

NEST+m PTA Weekly E-News

May 21, 2012

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SAVE the DATE

NEWS + EVENTS

This Week...

May 21–23

- Birdhouse Players Auditions; 3:15–5:00pm

May 22

- PTA Meeting; 8:15am

May 23

- US Concert

May 24

- MS Concert

May 25

- Rapid Dismissal; no after school activities

Next Week...

May 28

- Memorial Day; no school

May 29

- MS Coffee Hour; 8:30am
- US Coffee Hour; 5:30pm

May 30

- 4th Grade Concert; 8:45am
- 5th Grade Band Concert; 9:15am

June 1

- LS Coffee Hour; 8:30am
- LS Cluster Celebrations; grades K–2, 9–9:30am
- LS Cluster Celebrations; grades 3–5, 9:30–10am
- 8th Grade Cruise Payment Deadline

And Beyond...

June 4

- PTA Executive Committee Meeting; 8:15am

June 5

- Early Dismissal K–8; 11:30am

June 6

- LS Science Fair

June 7

- Chancellor's Day; no school
- 6th Grade Orientation; 8:30–11:30am
- 9th Grade Orientation; 11:30am

June 9

- LS Spring Fair

June 11

- Early Dismissal K–8; 11:30am
- PTA Planning Meeting; 5:00pm

June 11–15

- Barnes & Noble Fundraiser

June 18

- Wine Reception; current & incoming K families

June 20

- Wine Reception ; current 1–4 grade families

June 21

- PTA Meeting; 8:15am

June 22

- 5th Grade Graduation
- No Classes for Upper School

June 26

- US Graduation; 9:00am at Cooper Union
- MS Graduation; 12:00pm at Cooper Union
- 8th Grade Cruise

June 27

- Last day of School; early dismissal at 11:30am

Birdhouse Players Auditions

Birdhouse Players Auditions Are THIS WEEK for students currently in Grades 1-7! Come audition for the 2012/2013 season - *Oliver!* and *Once On This Island*. See attached flyer for more information.

PTA Meeting and Executive Committee Elections

Please join us for the May PTA meeting, which will be held on May 22 at 8:30am. At this meeting we will be voting on the PTA Executive Committee representatives for the 2012-2013 school year.

Nominations Open for Next Year's PTA Executive Committee

The Nominating Committee nomcomm@nestmail.org is accepting nominations for all positions on the PTA's Executive Committee (EC). At this point only one position has received a nomination. Please look here <http://bit.ly/NestEC> to see descriptions of all the EC positions, as well as some non-elected, but very important ongoing volunteer jobs which need to be filled. The election for next year's EC will be held at the next PTA meeting, Tuesday, May 22 at 8:30am. We encourage you to consider running for a position; please contact president@nestmail.org if you have any questions about any of the positions. We need a strong PTA to support our wonderful school!

NEST+m PTA Spring Fair!

Come join the fun on Saturday, June 9th from 11am–4pm. Bounce houses, games, face painting, used book sale, and so much more! Stay tuned for more information but MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW! Bring your family and friends! We need lots of help to put on a great fair so please email Lauren McGrail at vpfundraising@nestmail.org if you can volunteer to organize or run the fair. We are especially looking for a person or team of people to lead planning for each of the following categories: Games, Contests, Music and Water Fun. Thank you!

Used Book Sale

The PTA will be holding a massive USED BOOK SALE During our Spring Fair on Saturday, June 9. We are hoping to be overwhelmed with donations! Please clear out your bookshelves and Drop off your kids' gently used books in the PTA office. Label your donations: "USED BOOK SALE." Books for ALL AGES are gratefully accepted. Our teachers will also be invited to stock their classroom libraries with your donations. Questions? Lauren McGrail at vpfundraising@nestmail.org. Thank you!

Lower School Wine Receptions

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Come celebrate the end of another successful school year at an adult-only wine reception at the Bryce Wolkowitz Art Gallery in Chelsea, NY! There will be two celebratory evenings: **Monday, June 18** for incoming K and current K families and **Wednesday, June 20** for current 1, 2, 3, and 4th grade families. These free events will also help us kick off our TA Fundraising campaigns for K–5 grades for next year! NEST+m teachers will be on hand to talk about how important their teaching assistants were to their classrooms this year. More details will be sent via SchoolHub and backpack mail soon! Please email vpfundraising@nestmail.org if you will be attending. Attendance is limited to 200 people for each night so RSVP ASAP!

