

excellence



Art Around Town features student artwork at area businesses.

mission

The mission of the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation is to acquire and distribute resources that support various Lakeshore Public School programs and projects aimed at enhancing, enriching, or supplementing learning opportunities for students, staff, and community.

Artwork on Display Art Around Town

The Lakeshore Excellence Foundation's Art Around Town project promotes community awareness of art education while showcasing K-12 student artwork from Lakeshore Public Schools.

Thank you to local business owners who proudly showcase student art at their establishments.

trustees

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| J.C. Anderson | Jim Keppler |
| Kate Beckrow | Lori Marciniak |
| Scott Berry | Kim McAllister |
| Randy Bettich | Tom Mikel |
| Tom Buckleitner | Kimberly Risk |
| Chad Deja | Kim Thompson |
| Sue Dock | Naomi Ventura |
| Lori Doggett | John Welch |
| Jeff Hannan | Mike Welch |
| Craig Jennings | Sandy Welch |



Art Around Town Student Artwork on Display

Since 2006 LEF has sponsored **Art Around Town**, which features Lakeshore student artwork at many local businesses. LEF sponsors the framework and seeks local businesses that will “lease” the artwork for the year. All donations for the lease benefit LEF future programs. At the end of the year, the framed artwork is returned to the students. Pictured below are a few of our featured artists.



Thank You Local Businesses

Thank you to the businesses that have leased student artwork. Thank you also goes to community volunteer, Jeanne Simpson, who has coordinated this program for 10 years and introduced it to the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation. If you are interested in learning more about Art Around Town, contact LEF Board Member Naomi Ventura at mnventura3@msn.com

Thank You Whirlpool Corporation

The Lakeshore Excellence Foundation was one of three local school foundations that received a generous donation from **Whirlpool Corporation**.

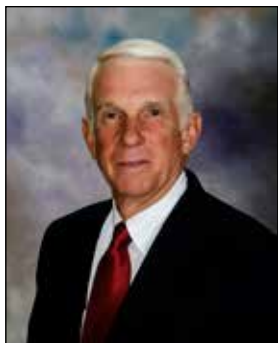


The Whirlpool Corporation held two golf outings in the month of August for suppliers and partners of Whirlpool. The proceeds of these events were donated to three local school foundations. This was the seventh year the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation received proceeds from these outings. However, it was the first year that Whirlpool's partner outing donation went into the broader *Whirlpool Collective Impact Fund* benefiting the foundations. The Lakeshore, St. Joseph, and Benton Harbor Foundations received donations of more than \$103,000 each.

“We are grateful to have received this generous gift from Whirlpool Corporation and it’s people who make a difference for our Foundations everyday with their gifts and their time to make a difference in our communities. On behalf of the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation, we are proud to have Whirlpool in our area and supporting the our students and teachers,” said JC Anderson recipient of the gift for LEF.

Chairman's Commentary

The Lakeshore Excellence Foundation Board has been busy this past quarter focusing on four key areas.



J.C. Anderson
LEF Chairman

“September marked my one year anniversary as the Chairman of the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation.”

It has been personally rewarding to see the community's passion in the enrichment of learning for our children and the teachers who work with them every day. They say it takes a village, those who have given of their time, talent, and resources are collectively what makes this a great place to live and raise our families.

#2 Grants for Students & Teachers

Approximately \$100,000 is budgeted in 2014 to support grants for students and teachers.

Grants include:

- Stepping Stones (students)
- Innovation
- Staff Professional Development
- Foundation Projects

#3 Donor Reception

We will hold our first major donor reception on January 30, 2013. Donors who have given \$1000 or more in 2013 will be invited to attend. Philip Freeman, our new Superintendent, will be the featured speaker. Save the date and invitations will be sent within the next month.

#1 Secure Contributor Pledges

Securing 3-year contributor pledges is important as we look at our longer term impact for the school system. A multi-year campaign allows us to spend more time working with the school administration and teachers to understand where the funds will have the greatest impact versus spending time in a continuous fundraising mode.

