

Tools for Tomorrow

Nonprofit after school program - grades K through 5 WRITING * ART * MUSIC * DRAMA

Volume 6 Issue 2

SPRING 2007

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777 E.Tahquitz Canyon Way, Suite 20048 Palm Springs, CA 92262 Phone: 760-969-5025 Fax: 760-969-5026 Email: efdinicolaTFT@dc.rr.com

www.afterschooltools.org

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"TOOLS FOR TOMORROW DELIVERS SPECIAL EVENT"

"Reception, dinner and show make night a smash hit." Pamela Bieri's lead-in to the beautiful, ½ page article that appeared in the Desert Sun, Sunday, February 11.

TFT is able to add the program in six additional schools, thanks to the friends of Lee Appel, The Vision For the Future Award recipient; JoAnn McGrath, Honorary Chairman; the GLITTER, GLITZ and GLAM sponsors, and Tools For Tomorrow supporters.....Hallie Furr and the staff at Spencers at the Mountain..... Shannon Goldstein and the other Junior League hostesses; the Junior League of Palm Springs Desert Communities and the Junior League Sustainers...AND the cast of "Senior Class" who GAVE their time and talent to provide, according to Pamela Bieri, "a feelgood show that left guests limp with laughter, yet recharged with the energy of the performers."



Ruta Lee toasts TFT

Co-chairmen Kimberly Klink and June Michalove and their tireless committee pulled the party together in the most elegant way, Nancy Miller dressed the room with beautiful flower arrangements that she had created, and Anne Hopkins handled reservations.

On receiving her award, Lee Appel spoke eloquently about the need for Tools For Tomorrow, "This important, amazing program." The evening ended with Allan Blye singing "Tools For Tomorrow," an original song with words and lyrics by Saul Ilson, creator of "Senior Class," and once a child-at-risk himself, who had a teacher that recognized his talent and gave him a vision for his future.

100% of monies raised from this event go directly to serving the children.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Tools For Tomorrow opened six new classes



this semester. These new projects combined with the already existing schools served will bring the student population to well over 800 children this school year.

Since our classes are limited ore-registration in these new

to 25 students, pre-registration in these new schools greatly outnumbers the available slots. I have received numerous phone calls from disappointed parents who have heard of the program and whose children are on the waiting list. The reputation of Tools For Tomorrow is also reflected by those students who were enrolled in the first semester, begging to re-enroll in the current classes. Although we have hired three new teachers, there are still not enough spaces.

Continued on next page

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

APRIL 13, 2007 <u>– BRIDGE</u>

<u>TOURNAMENT AND LUNCHEON</u> In memorable homes throughout the Valley.

April 26, 2007 - "SENIOR CLASS"

Matinee, Wine & cheese reception.

Annenberg, P.S Art Museum

May 5, 2007 - FRIENDS LUNCHEON
MEETING at Rachel & Charles Druten's

November, 2007 (1st weekend) - <u>FALL</u> <u>FETE</u>

February 6, 2008 - GLITTER, GLITZ and GLAM

<u>MISSION STATEMENT:</u> To make available free, on-site, after school literacy enrichment programs that integrate writing, drama, art and music for Coachella Valley elementary school children.

The Tools For Tomorrow program is designed to supplement the children's daily educational experience, nurture their creativity, enhance their self-esteem, build character, and expand their intellectual and cultural horizons, giving them a vision of what their lives can become.

Check out our website: www.afterschooltools.org



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Because of your enthusiasm and support the recent Tools for Tomorrow Gala at Spencer's was a big success. Special kudos go to event co-chairs, Kimberly Klink and June Michalove, who pulled it all together. Our cause is gaining recognition in the community but the demand for the TFT programs continues to exceed our ability to

fund rapid growth. Your continued prosletizing and financial support are greatly needed. It is gratifying to bring opportunities for arts education to so many children who would otherwise have had no such exposure. Keep up the good work! *Jim Reed, Chairman Board of Directors*



Executive Director's Report continued

Our mission to accommodate all the children must wait until we have the funding, not only to provide the classes but to sustain them.

Each year all the teachers, new and old, are trained in a staff development program to utilize the new and evolving curriculum. Although each unit is separate the curriculum is fluid, responding to the needs and interests of the children. For example, when the teacher in one of our Palm Springs classes introduced Carnival of the Animals by Saint-Saens, one little girl asked, "How can they make the animals dance?" The teacher explained that people imitate in dance the movements of the animals. A discussion of ballet ensued. He explained how ballet tells a story with dance and movement. How men and woman dancers train for years to be able to perform ballet. The children asked if they could act out the animal's to Sain-Saens music, an activity incorporated into their curriculum, that grew out of their curiosity.



In Desert Hot Springs a shy, overweight fifth grade girl sat sullen and silent, watching, but refusing to communicate or take part in class activities. From time to time Lucy's teacher saw a glimmer of interest. One day after class, she took the girl aside, and asked her why she didn't participate. Lucy's response came out in a tearful rush. She was ugly and stupid, she had nothing to offer and did everything wrong. The teacher told her that the only thing she could do wrong in this class was not to try something that struck her interest. Not long afterward, In a monologue class, Lucy raised her hand. In the accepting environment of the TFT class she had the courage to share her fears and insecurity with her fellow students. Since then she has had the confidence to assist with choreography and singing in the music segment of the curriculum, and has become a leader whenever something new is introduced.

Lucy is among the inspiring successes our TFT teachers experience every day.

