

Xtra-curricular

NEWSLETTER OF THE **SOUTH COUNTRY EDUCATION FOUNDATION**



From the Helm



It is my pleasure to report to you that the foundation is doing well. We are supporting our teachers and students through our grant program, we are supporting our student athletes through our Clipper Classic Scholarships, we are supporting music education through the Becker/Gambles Music Fund; and we are working with community and national groups to further enrich both the educational and cultural life in our community. We are thankful for your continuing support.

The children we are educating now will take our place in society; they are the future doctors, lawyers, trades people, educators, inventors, entertainers and taxpayers. We must continue to work together to assure that they leave our schools with everything they need to be productive, caring and contributing members of society. Our schools must address their needs and provide each child with the best, most enriching educational experience possible.

Education includes reading, writing and arithmetic, but it is much more. We have to turn students into lifelong lovers of learning. That takes the whole community getting involved, supporting teachers and schools, and demanding that the schools provide more than just the basics. We have to focus on making sure that our schools

excel, that we hire the best and brightest to work with our students, and that the community is a safe and supportive place for all our students.

Once again I ask you to use the form on the back page of this newsletter and make a donation to help us enrich the educational experience of our children, Thank you.

—GENE WESTHOFF

Daedalus Quartet

Wednesday, October 10, marked the beginning of a new relationship between the highly acclaimed Daedalus Quartet and the Bellport community. The quartet is the recipient of a three year grant from Chamber Music America to bring the uniting forces of chamber music to our schools and to the greater Bellport community.

On Wednesday evening, the Quartet performed a Family Concert at the Victory Church of God in East Patchogue. The Foundation and the Boys and Girls Club of the Bellport Area were the local sponsoring groups for the concert. The format of the concert was different from the usual in that the group did not play entire pieces, but rather concentrated on playing individual movements.

They also engaged the audience and helped them to understand what the composers were doing when they created the pieces and what the performers were accomplishing as they played the pieces. The quality of the playing was outstanding and the obvious joy and love of music was

Min-Young Kim
surrounded by
members of the BHS
Senior Orchestra.



evident. Daedalus performed works by Mozart, Beethoven, Debussy, Shostakovich, Dvorák and Wynton Marsalis.

The Quartet, three of whose members are alumni of Bellport High School, has given concerts in the community and conducted master classes and demonstrations in our schools for the past five years.

This year Daedalus is embarking on a program which will include visiting the schools at numerous times throughout the year, working with students in small groups and giving two other concerts. The community is looking forward to these visits.

The Foundation's Summer Days Included...

BHS Class of '57 Celebrates 50 Years

This past September members of the Class of 1957 joined with faculty and classmates from the classes of '56 and '58 to celebrate their 50th high school reunion. The weekend started off with an ice breaker under the tent at the Pine Grove Inn on Friday night. A dinner dance was held on

Saturday night at Sunset Harbor with 50's music provided by the group "Somewhere in Time." On Sunday, a good-bye brunch was held at the Island Grill Diner for over 40 people, many of whom had traveled from as far away as California, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Ohio and Connecticut. As a result of the great response, the class was pleased to be able to contribute \$1,389 to the Thomas Feeny Memorial Scholarship at Bellport High School.

Reunion Photograph of Classes of '56, '57, and '58

FRONT ROW: Joe Salvato, Joan (Owen) Prybyzski, George Dioguardo, Donald Rieb, Frank Aragona, Joyce (Giarraputo) Roe, Lee DiClemente.

SEATED SECOND ROW: Alice (VanSlyke) Gwathney, Edna Mae (Kellerman) Majestic, Jay (Stafetas) Backes, faculty Ruth Reynolds, Bill Reynolds, Joan Baldwin, Richard Baldwin, classmate Joanne (Benincasa) Canary.

STANDING THIRD ROW: Juanita (VanSlyke) Fields, Charles Reusch, Worth "Pete" Austin, Rosemary (Tofte) Horton, Richard Rieb, Sharon Carter, Charlotte (VanAlen) Singleton, Becky (Carle) Taylor, Joe Dubicki, Doug Wells, Rosemarie (Stella) Reynolds, Elise (O'Neill) Alloy, Marilyn (Porto) Abbey, Pat (Bossler) Zielenski.