A few facts about the campaign:

- This is our initial year for the multi-year campaign.
- 2013 contributions have amounted to \$160,000 with many of these carrying over into 2014 and 2015.
- Contributions have come from local businesses and private major donors after a number of face-to-face meetings where we have shared the mission of LEF and impact of the donation to the school system.

#4 Determine Major Project

Since wrapping up the **Technology Campaign** earlier this year, the LEF Board has been discussing what the next major project will be. The Board has been evaluating a variety of projects. We are planning future meetings with our new Superintendent to include him in the discussion once he has an opportunity to evaluate the school system's needs.

On behalf of the LEF Board, we are always interested in your thoughts, comments, and ideas for the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation's efforts and activities. Please reach out to me via phone at 269-921-2513 or email at andersonjcna@gmail.com

Sincerely,
J.C. Anderson



LEF GRANT PRESENTATION

GIORDANO DANCE CHICAGO IN RESIDENCY AT LAKESHORE HIGH SCHOOL

By BCD Artistic Director Theresa Graziano

“We are so appreciative of the grant received to help fund this amazing project for our students and community,” stated BCD Artistic Director Theresa Graziano.

From March 17-22, **Giordano Dance Chicago** will be here to teach the Berrien County Dancers, set a new work on the advanced dancers, hold a community master class open to all dancers in the area, and most exciting -- they will perform on our very own stage! The performance is open to the community. “I highly recommend coming to see one of the best companies in our country perform.” The *Berrien County Dancers Advanced Class* will open the show on this magical night of March 22.

Giordano Dance Chicago Celebrates 50th Year

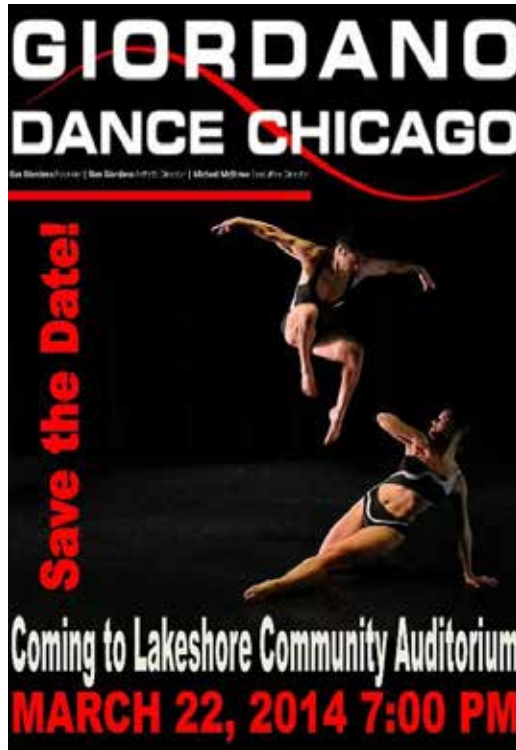
This is the third time we’ve hosted an entire company, but this year is even more exciting because of the company we’re hosting. **Giordano Dance Chicago** just celebrated their 50th year as a company. Its founder, Gus Giordano, is one of the most famous pioneers of jazz dance in American dance history. Having this company is not just showing our students and community what is currently going on in the professional world of dance, but also represents a long, successful history within its movement base. **Giordano Dance** has had a major impact on dance and where it’s evolved to today.



Giordano Director Contacts BCD

Another honor, and reason we are having this company, is that Nan Giordano, current director and daughter of Gus, CALLED US to make this arrangement. Nan had heard of my name (Theresa Graziano) and the great things we’ve been doing for dance at Lakeshore Schools, and was interested in getting her company here to work with us. What an honor it

was to hear from someone so high up in the dance profession. This speaks highly of our support system at Lakeshore. Companies of this stature know who we are because we’ve had the financial, community, and administrative support to bring them in and schedule them in our year of busy events.



