

# Four Tellings

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The weekly bulletin for family and friends of Four Winds Waldorf School

We worry about what a child will become tomorrow,  
Yet we forget he is someone today.  
-Stacia Tauscher

November 17, 2010

## Calendar of Events

### Thursday November 18

Scrip Orders Due.....10 AM  
Board Meeting.....7 PM

### Friday November 19

Hearts, Hands and Voices Concert.....7 PM  
At Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Warrenville  
Mandatory for grades 2-7

### Saturday November 20

The Waldorf School Journey.....9 AM

### Monday-Friday Nov 22-26

Thanksgiving Break

### Tuesday November 30

First Grade Readiness Info Meeting.... 7 PM

### Wednesday December 1

School Tour..... 8:45 AM  
Holiday Sale Forms due.....3 PM

### Thursday December 2

Scrip Orders Due.....10 AM  
Parent Council.....7 PM

### Friday Dec 3

Advent Garden, Grades.....in school

### Sunday Dec 5

Advent Garden, Early Childhood....1:30 PM  
Advent Garden, Alumni.....5 PM



## Holiday Sale form due Dec 1st

Coming home in this week's mail is a Holiday Sale form with many wonderful gift ideas for you to consider for the holidays. This is a fundraiser to support the various class trips. See the form for details.

## BLACK & WHITE

### Concert Clothing Exchange

Bring your outgrown black pants/skirts and white shirts/tops and black shoes to exchange bigger ones for the concert coming up on November 19<sup>th</sup>. A table will be set up at school through 11-18.

## Hearts, Hands & Voices Concert

Friday, November 19th, 7:00 p.m.  
Immanuel Presbyterian Church  
29 W260 Batavia Road in Warrenville

This is a wonderful chance to see some of the beautiful activities and work the grade school children are doing at school. All Four Winds families are welcome; **students Grades 2-7 are required to attend.**

Students in grades 4-7 should wear black pants or skirt (no jeans) and a white shirt. Other grades students should dress in nice clothing (no jeans.) Parents, please note these arrival times for orchestra students:

**Grade 4:** Tuning at 6:30, **Grades 6-7:** Tuning at 6:15

Any parents that would be available to help chaperone from 6-6:45 on the evening of the concert would be greatly appreciated; see Barbara in the office.

## Advent Festival

By Mari Cooper



At Michaelmas, as the first murmurs of winter may be heard, we call on Michael the prince of angels to inspire our courage.

At Martinmas, a little over a month later, we hear the encouraging story of Martin of Tours, a soldier who gave half his cloak to a man who was naked and cold. Martin's act of sacrifice and compassion is an example of lighting a candle in the darkness. Last Saturday at the Lantern walk, as I sat warming a tired four year old in the back of our van, the darkness around me seemed darker because finally the chilly winds of November had come. Oh how I longed for the sunshine and the balmy evenings of summer. In the cold night I could see the firelight from the EC fire pit dancing with all its fervor against the cloak of night; of cold and of winter.

With both of these two festivals, the encouragement that we receive is from two sainted beings. They push us on to courage and charity; to stand firm against evil; to pour forth the fire from within ourselves.

Advent, the next festival we will celebrate in our school, has also to do with light, but it has a different quality than the other two. The word "advent" means, "coming into being." At this particular time of the year we are soberly aware of the darkness; of shortened days; of the absence of sunlight.

In the ancient Irish cosmology, darkness proceeded day; night was first and day light second. In modern times, we always put the day and it's light first. Without the primacy of darkness, however, there can be no dormancy; no resting; no reflection. If the womb was full of light and activity, could an egg become an embryo and then a fetus and then a fully formed child?

And so into poverty, heaven's glory is made manifest. Into the darkest night the sun makes its return and into the quiet of our humble hearts, we journey to find the light born anew.



## FROM THE DESK OF *Marianne Fieber*

The Annual Fund is well underway and we are receiving pledges and contributions already. Help us make our 100% participation goal and our \$35,000 monetary goal!

Thanksgiving is next week and with it, a nice long break! For that we can indeed be thankful. I am also filled with gratitude for these many weeks leading up to this day set aside for expressions of appreciation. It is through the ongoing effort, dedication and sacrifice that our school remains open each day to embrace our wonderful students. Waldorf Schools are very special places in which the Spirit of Community can be felt weaving through those who engage their will, their heart, and their creativity in service to it. I have witnessed remarkable feats accomplished on behalf of school through collaboration and good will and for that I am deeply grateful.

