



A Note from our Scholarship Chair *by Mark S. Alexander*

For Winter quarter, we received about 20% fewer applications than for Fall. As a result, we were able to restore awards to 75% of tuition for the neediest families and all applicants received some award (compared to last quarter when no family received more than 50% and a few families did not receive any scholarship).

There were several applications that got lost or were submitted late for Winter quarter, which resulted in a few panicky email exchanges. Fortunately, due to the decrease in applicants we had the funds available to accommodate those who resubmitted, but that usually would not have been possible.

Parents: please make sure that applications are submitted on time and get to the appropriate person or folder. Treasurers and Parent Educators: please take care when collecting and delivering applications. Everyone is reminded that because they contain personal and sensitive information; Scholarship Applications are confidential.

Spring 2012 Scholarship applications are due Friday, March 2nd. Please make sure you use the current version of the form available at http://coops.northseattle.edu/scholarship/pac_scholarship_application.pdf

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CALENDAR

February

- 13 PAC Meeting
- 20 Presidents Day (no school)
- 21-24 Mid-Winter Break (no school)
- 27 Open Enrollment for 2012-13 School Year starts

March

- 1-31 Beach House Raffle
- 8 Coop priority registration ends
- 9 Coop priority assignments announced and Open Enrollment for Seattle Public Schools Ends
- 11 Daylight-Savings Time begins
- 12 PAC Meeting
- 22 Coop cross-over Registration Period ends
- 23 Coop assignments announced
- 31 Coop Open Registration at NSCC

April

- 9 PAC Meeting
- 16-20 Spring Break (no school)

May

- 21 **PAC Meeting **NOTE: THIRD Monday of the month vs. traditional 2nd Monday of the month**
- 28 Memorial Day (no school)

June

- 20 Last day for SPS, co-op classes end earlier, check with your particular class schedule

Seattle Center Festál 2012

from: seattlecenter.com/events

Festál, presented by Seattle Center in partnership with community organizations, is a year-long series of FREE events that honors the cultural richness and diversity of the Pacific Northwest. Festál plays a vital part in Seattle Center efforts to connect our dynamic and varied communities. *In 2012, Seattle Center Festál will be part of The Next Fifty, the 50th anniversary celebration of the 1962 Seattle World's Fair.*

Tết Festival: Vietnamese Lunar New Year	January 21-22, 2012
Irish Festival	March 17-18, 2012
Seattle Cherry Blossom & Japanese Cultural Festival	April 13-15, 2012
Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration	May 6, 2012
Spirit of West Africa	May 12, 2012
40th Annual Northwest Folklife Festival	May 25-28, 2012
A Glimpse of China: Chinese Culture and Arts Festival	May 19, 2012
Pagdiriwang Philippine Festival	June 9-10, 2012
Iranian Festival	June 16, 2012
Festival Sundiata presents Black Arts Fest	June 30 - July 1, 2012
Bastille Day Celebration	July 14-15, 2012
BrasilFest	August 5, 2012
Tibet Fest	August 25-26, 2012
Live Aloha Hawaiian Cultural Festival	September 9, 2012
Seattle Fiestas Patrias	September 15-16, 2012
Italian Festival	September 29-30, 2012
CroatiaFest	October 7, 2012
TurkFest	October 20-21, 2012
Dia de Muertos: A Mexican Celebration to Remember Our Departed	October 27-28, 2012
Hmong New Year Celebration	November 3, 2012

Seattle Center Festál, a series of 21 world festivals presented at Seattle Center throughout 2011, highlights the distinct cultures and common threads of ethnic communities in our region through traditional and contemporary art, music, foods, youth activities, workshops and more. This collection of cultural events is produced with the generous support of Wells Fargo, Verizon Wireless and KUOW 94.9 Public Radio. Additional support is provided by Seattle Center Foundation and the City of Seattle.

