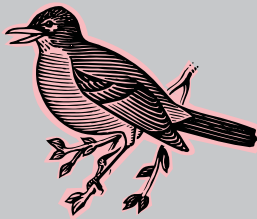


Trillium Charter School is a democratically-structured environment that fosters students' natural curiosity, creativity, and self-awareness. Students learn to take initiative and assume responsibility for their own learning, which supports constructive interaction with the local, regional, and global community.

Newsletter

April 2008



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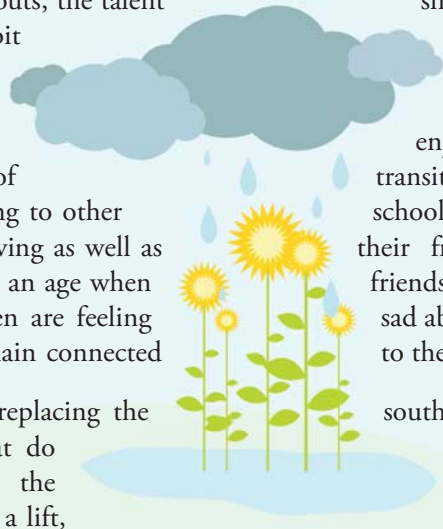
Trillium Charter School

LEARNING FOR CHANGE

From the Director By Stephanie Hinkle

Dear Trillium Families,

I hope you all had a great spring break. I went to San Diego for the second week. The sun was shining there. As of the time I am writing this letter, the sun has been very absent from Portland. The last quarter of the year comes and goes really quickly. There are many activities that happen, such as campouts, the talent show, outdoor school, and many others. It can be a bit overwhelming. It is also lottery time when we are swamped with visitors and applications. It can seem harried. Remember to take some time and enjoy the spring, if it ever arrives. It is also a time of transition for some students. Some students will be going to other schools next year, which can be emotional for the ones leaving as well as their friends who remain. We are lucky enough to live in an age when friendships don't end because of movement. If your children are feeling sad about such a transition, help them find the ways to remain connected to their friends.



This spring we will be replacing the south upstairs windows that don't open with ones that do. The fresh air will be very welcome. Over the summer, the building will be getting a new roof, a lift, and an exterior paint job. Next year it will be great to not have water flowing through our building except in pipes. Someday we will have a fully functioning kitchen.

By the end of the year, we will have rolled out our online portfolio system so that we will begin next year with full participation. This system is very exciting and will allow students to work on projects through their portfolios and let parents see what their children are working on in real time. Rob has been working on this project for a couple of years, and now that we have a backup server, we can get it rolled out. Keaton Purkapile, one of our high school students put a great deal of time into the project as well, and is responsible for our ability to activate it this year. Nick, our intrepid teacher/tech support person is working on most of the technical aspects as well as creating a vision for a technically enriched school program. When we get to the point of parents having access, we will provide training materials so you know what to do.

Because of the hectic quality to the spring, we are postponing Run for the Arts until the fall. We are also looking at different ways to raise money for arts and music that might suit us more. If you have any ideas, please let me know.

The auction is fast approaching. Last year the money raised went to many wonderful things in our school. It supported scholarships for activity fees and outdoor school, the building fund, senior projects, ski trip scholarships, drums, expensive calculators, cameras, and many other needed items and activities. Please come and support the auction this year. Tickets will go on sale soon. We are also still looking for auction items as well.

It gets increasingly difficult to get admitted to Trillium. We have very few slots available and the demand increases every year. On one hand I am pleased that the school is so well received,

(Continued on Page 2)

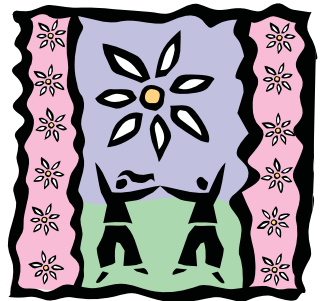
Greetings from the Preschool By Jean Goodrow

Wow! April is already here! It is hard to believe but summer is quickly approaching. The preschool has undergone some changes recently and we would like to welcome a new member of our team, Assistant Teacher Korrutai (Goi) Yujaroen. Our previous A.T., Reeva Wortel, has had the opportunity to once again work with Portland Impact and we wish her all the best in her important work with our greater community.

