



IMAGINE DISCOVERY

PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

The PTA Connection

Happy Holidays from the PTA!

by Carlette Flowers, PTA President



I hope you were able to visit your child's classroom and experience a few hours in the life of an Imagine Discovery student.

In the New Year, the PTA has several activities planned such as, Donuts for Dads, the Spring Fair, Family Activity Night, and much more. If you are interested in volunteering or participating in any of these events please let us know. The PTA is also looking for volunteers to assist with the operation of the school store. In addition, parents please

remember it's not too late to sign up for PTA membership. We have a goal of 150 members, and we are almost there. So please take the time to fill out a membership form and return it to the school with your \$10 payment.

Let us remember Imagine's character trait for the month of December which is kindness, not only during this holiday season, but all year long. On behalf of the PTA, best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Wow, it's hard to believe that the holiday's are here! On behalf of the PTA, we wish everyone a happy and safe holiday!

I would like to thank the Hospitality Committee for the wonderful job they did during American Education Week.

Muffins with Mom—A Sweet Success!

by Devita Porter



Chairperson Angela White pictured here with her mother, Frances Cuffia and daughter Leslie White, who is in the 6th grade

Muffins with Moms was a lovely event this year! Bright and early at 7:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 10,

volunteers opened the doors of the Imaginarium. The nicely designed poster along with the smiling faces of volunteers from Imagine greeting mothers, grandmothers, aunts, sisters and significant female-figures at the door were all quite impressive.

Even with the sizeable amount of attendees, there was plenty of food and

drinks to help make breakfast enjoyable for everyone. In addition, the slideshow presentation of the Imagine students and their mothers, grandmothers, aunts, sisters, and the special female figures in their lives added a personal touch and showed the love of family in the photos that were shown.

Thanks to Angela White, Chairperson along with the parent and teacher volunteers who helped make this event so special and a sweet success! *(continued on p. 2)*

PTA Updates

DATES



DECEMBER

Monday, 12/26/2011-
Monday, 1/2/2012—
Christmas/Winter
Break

JANUARY

Monday, 1/9—Male
Involvement Com-
mittee Meeting—
5:30 p.m. in the
Media Center

Monday, 1/16—Dr.
Martin Luther King,
Jr.'s Birthday Ob-
served—School
closed

Monday, 1/23—
Professional Devel-
opment - School
closed for students

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The PTA Connection

Faculty Spotlight: Ms. Laurel Hartman

by Beverly Lofton



their success or failure in later years.

Please join the PTA in congratulating Ms. Laurel Hartman for being selected as this month's Faculty "Spotlight"! She has been teaching first grade for six years! She began her teaching career in the Dallas-Fort Worth area of Texas at a charter school called Treetops International and was there for two years. She started teaching at Imagine the first year we opened and have been here ever since.

In her spare time, Ms. Hartman enjoys playing with her dogs, reading books, and journaling. She says that Ms. Gordon, her lead teacher, has been extremely inspiring and helpful in helping her grow as a teacher.

Ms. Hartman would like the parents to know the importance of parent and teacher communication. She says, "Communication with their child's teacher is the best way to help their child in their school career". Ms. Hartman says she has goals to help all students she comes in contact with become the best people they can be, both in their academic life and in their non-academic life.

Motivating, training and influencing first grade students require a lot of creativity and patience on the teacher's part. Making each student feel worthwhile and good about him or herself and giving them a positive learning experience, helps to shape their future education. Many times, this affects the student's view of the world and themselves and may greatly affect

Ms. Hartman is originally from Biloxi, Mississippi. She holds a Bachelor's from William Carey College in Mississippi and a Masters from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Muffins with Mom *(continued from p. 1)*

Carlette Flowers, PTA President commented that the event was "well organized and well planned. [Angela] "went above and beyond."

Adrienne Brown, Vice President 1 of the PTA agreed that "this was a wonderful event, and it was a very nice surprise to be able to get photos with our children. Thanks Angela! Job well done!"

Angela White stated, "We wear a million hats and often have good deeds unnoticed, but the ultimate reward is the success of our children. They can't do it without our support. Muffins With Mom is simply a small token of appreciation for the ladies. Hopefully, it warmed the hearts of many. Thanks to the best PTA..."



Teacher Volunteer- Mrs. Leah Ward



Guests enjoyed the event!



Parent Volunteers—Jennifer Blackwell and Adrienne Brown

The PTA Connection
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Imagine's Successful Inaugural PTA Reflections Contest!

by Charles Sydnor III



Judges and the Reflections Volunteer Committee: Ms. Sadie Flick (front row), Mrs. Jennifer Brumbalow, Mr. Charles Sydnor III, Mrs. Rachel J. Barrett-Dolcine, (Chairperson), Ms. Twanya Sellers, Lil Black, Ms. Debbie Douglass (left to right -middle row), and Mr. Tim Watts (back row)

On Tuesday, December 20th, the PTA hosted its inaugural PTA Reflections contest. The Reflections Program, which has been in existence since 1969, will offer our scholars the opportunity to create original works of art in six areas: dance choreography, film/videography, literature, musical composition, photography, and visual arts. Each year a new theme is selected for the program. The theme for this year's program is "Diversity Means."

Since this is Imagine's inaugural program, we offered our scholars four of the six areas in which to participate. Those areas were dance choreography, literature, photography, and visual arts. Imagine had 14

students participate from kindergarten thru the seventh grade in each of these categories.