PTA Budget Committee

If you would like to know more about the PTA's budget and related decisions, please consider joining the new PTA Budget Committee. This committee will consider the PTA's budget and help make recommendations for next year's budget, to be voted on at the general PTA meeting in June 2012. Interested? Email: treasurer@nestmail.org.

Thank You Everyone That Volunteered at the Book Fair!

Alessandra Almgren • Renee Alevras • Julia Chang-Lin • Lisa Chu • Suzzette Cruz • Jahanara Hashi Depountis • Cathy Donnelly • Joan Doscher • Olessia Dulstin • Kaori Fujiki • Lilia Fung • Allison Gildersleeve • Lucy Green • Ripna Grover • Maria Gualdoni • Heather Ahram Heatherchait • Sylvia Heitz • Hillary Hohmann • Lin Huang • Jody Kiesewalter • Vita Kolupaeva • Kayoko Lipsky • Justine Manser • Claudette Marasigan • Norma McCarthy • Gina Menza • Paola Michel • Nancy Miller • Tomoko Nakajima • Bharathi Narasimhaiah • Thao Nguyen • Shirim Nothenberg • Anne Petroff • Suzanne Plossl • Sheila Rodgers • Pat Scanlon • Ronni Siegel • Alice Tien • Doris Torres • Sharon Van Vlierbergen • Ellen Whirley • Sharon Yap • Anita Yao • Kathy Wentrack

NESTMates

NEST+m was ably represented at the US Chess Federation's Elementary National Championships by 21 students from Kindergarten through 6th grade, competing against over 2200 other students from across the country in a highly competitive tournament. The youngest children competed in the K–3 group for children with ratings under 800. This group won its section convincingly, playing against older students! Individually, Jonathan Waldorf was 3rd and Jordan Leung was 4th. David Wu and Charles Hua were the team's other scoring members. Also playing hard were Aaron Bhanot, Karthik Tambar and Jason Xia. In the K-3 National Championship, the team battled down to the wire and ultimately came in 2nd by a very small half point that was not decided until 3 hours and 40 minutes into the 7th round! Aidan Ahram, Alex Harris, Kyle Miller and Mario Tutuncu-Macias were the team's scoring members. Also solidly representing the K3 team were Avi Gell, Asher Kornfeld, and Aidan Parker. (Alex also picked up a 3rd place 1100-1199 class trophy winning 8 of 12 in the K-3 5 minute "blitz" game tournament.). In the K-5 under 900 section Ryan Chan and Zubin Gell each posted solid performances. In K-6 National Championship, the team was 9th with Maury Ahram, Matthew Chiu, Patrick Flood and Pyke Turnbow scoring and Paul Cucchiara assisting. (Matthew also picked up a 3rd place 1300-1399 class trophy winning 8 of 12 in the K-6 blitz tournament.) Matan Prilleltensky and Tomo Fukui shared coaching duties. Both tirelessly reviewed many games and did great work over the long weekend and deserve much credit for the great success of the teams. Matan would like to remind everyone that K-12 grade school Nationals begin November 30th, in Orlando, FL! Our expanding chess program should be competing in virtually every division, challenging for first in a few of them.

nest+m
Birdhouse 
players

Musical Auditions THIS WEEK For Current 1st - 7th Graders

The Birdhouse Players Announce the 2012/2013 Season:

Oliver! -- January 2013 (Rehearses Tues/Thurs 3:15 - 5, September - January) Based on Charles Dickens' classic novel *Oliver Twist*, this musical follows a shy orphan boy through his encounters with the flawed city dwellers of period London. With rousing musical numbers, sets and costumes reminiscent of *A Christmas Carol*, and many opportunities to use large groups of young children, *Oliver!* provides a perfect vehicle for winter entertainment.

Once On This Island -- May 2013 (Rehearses Tues/Thurs 3:15 - 5 PM, February - May) Once on This Island: debuting on Broadway in 1991, this ensemble musical is a lively tribute to story telling customs and the lessons they impart. It requires a strong group of many strong performers who flow together to present a beautiful allegory perfectly suited to the springtime warming. This musical utilizes the entire cast heavily and ensemble work will require consistent participation.

Auditions will be held May 21, 22 and 23, 2012 and are open to students currently in grades 1 through 7. All auditioners MUST email birdhouseplayers@gmail.com for an audition slot. Please state your child's name, grade next fall, and audition day (Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday). Upon receipt of email, we will send you a confirmation and an audition form to be submitted at your child's audition.