Our drive for the Oregon Food Bank was a success! Over the past three weeks we collected 186 lbs. of food and \$100 through our bake sale. This contribution helped 14 families in our community with 686 pounds of food! Thanks to the Bickley-Geuschtow family who made labels for our boxes and stored the food in their home, to the Norton family for making signs and sending email notifications to Trillium families, to the Price family who own Madrona Hill Café (at 5937 N. Greeley Ave.) and graciously donated baked goods for our barter/bake sale, and to the Park-Leisge and Koch families for sitting in the windy parking lot on Saturday morning collecting money and food for those delicious baked goods! Also, we would like to give a huge thanks to those families who donated to our drive. It would not have been a success without all of these important components.

If you were able to attend this year's Trillium Project Fair maybe you saw the preschool's exhibit. It was a study of our city and the construction of a model with aspects of Portland. We drew pictures, wrote stories, and constructed buildings we saw on our fieldtrips to the Eastside Esplanade. We were very excited to participate and to have the opportunity to walk through the other classrooms and enjoy their exhibits as well.

Without jinxing us and bringing more inclement weather we would like to say, "Happy Spring!" from the Trillium Preschool.



Raise Money for Trillium with Yahoo Good Search and Good Shop

What if Trillium Charter School earned a penny every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our cause? Well, now it can!

GoodSearch.com is a Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates up to 37 percent of each purchase to your favorite cause! Hundreds of great stores including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, ebay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting your favorite cause.



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Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter Trillium Charter School as the charity you want to support. And, be sure to spread the word!

From the Director (Continued from Page 1)

but it makes me kind of sad that students who really want and need the type of schooling that Trillium provides don't have access. The progressive school movement is again starting to gain a voice across the country. Many families and educators are speaking out about the constraints and pressures that are harming students, teachers, and schools. I encourage all of you to add to the dialogue of this issue.

As we begin to wrap up the year, I encourage you to share with teachers the successes and struggles you have witnessed in your children. We evaluate our program continually but do some major work at the end of the school year and over the summer. It is helpful to have good feedback that gives us useful information.

I hope you all have a great spring. Thanks for all of your support.

Only Four Weeks Until the Trillium Auction

By Dawn Liljenquist

Since first quarter, the Auction Class students have been learning business skills, dealing with potential sponsors, soliciting donations, sending thank you notes, brainstorming ideas for donations, and of course, planning Trillium's biggest annual fundraiser!

Now It's Your Turn Parents and Students, Get Involved!

Besides procuring items from local businesses, we want your talents! We know you're a creative bunch, what you give doesn't have to cost a lot to raise a lot for Trillium!

- Donate your art, whether it's a painting, a sculpture, or an evening concert, we LOVE art!
- Donate your Realtor commission (maybe even a portion) to a homeowner looking to sell.
- Donate your number crunching skills to consult with a small business or a 2008 tax return.
- Donate your love of gardening to a homeowner who needs help in the yard.
- Donate your cabin on the coast for a weekend to a family (or parents!) who need to get away.
- Donate a dinner party. Create a sign-up board for 10-20 people to come to your house to party!
- Donate your mad Photoshop skillz to teach private lessons to one lucky buyer over a few weeks.
- Donate your love of photography to a family in need of new portraits.
- Donate your organizational skills to someone who knows their space is in complete disarray.
- Donate a n00B (newbie) course in Xbox 360, PS3, or Wii to a mom or dad who want to pwn their kids. (Uh, that means whoop them – in a video game!)
- Ask for donations from your employer. Sponsorship opportunities are also still available if your company does not have tangible items.

Look at all these donations not only as a way to help Trillium, but as a way to advertise your service to the Trillium Community!

If you donate a non-tangible (time only) item, we would love it if you would create a physical illustration of it so we can showcase your donation at the auction. For example, Accountant donating 2008 tax return: presentation board titled "2008 Tax Return Service" with photos/illustration of stressed out guy and happy guy relieved to have extra money thanks to your service. Photographers: create a stand with examples of your photography. Make an advertisement!

