

April 2016 Newsletter

Greetings,

I can't believe April is almost over! This month, we wrapped up our PARP celebration and our elementary and middle school students completed their New York State English Language Arts (ELA) and Math exams. Our Athletic Department initiated a Youth Sports Day and our Lady Bluejays softball team held a successful t-shirt fundraiser. On April 22nd, our middle school students presented an original play, "A Storybook Mystery," written by Lexington's own Wendy Filowitz. It was an outstanding performance and I am so proud of our students, our faculty and our staff. I would also like to recognize Karen Mancuso-Strauser, a member of Lexington's Vocational Services Center - New Jersey, for receiving the Employment Specialist of the Year award from the New Jersey chapter of APSE. While the students are off for spring break, I am catching up on projects and preparing for the last two months of school. I hope you will take a few minutes to read this month's newsletter and mark your calendar to attend some of our upcoming events.

Sincerely,
Donald A. Galloway, CEO/Superintendent

A Storybook Mystery

Middle School Presents Original Play

On April 22nd, Lexington students and guests from four neighboring schools for the Deaf were treated to an original play, "A Storybook Mystery," written by Lexington's own Wendy Filowitz. The tale follows Little Red Riding Hood as she tries to figure out who took Grandma's basket of treats.

The Grimm Detective Agency helps solve the mystery by interviewing various storybook suspects. The entire middle school student body contributed to the production by participating as actors or members of the scenery & set design or props & costumes committees. Kudos to the students and staff for a spectacular presentation!



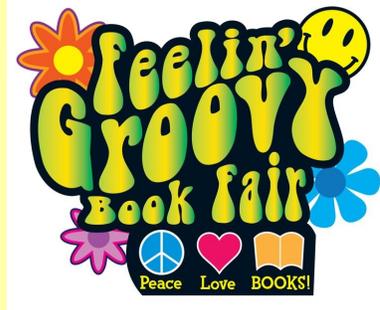
[Click on image to see more play photos!](#)

Scholastic Spring Book Fair

Calling All Readers

Lexington's Spring Book Fair will be held from May 9th - 13th in the First Floor Lecture Room. Hours will be 9 am - 2:30 pm on Monday through Friday, with special evening hours from 5:30 -

8 pm on Wednesday, May 11th. If you are unable to attend the Book Fair, click on the Feelin' Groovy image to learn how to purchase books online.



Click on the image to visit our book fair homepage and learn how to shop online for books.

Children's ASL Story Time Featuring Keith Wann

Saturday, May 21, 7 - 8:30 pm
Ralph & Ricky Lauren Auditorium at Lexington

Dress the kids in pajamas and join us for ASL stories that will have the entire family laughing! This kid-friendly show is presented courtesy of ASL storyteller, comedian & ITV Signed Stories Star Keith Wann. [Space is limited, so reserve a seat by e-mailing: development@lexnyc.org!](mailto:development@lexnyc.org) Or, call 718-350-3300 or [visit us on the web at www.lexnyc.org](http://www.lexnyc.org). Suggested donation is \$3.00 per child and \$5.00 per adult.

Saturday, May 21 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Children's ASL Story Time Featuring Keith Wann



Lexington School for the Deaf
26-28 78th Street
East Elmhurst, NY
718-350-3300

This kid-friendly story hour is presented courtesy of ASL Storyteller, Comedian & ITV Signed Stories Star Keith Wann

Dress the kids in pajamas and join us for ASL stories that will have the entire family laughing! Voice interpretation will be provided.