FOURTH ROW: Joe Backes, George Paul, Richard Parlman, Bill Saulle, Jack Giarraputo, John Scharpeger, Bill Diercks, Jack Barone, Lee "Muggy" (Tofte) Birchill, Richard Majestic, John O'Neill, Eddie Carter, Loretta (Mingino) Drew, Jim Kinsella, Artie Hoffrage, Bob Walsh, Don Patanjo, Bob Wallen, Bernie Jefferson, Geoffrey Smith, Richie "Killer" Kowalski, Jim Joyce.

NOT SHOWN: Gil Pyron, Nick Capobianco



PHOTO BY MOONEY PHOTO

A Festive Seaside Auction...



And a Dashing Road Race!

Fall Grant Cycle—Innovative and Exciting

The South Country Education Foundation awarded more than \$22,500 in grants to programs designed to motivate students in areas ranging from academics and artistic development to wellness. Board President Eugene Westhoff noted that applications for grants have grown steadily over the past few years. "The Fall 2007 grant cycle was one of our most exciting cycles," he added, noting that the grant committee reviewed 24 applications.

Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded over \$200,000 in grant money to worthy applicants and projects. Applications are reviewed by a three-person committee made up of board members and interested individuals from the community. The final decision is made by the board of directors. To review previous grants and to download applications for future grants please visit our website at www.scefonline.org.

Children's Concert

Laurinel Owen,
South Country Concerts, Ltd.
\$600

This grant is for a program titled "The Teddy Bear and the Animals" suitable for primary school aged children and will introduce them to classical music. The program will be performed at the South Country Library by musicians on the violin, cello and piano.

Improvisational Workshop

Michael Douglas Jones
Companion Star, Inc., **\$1,600**

Mr. Jones will give a singing and acting workshop for students ages 12-18. The improvisational workshop will be held at the Frank P. Long Elementary School.

"Slavery in New York" Exhibit

Mary Haines, Director,
South Country Library
\$750

The library is to receive this grant to pay for the shipping and handling of the New York Historical Society's popular "Slavery in New York" exhibit. The eight panels in this traveling exhibit will be on display from mid-January to mid-March and the library will host programs that compliment the exhibit and attract viewers, particularly school age children and teens.

"Wintuk" for ESL Students

Lorraine McCray, ESL Specialist
Bellport Middle School
\$1,300

Ms. McCray will take 20 English as Second Language students to New York City for the Cirque du Soleil production "Wintuk." The show portrays a boy named Wintuk and his quest to find snow and adventure. Ms. McCray feels the trip will be a brilliant culminating activity for her winter/snow theme. Many of the students in the ESL program come from climates where snow is an extraordinary event.

Smart Board = Smart Children, Robert Galasso and Colleen Murphy, BHS, **\$2,760**

The applicants will receive this grant for the purchase of a digital white board (called a Smart Board) and software. The grant, titled "Smart Board = Smart Children," will take advantage of a popular technology tool to demonstrate math concepts.

Collage Artist Workshop Juliette Marotta, BHS **\$900**

The grant will fund a three-day workshop with collage artist Amy Ernst. BHS students will create collages using techniques demonstrated by Ms. Ernst and will visit her New York City studio.

Science Olympiads and Science Bowl Matthew Gualtieri and Sharyn Plotnik, BMS Science Club **\$1,462.70**

This grant will fund official buzzers, team shirts and other supplies as well as entry fees for the Science Olympiads and the Science Bowl.

Art Out East Juliette Marotta, BHS **\$650**

This grant will fund transportation and registration for BHS art students to participate in the "Art Out East" program where students will visit and work with artists in their studios for the day using the techniques and media of the mentoring artist.

Dance, Dance Revolution

Alfred Nolan, Frank P. Long
\$1,032.70

The foundation will fund the purchase of 12 practice pads for the existing Dance, Dance Revolution which is an alternative exercise program combining music, dance and exercise.

