

ROWLAND HIGH ARTS OUTREACH PROJECT

The Rowland High School Visual and Performing Arts Department has launched a new arts outreach project with Killian Elementary. The goal is to expose young students to the arts and what better way to start than with Charlie Brown? For eight weeks, a troop of 65 Killian first – sixth graders visited Rowland High School and stepped onto a stage to learn theatre and visual arts from teachers Patricia De Lion and Mala Gavin, along with their advanced high school students. It culminated in a production of songs from *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. The project was made possible by a grant from the Friends of Rowland Unified Schools (FOR US) Foundation.

"This is our pilot program and why it has worked out immensely well, is the students are really into it. They are so excited. It has been so fun working with them," said Theater Teacher Patricia De Leon. "Our goal is to create a district-wide K-12 curriculum in the arts."

The project got rave reviews, just ask the cast:

"It's been really fun," said 9 year old Prijion Pugh. "I like being Lucy! I like the singing and the dancing. This is my first time doing anything like this, and I would do it again!"

Rowland High senior Kelsey Klocksieben is one of 15 art and drama high school students who volunteered to work on the production.

"I wanted to help with the Killian production because I am a thespian and went to Killian. This is a great way to get reconnected with Killian

and to work with these kids. If I was at Killian and got a chance to work with some of the high school students, I would have been thrilled!" "My goal was to offer not only art support for *You're A Good Man*



Killian students perform *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* songs

Charlie Brown, but to give the students something that they could practice on their own," said Art Teacher Mala Gavin. "We gave them a lesson on how to draw animals (the front and back legs of mammals and other animals). They came with their parents and

Photo by RHS Student Jarrett Chandler

were so excited about what they learned!" Each student also made their own T-Shirt with their favorite Peanuts character for the performance. De Leon and Gavin want to continue the project in the Spring, and are trying to get additional funding. They would like high school students to assist with integrated arts lessons at Killian, one classroom per grade.



Teachers Mala Gavin and Patricia De Lion

"We want to research the cultures that lived in this area and bring their art, architecture and history of our early settlers to life to showcase the rich melting pot of Rowland Heights."

For more information, contact Patricia De Lion at (626) 965-3448 ext. 3394.



Nogales High School Students Celebrate Big Wins!

Noble Regiment Band students Eduardo Lua, Chole Nepomuceno and Kelly Daita hold up the State Band and Fiesta Bowl Championship Plaques won this winter at a schoolwide rally.



The Nogales Water Polo team wins their first CIF League Championship since 1988 and first ever CIF title!

Both Photos by NHS Student Aaron Meza

OSWALT & YBARRA ACADEMIES OFFICIAL IB CANDIDATE SCHOOLS

Oswalt Academy and Ybarra Academy of the Arts and Technology are official candidate schools for the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP), an international curriculum designed for students ages 3 to 12. IB Programmes are recognized around the world, with curriculum focusing on international perspectives of learning and teaching. Students are highly-engaged and use inquiry-based learning. It is a rigorous and long process to become an IB World School with only 22 PYP schools in California. A delegation appointed by IB will be making a final visit to both Academies this spring before authorization.



For the second year in a row, Oswalt Academy has been named an **Apple Distinguished School** for its successful Apple One to One Laptop Learning Program. Oswalt is one of only 10 schools in California recognized for this prestigious technology award.

Pictured left to right: Dr. Rosemary Aguilar, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Oswalt Interim Principal Kevin Despard with former Principal Astrid Ramirez and RUSD Board President Heidi L. Gallegos.

MEASURE R MODERNIZATION AND CONSTRUCTION NEWS

New School-Based Health Center to Open at Villacorta Elementary

Thanks to a partnership with East Valley Community Health Center, Rowland Unified School District will open a school-based health center at Villacorta Elementary School in September 2011. This effort is a result of a grant provided by Los Angeles County Department of Health Services to East Valley for the construction of a school-based clinic. The 2,160 square foot facility will feature four exam rooms and provide needed health services to not only students, but to the entire community during and after school hours and on Saturdays.

The Health Center will provide medical care (wellness visits and treatment of illnesses) for children and adults. Rowland Unified health staff will continue to provide immunizations, physicals and other health services to students aged 3 – 18.

East Valley will offer a variety of health services including diagnosis and treatment of acute and public health conditions, prenatal care, pediatrics and treatment and management of chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, and asthma. Fast-track referrals and transportation to East Valley's West Covina facility will be available for those services not provided at Villacorta.

The Health Center will be located at 17840 E. Villacorta Street in La Puente.

Rowland High School Culinary Arts & JAR Career Technical Education Project



Project completed in February 2011 that will feature a new Culinary Arts classroom and demonstration area and state-of-the-art kitchen in the John A. Rowland student-run restaurant.

Blandford Elementary Modernization and New Library



Modernized classrooms and new library will be completed this Spring.



Ybarra Academy Science Lab and New Library



Science lab and modernized classrooms completed for opening of 2010-11 school year. New library opened December 10, 2010.



2011 Construction Schedule

SPRING

- Rincon Intermediate conversion into new K-8 Science & Math Academy
- Villacorta Elementary (To expedite construction and save costs, the campus was moved temporarily to La Seda Elementary in December. The school year will finish at that site so modernization can be completed in six months.)

- Alvarado Intermediate

SUMMER

- Northam Elementary

FALL

- Nogales High School

WINTER

- Oswalt Academy

Great News for Taxpayers

Residents will save more than \$100 Million over the life of the Measure R bond, since RUSD was allocated the maximum amount of \$25 million for a Qualified School Construction Bond. It was a very competitive selection process, as the federal government will pay the interest associated with this bond.