Giordano’s Main Company will be Performing

Giordano Dance Chicago is known world-wide, and unlike our guest residencies of the past, Giordano’s is bringing out its MAIN COMPANY for the performance. Usually large, well-known companies don’t send out their main company to “smaller are-

nas” where there may be less publicity and attraction, and less funds to pay the amount needed. However, in conjunction with **Giordano Dance Chicago’s** generosity, an LEF grant, plenty of fundraising, and being a part of the *Career Tech Education Consortium*, we were able to work out an attainable stipend.

Great Opportunity for Community to Attend a Professional Dance Performance

With the nearest professional dance performances in Grand Rapids, there really is no exposure in this area unless our community travels. I could take my students into the city to see great dance, but why not bring it here where we can affect and include our entire community? This is what makes the opportunity so unique. Thank you, LEF! Information about this event will be available at berriencountydancers.com

You may also view the Giordano Dance Group online at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BG2f6opQUvk>

Foundation Project Grants Spring 2013



Perry Heppler

The Art of Science

Perry Heppler, Hollywood Elementary
Students impacted – all 2nd graders at LPS
Wendy Halperin, a local artist from South Haven who specializes in botanical drawings, will show 2nd grade teachers how to include botany in student lessons as they draw specific plants and parts of plants. Each elementary school has, or will have, their own garden for inspiration.



Jennifer Engleman



Angie Johnson



Melissa Rescoe

Math Shapes

Melissa Rescoe, Stewart Elementary
Students will benefit positively from having hands-on opportunities to master key geometric concepts. These hands-on manipulatives will provide inspiration for students, motivate them to learn, offer opportunities to become mathematical problem solvers, and teach them to communicate mathematically.

Battle of the Books

Jennifer Engleman & Angie Johnson, LMS
Students impacted - all 7th graders at LMS
The purpose of the **Battle of the Books** program is to encourage reading. Students, regardless of ability, are exposed to quality literature representing a variety of literary styles and viewpoints. The game format creates interest and excitement in reading. Through the fun and excitement of the competition, students improve reading skills, mature in their choices of reading materials, and acquire a broader knowledge base.



Julie Powell

Technology Training Workshops

Julie Powell, Assistant Superintendent
Offered to LPS teachers wanting to learn more about how they can better use technology in the classroom. This grant provides technology-based workshops and training for Lakeshore staff who desire to spend some of their own time learning technology skills related to being more effective teachers in the classroom.



Melissa Rescoe



Leif Werner



Theresa Graziano

BCD Residency

Theresa Graziano, BCD Artistic Director
The residency will benefit Berrien County Dancers and any community member wanting to attend classes or the performance. A residency with **Giordano Dance Chicago**, which just celebrated its 50th Anniversary, will be a great experience for our students and community. A huge name in the dance world, this residency will provide professional dance exposure and experience to BCD students and the community. Throughout this one-week residency, three different Community Master Classes will be held and offered to dancers in our surrounding area, and will also be open for public viewing. **Giordano Dance Chicago** will culminate this experience with a performance open to the public. Berrien County Dancers will open the show.

FIRST Robotics Lego League

Melissa Rescoe & Leif Werner
LPS students grade 2-8 wishing to participate in this after school activity
FIRST emphasizes mentoring to build science, engineering, and technology skills that inspire innovation and foster self-confidence, communication, and leadership.



Staff Professional Development Grants



Laura Veldman

“Since this conference was in the summer, I was able to reflect upon the entire school year in order to determine where the ideas I learned could be incorporated into my 8th grade English classroom.”

Laura Veldman, Middle School Teacher

Thank you, LEF, for paying the registration fee for the two-day conference at the Berrien RESA by Debbie Silver on August 13-14, 2013.

