



WILLIAM SIDNEY MOUNT, P.S. 174Q

G.A.T.E. ENRICHMENT NEWSLETTER

Summer 2015

C.Galloway O'Connor,
Assistant Principal



K. Kelly,
Principal

S. Thomas, A. Ickowics, D. Messano, D. Amato,
M. Russell, N. Alperstein, M. Friedman

OUR GATE ENRICHMENT MANTRA

"The future will require individuals who are able to formulate new problems, come up with new solutions, and adapt readily to the new ideas of others."

—Csikszentmihalyi & Wolfe

To this goal, we aim to foster and encourage

- *Originality
- *Elaboration
- *Curiosity
- *Willingness to take Calculated Risks
- *Preference for Challenging Complexity
- *Flexible Thinking
- *Keen Intuitions

G.A.T.E. ENRICHMENT INTERACTIVE FRAMEWORK for an engaging and differentiated Common Core:

Enrichment for G.A.T.E. classes involves hands-on projects in the S.T.E.A.M. spectrum, fostering critical thinking and allowing students to apply what they've learned. Expectations are high level, requiring explanation, elaboration and diverse thinking to support ideas.



G.A.T.E. students K-5 have been involved in so many diverse projects in the 2014-2015 school year that adults can all be nothing short of in awe of their accomplishments. We've pursued in-depth studies of the lives and works of renowned artists, musicians, writers and scientists, and experienced a wide range of collaborative partnerships with **Carnegie Hall**, the **Joyce Theater**, the **Whitney Museum**, the **Capoeristas**, the **Library of Congress**, **NASA**, and the **NY Stock Exchange**, to name only a few. Throughout all this, our G.A.T.E. youngsters have never ceased to amaze us with their ability and enthusiasm, as they earned awards and honors in the **Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Contest**, **Women's History Month Poster Contest**, **Exploravision Innovation Stock Market Game**, **NYC STEM Science**

Expo, American Black Educators of NY Contest

and numerous other writing competitions. We also have published poets amongst us, as our works are currently highlighted in the **2015 Young American Poetry Digest**. From Debate to Drama, from Latin to Literacy, we excel on all fronts!

Wow...what a wonderful year it's been in our G.A.T.E. classrooms. What's more, our administrators and teachers are busy putting together a non-stop 2015/2016 agenda. We hope to also be putting finishing touches on our amazing **G.A.T.E. Cookbook**.

With mixed emotions, we bid a fond adieu to this year's graduating seniors, and wish them much good luck in their future endeavors. We are quite certain that we'll be hearing of their successes in the years to come!



As for all our families looking forward to a fun-filled summer vacation, don't forget that reading and travelling are two of the best and most enjoyable ways to create memories while enhancing learning experiences. Check out some of these reminders and new ideas...

- ◆ *Stone Soup* is a magazine by kids, for kids, in print and digital forms, helping foster a love of reading, writing and art in the 8-13 set. (StoneSoup.com)
- ◆ The MindWare catalogue contains “brainy toys” for kids of all ages (mindware.com)
- ◆ TV Shows we love to watch (check local listings for times and stations)...
 - ◇ How It’s Made
 - ◇ The Wildlife Docs
 - ◇ Ocean Mysteries
 - ◇ Sid the Science Kid (for younger viewers)
 - ◇ Innovation Nation
 - ◇ Brain Games
- ◆ The series of books by game-show winner Ken Jennings...*Junior Genius Guides*, including topics from mythology to geography to history.
- ◆ Museum of the Moving Image (FREE Fridays from 4-8 p.m.), 35th Avenue at 37th Street, Astoria
- ◆ Hall of Science (FREE Fridays, 2-5 p.m., Sundays, 10-11 a.m.), 47-01 111th Street, Corona.
- ◆ Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) (FREE Friday afternoons, 4-8 p.m) Sculpture Garden (FREE every morning, 9:30-10:15 a.m.), 11 West 53rd Street, Between 5th and 6th Avenues.
- ◆ Discovery Times Square, 44th Street, between 7th and 8th Avenues (discovery.tsx.com)
- ◆ “Please Touch the Art” exhibit at Brooklyn Bridge Park

- ◆ Some books to look for:

Junior Great Books Series

Middle-grade (3-5) novels featuring life-changing journeys -

- *Waiting for Unicorns* by Beth Hautala
- *My Near-Death Adventures (99% True)* by Alison De Camp
- *Gone Crazy in Alabama* by Rita Williams-Garcia
- *Listen, Slowly* by Thanhha Lai
- *Drive Me Crazy* by Terra Elan McVoy



And for Family time...

Why not try putting together a family tree with the free app STORIES etc. that walks you through a series of questions and saves the answers via audio, video or text onto a smartphone or tablet for a great family memento?

- Check out these brain worthy puzzles and games...
 - ◇ Cat Stax (brainwright.com)
 - ◇ Strike It (blueorgancegames.com)



- And here are some ideas for great “close-to-home” vacation fun...

- ◇ The MET, MOMA, Guggenheim Museums
- ◇ The Richmondtown Restoration (Staten Island)
- ◇ Howe Caverns
- ◇ Watkins Glen
- ◇ Niagara Falls/Canada
- ◇ Boston historic area
- ◇ Colonial Williamsburg/Washington DC
- ◇ Lake George/Adirondacks
- ◇ Pennsylvania Dutch country

Summer cleaning?

Why not donate no-longer used clothing, toys and books to Goodwill for a doubly good feeling?

And...for a nutritious and delicious summer treat, try pureeing some fresh fruit with juice in a blender, freezing in ice cube trays, and adding to plain seltzer...

- ◆ 1 cup cherries and 2 cups strawberries plus 1/4 cup white grape juice
- ◆ 2 cups pineapple chunks and 1/2 cup orange juice
- ◆ 3 cups cubed watermelon and 3 tbsp. lime juice plus lime zest
- ◆ 1-1/2 cups kiwi chunks and 1-1/2 cups strawberries plus 1 tbsp. lemon juice and 4 tbsp. white grape juice.

Experiment and Enjoy

Have a Great Summer!



The high level of *Gifted Enrichment* at P.S. 174Q is, therefore, geared to enhance and extend the curriculum. Instruction supports and encourages shared, project-based inquiry, critical brainstorming sessions, and research applying depth of written reflection. We know our gifted learners of today will, no doubt, be tomorrow's leaders! Many thanks to you, our PARENTS and truly invaluable partners!

G.A.T.E. classes are in full agreement with President Obama's 2015 State of the Union Address..."A sense of common purpose (in rising to excellence) propels us forward."



**GO P.S. 174Q
G.A.T.E.!!!**