

The Colorado Springs School
21 Broadmoor Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
(719)475-9747



NEWS

DATE: March 17, 2009
For Release: Upon Receipt

Contact: Jessica L. James
Director of Communications
(719)434-3506, jjames@css.org

Annual Artist in Residence Program at The Colorado Springs School

Colorado Springs, Colo. – The Colorado Springs School is pleased to announce another successful year in the annual Artist in Residence program for 6th – 8th graders. Each year, Middle School students at CSS are provided a choice of several exceptional art courses lasting three and a half weeks and led by various prominent artists from around the Colorado Springs community. This year, the Artist in Residence (AiR) program took place from **February 23rd - March 19th**. The program is quite popular with the students.

Casey Lane and Emily Hammerton, seventh and eighth graders, respectively, at CSS, are part of the *Lights, Camera... and You!* course, led by Sue Wilson, an independent artist and director as well as an adjunct professor and lecturer at UCCS in the Visual and Performing Arts Department. She has had the students study performances of the pros and themselves, practice acting, and learn more about what is involved in the making of a film. So far, Casey, Emily, and their classmates have picked monologues, acted them out in front of cameras, learned and examined different camera angles, directed, and run the cameras and slate. Emily is enjoying memorizing the lines and acting in front of a camera, as well as learning to recognize facial expression.

“My favorite part was being a camera operator and director,” said Casey Lane, aspiring actress. “Ms. Wilson shows us everything that goes on when you are making a movie, and she makes sure we all know how to do things like operate the camera and the slate.”

With about 14 Middle School students in the course, each one will have a chance to perform a monologue and then work together on various group scenes. A selection of the performances will be showcased on Thursday.

Pat Musick, former CSS teacher and a staff partner with several past seminar courses, has led *Enameling*, which is the process of fusing layers of finely powdered glass onto sheets of metal.

The Colorado Springs School
21 Broadmoor Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
(719)475-9747



NEWS

Images are built up through a series of semi-transparent layers which combine beautifully with the polished metal base. Students have created personal artwork on flat panels as well as a group mural which will be placed in the Carriage House, CSS's art building. Musick is a talented calligrapher and artist, but she stresses that anyone can excel in the enameling process. Stencils are used often and there is time to refine a design before fusing it permanently.

Photography: Early Forms and Special Techniques has been instructed by Jacqueline Rogers, an independent artist and photographer who has led Middle School AiR workshops for several years. Recently, she completed a teaching stint at the International School of Switzerland, and was also the organizer and promoter of the Body Works series of annual art and fashion shows in Colorado Springs. This workshop has explored photography techniques from the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries by using digital and pinhole cameras. Converting the pictures to negatives on computers, students will experiment with techniques such as scratching, writing, drawing, bleaching, and layering. The photographs are being developed by the students using early photographic processes and the sun, and may even be etched into metal plates in collaboration with the enameling course.

"CSS has long recognized the importance of developing both the left and right sides of the brain. The Fine Arts department is an integral part of our program. The Artist in Residence program allows our Middle School students to explore a discipline in depth with an expert in the field. The offerings are phenomenal," said Dr. Cullan Hemenway, Head of the Middle School, "Where else does a middle school student have the opportunity to take a class in enameling, acting for the camera, photo etching, creating an original Vaudeville show, or oil painting taught by university professors, the resident artist at the Broadmoor, or the artistic director of a local theater? The AiR program is a gem."

A showcase for all three courses will be held on **Thursday, March 19th, at 2:00 p.m.** Interested in covering this event, please coordinate coverage through Jessica James, Director of Communications at jjames@css.org or at 719-434-3506.

About The Colorado Springs School (CSS)

CSS offers an experiential educational curriculum for Pre-Kindergarten – 12th graders. Through superior academics and mentoring, The Colorado Springs School prepares students to think independently and to meet the needs of a dynamic world with leadership, ingenuity, problem-solving skills, and personal integrity.

###