

CCC Newsletter

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The mission of Concord Children's Center is to cultivate an intimate, welcoming community where children develop respectful relationships and inquisitive minds, build confidence in their individual gifts, and are engaged, prepared and inspired to learn.

2010 Auction - A celebration of



Children's Literature

Thanks to Development Co-chair Jane Torpie for hosting the Auction Kick-Off meeting. We had a great turnout and set the

schedule that will bring us another great Auction to be held on Saturday March 27th. We have volunteers for all the committees and are only missing one thing –

Auction Co-Chairs!

Auction Co-chairs are the connectors for all of the volunteers and the committee chairs. The co-chairs are in essence the project managers who keep a eye on the big picture and provide support wherever it is needed. The co-chairs will have the support of Holly Swanson in CCC Administration and Executive Director Pat Nelson, during the months preceding the event. With Committee positions all ready filled the Auction Co-Chairs have a great team to work with

It is a busy and very fulfilling job – best done by two people who would enjoy working together. Auction Chairs have the joy and the satisfaction of heading up our most important CCC Fundraiser and one heck of a great party for our CCC families!

Many thanks to the parents and staff who have all ready offered to help with the following committees:—this list is by no means complete.

- **Graphics:** Tim Baldanzi,
- **Decorations:** Co-Chairs: Jennifer Newbold & Heather Bout, Sara Haegeli, Penni Hensley Wagner, Dottie Whittier, Jen Turini, Marcella Janic Bean, Mark Ubaldino, Siobhan Rowe, Mike Sprague & Holly Legault
- **Food:** Co Chair: Kim Casalena & Kate Damon
- **Technology:** Chair: Andrew Kirkpatrick, Melissa Bosselman
- **Program:** Co-Chairs April Robb and Lisa Becker
- **Solicitations:** Co-Chairs: Susan Kalled & Jennifer Saxe, Consultant: Kate Damon, Anne Doherty, Laura Klein Branigan, and mayflower Zaretsky.
- **Set Up: Chair:** Leslie Lilly, Pat Nelson, Roberto and Danielle Pimenta
- **Clean-Up:** Jeff Collins
- **Publicity:** Jane Torpie

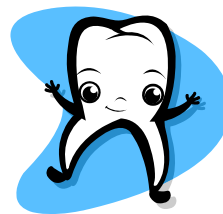


CCC December Calendar

- 9 Board Meeting at 1300 7:30 All Welcome!
CCC Audit Presentation
- 24 CCC closes at 1 PM
- 25 CCC closed
- 28-31 December Optional Days (check at your site the Optional Days schedule)
- Jan. 1 CCC Closed
- Jan. 4 Applications for 2010 -2011 will be distributed
- Jan. 29 Applications due

Open Comment Time at CCC Board Meetings

All our families and staff are invited to bring praise, concerns or questions about CCC to the Board at the beginning of every meeting. Board meetings are open to all and are scheduled for the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm, rotating among the sites. Check with your Program Director for locations. Please take advantage of this opportunity to let us know what you think. Our December Board meeting will include a presentation of the results of our Annual Audit.—*Hewon Hwang, Board Chair.*



2010 Coming Attractions.....

As part of new Department of Early Education and Care (DEEC) regulations, effective January 2010, it will be required for children in our program to brush their teeth after lunch. We will be asking each child to bring a tooth brush from home. CCC teachers will be discussing how to best implement this at each site. Please watch for an email with specific information as the New Year approaches.

Wishing you a happy, healthy and smiley New Year!



College Financial Planning Workshop
January 21, 2010 (Thursday) @ 1300 Main Street
6-8 PM

Yes, perhaps your child hasn't started teething or is



only three or maybe is in second grade and you haven't even started thinking about third grade much less college. – And yes at CCC we are adamant that children remain children as long as

possible and we discourage any parental angst about “getting into the right college”! All this is true, however as the parent of two college graduates I do know that this is a good time to start thinking about financing a college education. Janine Olson, CCC parent of one CCC alumni, two current and one future student; has offered this free workshop that will provide an overview of how to maximize funding for your child's college education. Janine will explore various strategies, including **529 Plans** and generational investment planning, to help you meet your college funding needs.

The Schedule for the evening

- 6-7pm - Presentation and Q&A
- 7-8pm - Opportunity to review your specific situation and/or questions.
You will be able to sign up for a 10 minute slot (a sign-up sheet will be circulated at the start of the meeting).

Janine is a Financial Advisor with Morgan Stanley Smith Barney.



Bookshop Fundraiser/Annual Appeal

Many thanks to all who baked and hosted at the Concord Bookshop in November. We raised close to \$1,000 and shared information about our CCC programs with many of Concord's book lovers.

Our Annual Appeal letter will be arriving with the winter issue of the Children's Journal. The Appeal along with the Bookshop Fundraiser, the Auction and other events, support the day to day needs of the school, including teacher salaries, financial aid, and classroom supplies, in turn positively impacting your child's education. Improvements made to the Ripley site this fall and equipment purchases at Emerson and West Concord, are recent examples of how your support makes a difference.

The Importance of the CCC Community

In the next week or so you will receive a copy of the **Winter 2009 Children's Journal**. Editor, Lisa Becker, has put together a wonderful collection of writings from parents, teachers and CCC administrators; who share their thoughts on embracing the basics of quality family and school life. The Journal is a great example of the way CCC is more than a school for children, it is a community for all of us. Last year I received a letter from a CCC parent who very nicely expressed the importance of community at CCC.

Below I share some of this letter.

“I cannot emphasize highly enough the importance of a strong teacher-parent community and strong teacher benefits. I am absolutely positive that the well-being of a school rests on the commitment of its teachers. As a teacher myself, I have observed how lethal a low faculty morale can be... It is clear to me that the differences (between CCC and another center) were indicators of institutional climate...An adult community cannot teach small children to interact harmoniously if they do not model it themselves.



Finally, the greatest joy for me is the blending between teachers and parents that is virtually unheard of in a corporate center. At CCC, teachers ARE parents and that strengthens community bonds. At a recent birthday party ... there were a number of friends from the CCC community like all CCC birthday parties which my family has attended, the guest list reflected the demographics of the entire CCC community. Who attends a birthday party may seem trivial, but it is not. The ability to sit and socialize with my children's teachers opens up the lines of communication amongst all community members AND it means that we all get to know and understand each other better. These interactions at parties and school-wide events (picnics, class breakfasts, the auction) are so easy and natural at CCC that I have to pinch myself to remember that comfortable interactions are not the norm at other centers/preschools in which the barriers between administration, staff, faculty and parents are steep and sometimes impenetrable.”

In looking at the list of Auction volunteers you will see the names of teachers as well as parents. Our administrators will often be found sharing the role of bake sale host or ticket seller, along side a parent. Thirty five years ago the founders of CCC were very intentional about designing a program that would assure teachers and parents develop bonds and share a strong investment in the organization. This investment is one of the things that sets CCC apart from many other programs. There are many ways of becoming involved in the CCC community. Our Annual Appeal also helps to support this commitment to community. Please contact me if you would like to learn more about how you can get involved and support our community.
executive@concordchildrenscenter.org/978-369-3747