

Xtra-curricular

NEWSLETTER OF THE **SOUTH COUNTRY EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

Vanderbilt Planetarium's Traveling Classroom, "Discovering the Universe" Visits Kreamer Street

Thanks to funding provided by the South Country Education Foundation, third grade teachers and the students at Kreamer Street Elementary School had the amazing opportunity to view Vanderbilt Planetarium's Traveling Classroom exhibit "Discovering the Universe". The exhibit offers an innovative experience helping to elicit excitement in learning and to enhance the classroom instruction. Provided by the planetarium it is a traveling outreach program designed to bring unique educational experience to students with hands-on interactive activities. Various modules represent different aspects of how astronomers acquire knowledge of the universe. These modules represent Light, Telescopes, Digital Imaging, the 3-D Universe and Gravity. "The exhibit provides curriculum enhancing the district's continual focus on the Common Core Standards." (visit www.southcountry.org for full article)

From the Helm



Thank you for being a part of our SCEF community. Your monetary support has once again exceeded prior years. We thank each of you for our great success and thank you in advance for your continued patronage as we embark on what we hope will be another groundbreaking year.

SCEF funded more than \$48,000 worth of grants to teachers, students and community groups over the past 12 months. All schools benefited from these grants. Our annual auction and cocktail party was a great success and raised over \$60,000. We thank those who attended and who share in our vision and goals allowing us to positively impact the South Country School District.

We hope to continue to expand the union between SCEF and the SCSD as it is important to our success. Our contributions fuel their accomplishments and the strong alignment with the school district helps us have a positive impact on students, teachers and our schools. The SCEF Board, Community Advisory Council and the Auction Committee also continue to evolve and grow with each year that passes. I would like to thank these members who work successfully to execute our efforts.

Recent grants enabled by you have supported students participating in the areas of business, science and the arts in such venues as Future Business Leaders of America and the Virtual Enterprise International Youth Business Summit. Oceanography, ecology, community life skills, culinary arts, 3D design, printing, woodworking and forensic archaeology are all subjects in which our students have been involved at the SCSD schools.

The majority of our grant money is raised at the annual summer cocktail party and auction. We hope, however, that as our work goes on throughout the year, donors will think of us year round as we strive to keep a steady flow of educational opportunities present in district classrooms.

Please visit our website (scefonline.org) for a full listing of programs we have funded. We wish you a joyous Holiday Season and hope you include SCEF in your year-end giving. —FRANK LENTO





SCEF Annual Auction Raises Over \$60,000

Our 17th annual Auction and Cocktail Party was held again at the beautiful bayside home of Richard and Chantal Berman. This year's event is made possible through the generosity of the Berman family and our event sponsors Knapp/Swezey Foundation, Brookhaven Memorial Hospital and South Shore Wines and Liquors. We would also like to thank all the local merchants and individuals who volunteered their time and services supplying hors d'oeuvres, auction items and much, much more.

Thanks to photographer Elfe Marschall, presently interning at *Long Island Pulse* magazine, the Auction and Cocktail party was featured in the September 2015 edition of *Pulse*.

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What We Do

SCEF is an independent, not-for-profit organization committed to improving educational opportunities for all students in the South Country School District by:

- Giving education grants (upwards of \$48,000 for the 2015 grant cycle)
- Supporting our cultural and educational committees: Becker/Gambles Music Fund, Martin Luther King Foundation and Students 4 Art
- Partnering with the Boys and Girls Club and Knapp/Swezey Foundation for the 5th grade YMCA Swim Program
- Offering professional development grants
- Presenting concerts for the SCSD community



Students interacted with "workers" from around the world including Austria, Bulgaria and Indonesia as well as many states across the country. Bellport High School placed 6th out of hundreds in the website competition! At the trade show, our "customers" enjoyed product samples provided by Mrs. Masem's Culinary Arts classes. Many thanks to the South Country Education Foundation for their support with this event. The International Trade Show is the culminating activity for Virtual Enterprise; a new work-based learning Business Class preparing students for college and the workplace.

Bellport High School Virtual Enterprise Class



Bellport High School's Virtual Enterprise students were featured on Long Island News Radio (103.9) <http://linewsradio.com> on Saturday, October 10, 2015 and you can listen to the program by going to this site:

<https://soundcloud.com/jvcbroadcasting/spotlight-school-bellport-part-1-10-10?in=jvcbroadcasting/sets/spotlight-on-long-island-schools>

and/or to this site:

<https://soundcloud.com/jvcbroadcasting/spotlight-school-bellport-part-2-10-11?in=jvcbroadcasting/sets/spotlight-on-long-island-schools>

BHS Prepares Business Students for the Workplace

Bellport High School Virtual Enterprise students along with teachers Mrs. Sheila Smith and Mrs. Camille Masem traveled to Manhattan to participate in the Virtual Enterprise International Youth Business Summit and Trade Show. In this class, which is in its third year at Bellport High School, students report to "work" daily simulating a real internet based business.

The students have operated a virtual business Savor the Flavor Specialty Foods, Inc. and created a website www.savortheflavorve.com. They have prepared invoices, created brochures and a catalog and whatever it takes to assist them in making sales over the internet and at their trade show booth.

Some of the 2014 and 2015 Grant Recipients enjoying their party last May



2016 SCEF CALENDAR OF EVENTS

We thank the community for its generous support of previous SCEF annual auctions and hope you will take notice below so as not to miss 2016's auction and additional cultural events:

OPERA AND MORE, an afternoon recital in the spring at Old South Haven Presbyterian Church, Brookhaven

18TH ANNUAL COCKTAIL PARTY AND AUCTION on Saturday, July 9th, 2016 from 5 pm to 7:30 pm in Bellport

GRANT RECEPTION on Thursday, June 9th from 3:30-5:00pm

Please check our website www.scefonline.org for up-to-date information

The SCEF community of donors and contributors continues to exceed our expectations and we thank you for your support of the students in the South Country School District. Over \$60,000 was raised in the 2015 school year and these donations were utilized to fund extremely worthwhile grants enhancing student learnings and experience in all the South Country schools. Please take a moment to be proud of your contributions which continue to fuel our positive reach and impact in our community. We offer thanks to each of you and hope your generosity will continue to support South Country Education Foundation in the year to come.

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The foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization committed to improving opportunities for all students in the South Country school district. Its mission is to promote educational initiatives by providing supplemental financial support for projects and programs that fall outside of the District budget.

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