Take-Home Math Kits

Connie Havens, Theresa Palermo
E P. Long Intermediate School
\$918.05

This grant will fund take-home kits where students can teach others how to play a variety of games and activities that coincide with the New York State Math Standards. The concept behind the project is that teaching a math game to others enhances one's own mastery of the concepts.

Fear Math No More

Connie Havens, Theresa Palermo
E P. Long Intermediate School
\$1,128.42

"Fear Math No More" will help train and equip ten special education teachers in instructional techniques including math games that will help them in the classroom.

The Doors of Bellport

Suzette Fandale, BHS
\$2,547.35

Forty BHS art students will study the architecture of Bellport Village and participate in the creation of a poster depicting "The Doors of Bellport." Students will use digital photography, Photoshop techniques and design skills acquired in a workshop setting with graphic designer and BHS graduate Cheryl Steinhauer. The funds will be used solely for the purchase of materials and equipment.

2nd Annual Math Olympics,

Aimee Volk, Connie Havens,
Kristin Christie and Lisa Nabi
E P. Long Intermediate School
\$735.95

This grant will purchase materials and supplies for the 2nd Annual Math Olympics: an event that enhances students' mathematical abilities in measurement, addition, subtraction, estimation and reasoning.

2nd Annual "24 Game" Tournament,

Aimee Volk,
Connie Havens, Kristin Christie
and Lisa Nabi, E P. Long IS
\$942.38

This grant will fund the 2nd Annual 24 Game Tournament. The purpose of the 24 Game is to strengthen mental mathematics and problem solving skills. The grant will be used to purchase stop watches and 24 Game tournament mats as well as other supplies.

2nd Annual Author-Illustrator Night

Aimee Volk and Susan Gittler,
E P. Long IS, **\$817.53**

More than 35 successful authors and illustrators of children's books will focus on the value of reading at the 2nd Annual Author-Illustrator Night. The evening is for all district students, Pre-K through Grade 5, and their families.

Digital Alphabet Book

Christine Belford, Maryanne Brandi,
Jill Fedge, Camilla Ciervo and
Michelle Stiriz,
Kreamer Street Elementary, **\$2,464**

Students in two grade levels will collaborate and create their own books in digital and hard copy formats. Students in both grade levels will learn how to work together, cooperate, respect each others' opinions and create an alphabet book that can be used by all classes in the district. The grant will cover the cost of digital cameras, software, book binding materials and other supplies.

Pan-Caribbean Music Festival,

Boys & Girls Club of
the Bellport Area, **\$900**

This grant will cover workshop fees when members of the Steel Drum Band travel to the Pan Caribbean Music Festival. The band consists of 20 musicians, ages five to 20, who have delighted the community with their calypso beat.

Parents as Reading Partners

SDM Committee,
VWCritz Elementary, **\$1000**

This grant will fund incentive parties, awards, bookmarks and pencils for the Parents as Reading Partners Program. The program encourages parents and students to read together for ten to twenty minutes a day as a way of promoting reading as an enjoyable life-long skill.

The Beelzebubs of Tufts University gave an inspired a cappella concert on November 2, 2007 at BHS. Led by Doug Terry BHS '04, the group sang contemporary tunes with hints of humor and delighted an audience of students and adults. They ended the evening by calling BHS choral students to the stage and together performing a Stevie Wonder hit. All

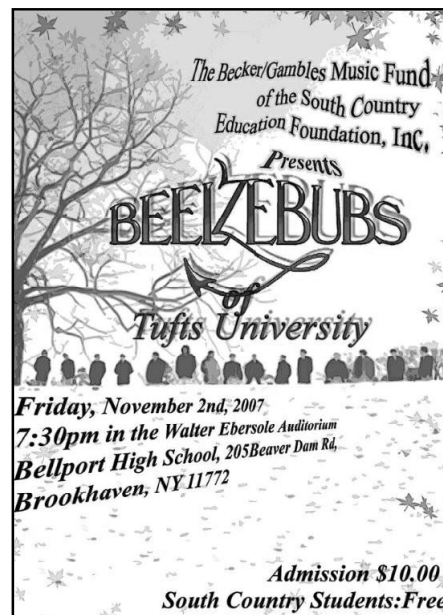
proceeds from the concert will benefit the Becker/Gambles Music Fund.

