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PS 174

WILLIAM SIDNEY MOUNT



Soaring to
excellence

OCTOBER

MISSION The mission of Public School 174 is to build a community of diverse learners through varied educational experiences. Our students are taught to their greatest potential through a rigorous academic and enrichment program. By recognizing and embracing the diverse cultures, nationalities and backgrounds represented in our school, students realize the importance of mutual respect and understanding. Civic responsibility is developed through service projects that reach out to others, building up both students and the community. Parent involvement is a vital part of the school. It complements and supports the professional teaching children receive.

Instructional Focus and Priorities

COMMUNITY • COHESION • COLLABORATION • COMMUNICATION

- Making thinking visible by using feedback, questions, and prompts
- Assuring basic skills with automaticity and filling in gaps
- Support thinking by explaining and citing evidence

Citywide Instructional Expectations

- Establish the school as the center of the community; a place for families to become involved in education.
- Ensure knowledge of students and their work, for teachers to use for cohesive planning as well as differentiation.
- Develop a culture of collaboration of professional learning with cohesion, choice and purpose; restoring dignity and respect to the profession.
- Design effective communication tools and events to increase parent engagement



Super Dads, super times

It was a wonderful meet and greet of *Marvelous* men at PS 174! We had Super Dads selecting their super hero ribbons: Captain America, Batman, Flash and Spiderman. Also included were some moms as Wonder Woman.



Parent Association supports school

The **Parent Association** of PS 174 raised approximately \$35,000 raised last year for school programs and special events. The funds supported: assemblies, debate team, basketball team, school residencies, after-school programs, class trips, a/c units, ballroom dancing, halloween party, movie/raffle night, field day, teacher appreciation luncheon, computer programs, flutes for 3rd & 4th grades, art program supplies, school phone systems, recess equipment, class planners, teacher classroom stipends, classroom book donations, water for kindergarten & nurse's office, pumpkin patch for kindergarten & prek, butterflies for kindergarten & prek, supplies for the kindergarten.

Proudly we hailed

PS 174 served as the hub site for the **2016 National Anthem Sing-A-Long**, where students and teachers across the country joined together to sing the anthem simultaneously. The performance from PS 174 was live-streamed to participating schools and special events including locations such as the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, Fort McHenry, the John F. Kennedy Hyannis Museum, and the Yogi Berra Museum and Learning Center.

The event was a chance for students to learn about the history and meaning of The Star-Spangled Banner. It was organized by **The American Public Education Foundation**.



A CRESCENDO OF EXCITEMENT FOR A NEW PIANO

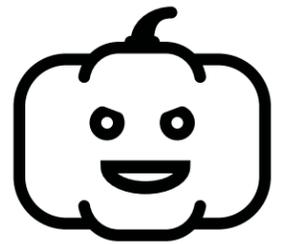
It was music to our school's ears when a non-profit donated a painted piano to PS 174.

For two weeks in June, Sing For Hope Pianos stationed several embellished pianos in New York City's parks, streets, and public spaces for anyone to play. After the two-week public exhibition, the pianos were placed in schools and community centers, where they will serve as centers of the organization's year-round arts programming.



Artist **Aida Izadpanah** created the look for the piano called Persian Garden.

"The garden is a prominent theme in the cultural history of my native Iran, appearing in Persian rug designs and tile mosaics of the old cities, as well as in our poetry and songs," said Izadpanah. "My design arranges flower impressions suggesting the movement of a dance around the piano as it makes music. I also like to imagine people encountering my design perhaps in a park, along with sunlight or the earth's scent, and being inspired to dream of their own gardens as in my childhood fantasies while sketching. These experiences can help us become portable gardeners of beauty nearly anywhere we go. As the beloved Persian poet known to the West as Rumi says, this is to "have fallen into the place / where everything is music."



Welcome to the PS 174 Pumpkin Patch

Our K students will enjoy a wonderful day at the end of October each year. The students get to visit the PS 174 Pumpkin Patch. After sharing fiction stories such as "**The Lumpy, Bumpy Pumpkin**" and "**The Biggest Pumpkin Ever**," as well as non-fiction such as "**Pumpkin, Pumpkin**" by Jeanne Titherington, each student selects a pumpkin of their own to take home. Families are invited to decorate these with their children.

PreK students and families also pick a pumpkin from the patch. They enjoy a parent/child activity of pumpkin decorating. Paints, markers, glitter, felt and pipe cleaners transform a simple pumpkin into a spooky jack-o-lantern.



Tiny dancers

On October 21th, visitors from **Ballet Tech School**, led a group audition of 110 of our third grade students. From this, 18 were invited to a call-back, pictured above, where they wore the Ballet Tech uniforms and were able to demonstrate before the Feld selection panel. Students showed their ability to follow directions, demonstrate flexibility, learn leaps, and more complicated steps. From this group, five of our students received the prestigious invitation to participate, by way of scholarship, in one of their dance classes during this Winter season.

FELD
 BALLET
 TECH

Young People's Ballet Workshops

Our classes attended Spring workshops featuring pieces by students participating in **American Ballet Theatre's** "Make a Ballet" program, providing the young dancers the opportunity to perform at the Metropolitan Opera House in front of an audience of their grade level peers.



The commentary for the Workshops covers the repertory presented as well as dance technique, the cultural significance of dance, the history of ballet, and technical aspects of dance production. Along with the performance tickets, ABT also distributes a study guide to help teachers prepare their students for the presentation.

More organizations that provide residencies in our school