Please fill out a donation form with all the details including very specific restrictions and requirements of the buyer. <http://trilliumcharterschool.org/forms/TrilliumAuctionClassPressRelease.pdf>

For more information:

Donations–Charity Chesnek, cchesnek@earthlink.net 503.997.1372

Sponsorships–Auction Class, trilliumauktionclass@gmail.com

Visit the class blog at: <http://trilliumauktionclass.blogspot.com/> for more great donation ideas.

Tickets will go on sale next week for \$25 (yes, we listened to you!). Invite your friends and family–take them out to dinner. Check out Chef (and Trillium Dad) Ben Dyer's delicious menu on the blog.



Together for Trillium (TFT) News–

March 10, 2008, Meeting Minutes

General News – TFT grants are due April 7th. The date for the Burrito Feed will be announced at staff meeting; we are looking for a coordinator for this event. Coordinator will be able to use money earned for classroom materials or projects. This event usual makes \$500 and needs 2 adults and a few students to help out.

Positions – The student representative position has been filled. Alexandra Philips, a junior, was voted in. She will receive class credit for participating in TFT and will meet with Carrie Mae to form her goals. Alexandra says that she would like to be involved in TFT so that she can stay informed as to the changes at Trillium, and will present information to other students by talking to upper and lower school advisors.

Recent Events – One of the school events this month was roller-skating. With 38 skaters in attendance, it was a small but fun event! Movie night is in its planning stages. Posters are going up and the event will happen on Friday the 13th. The ski trips were successful!! Thanks to Taylor and Dean.

Proposals – John Ross presented a resource for staff and parents, a web site called www.cosmeo.com. The site would cost \$2,000 and would be used to help develop lessons, and present a breakdown of materials to assist student. A TFT proposal will be submitted for purchase of the access to this site.

Fiona Livingstone presented a senior inquiry, asking for help funding her senior project. She is traveling to a cycling event and would use the experience to add information to her zine on cycling. She is also building a tall bike and would gather ideas at the event. Fiona is asking for \$50-200 for a bus ticket by March 25th 2008. This presentation brings up the idea of adding a student project fund to the TFT budget for 2008-09. We voted in a \$500 limit for the 2007-08 school year. We presented Fiona with \$200 for her trip. If other students want to request funding, we will vote based on the presentation of the student and availability of remaining funds.

Open Floor – Lastly, the floor was opened and the following information was added:

- MIT has a new high school web site- added resource for students PPS Junior College Night w/college reps, Grant High school Monday, March 17th form 6-9.
- Trillium T-shirts- youth large, only 3 left.
- Family Math Night March 13th 5:30-7:30 K-8.
- March 20th All School Project Night 6:30- students required!
- Trillium Board meeting canceled for this month.
- T-shirts - should we use a service day to have upper school students plan a silk screening operation to make this year's t-shirts? Best design from the last 5 years, pre order shirt? Seeking ideas-a contact list is posted at the bulletin board including contact information for all TFT members.
- Next TFT meetings: Tuesday, April 8, 3:30 pm

May TFT Meeting
Monday, May 12, 6:30 – 8:00 pm
Childcare provided.

Spring Flower Fundraiser for Trillium Garden Program By Arianne Newton

We are launching our annual spring flower and plant sale to raise funds for the garden program. We have annuals, herb and vegetable starts, sunny and shady perennials, groundcovers, Geraniums, planters and hanging baskets, foliage plants and more. While we are farther away from the garden we intend to work it for another year and we are raising funds for:



- A student project using intensive planting techniques to grow veggies to donate to the Oregon Food Bank and other emergency food distribution centers around our community
- Designing and planting an edible permaculture forest on the east bank off Maryland
- Saving for our huge long term project – A ROOF GARDEN!

We need your support. The garden program is run from the proceeds of our fundraisers and grants. So – beautify your home, purchase gifts and support the Trillium garden program all at the same time!