Silver’s two-day presentation focused on **Differentiated Instruction** and featured the following three mini-workshops: *Drumming to the Beat of Different Marchers*, *The Nuts and Bolts of Active Learning*, and *Fall Down 7 Times Get up 8*. There are several instructional strategies that I have already begun to implement this year (focusing on growth mindsets vs. fixed mindsets and having students write about a time they learned from failure), as well as teaching techniques that I plan to put into practice this year (Gallery Walk active-learning strategy, where students move around the room in small groups answering questions and providing student choices based on multiple intelligences.).

I often attend conferences during the school year, when it can be overwhelming to think about how to implement strategies. Since this conference was in the summer, I was able to reflect upon the entire school year in order to determine where the ideas I learned could be incorporated into my 8th grade English classroom. It was also helpful to be able to collaborate with educators from throughout Berrien County. Thank you for providing this opportunity for summer learning.



Cami Ashley



Jane Emery

Cami Ashley & Jane Emery, Hollywood Kindergarten Teachers

“We are so grateful for having had the opportunity to attend the **BER Kindergarten Teachers Conference** in Illinois this summer.”

It was such a great way to connect with other kindergarten teachers, gather great ideas and resources from experts who work with young children, focus on the new trends in education, and refocus before the start of a new school year!

Many of the sessions we attended were very hands-on and practical.

We came back with ideas and resources to use with our kindergarteners right away!

Our favorite sessions focused on tiered interventions, the Common Core, kindergarten reading instruction and strategies, as well as developing number sense in young learners. There were many sessions we were unable to attend, but one of the great things about BER is that we still received a handbook with the resources! This conference definitely helped us to stay current on

developmentally appropriate practices for implementing the rigorous kindergarten curriculum.

Without the support of LEF, this would not have been a possibility for us. We thank you immensely for supporting the learning and growth of teachers, so that we can, in turn, assure the best possible learning situations for our students. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.



Lakeshore Rotary & LEF Pulled-Pork Dinner

We could not have asked for a better day to have the 4th Annual Lakeshore Rotary & LEF Pulled-Pork Dinner.

The event took place before the Lakeshore Homecoming football game. The **Hickory Pit Restaurant** from Saugatuck again prepared the delicious pulled-pork. Rotarians worked assembling and selling over 1,000 dinners and large trays of pork for takeout. The LEF trustees sold homemade desserts, water, and soda to complete the meals. Both groups had a great time working together, and trying to keep up with the lines of cars and customers. The LEF made over \$2,000 for their efforts. Proceeds benefited the Rotary's North Lake Park Project and Lakeshore Excellence Foundation Projects.



The Lakeshore Rotary & LEF Pulled-Pork Dinner takes place each year before the Lakeshore Homecoming game.



Proceeds benefited the Rotary's North Lake Park Project and LEF Projects.

Thanks to the generosity and support of the Lakeshore community, this event was a big success ... AGAIN! A big thank you to the **Wash Station** for the use of their parking lot for this event. The Rotary and LEF are proud to work together on this event to do great things for our community. We look forward to seeing you next year at Homecoming!

New LEF Board Member



Randy Bettich

Randy Bettich

Randy A. Bettich is a licensed financial services consultant at **Stifel, Nicolaus & Company**, celebrating his 27th anniversary in the industry.

Randy carries a General Securities License (Series 7), the Uniform Combined State Law Examination (Series 66), and the Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination (Series 63). These licenses allow Randy to conduct business in the State of Michigan.

Randy was recently awarded the Accredited Asset Management Specialist honor through *The College of Financial Planning*. Financial Consultants who hold this title are not only qualified to identify opportunities in investments, but are also able to work in areas such as insurance, tax savings, retirement planning, and estate planning.

Randy was a 1992 graduate of *The Community Leadership Academy*, sponsored by the *Cornerstone Alliance* at *Lake Michigan College*.

Currently Randy is active in the community. He is a member of the *St. Joseph/Benton Harbor Rotary Club*, and served as club President during the 2006-07 fiscal year. He

currently serves as a trustee on the *St. Joseph/Benton Harbor Rotary Foundation Board of Directors* and is Vice Chair on the *Lakeland Health Foundation Board of Directors*. Randy is the youth wrestling coach at Lakeshore and enjoys serving his community through volunteer work.