Meadowbrook Five's

- the Benefits of a Co-op for 5 Year Olds

By Jean Ward, NSCC Parent Education Instructor

As a Meadowbrook 5's parent this year noted, "The 5's class has a different feel to it than any other co-op class we have been in. There truly is something special about this small window age group that, when put together, is so fun to watch. They interact with each other, problem-solve together, and of course the caring teachers and adults are there to help guide the way." And it is true, there is something very special when a group of 5 year olds get together to create, play and work together. "With his natural desire to please and to have things go smoothly, the 5 year old is a much easier playmate than he was at 4 or than he may be at 6." (From *Your 5 Year Old* by Ames and Ilg) There is a leap in sophistication in ability to play cooperatively, and having more adept playmates leads to a gentle pull for each class member to stretch themselves into more adept play and work. "Being with the older kids in the 5's program has been great. My child has had a chance to engage in more verbal and sophisticated play and learning because of this class." (From 2011 evaluations.)

The Meadowbrook 5's class program is designed to meet the needs of 5 year olds and the older preschool child who will be 5 by December 31 of the current preschool year and who will benefit from being in a class of older peers and a setting in which more specific skills can be emphasized. The Meadowbrook 5's Co-op is the only NSCC sponsored 5's program.

We want to develop creative and independent thinkers in a place where kids are respected for their uniqueness. We encourage the children to explore new and different ways of doing things while learning through play. This promotes self-esteem and confidence. The 5's program helps the children become responsible and independent by providing them with opportunities to make choices. We also encourage the children to work together, teaching the children the value of cooperation and teamwork. Our classroom community helps children develop the social skills they need to succeed in school.

Our spacious and open classroom allows for large group experiences and fosters a calm and quieter atmosphere for children. Our teacher, Sarah Bailey, has a Masters Degree in early childhood education and elementary credentials. Her experience includes over 10 years teaching in preschools and elementary schools (teaching kindergarten, science and PE) and teaching and developing programs at zoos.

"As a mother of two kiddos born at the later part of the year, I have been fortunate enough to enroll each of them in turn in the 5's program at Meadowbrook before sending them off to kindergarten. My son has a December birthday and for him, moving from his beloved class and friends at one co-op to a new school with new friends seemed like the perfect "baby-step" to kindergarten. He was able to learn that school can happen in a new building, and new friends (thanks to the co-op modeling) were easy to make. He thrived with the pre-kindergarten curriculum while continuing to blossom with his social skills. When it came time to transition to elementary school, it was a breeze.

My daughter has an early September birthday and is currently enrolled in the 5's program at Meadowbrook. She was ready enough for kindergarten, but is thoroughly enjoying one last year of preschool. I know that her transition to elementary school will be an easy one.

We have been very fortunate to have fantastic teachers as well. Teacher Sarah really connects with each child and finds out their interests. She has a strong science background and it shines through in everyday interactions. She has a great sense of humor and the kids love to tease with her. During this past week of snow closures, my daughter commented to me how she missed school and missed Teacher Sarah-what a great thing to hear from your kid!

I can't recommend the 5's program at Meadowbrook enough as a last step before the big world of elementary school. I know I made the right decision sending each of my children to the 5's program." (Current 5's parent.)

Support Our Coops

Please remember to send out a letter to Washington state legislators to support Community Colleges/Parent Education programs, based on the PAC sample letter.

Help Spread the Word

We have just produced a general brochure for NSCC Coop Preschools. A PDF will be available to print in the "Marketing Tools" section of our PAC website. These are great to leave behind at places parents of young children or new parents congregate, like doctors' offices, family-friendly cafes, family yoga studios, etc.

Check out NSCC Resources:

The new blue building on the NSCC Campus is the Opportunity Center for Employment and Education. This building houses DSHS, Employment Security, and many other services to assist those looking for work. Take a look at their website and calendar to see what is coming up. They sponsor many free workshops on things like "Resume Writing."

<https://northseattle.edu/opportunity-center-employment-and-education/calendar>

NSCC Coop is now on Facebook!

Please visit our page at www.facebook.com/coops.northseattle, and "Like" our page to get updates on PAC events, fundraisers, and other useful information.

