



NEWS from Marketing and Communications

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NORTHPORT ELEMENTARY CELEBRATES YEAR OF THE DRAGON WITH ART AND MUSIC RESIDENCIES

New Hope, Minn. – 2012 is the Year of the Dragon, and Northport Elementary School students are celebrating it by participating in art and music residencies.

The Dragons are Singing Tonight 2012 School Residency Program, sponsored by TigerLion Arts, benefits children through the shared learning and healing experiences of singing, storytelling, and creating art. Students kicked off the program by attending a special matinee performance of the world premiere musical production in February, with special funding provided by the Target Field Trip Grants program.

The residencies are coming to Northport beginning March 15th, and will give students a close look at the details of creating a musical. Students will work with their teachers, *Dragons* musicians, including the director of the Minnesota Boychoir, and artists from In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre and Puppet Farm Arts. TigerLion Arts is providing songbooks, art materials, and copies of *The Dragons are Singing Tonight*, famed poet Jack Prelutsky's award-winning book of dragon poems.

At the end of the puppet residency, the students will march their dragon creations in a school parade. They will be invited to participate in In the Heart of the Beast's annual MayDay Parade in downtown Minneapolis on May 6.

Northport is joined by one other school for this residency – Richard R. Green Central Park School in South Minneapolis, and the two schools will come together in a shared choral performance on May 24 to sing *The Dragons are Singing Tonight*, conducted by the composer and accompanied by the production’s *Dragons Band*.

This activity is made possible in part by a grant provided by the Minnesota State Arts Board through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature from the State’s arts and cultural heritage fund with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.



The mission of Robbinsdale Area Schools is to inspire and educate all learners to discover their potential and positively contribute to their community. Robbinsdale Area Schools serves approximately 12,000 students in seven communities in the northwest Twin Cities area, including Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Golden Valley, New Hope, Plymouth and Robbinsdale.