If necessary, callbacks will be held on May 24th and 25th.

Performance dates will be announced upon DOE confirmation.

Rehearsal commitment is required; specific schedule requirements will be distributed upon casting. All roles are open and will be assigned understudies in the event an actor cannot meet the required commitment. Technical and any scheduled/called rehearsals as well as all performances are mandatory. The director reserves the right to recast any actor for any reason at any time.

If cast, the cost of participation will be \$650 plus \$100 costume fee for all actors. \$100 DEPOSIT OR FULL PAYMENT REQUIRED UPON REGISTRATION! THOSE NOT REGISTERED BY THE DEADLINE WILL FORFEIT THEIR ROLES (no exceptions). Scripts for fall production will be distributed for summer memorization. Actors are expected to attend first rehearsals of both productions OFF-BOOK! Need based scholarships are available through NEST After 3. The Birdhouse Players are not authorized to offer scholarship terms; please inquire only at nestafterschool@gmail.com for eligibility requirements.

Eligibility:

All NEST+m Students and Siblings in Grades 2-8 as of Fall 2012 are invited to audition. If cast, actors are limited to one production.

Production Information and Commitment Expectations:

Students in grades 4th - 8th who are not cast, who choose not to audition, or who are not performing during the semester are invited to participate in the productions by enrolling in the following new Birdhouse Players workshops (offered both semesters):

1) Set Design/Stage Crew Workshop - a supplement to the productions, these enrollees will work on sets, staging, prop inventory, costuming and become the stage crew and costume dressers behind the scenes for all shows - students **MUST COMMIT TO ALL TECH REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES**

2) Acting Intensive Workshop (Grades 2-6) - The Birdhouse Players again offer their popular workshop of theatrical games, audition/acting technique

4) Forklore, Fairy Tales and Fables Acting Workshop (Grades K-1) - an new exploration of familiar material for younger thespians new to stage craft

Schedule information, fees, and registration information for the above classes will be distributed by NEST After 3 after casting is announced.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

Please be prepared to sing a cappella (without accompaniment) at least 16 bars (roughly one verse) of one of the following songs (all songs can be found on YouTube)

Consider Yourself (Oliver!)

Where is Love? (Oliver!)

As Long As He Needs Me (Oliver!) - (Anyone interested in the role of NANCY should prepare this song)

Why We Tell the Story (Once On This Island)

Waiting for Life (Once On This Island) - Anyone considering the role of TI MOUNE should prepare this song)

Students may be asked to dance or do a cold dialogue read.

ENDS TOMORROW!
LANDS' END PENNY LOGO SALE
LANDS' END SCHOOL



**Add the NEST+m Logo
To Any Uniform Item for
Just a PENNY!
Plus FREE SHIPPING!**

Lands' End is having a uniform sale *through tomorrow, Tuesday, May 22nd*, during which **school LOGOS CAN BE ADDED FOR JUST A PENNY** to items purchased from the Lands' End school uniform shop and **SHIPPING IS FREE**. The Preferred School Number for NEST+m is 900062597.

To help the school raise money, please use NEST's [GoodShop.com](#) link, below, to place your Lands' End orders.

1. Go to <http://bit.ly/Nestbuy>
2. Insert Lands' End in search box, where it says 'Enter Store Name Here'.
3. Then simply shop on Lands' End as you normally would and a percentage of your purchase will automatically benefit the school. **Please note** that you can also use our GoodShop link to shop at over 2,600 other online stores, while benefiting NEST+m! **Never miss a donation for NEST+m again!** Please download our GoodSearch/Goodshop toolbar for IE or Firefox. It just takes a moment:

<http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/new-explorations-into-science-technology-and-math-nestm-pta>

Shop Online and Earn for NEST+m!

It's never been easier to support our school!

Visit the PTA's fundraising links bundle to find out how:

<http://bit.ly/Nestm539>



MYHABIT



Plus more!

Please bookmark, share and shop!