Our thanks go to BHS senior David Farinella who created this attractive poster.

BHS Class of '87 Supports SCEF

SCEF is the beneficiary of a generous donation of \$1500 from the BHS Class of '87. The class held its 20th reunion on November 3, 2007 at the Bellport Country Club. After covering expenses, the organizing committee generously donated the surplus to the foundation. Highlights of the reunion, photos and profiles of the classmates can be seen at www.bellport1987.myevent.com, the reunion website.

Many thanks to the Class of 1987!



The Bellport Clipper Classic 5k Run, 1500m Fun Walk and Kids Mile Run

Kids Mile Run

1st	John Bosco	06:37.3
2nd	Thomas Gassner	06:42.6
3rd	Tara Powell	06:54.7

Top 3 / 1500m Fun Walk

1st	Brittany Schlosberg	10:34.9
2nd	Tracey Cullen	11:30.0
3rd	Erica Brown	11:30.7

Top 3 / 5k Run Male Finishers

1st	James Johnston	16:14.3
2nd	Brendan Barrett	16:34.5
3rd	Rich Velazquez	16:36.9

Top 3 / 5k Run Female Finishers

1st	Tara Farrell	18:56.3
2nd	Katie Weider	20:19.8
3rd	Lisa Bonanni	20:27.5

The Bellport Clipper Classic Scholarship Race raises money for Bellport High School graduating seniors. The following 2007 graduates receive awards to help them further their education::

Christopher Auth	Kristina Halverson	Michael Pepe	Johnathan Spruill
Nicole Carrabus	Jane Hawkins	James Rose	Lauren Tirelli
Jennifer Denise	Jake Hruby	Jake Sebastian	Leilani Vivao
Michael Fehn	Sherika Nicholas	Brittany Sheffey	James Weider

Many thanks to our sponsors: King Kullen Grocery, Inc.; Swezey Fuel Co., Inc.; Brookhaven Eye Surgery, P.C.; Palermo Paving, Inc.; Frank R. Egan, DDS Orthodontics; The Bellport Village Dentist; Bellport Teachers Association; Bellport Workout Studio; Stewart Auto Center; Painters' Restaurant; LI Advance; Poland Springs; Sil-Kraft Custom Screen Printing; and Searles Graphics, Inc.

Special thanks to the members of the Bellport, Brookhaven, and Hagerman Fire Departments, the South Country Ambulance Company, Suffolk County Police Department, Suffolk County Department of Public Works, and the Village of Bellport and to all the volunteers who make this race possible.

2008 Calendar of Events

Friday, January 18th / Fredonia Jazz Ensemble 7:30 pm / Walter Ebersole Auditorium, Bellport High School

Wednesday, April 2nd / Daedalus Quartet 7:30 pm / Walter Ebersole Auditorium, Bellport High School

Saturday, July 12th / 10th Annual Auction and Cocktail Party 5-7:30pm / Bellport Waterfront Home

Sunday, July 13th / 25th Annual Clipper Classic

Kids One-Mile Run—5:15 pm (For students 10 years old and under)

5K Road Race and 1500M Fun Walk—5:30 pm

Contact <clipperclassic@scefonline.org>

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

The South Country Education Foundation would like to express its gratitude for the generous donations received from these individuals, alumni, businesses and organizations. We are pleased to have such widespread support for our mission to enrich the educational experiences of the students of the South Country School District.

The following list reflects contributions from December 1, 2006 to November 30, 2007. We have made every effort to include the names of all of our contributors, and we regret if anyone has been omitted.

SCEF thanks...

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South Country Education Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 512, Bellport, New York 11713-1502
WWW.SCEFONLINE.ORG

SCEF Mission Statement:

South Country Education Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit organization committed to improving educational opportunities for all students in the South Country School District. Its mission is to promote and enhance educational initiatives by providing supplemental financial support for projects and programs that are outside of the South Country School District budget.

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