



The PTA Express

Small Investment, Big Rewards. Join the PTA!

President's Message

-Jyothi Bhattaram

As the calendar year is winding down, I want to take this opportunity to highlight a few achievements we had so far as Forest Park PTA.

This year we have 735 members so far! We are looking to beat last year's record number of 751, so if you are not a member please join us soon and participate in your school community..

Our Jumpstart this year has reached it's goal of \$50,000 and a BIG Thank you to you all PTA members for participating in the fundraiser.

The money contributed to the Jumpstart is helping the classrooms purchase supplies needed for the classroom. These funds are also helping with the various field trips the children are taking and going to take this year.

Both our Walkathon and Pictures With Santa events have been widely successful giving an opportunity for the entire community to participate.

There are some excited programs and events planned for next year, looking forward to making these happen in a successful manner.

Hope you have wonderful holidays with your friends and family and see you all in the new year!

Happy Holidays!

Pictures With Santa

Thanks to all families who attended the pictures with santa event on Dec 9th. We had close to 300 pictures taken that day!

All the pictures must have reached you either in your Friday Folders or in Mail (if you have provided an address).

The wonderful volunteers we had for the event made it look all easy and fun event.

A special thanks to Mr. Torres for entertaining us with his holiday music bringing the holiday spirit to the evening.

Mr Gomez and Mr. Humphrey's supported us all through the evening, that was really appreciated.

This was a membership drive for the Forest Park PTA and we have increased our number of members during the event.

If you are not already a member, please sign up and take benefits of being part of a very active school community of Forest Park!

Upcoming Events

22 Dec – 4 Jan Winter break

FAMEous Updates

By Mai McGahan and Pooma Ranganswami

(mcgahanmai@yahoo.com; poomasuri6@gmail.com)

FAMEous PTA Chairpersons



We're happy to report that lesson #2, mosaic art, is now in progress. There are 33 classrooms at Forest Park and 23 have either had the art presented or have scheduled to have it presented.

To help us reach our goal of offering FAMEous to all 33 classes, we rely on your help! So, please step up and volunteer for your child's classroom if you're not already a volunteer. It's never too late to volunteer...please email myself or Pooma and we'll get you started!

Again, I want to express our sincerest **thank you** to all the parent volunteers who took time out of their busy schedules to present the lessons AND also a great big thanks to all the teachers for their support of the program! **AWESOME JOB**, everyone!

We'll complete presenting lesson #2 in January and will also start lesson #3.

We wish you a happy holidays and a happy, healthy, and prosperous new year!

Reflections

By Ritu Arora and Amrita Chanchani

Forest Park PTA would like to thank all the participants and judges who made Reflections 2011-2012 a success. This year's theme was "Diversity Means..." and it was wonderful to see such unique interpretations of this theme !

A big thank you to all our judges -

Paul Sethy and Arathi Satish from the Fremont Cultural Arts Council for judging our Photography and Visual Arts entries. Both of them were amazed at the creativity of our students. Mrs. Murray and Mrs. Kotcherlakota, two wonderful Forest Park teachers who gave their time for judging the literature entries. They enjoyed reading the diverse interpretations of this theme! Our sincere thanks to Mr. Gomez for judging the entries in Film Production category. He made the Reflections recognition evening a hit by being there throughout - encouraging and applauding each student's work.

Reflection theme for 2012-2013 has been announced. It is : **"The magic of a moment..."** . We hope to get more participation next year!

Here are the winners of Reflections 2011. Their work moved to the council level .

Primary Division (K-Grade 2)

Literature : Nimisa Panda (Award of Excellence)

Literature : Arnav Pradhan (Award of Merit)

Photography : Yash Chanchani (Award of Excellence)

Photography : Ashvin Arora (Award of Merit)

Visual Arts : Ojasi Niphadkar (Award of Excellence)

Visual Arts : Diya Kamath (Award of Merit)

Visual Arts : Ashvin Arora (Award of Merit)

Intermediate Division (Grades 3- 5)

Film Production : Lavanya Neti (Award of Excellence)

Film Production : Tara Natarajan (Award of Merit)

Literature : Sruthi Bhamidipati (Award of Excellence)

Literature : Mira Ramachandran (Award of Merit)

Literature : Leah John (Award of Merit)

Photography : Aryaa Chanchani (Award of Excellence)

Photography : Ming Le Wang (Award of Merit)

Photography : Lavanya Neti (Award of Excellence)

Visual Arts : Aryaa Chanchani (Award of Excellence)

Visual Arts : Mira Ramachandran (Award of Merit)

Visual Arts : Sanjana Aithal (Award of Merit)

Middle (Grade 6)

Literature : Rohan Arora (Award of Excellence)

Literature : Soham Makani (Award of Merit)

Literature : Charul Sharma (Award of Merit)

Photography : Rohan Arora (Award of Excellence)

Visual Arts : Medha Maddileti (Award of Excellence)

Visual Arts : Brandon Wang (Award of Merit)

We would like to add that the following five Visual Arts entries got **Honorary Mention** by the judges.