Co-op Teacher Job Openings for the Fall, 2012:

Infant Class Teachers Needed:

There is a teacher position available on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 for the NSIC Coop. These are generally the older babies - the ones that start turning 1 during fall quarter. As always in the Infant program there can be a one year age span which can be challenging as far as setting up the environment for the 4 month olds as well as the 14 month olds. You are always dealing with all

stages of development in the Infant program. The second teacher position is the NSIC Thursday afternoon infant group that meets from 12:30 to 2:30. These generally are the younger babies, but there are also have a few older children in this group. If you are interested in either of these jobs, please send a resume to Irene Wagner at wagnerirene@comcast.net.

Toddler Teacher Openings:

Teaching position available with the North East Toddler Co-op. Class meets Fridays 9:30-11:30 plus set-up and clean-up time. Please send resumes and questions to Beth Goss bethlisa.goss@gmail.com.

NS Toddlers also needs a teacher. This class meets Thursdays, 9:30-11:30am. Contact Lissa Armato lissama@yahoo.com

3-5 Class Teacher Opening: University Ravenna 3-5's is looking for an enthusiastic teacher for the 2012-2013 school year.

Class meets Monday, Wednesday and Thursday morning from 9:30-12 and Tuesday afternoon from 12:30-2:45. Option to teach extended day program one day a week for an additional 1 1/2 hours.

If interested, please contact Amy Arnold at amy@arnold.net.

CO-OP Openings!

Toddlers

Broadview
NSCC (Wed 3-5p)
Olympic

Pre 3's

Broadview
Meadowbrook
Northgate Multi-Age (2-5's)

3-5's

Broadview
Crown Hill (PM)
Latona
Meadowbrook
Northgate Multi-Age (2-5's)

Multi-Age & 5's

Meadowbrook 5's
Northgate Multi-Age (2-5's)

January Preschool Fairs

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped answer questions and give out information, and provided a face behind our coops at the Parent Map and MOMS Club preschool fairs. These events provide some of the best opportunities for us to show how great our organization is.

March 1-31st, 2012

Win a 2 night stay at the Sand Bucket Cottage in Pacific Beach, WA - for only \$5 per ticket!

Nestled in the quaint coastal town of Pacific Beach, 2 1/2 hours away from Seattle, this family-friendly, two bedroom cottage offers all the comforts of home. Buy a \$5 raffle ticket from your PAC Rep for your chance to win! Drawing will be held March 30th, right after Open Registration. All the proceeds will benefit PAC scholarships. Talk to your PAC Rep for more details. In addition, all Co-op families who book the cottage will receive 15% off regular rates!

<http://www.sandbucketcottage.com/>

Mark Your Calendars, Coop Registration Dates for 2012-2013 are Here!

March 8: Priority Registration Period ends, assignments March 9

March 22: Cross-over Registration Period ends, assignments March 23

March 31: Open Registration at NSCC. Information Fair 10-10:45am, Registration Lottery 11am-noon

Need help navigating registration?
http://www.peps.org/about/newsletters/2012-january-newsletter/coop-preschools?utm_source=PEPSEnewsletter&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=Jan2012

Register for iGive - It's a super easy way to earn money for PAC!

And, just for registering, PAC will automatically receive \$5!

To register, go to igive.com and search for NSCC Parent Advisory Council of Cooperative Preschools and it will step you through the process of installing the iGive button on your computer. Every purchase you make through iGive, on-line retailers will donate a percentage directly to PAC scholarships!

You can always give directly to PAC. Your tax-deductible donation can be sent to: Parent Advisory Council

Parent Education Program
North Seattle Community College
9600 College Way North
Seattle, WA 98103

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NSCC Cooperative Preschool Program

206-527-3783

(NSCC Parent Ed Office)

www.northseattlecoops.org

Sand Bucket Cottage



Win a two night stay - \$5 per raffle ticket

Nestled in the quaint coastal town of Pacific Beach, 2 ½ hours from Seattle, the two bedroom cottage offers all the comforts of home. The cottage sleeps eight, fully stocked with linens, place settings for nine, gas fireplace, fire-pit, Wi-Fi, cable TV, washer dryer, gas BBQ and two large decks.

Complete with toys and games, high chair and pack and play it makes a great getaway for families and pets.

www.vrbo.com/232782

(206) 947 7511