Suggested donation:
\$3.00 children \$5.00 adults

Space is limited. Please reserve a seat by registering at www.lexnyc.org or development@lexnyc.org

LEXINGTON
Hearin' & Understandin' You the Best

Lexington Student Dance Show

June 10, 2016

Lexington is pleased to host the student dance show on Friday, June 10, 2016, at 7:30 pm in the Ralph & Ricky Lauren Auditorium. Please join us for a celebration of movement as our students present *"City of Dreams"* with original choreography by Lexington's Dance Department. General admission tickets are \$5.00 for adults and teens and \$3.00 for children 12 and under. VIP tickets for post-performance dessert reception, program ads and sponsorships are available. [To reserve tickets or for more information, contact the Development Office at development@lexnyc.org.](mailto:development@lexnyc.org)



Karen Mancuso-Strauser

Employment Specialist of the Year

On March 18th, Karen Mancuso-Strauser, an Employment Specialist at Lexington Vocational Services, Inc., was

recognized as the Employment Specialist of the Year by the New Jersey Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE). Karen joined Lexington Vocational Services, Inc. in New Jersey in 2013. In her work, Karen is fully involved in all phases of Supported Employment, from Pre-Placement to Intensive to Long Term Follow Along support, on behalf of each of the consumers. Her dedication to the consumers and Lexington as an organization is unwavering. Her one true goal is the success of each and every consumer. Karen's greatest strength is that she takes the time to become familiar with each consumer as an individual - their preferences, what motivates them - as well as any challenges which may impact their work-related performance. She has been able to use this knowledge to adapt any plan to ensure that consumers are successful at their work sites. Karen truly deserves this APSE award for Employment Specialist of the Year and we are fortunate to have Karen as part of the Lexington New Jersey team!



Youth Sports Days

Presented by Bluejay Athletics

Children ages 5-14 are invited to join Bluejay Athletics for a free recreational program from 9 am to 1 pm on Saturday, May 21 and Saturday, June 11. The program is for children who are Deaf, CODA or hearing siblings. Snacks are provided and parental supervision is required. The April 16th Sports Day was a smashing success. [To reserve a spot, contact Danny Gabel at dgabel@lexnyc.org!](mailto:dgabel@lexnyc.org)

BLUEJAYS ATHLETICS PRESENT

Youth Sports Day

Dates:
April 16
May 21
June 11

Time:
9am to 1pm

Who:
Deaf / CODA / Hearing Siblings

Age:
5-14 years old

Location:
Lexington Gym

Cost:
FREE!

Snacks will be provided

Parental Supervision Required

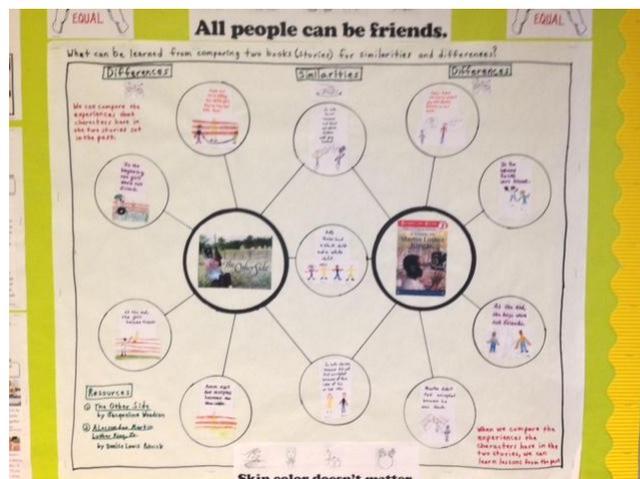
TO RESERVE A SPOT:
Contact Danny Gabel at DGABEL@LEXNYC.ORG

Click on image to see Sports Day video!

Thinking Maps in Action

Double Bubble Maps

Double Bubble Maps are used to compare and contrast two things or ideas. They encourage students to think about similarities and differences, such as the traits of two characters or the attributes of two geometric shapes. The Double Bubble Map begins with two large circles containing the things or ideas that are to be compared. Words or phrases that support why the two



things/ideas are similar are included in smaller bubbles and lines between the two large bubbles. Words or phrases that identify the differences between the two large circles are located in smaller bubbles radiating out from the two large circles. The rectangle or "frame" around the Double Bubble map asks students to provide proof or sources for their comparisons. The frame may also be used to indicate a specific point of view that is influencing the comparisons.