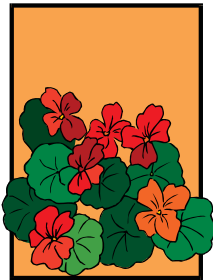
Sale starts: Monday, April 7th

Sale ends: Wednesday, April 23rd

Flowers delivered: Friday, May 16th

Please place completed order forms with checks in the collection box at the front desk. Make checks payable to “Trillium” and write “flower sale” on the memo line.

You can view photos and descriptions of the plants at www.newleafgreenhouse.com under spring fundraiser sales link.



Opportunities for Hosting Exchange Students By Arianne Newton

Learn First Hand about another culture. Make Lifelong Friends. Make a student’s dream come true!

Please consider being part of this fantastic program. Contact me with any questions. I would be happy to share my experiences.

We have just made it possible for prospective host families to view available students on the NWSE student profiles page. The Web page address is <http://nwse.com/profiles/>

Hosts should use for **User Name: nwsehost**

Hosts should use for **Password: hosting**

After logging in hosts will have to click on **2008/2009 Students**.

To see more info on each student, the user can click on the student’s ID number, first name, or the person icon in the last column. The user can save and/or print a pdf version of the profile by clicking on the printer icon in the last column. Contact Arianne at 503-327-5439 or by email arianne@e-z.net

Parent Survey Time!

On Friday, April 18th, our annual parent survey will be “going live” on SurveyMonkey.

The survey provides a chance for parents to give feedback to the Trillium Board of Directors on the school’s mission, programs, and practices, and on their families’ unique experience at Trillium. Information received through the survey is used by the Board in evaluating programs, policies, and practices, and in planning for the future.

Information on how to access the survey on-line will be sent out to our parent listserv (if you aren’t a member yet, send an Email to trillium-parent-owner@lists.trilliumcharterschool.org) and will be posted on the website (www.trilliumcharterschool.org). We will have paper copies in the school lobby starting Monday, April 21st. We may have computers available during drop-off and pick-up times to take the survey, and will let you know soon if that will be an additional option.

Please look for, and take some time to complete, the survey. Your opinions and responses are valued and appreciated.

Who Wants To Run Scrip? by Anne Stark

Starting next fall, we are looking for someone new to run the Scrip fundraiser. It’s really a pretty fun job. There are two main aspects to it – marketing and order processing. If you are a people person and can come up with fun and different ways to promote the program, then this is the volunteer opportunity for you! Also, orders are input into an Excel spreadsheet that is pre-formatted and a breeze to use. Additional legwork includes taking a weekly deposit to the bank, and sorting out the orders when they come in.

It’s a job that one or even two people could take on, and not feel like they are tethered to the school.

Please call or email me if you would like more details (503-249-7843, dragonsawake@gmail.com). This has been a great fundraising source for Trillium, and could grow bigger and better. In fact, we will soon be able to offer on-demand Scrip in addition to the weekly orders, allowing for greater ease of use and higher profits.

For now, I will see you bright and early Monday morning!!



Trillium's newsletter is produced monthly by parent volunteers Jodie Throckmorton and Susan Millhauser. Submissions to the newsletter are due by the third Monday of the month and can be directed to Jodie. Please contact Jodie at jodie@trilliumcharterschool.org. Photos or other images along with your submissions are also welcome!

Mark These Important Dates On Your Calendar...

(All events at Trillium unless otherwise noted)

Board Meeting

Thursday, April 17, 6:00 – 8:30 pm
Kirk's classroom
All are welcome!

Talent Show Tryouts

Friday, April 25, 9 am – 12 pm

TFT Coffee Klatch

Friday, May 2, 8 am for staff,
8:30 am for parents.
In the Garden Classroom.
Younger siblings welcome!

6th Grade Outdoor School

May 6 – 9

K-1-2 Campouts

May 7 – 8 & May 8 – 9

Trillium in Bloom Auction

Saturday, May 10
5 - 9 pm, Madeleine Hall
See Page 3 for more information.

TFT Meeting

Monday, May 12, 6:30 pm
Childcare provided

School Grounds Clean Up

Every Wednesday from
3:00 – 3:30 pm
Meet in the school lobby