

News Bulletin

For Immediate Release

For Additional Information Contact:

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Local Educator Attends Tennessee Arts Academy

_____, a _____
_____ at _____ School, participated this past July in the 2011 Tennessee Arts Academy. The Tennessee Arts Academy is the nation's premier professional development institute for arts education. A program of the Tennessee Department of Education, the Academy has been held annually since 1987 on the campus of Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee. The Academy trains over 250 K–12 teachers and administrators every summer, who in turn impact over 100,000 Tennessee students each year in their individual school districts and classrooms all across the state. Taught by nationally and internationally renowned instructors and artists, the Academy's advanced curriculum, cutting-edge methodology and unique philosophical perspective maximize participants' learning experiences.

_____ participated in this year's Academy in the area of _____.
_____. Commenting on the experience, he/she remarked,
“

_____”
_____”

The highlight of the week included a performance and speech by Oscar, Emmy, Grammy and Tony award winning composer Marvin Hamlisch. World- renowned choral director Eph Ehly, celebrity photographer Linda Solomon and Broadway actor Robert Westenberg made presentations throughout the varied TAA sessions. Among the many outstanding artists who performed for the participants were violin virtuoso and prodigy Jourdan Urbach, the Nashville Ballet, Studio Tenn and pianists Marilyn Shields-Wiltsie and Alan Hyman. The Academy also sponsored three on-campus art exhibitions. The work of Clarksville artist Kell Black, award-winning Tennessee student artwork and a juried teacher art exhibit were all on display throughout the summer. Many of the events were free and open to the public to attend.

With renewed energy and knowledge, educators trained at the Tennessee Arts Academy left at the end of the week better equipped and motivated to raise achievement standards and effect positive and lasting change for Tennessee students. Julianna Smith, a visual art teacher from Madison Creek Elementary in Nashville called the Academy “a wonderful week of celebrating the arts!” A fellow music participant, Lee Ann Parker from Spring Hill Elementary School in Knox County, seemed to sum up the attitude of most attendees when she said, “Inspirational! The most superb summer instructional experience I've ever attended!”

Call 615-460-5451 or visit tennesseeartsacademy.org for more information.

Additional images of the Academy may be downloaded at:

<http://belmontphoto.smugmug.com/Tennessee-Arts-Academy-2010>

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