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LOCAL AND NATIONAL ARTISTS INSPIRE DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS AT SHERWOOD FOREST CAMP

Haitian Dance, Murals enrich traditional camp arts and crafts

LESTERVILLE, MO July, 2007 – Springboard to Learning & Young Audiences of St. Louis has teamed up with Sherwood Forest Camp to offer St. Louis children an opportunity to learn life lessons through art. This summer is the first summer the two organizations have worked together to offer specialized programs.

“We are thrilled to be able to work with Sherwood Forest Camp to keep children engaged during the long summer break. Through our programs, students are able to use their minds and have an opportunity to be creative,” said Barbara Carswell, Executive Director of Springboard to Learning & Young Audiences.

Campers, 80% in families living at or below the poverty line, are 7-16 years of age. Between Thursday, July 26th and Tuesday, July 31st, artists will be in residence teaching the campers. There are four 1-¼ hour activity periods each day that begin at 9:30 am, 11:00 am, 2:30 pm and 4:00 pm. The following artists will be available for interviews and photos or video:

Kimberly Anderson	Haitian Dance	St. Louis artist
Wonder Koch	Soft Sculpture	New York artist
Eliza Newman-Saul	Memory books	New York artist
Adam Rugo*	African Rhythms & Drums	St. Louis artist

** Funding for his program received through another foundation.*

During the first session of camp, which ended on July 17th, a mural was created under the direction of New York artist Pasqualina Azzarello. The campers chose the theme of the mural to be “Exploration of the Imagination” and achieved it by painting interlocking, gigantic faces and masks on the side of a barn on camp property.

Executive Director of Sherwood Forest, Mary Rogers, said, “Our campers’ creativity just poured out of their brushes as they worked on the mural. Collaborating with a professional artist to create a lasting piece of public art at camp is an experience these children will remember all their lives.”

We invite you to join us at camp! Call Cory Smallwood at 314-289-4128 if you would like to set up a feature story. The drive from St. Louis to Sherwood Forest Camp is approximately 2 hours. Transportation can be provided upon request.

About Springboard to Learning & Young Audiences of St. Louis

The mission of Springboard to Learning & Young Audiences of St. Louis is to provide art, cultural, humanities and science programs in schools and community organizations that inspire students and teachers to embrace knowledge and new experiences that broaden their horizons. Springboard to Learning & Young Audiences of St. Louis is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that offers more than 190 unique educational programs to close to 100,000 students in the greater St. Louis area.

About Sherwood Forest Camp

Founded 70 years ago in 1937, Sherwood Forest Camp is nestled in a hollow on 487 acres, just 100 miles south of St. Louis, in Lesterville, Missouri. The mission is to teach essential life skills through camp experiences and programs to children, primarily from disadvantaged families. Campers learn together as they grow up at camp to respect all people and our environment, build strong personal relationships, take personal responsibility, solve problems cooperatively, resolve conflicts peacefully, and be positive leaders through service to others.