 am

Free

Mary Louise Curtis Branch

James McBride, author and saxophonist

SPRING ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL

Sunday, May 23, 3 pm

Free

Mary Louise Curtis Branch

TROWBRIDGE ORCHESTRA CONCERT

Sunday, May 23, 7 pm

Free

Mary Louise Curtis Branch

Check www.smsmusic.org for more information on all events or call Kris Parsons at (215) 320-2685 to reserve tickets for paid events.



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or kparsons@smsmusic.org or visit www.smsmusic.org/events