In this double bubble map, students read two books and were asked to compare the experiences and lessons learned by two characters. Click on the image to see more examples.

Softball Booster Campaign A Success

The Lady Bluejays Softball Team would like to thank everyone who purchased a t-shirt and/or donated to their Booster.com t-shirt fundraiser. The team sold 48 t-shirts and raised over \$900 to support the team. The Lady Bluejays invite everyone to attend their home game on May 17th against American School for the Deaf.



Click on the image to see more team photos!

PARP Springs into Reading

Week 2

During the second week of Pick a Reading Partner (PARP), preschool and elementary students were treated to a series of guest readers, a Drop Everything and Read Day (D.E.A.R.), a special mask making art project and a fantastic closing ceremony. At the conclusion of the program, each student received a certificate of participation and a book.



Click on the image to see our PARP slideshow!

PARP Guest Reader - Dr. Amber Martin

On Monday, March 28th, Dr. Amber Martin, a professor of Psychology at Hunter College in NYC, read to the students. Deaf since birth, Dr. Martin experienced a mainstream school setting. She teaches psychology of children and conducts research on the language acquisition of Deaf children.



Click on image to see more photos!

PARP Guest Reader - Darren "Dax" Fudenske

The March 29th guest reader was Darren "Dax" Fudenske. Mr. Fudenske graduated from Lexington School for the Deaf, Gallaudet University and Hunter College. During his 18 year teaching career, Mr. Fudenske has taught students in PreK through 8th grade. His great passion is to help students discover literature in two languages - ASL and English.



[Click on image to see more photos!](#)

PARP Guest Reader - Carmen King

Carmen King read to the students on Wednesday, March 30th. Ms. King is an adjunct ASL instructor at Sarah Lawrence College. She has taught at many prestigious institutions, including New York University, Columbia University, the Helen Keller Service for the Blind and LaGuardia Community College. She is a devoted advocate for the Deaf community.



[Click on the image to see more photos!](#)

NYU Dental Returns to Lexington

NYU Dental's Outreach Program returned to Lexington on April 7th to educate more high school students on proper dental hygiene. After the presentation, Dr. Scott Podell, head of NYU's Dental Outreach Program, supervised a dental screening for the students. Assisting Dr. Podell were three NYU dental students. Pictured in the photo are (l-r): Karen Lambert, Career Education Teacher; Dr. Podell; NYU dental students Sung Guy Choi, Joel Ortlip and Shifat Hossain; and Maureen Salloum, High School Guidance Teacher.



Ninth Graders Meet Matt Hamill

On March 11th, Lexington's ninth graders traveled to Massapequa High School to meet UFC fighter Matt Hamill. Born Deaf, Mr. Hamill attended Rochester Institute of Technology and won three collegiate wrestling

championships. Lexington students watched Hamill's biopic, "The Hammer," and attended a special meet-and-greet with Mr. Hamill after the presentation. [Click here to read a first-person account of the event by Andrew Fisher, IA teacher.](#)



Click on image to see more photos!

Purple Technology Grant Award

Lexington was one of four schools selected to receive a Purple Communications, Inc. Tech Grant. The grants, of up to \$2,000, were awarded to schools that serve Deaf or hard-of-hearing students and are to be used for hardware or software. Lexington's award will be used to purchase a high-resolution laser printer for the high school students. Lexington CEO/Superintendent Donald Galloway accepted the award at the April 2016 meeting of the Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf (CEASD) on behalf of teacher Jared Lopatin. Thanks to Jared Lopatin, Frank Dattolo, Maria Vega, John Panagiotakis and Cindy Casson for their team efforts in obtaining this grant.

Lexington School for the Deaf Foundation
development@lexnyc.org | www.lexnyc.org



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OUR EMAILS**



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EMAIL**

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Lexington Center & School for the Deaf
26-26 75th Street, East Elmhurst, NY 11370
917.832.1676 (Video) - 718.350.3300 (Voice)
718.899.9846 (Fax)
Physical Location: 30th Avenue and 75th Street