Randy was born and raised in the fruit belt of Southwest Michigan.

He and his family are active members of *The Chapel*, an Evangelical Free Church. Randy and his wife Trisha have three sons, Riley, Race, and Ross.



The Art of Science Project

Award-Winning Author/Illustrator Visits 2nd Grade Classrooms



Award-winning Author/Illustrator Wendy Halperin

With guidance and instruction from Wendy Halperin, an award-winning children’s book illustrator who lives in South Haven, the second grade students of Hollywood Elementary School are drawing and writing about plants and gardens. “Miss Wendy” is making regular visits to Lakeshore, each time leading plant-drawing sessions for second grade classrooms.

Teachers Received Summer Training

To replicate the **The Art of Science Project** at each elementary, second grade teachers from Hollywood, Roosevelt, and Stewart spent three days last summer training with Wendy Halperin. Teachers lead classes in drawing plants, teaching botany, and creating material for their school’s iBook. Halperin and her staff are creating a manual, dvd lessons, step-by-step drawing references, and an iBook template.

A Model for Other School Districts



Hands-on classroom activities are key to Halperin’s lessons.

Halperin’s team will plan to implement this project at Stewart and Roosevelt, developing a model other schools and districts can replicate. Together the material will be woven closely to the second grade curriculum.

cycles, make purposeful observations about the natural world, write explanatory/informative texts, and use technology effectively to communicate ideas.

In Michigan, second graders are expected to learn about plant life

Students Draw Images of Plants



Students enjoy learning botany through drawing and writing about plants and gardens.

During the visits, students receive 70-minutes of instruction in drawing realistic, accurate images of plants and plant parts, while listening to information about plant life cycles and process. Students also write down observations, questions, and new ideas about plants, collecting them along with their drawings in special folders.

From drawings and writings collected throughout this school year, Halperin and her staff will create an iBook for the iPad of the students’ writings and drawings.

Elementary LEGO® League

Enriches Problem Solving Skills

For two years, Stewart Elementary facilitated sessions of **First LEGO® League** as a way to enrich students in problem solving and cooperation while drawing on the passion of building with LEGOS®. The first year, 10 students participated. The second year the number grew to over 40 participants.



Elementary LEGO® League

LEF Grant Helps LEGO® League Expand

This year, with a generous grant from the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation, **LEGO® League** has expanded to include all three elementary schools with **Junior Lego League** (Jr. FLL) and **First Lego League** (FLL), impacting over 100 Lakeshore students.



The LEGO® League captures student curiosity.

This Year's Theme is "Nature's Fury"

FLL teams are building a series of obstacles out of LEGOS®, and then programming a robot to accomplish certain tasks. This year's theme is *Nature's Fury* and the obstacles include tasks such as moving an ambulance, erecting a caution sign, and reuniting family members and pets.



Students enjoy working together to problem solve.

League Captures Student Curiosity

"Focused on building an interest in science and engineering, **Junior FIRST® LEGO® League** (Jr.FLL®) is a hands-on program designed to capture young children's curiosity and direct it toward discovering how science and technology impact the world around them."

Thank you, LEF, for bringing students together to capture their curiosity and passion, as well as develop life skills, such as problem-solving and cooperation.

Flipped Classroom Concept

Students Enjoy More Time in Class to Work on Assignments



Students benefit from working on assignments in class.

Students watch lectures of Mr. King on YouTube at home and take notes during the video. In class, they work on completing assignments and experiments with the help of their classmates and teacher.

The students in Mr. King's science class at Lakeshore Middle School are flipping out about learning!

Mr. King is implementing a teaching strategy known as **the flipped classroom**. The flipped classroom involves inverting the traditional classroom lecture and homework.

More Time to Work on Assignments in Class

Students now have the ability to ask the teacher for help on assignments during class, rather than being frustrated and isolated at home. By eliminating the lecture portion of class, students are able to spend more time working on experiments and learning in an active and exciting environment.