Questions: vpfundraising@nestmail.org

AGENDA
PTA General Meeting
Tuesday, May 22, 2012
8:30 AM in the Auditorium

1. Call to Order
2. Review of draft minutes from April 19, 2012 General PTA meeting.
3. Co-President's Report from Katie Sperling and Susan Townes
 - a. Lower School update – Paola Michel, Co-VP Lower School
 - b. Middle School update – Patricia McGuinness, Co-VP Middle School
 - c. Upper School update – Michelle Buffington, Co-VP Upper School
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Election of the PTA Executive Committee members who will serve a term of one year from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013, conducted by the Nominating Committee (Tuesday Minor, Rosie Morgan and Juliet Pederson). Positions available and procedures for nominations and voting are described on the next page.
6. Discussion and vote to allocate
 - a. \$4,500 to provide nominal stipend to teachers and staff who accompanied students on overnight trips (such as Plimoth, Washington DC, etc.)
 - b. \$5,300 to purchase 23 Wolfe cordless LED microscopes to be used in Lower, Middle and Upper Schools
7. General Fund Update
8. Committee Reports, if any
9. SLT Report
10. New Business (if any)

Child care will not be available at this May meeting but young children are welcome to attend. The next PTA meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, June 21, 2012 at 8:30 a.m.**, at which time the PTA budget for 2012-13 will be presented for discussion and vote by the members.

Call for Nominations of Candidates for the 2012-2013 NEST+m PTA Executive Board

The Nominating Committee is currently accepting nominations for the following positions on the 2012-2013 NEST+m PTA Executive Board:

- Co-Presidents (2 or 3 people who have children in the Lower, Middle and Upper Schools)
- Treasurer
- Assistant Treasurer
- Vice President or Co-VP's: Upper School
- Vice President or Co-VP's: Middle School
- Vice President or Co-VP's: Lower School
- Recording Secretary or Co-Recording Secretaries
- Vice President or Co-VP's of Fundraising
- Vice President or Co-VP's of Communication
- Vice President or Co-VP's of Volunteers, Class Parents and Committees
- Vice President or Co-VP's of Grants
- Vice President or Co-VP's of Afterschool

Candidates must run individually for the following positions: Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer. For the other positions, candidates may share the responsibilities by running as a team with someone else.

The elections will occur on Tuesday, May 22 during the regularly-scheduled PTA meeting at 8:30 a.m. Nominees do not need to be present to win. Officers shall be elected for a one-year term beginning July 1. The term of office shall be from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. Eligibility for office is limited to parents, legally appointed guardians, step-parents, foster parents or persons in parental relation to children currently attending the school and who are not employed at NEST+m.

To submit a nomination, please provide the following in writing: the name, phone number and email address of the person you are nominating (you or another), as well as the title of the position for which the person is being nominated. Please submit such written nomination either via email to nomcomm@nestmail.org or put it in the Nominating Committee mailbox in the Main Office at school. The Nominating Committee will then contact the nominee in writing to ask them whether they accept the nomination. The nominating period will close on May 22 during the PTA meeting, right after a final call for nominations from the floor.

The ballot box will open during the PTA meeting on Tuesday, May 22, after final nominations are made from the floor and ballots have been prepared. Nominees will have a brief opportunity to introduce themselves on May 22 prior to commencing the election. The ballot box will close at 10 am, and then reopen later in the day from 2:30-3:30 pm to give more people the opportunity to vote. (If there is only one person or team running for each position, then the election will occur by affirmation at the morning meeting, and the ballot box will not be open later in the day).

The Nominating Committee consists of the following people who were elected at the March 22, 2012 General PTA meeting: Tuesday Minor, Juliet Pederson and Rosie Morgan. If you have any questions, you can reach the Nominating Committee at nomcomm@nestmail.org.

NEST+m NYC Chess Tournament Schedule

See web site for more details:

http://luckfactory.com/nyc_chess_calendar.html

5/21/2012

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sat May 26, 2012	FDA, Mayor's Cup - FDA, Harlem
Sat Jun 2, 2012	FDA, Meija Memorial - FDA, Harlem
Sun Jun 3, 2012	The Right Move - Riverbank St Park
Sun Jun 3, 2012	PS116
Sun Jun 10, 2012	Hunter Elementary
Sun Jun 10, 2012	Manhattan Day School - 310 West 75th St, Manhattan
Sun Jun 17, 2012	PS183M
Sun June 24, 2011	Bryant Park Chess Challenge - Bryant Park (42 and 6th ave, Manhattan)

To come:

Summer Tournaments Chess in the Schools and NYChessKids (at PS116) run tournaments over the summer. CIS info to come.

Sun Jul 1, 2012	PS116
Sun Jul 22, 2012	PS116
Sun Aug 5, 2012	PS116
Sun Aug 19, 2012	PS116

Fall Nationals:

Nov 30 to Dec 2 2012 K-12 Nationals: Marriott Orlando