Pragya Praveen

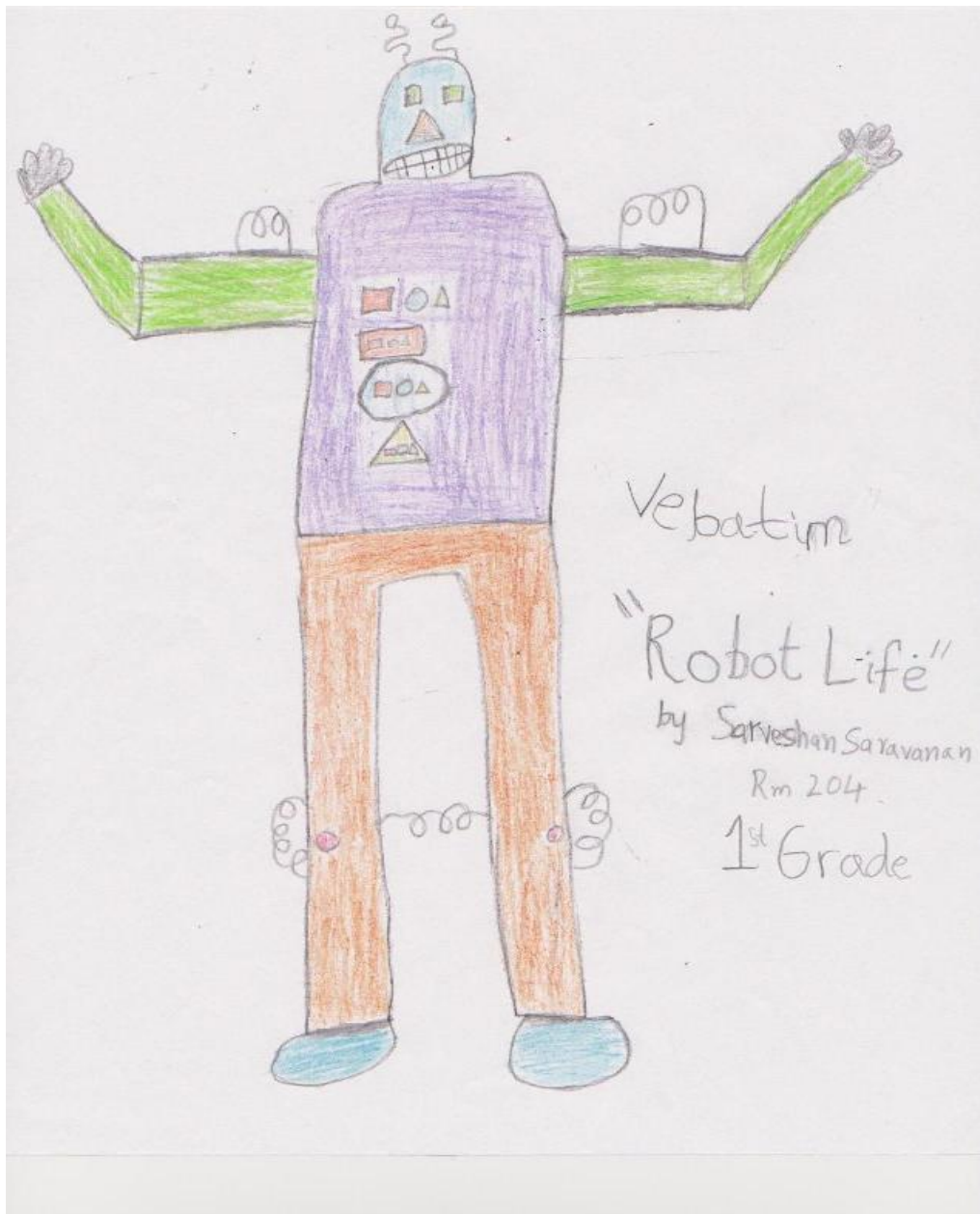
Anusha Nayak
Leah John
Alec Dughi
Rahul Sreedasyam

The following to entries from Forest Park were selected at the council level and will be submitted for the next round of judging at the district level :

Arnav Pradhan (Primary Division - Literature)
Lavanya Neti (Intermediate Division - Film Production)

Congrats to all the winners!! Please visit http://www.forestparkpta.org/Photo_Gallery.html for photographs from our Reflections Recognition Evening.

Student Contributions:





By Ojasi Niphadkar, Kindergarten



By Anushka, 4th Grade



By Juhi Desai, 4th Grade