LEF Grant Supports Flipped Classroom Concept

A grant provided by the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation has allowed the flipped classroom to become a successful learning environment for students. Using 15 laptops and 15 iPads, purchased by the LEF, students are able to conduct various simulations online, create their own videos, and complete various assessments that provide instant feedback on their current level of understanding. The instant feedback from online assessments allows Mr. King to provide differentiated instruction for all students in his class. Students who are struggling have 1-on-1 support, while students who excel are provided with challenges to deepen their understanding of concepts.

The flipped classroom concept encourages students to work together in a guided classroom situation with teacher help available while working on assignments.

Battle of the Books

LEF Supports Reading

Lakeshore Middle School teachers want their students to enjoy the benefits of reading. Thanks to a generous continuing grant from the **Lakeshore Excellence Foundation**, 7th graders will once again begin on their annual **Battle of the Books** journey in January.



Students Compete in Bowl Competition

Students work in teams to read a total of 12 books within six weeks. Teams divide the task of reading those books however they choose. The students then compete in a class semi-final quiz bowl competition over those 12 books, and the winning team from each class competes for the Grand Prize in the FINAL BATTLE.

But, those groups who didn't win in their classrooms aren't left out. No, sir! They get to compete in a *Sideline Competition* alongside the *Winner's Circle*. This all happens the day before Spring Break in a 7th grade assembly in the gym.



Everyone Wins

The ultimate champion team will be awarded *Celebration Cinema* gift certificates, the *Sideline Battle* winners receive *Dairy Queen* gift certificates, and all semi-final winners will receive books. In addition, all teams will compete in the BONUS POINT CONTEST for the best team name, sign, chant, and costume. They will receive gift bags full of art supplies. This year's Battle Books will soon be listed on the Media Center website along with information from previous Battles. The students are already talking about the event.



Improved Technology Benefits Students & Teachers

74 classrooms received technology improvements as a result of the 2012/2013 technology campaign. Final classroom improvements were made prior to the start of the 2013/2014 school year. The final round included the following teachers/classrooms:



Journal writing is more fun using the document camera.



Technology enhances the learning experience at Lakeshore.

110 – Danielle Plichta
112 – Sue Baker
120 – Tonya Jahnke
123 - Laurie Kelly
126 – John Vroon
131 – Jeff Yauchstetter
137 – Karen Stephens
139 – Andrea Eddy
141 – Francis Kasper
142 – Alaina Kinney
143 – Erin Griffiths
151 – Adam Carr
217 – Mark Ring
222 – Suze Miller
223 – Paul Keller
224 – Amy Perkins
226 – Renee Donarski
227 – Bob LaManna
228 – Christy Sloan
229 – Chuck Jager
230 – Nicole Ziegler

Stepping Stones Looking Forward Spring 2014

The Stepping Stones Grant provides financial assistance to Lakeshore students who pursue their interests, whether it is music, academics, language skills, athletics, and much more.

Stepping Stones has approved assistance for programs such as Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, Chinese language classes, Nike Golf Camp, Children's Music Workshop, and many more!

Grades and family economics are not a factor in application approval. This LEF funded program is open to ALL Lakeshore students, from kindergarteners to high school seniors.

Stepping Stones Applications are accepted for approval in April and November each year.

The next Stepping Stones deadline is April 1, 2014, please visit lefonline.org for more information and to print the application form.

Contact Tom Mikel
269-429-5500
tom@tommikel.com

Lakeshore Excellence Foundation Endowment Fund

The Endowment Fund is our long-term strategy to funding the LEF mission of learning for generations to come. Annually the LEF Board evaluates the health of the Fund, makes contributions based on the giving and project needs, and has reinvested the earned interest every year. If you are interested in learning more about the Endowment Fund, please contact JC Anderson at 269.921.2513 or email at andersonjcna@gmail.com.

