



In summer, the song sings itself.
-- William Carlos Williams

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL CELEBRATES ROOFTOP COMMUNITY



Friday, May 10 Rooftop hosted the 14th Annual International Festival in a day that celebrated the diversity of our community and the talents of our students. The day began with a fantastic feast of foods from around the world, home-cooked and donated by Rooftop parents. The headliners of the show featured alumni and other members of our extended community, as students from SOTA's World Music program performed with Taiko drums. They also demonstrated a Taiko drum interchange with Mrs. Toupin's third grade, who have been learning Taiko drumming this year. Progressive rapper

Khafre Jay then performed an original rap that inspired our kids to take pride in being themselves. The day was filled with students performances of dance and music, featuring acts inspired by cultural traditions from around the globe and youth culture today.

The day was full of so much Rooftop Spirit, as children performed to cheers from their peers and parents chipped in to make the day a very special one for the community. We send our gratitude to all those who helped make the day a huge success! *Photos in this section by Bernadette Gabrielli*



FILMMAKERS IN THE SCHOOLS WITH SFFS

Monday, May 6 In conjunction with the SF International Film Festival, Mayeda students enjoyed a classroom screening of Jillian Schlesinger's "Maidentrip." This documentary tells the story of 14-year-old Laura Dekker's two year voyage as the youngest person to sail solo around the world. Ms. Schlesinger visited Rooftop and hosted a Q&A session, answering questions about Laura's searching for freedom and adventure, and her role as the documentarian of this heroine's quest. Rooftop has benefited greatly from our relationship with the SF Film Society over the past 3 years, who have provided exciting filmmaking residencies, screenings and filmmaker visits all free-of-charge!

Rooftop Art Parent & Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

**Friday, May 24, 2013
2 pm - Rooftop Garden**

Please join us as we celebrate another fantastic year of caring and community!

Our volunteers are the heart of Rooftop Spirit and this little gathering is a way of expressing our gratitude for the many ways you help to make our school a wonderful place.

Children of attendees are welcome to join in the festivities.

ROOFTOP SENDS A BLUE MARBLE TO ANTARCTICA!

For the past two years, Rooftop students have explored and connected with the world through the Blue Marbles Project. The marbles are passed from person to person as a token of gratitude for those who care for the health of our oceans. Rooftop had successfully sent marbles to six continents, but the Antarctic had eluded us until recently. Jan Willemse, a friend of Rooftop Technology teacher Andi Wong, traveled to Antarctica and he brought with him a blue marble! In an assembly at school,



Jan shared stories of his travels, from the preparations, understanding of a place unlike no other on earth, and experiencing the amazing array of wildlife.

Inspired by Jan and his travels, Rooftop 4th graders have been spending their recess creating a short film that imagines living life as a whale. Jan lent his expertise on the Antarctic as an introduction for their video.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC SPRING PERFORMANCE



Thursday, May 9 Families gathered in the Burnett MPR to hear the culminating performance of the first-year instrumental music students from fourth grade. Led by SFUSD instructor Kaitlin MacChesney, the students demonstrated their newly developed musical skills, performed on violin, trumpet, flute and clarinet. The students also performed a concert for their Burnett Campus peers during the school day on Wednesday May 22nd.

ROOFTOP SHAKES IT UP!

Thursday, May 16 Rooftop's 6-8th graders traveled to the Buriel Clay Theatre at the African American Arts and Culture



Complex to see the African American Shakespeare Company's performance Shakespeare's "The Merry Wives

of Windsor." To prepare for the experience, students enjoyed two classroom visits from Sherrie Young, founder of the company, (and Rooftop Alumni, too!) The classroom workshops and the performance are offered as part of the company's Shake-It-Up program, which teaches literacy skills to students using theater games and drama techniques. This program addresses the educational needs of students in fun and creative ways, helping students develop a positive relationship with complex reading materials.

CELEBRATING LITERARY ARTS AT ROOFTOP

4th and 5th Grade Poetry Nights. Students have been expressing themselves through poetry and have created their own keepsake poetry books to commemorate their study. The 4th grade will host their poetry night on May 23 and 5th grade will be on May 29th. Thank you to our teachers for inspiring the children with their poetry guidance and congratulations to all our students for their literary achievements!

The springtime edition of **The Raven's Quill**, Rooftop's literary journal, will be published the last week of school. An online publication will be available for the community to download. (Watch for an email via Rooftop Announcements that will provide a link for the online edition). Along with student musings, the springtime edition will include special entries from our departing Kindergarten teachers and an alumni piece on his work in Cameroon with the Peace Corps.