One piece was submitted for the dance choreography category. Three pieces were submitted for the literature category. Two pieces were submitted for the photography category and eight pieces were submitted for the visual arts category.

Reflections had a number of local "celebrity" judges to review the contestant's submissions. Our esteemed judge's panel included Lil Black, a 92Q radio personality, Sadie Flick, a local jazz musician, Debbie Douglass, the Woodlawn Villager Newspaper editor-in-chief, Anthony McFarlane, Pan in the Community/St. Veronica's Youth Steel Pan Orchestra President, and Tim Watts, a 95.9 radio personality.

While all the scholars and their families who supported this inaugural program should be congratulated, the following students were selected by our esteemed judges to represent Imagine at the Baltimore County PTA Council level for county-wide judging:

Dance choreography

Goldie Watts (Middle)

Literature

Stacy Uwansc (Middle)

Photography

Erin Lee (Intermediate)

Visual Arts

Jordan Cammack (Primary)

Jasmine Martin-Wilson (Intermediate)

Adam Martin (Middle)

The Reflections volunteer committee was truly representative of the entire PTA, consisting of parents and teachers! The committee was chaired by Rachel J. Barrett-Dolcine and supported by parents Carlette Flowers (PTA President) and Charles Sydnor III as well as Imagine's teachers and staff Brittaney Armstead, Jennifer Brumbalow, Virginia Ellis, and Twayna Sellers. Mrs. Barrett-Dolcine commented, "We truly have some amazingly talented, thoughtful and "deep" scholars!!!!" She expressed a "heartfelt thanks" to the committee members and judges. Dr. Harris, Principal and Diane Reynolds (PTA Treasurer) also came to support the activity.

Congratulations on a job well done! Best wishes to our scholars moving on to the county-wide competition! A celebratory event will occur in mid-late February. A Save-the-Date e-mail will be sent out after the return from the winter break.

Take Note...



Please take note that the white dress shirts for Imagine can be worn on any school day of your choosing. Currently, there is no designated day for students to wear the dress shirts.

Also, please note that any pants worn by the girls of Imagine at the elementary (navy blue pants) or middle school (gray pants) levels, should be loose-fitting attire appro-

appropriate for the school setting. Thank you for your cooperation in this regard.

Ed-Line is up and running for parents to access their scholar's grades online. Each family has been given the website address (www.edline.net) as well as their password to access the information. If you have any questions about the Ed-Line program, please contact the school's main office.

The Male Involvement Committee is look-

ing for fathers, grandfathers, uncles, brothers, and significant male figures to get involved and volunteer at Imagine. There will be a meeting of the committee under the direction of John Coates on Monday, January 9, 2012 in the Media Center at 5:30 p.m. (in an effort to keep the Media Center neat and orderly, please no children at this meeting—thank you for your understanding). Hope to see you there!

The PTA Connection

The Resourceful Nurse

by Hazel Randall, RN, BSN, MSN—Imagine Discovery's School Nurse



Hearing and Vision Screenings

Hearing And Vision Screenings for Imagine Discovery Public Charter School for 2012 will take place on February 21, 22, 23, and 24 in the mornings. Retest is on March 5, 2012. Pursuant to state law, the following students will be screened: Grades Kindergarten, 1st, and 4th grades not previously screened in Pre-K, Special Education (age-appropriate in self-contained classes in the grades above.), any students who were absent and not screened the previous year, any referred student from other grades with suspected hearing/and or vision problem **not already under medical care**, and all students **new to the Baltimore County School System.**"

Change of Clothes

Parents of children in grades K-5 are asked to keep a change of underwear/

clothes in school. Students are missing valuable time out of class related to needing clothing/underwear changed in case of emergencies.

Physician's Order

Parents are reminded that a physician's order is required for administration of all prescription medication and over-the-counter medication for the nurse in the school setting. Parents are encouraged to contact the nurse prior to sending notes about medication(s) with their children to school. The nurse is legally bound by law to follow physician orders. Notes from parents will not be accepted for medication administration in the health suite by the nurse. Our website has resources for parents to utilize for some medical issues. Please feel free to check out www.imaginediscovery.org and click on the FAMILIES link (Health Suite Info). Thank you for your support!



The Editor and contributors of
the PTA Connection wish you
and your family

a safe and happy holiday season!



Great news happening around Imagine? If you have ideas about articles for events (K-7) happening at Imagine, please submit your article to myrasydnor@yahoo.com. You may be selected as a guest writer for a future edition! Here is your opportunity! Remember, you are the catalyst to bring about a positive change to your child's school! To be added or removed from our e-mail distribution list for The PTA Connection, kindly forward your request to myrasydnor@yahoo.com. Thank you!

Imagine That!

There are currently 130 members of the PTA! We continue to strive to meet our goal of 150 members—it is still not too late to join!

Imagine's character trait for the month of December is *kindness*. The character traits for the rest of the school year are as follows:

January-Responsibility

February- Tolerance

March- Determination/Perseverance

April- Trustworthiness/Integrity

May- Citizenship

Imagine Schools 2011 Annual Report is available for your review in the main office reporting on the five Measures of Excellence—academic achievement, character development, economic sustainability, parent choice, and shared values.



"Diversity Means" 2011– 2012 PTA Officers

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