Ed DiNicola, Executive Director

SNIPS and SNAILS

Kudos

Tools For Tomorrow was honored by the National Pen Woman at their "Women of Distinction" March Luncheon. **Rachel Druten** accepted on behalf of all those who have made the program possible.

Jean Ann Hirschi, TFT Affiliate, honored...... again. This time as an "Angel of the Desert" at the "Spiritual Life Ministries 9th Annual Angel of the Desert Awards Night" for her "tremendous contributions and charitable work within the Coachella Valley

TFT Board Changes

Lee Appel, philanthropist and receipent of the "Vision For the Future Award" joins the Board of Directors.

Most recent Media Support

Pattie Daly Caruso, once again showed her support for TFT on her popular television show. She gave a boost up to the Evening of Glitter, Glitz and Glam when she interviewed Board President, Rachel Druten and Vice President, June Michalove prior to the event.

Pam Bieri, local free-lance writer and marketing and media relations consultant, wrote a beautiful article in the Desert Sun about TFT's first "Vision For The Future" award gala honoring Lee Appel. Pam's article not only eloquently reflected the joyful event, but accurately described the TFT program. Pamela can be contacted at 568.4422.

Business Contributors

Spencers at the Mountain: 760.327.3446
 701 W. Baristo, Downtown Palm Springs
 Special events: ask for Hallie Furr
 Wellburn Gourd Farm: 760.728.42271
 Manhattan in the Desert: 760.322.2291
 2665 East Palm Canyon Dr., Palm Springs
 Catering: ask for El



Tools for Tomorrow ARTISTS AND POETS GALLERY

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ASSIGNMENT: In studying the importance of animals to the Native Americans the children are asked to write about their favorite animal.





Juana, age 9

Lesley, age 10

The Eagle

My animal is the eagle.

It shows me about courage and strength. It is peaceful and strong, it is quick and swift. That animal inspires me to be quick and strong. Some people are killing its habitat and many are dying. The eagle is a national symbol and it should be. Benjamin Franklin wanted it to be a turkey. But I personally like the eagle instead.

Edgar, age 9

Mountain Lions

My favorite animals are Lions.

The reason I like them is because they are fierce. They have pride.

Having pride makes me feel good.

I also like how they protect things they care about.

Lions are said to be great leaders.

I want to be a great leader just like a lion.

I also like how they run.

I want to run fast too. Anson, age 10



Cesar, age 9

ASSIGNMENT: Thank you letters

The Dolphin

Dolphins live in the ocean. She eats a great fish.

She swims deeply down.

She lives happy and free in the ocean. I think she is a great animal because she is fun to ride and play with.

She is gray and she shines in the sun. I throw a ball and she throws it back to me.

Dear Parents.

Thank you for taking me to L.A. and taking me to the beach. Also thank you for taking me to see the family over there.

Your loving daughter,

Lesley

P.S. Can we go to Hawaii?

Lesley, age 9

Diana, age 9

Gretchen, age 10

ASSIGNMENT: Describe how the music makes you feel.



Adlemi, age 8

The music made me think of a heart that was burned by the sun.

She was about to melt..

Maribel, age 8

What this music makes me feel is PASSIONABLE. It relaxes me.

I love music.

Every kind of music has its emotion. Like sad, happy, angry, evil and many more.

Jacqueline, age 9

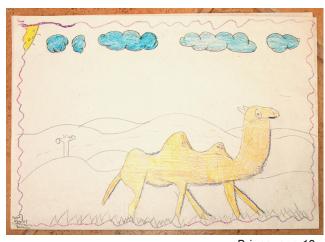


Kiel, age 10

(Different passions for different folks!)

Dakota 3rdGrad.

Dakota, age 8



Briana, age 12



Kiran, age 8

Inspiration: The children closed their eyes and listened to ocean mood music.

In the music I felt peace and serenity The music made me feel calm I could actually feel the waves

FRIENDS OF TOOLS FOR TOMORROW

APRIL IS A BIG MONTH FOR TFT. Our annual Bridge Party is Friday, April 13 (a LUCKY date, I'm sure!) in local homes throughout the valley. If you haven't yet made reservations call Jane Foster: 760.360.0635

April 26 is the Tools For Tomorrow Matinee Theatre Party followed by a wine and cheese reception. After viewing the fine presentation by the cast of SENIOR CLASS at the Glitter, Glitz and Glam Gala, you can be sure of a memorable afternoon. Special congratulations from "Friends" go to members, Kimberly Klink and June Michalove, for chairing that wonderful party. A fun evening and a great help to our program.

The last meeting of the season will be on Saturday, May 5, at Rachel Druten's. Edie Thoreson, Chairman



OVERHEARD IN THE MEN'S ROOM. "My wife dragged me to this party, but I'm really having a great time!"

PIX FROM THE PARTY....

The ubiquitous Lee Appell

































FOUNDATION AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Tools For Tomorrow gratefully acknowledges the following Foundations and community orginazations for their generous support, past and present. Their Grants have made this program possible.

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Please forgive any inaccuracies or omissions. If you let us know, they will be corrected in the next newsletter.

TOOLS FOR TOMORROW COLLABORATES WITH: The Unified School Districts of Palm Springs, Desert Sands and Coachella: The Palm Springs Art Museum: The IdvlIwild Arts Academy: CSUSB, Palm Desert Campus: The Agua Calente Cultural Museum: The Foundation for the Retarded; The Junior League, Palm Springs High School, The Boys & Girls Club.