

Good News in School District 11

the Communicator

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www.d11.org

Congratulations!

D-11 Celebrates 2008-2009 Crystal Apple Teacher Awards

Crystal Apple Teacher Award Recipients

Erin Christopher Ahnfeldt, Doherty High School

Leslie J. Barthlow, Holmes Middle School

Charlee Passig Archuleta, Rogers Elementary School

Alan Combs, Coronado High School

Charlotte C. Hood, Penrose Elementary School

Anita Waller, Fremont Elementary School

Crystal Apple Teacher Award Nominees

Diana Biggs, Jenkins Middle School

Gale Derrick, Taylor Elementary School

Christina Watson, Audubon Elementary School

The D-11 Crystal Apple Teacher Awards, sponsored by El Paso Council PTA, honor teaching excellence and recognize outstanding examples for young people who want to be teachers.

All Crystal Apple nominees and recipients will be recognized at the awards banquet on Tuesday, May 5, at the Crowne Plaza. A reception at 6:30 p.m. will be followed by dinner and awards presentation at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each and are available from the **Volunteer Services Office**, chavepc@d11.org or 520-2202.

Chipeta Teacher Receives Doctorate



Congratulations to **Chipeta Elementary School** third-grade teacher **Loren Brevik**, who has received her Ph.D. in educational administration and policy studies from the University of Denver. Lori has been at Chipeta for 11 years and has also taught at **Hunt**, **Midland** and **Buena Vista** elementary schools. For the last 10 years, she has concurrently taught elementary classes for the BOCES Teachers in Residence program on Saturdays, has taught seminars for the teacher education program at UCCS and has been the site coordinator for the cadre of student teachers in the UCCS program at Chipeta. She has received awards for teaching at both the elementary school level and the university level.

D-11 Production Printing Is Featured Nationally

"Green Scenes," a story in the March issue of *In-Plant Graphics* magazine, reports, "Colorado Springs School District 11 has spent a decade improving and refining its technologies and workflow toward greener pastures."

Go to www.d11.org/printing and click on "PRESSROOM" to see the full story about District 11's very own **Production Printing Department**.

To find out more about Production Printing's conservation efforts and what steps you can take to be environmentally print friendly, click on the "CONSERVATION" button on their home page.

Student Awards/News

Coronado Is Tops in State ProStart Competition



Coronado High School's ProStart team brought home the traveling trophy given annually to the top ProStart school in the state. Coronado had the highest combined total of points from management and culinary teams. Coronado is the first school to win this trophy three times and the first school to win it back to back (they also won the trophy in 2008).

The Coronado Management Team – Kenny Londono, Hannah Rogers, Judy Santero and Jordan Sveen – placed second in state competition in Denver.

The Coronado Culinary Team – Joshua Berntsen, Evan Fonesbeck, Michael Harris and Katherine Jager – placed sixth in the state.

Leona Lindvall is the Coronado ProStart teacher and is very proud of the whole ProStart class.

Palmer High School's ProStart team, led by teacher **Sharon Nemeth**, took third place in the knowledge bowl.

Two D-11 Students Earn Good Citizen Award

The Kinnikinnik and Zebulon Pike Chapters of the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) recognized the Good Citizen Award winners

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from area high schools in February. The Good Citizen Award is open to any senior class member of an accredited public or private high school. Each high school may nominate one outstanding senior who demonstrates the qualities of a good citizen: dependability, service, leadership and patriotism.

Congratulations to Maurice Motley, **Mitchell High School**, and Stephanie Ives from **Palmer High School**, who were honored with a certificate and a Good Citizen pin.

Palmer Student Is 2009 Poetry Out Loud State Champion



Palmer High School student Kaleena Kovach is Colorado State Champion of the Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest. Students from Colorado high schools participating in the fourth annual poetry contest each recited three poems and were scored in six categories, including physical presence, voice projection and articulation, and overall performance. Kaleena recited “Somewhere to Paris” (Richard

Blanco), “They Are Hostile Nations” (Margaret Atwood) and “Come Up From the Fields, Father” (Walt Whitman).

As state champion, Kaleena received \$200 and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., to compete in the national finals of Poetry Out Loud. Palmer receives \$500 for the purchase of poetry books for the school library.

Doherty Student Is Gazette “Great Kid”

Doherty High School senior Alexis Sanchez-Melendez appeared in the April 3 *Gazette* feature “Great Kids.” She was nominated for making a difference in her community.

As 2008-09 Miss Puerto Rico from Colorado Springs, Alexia Sanchez-Melendez has represented not only Colorado but also her culture at events around the country.

Alexia traveled to Chicago to represent Colorado at the Windy City's annual Puerto Rican festivities and parade and had dinner with Chicago Mayor Richard Daley. Alexia spoke at Fort Carson for Hispanic Heritage Month, has done community outreach at nursing homes and is active in the USO. She is one of Colorado Springs Mayor Lionel Rivera's 100 Teens and is active in community service. She became a Colorado Springs Police Cadet after completing the local cadet program in the summer of 2007.

Through the AVID program at Doherty (teacher **Sue Ann Knopp**), Alexia is currently working to raise money for Habitat for Humanity. Even though she will graduate soon, she will continue to help with the project until it's finished.

School News

Mitchell Spanish Club Explores Spanish Culture in Denver

The Spanish Club at Mitchell High School, sponsored by **Dolores Borrero**, took a scenic field trip to Denver Feb. 24. Fifteen members toured El Museo de las Americas and dined at the famous Casa Bonita. For most students, both places were first-time experiences, and everyone had a good time.

At El Museo de las Americas, students viewed art works from painters in Uruguay, Mexico, Argentina and the U.S., including the works of Frida Kahlo, and students were able to see her famous paintings and learn the story behind some of the

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More School News

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art work. The tour ended with all students creating self-portraits, which were beautifully framed as souvenirs.

The field trip ended with authentic Mexican food at Casa Bonita, where the lunchtime show included the famous cliff-divers and the indoor pool and a western shoot-out. The arcade and the dark jungle maze delighted everyone.



Mitchell Spanish Club students enjoy a field trip to Denver.

Wasson High School Students Attend Space Symposium



Twenty-four students from **Wasson High School** enjoyed the Boeing Exhibit Center at the 25th National Space Symposium sponsored by the Space Foundation. The invitation to attend the symposium was extended to this class when **Margaret Jurek** became one of only 29 teachers from across the United States to be a part of the newest Flight of Space Foundation Teacher Liaisons.

Students visited booths sponsored by NASA; NOAA; Booz, Alan, & Hamilton; Boeing, the Jet Propulsion Laboratories (JPL); and United Launch Alliance (ULA), to name a few. Students learned that companies and organizations are looking for future employees who can collaborate and solve problems given few parameters and, more importantly, can communicate verbally and in writing.

The Wasson Science Department's new partnership with the Space Foundation will greatly enhance the Wasson Science Magnet Program in the future. In addition to the Space Foundation partnership, the department has also recently partnered with UCCS. **Angela Dunn** and Margaret Jurek have both been selected as participants in The Partnership in Innovative Preparation for Educators and Students (PIPES) Science Educator Academies; Angela is completing her program this June and handing the baton to Margaret, who will start her program in June.