I want to specifically thank, and without intention to forget anyone, all the parents, faculty and staff who have stepped into challenges facing our school with grace and determination fed by a higher vision for what we have to offer not only our own children but towards a brighter future. Thank you to the Class Angels in service to the teachers of your classes, to the Parent Reps that make up the Parent Council, the Marketing Team, Bookstore Team, Finance Committee, Social Inclusion Coordinating Group, Professional Development, Office Volunteers, the Cleaning Crew... the list goes on.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Oh... have you picked up SCRIP this week? I'm sure you need groceries for your festival meal or how about a break and a meal out? Check out what we have in stock... every card purchased gives a little back to the school.

## *Alumni Advent Garden*

Snow will come soon. The gentle flakes will float down, the sky will darken early, the moon will glow, and the snow will sparkle in union with the stars. You may even hear music of the ages playing in the stillness of night. During this blessed time of waiting, Four Winds Waldorf School will host our first Alumni Advent Garden on Sunday, December 5, at 5:00 p.m. Adults and children are invited to walk the advent spiral, light a candle, and contemplate in preparation of this blessed season. We hope that many alumni will join us. If you plan to come, please RSVP by Monday November 29, and include the number of people who will be with you, so we can determine whether or not to hold the event. 630-836-9400.

## Grateful Thanks...

A big thank you to **Rebecca Tews-Kozlowski** for managing the school's bookstore for the last four years. This volunteer position required a lot of time planning, shopping, ordering, cleaning and organizing. We are grateful for all the work and hours Rebecca put in over the years. Thanks Rebecca!

Also thank you to **David Heater** for fixing the girls bathroom lock and for expanding and cleaning out the storage sheds. We appreciate you much!

## A Social Inclusion Tool

Periodically through the year, I will describe a tool faculty uses when working socially with the children. The tool is called "DADD" or Disapprove -Affirm-Discover- Do-Over.

DADD is a very simple, powerful technique. It creates an environment in which the child is able to get a more balanced view, which helps them to distance themselves from their angry/hurt feelings. With this distance, they are able to examine more appropriate behavior, and take the chance to see how it would work by doing it over. DADD can be used immediately with young children or days or weeks for a more complex issue. Here is an example using DADD:

Disapprove: This is expression of disapproval of the behavior. "We do not talk to each other like that in this family."

Affirm: This is when the parent brings in a dose of reality, by reminding the children that there are times when they get along very well. "You two are good friends and usually treat each other very well."

Discover: This is where the adult asks questions about the issue. "So, what's going on?"

Do-over: Now having understood the situation from both sides, the parent can help the children reenact the situation. "Let's see if there is a way that you can speak without being hurtful."

DADD is wonderful because it teaches healthier ways of acting, it honors everyone's need, and it acknowledges our responsibility toward each other. It is very important that we, as parents, catch these "teachable moments." According to Kim John Payne, only one out of every ten put-downs is actually witnessed by adults. Children need opportunities to practice alternative behavior, and they will become better able when given chances at home and school.

*"Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend."*  
-Martin Luther King, Jr.

## Plan(ner) Ahead

The 4<sup>th</sup> grade is launching their class trip fundraiser by offering 2011 day planners in a weekly format, sized at 8.5 x 5.5 and spiral bound. **Artwork from each grades student** will be included in the book....what better gift to give grandparents, friends and family than a yearlong keepsake work of art? Order yours on the Holiday Sale form in this week's mail.

## 2010-2011 Annual Fund Campaign

We plan to raise **\$35,000 with 100% participation** from all of our Four Winds Waldorf Families. This is an important aspect of our yearly operating budget, and helps us not to increase tuition. Giving to the school through our Annual Campaign not only helps our bottom line, it is also fully tax deductible. Pledge forms are available at school, and also attached to this week's email.

## Public Lantern walk with the Warrenville Park District

Despite the wind and the frequently unlit lanterns, our first Lantern Walk in the public arena was a wonderful experience. A group of 20 parents and children were gathered at the Warrenville Community Center to make lanterns from recycled jars, tissue paper and wire. We learned two classic lantern songs and the story of Martin the Roman soldier, who demonstrated his warm and generous heart by sharing his warm red woolen cloak with a frightened and weak beggar outside the gate of Rome, was received warmly. Our walk took us north to the Prairie Path and through the library. We stopped there and sang our song before heading out into the windy evening and back to where we began. Ruth Brackman made it possible for us to enjoy a cup of hot chocolate and a cookie. I will look forward to further collaborations with the Park District and building our relationships with our neighbors.

## A game can change a community?

Join Edgard Gouveia Jr., co-founder of the Elos Institute, as he leads an experiential and thought-provoking workshop showcasing the use of cooperative games to facilitate social change. Elos is a social nonprofit organization founded by a group of urban planners and architects who use the arts and cooperative games to create opportunities where people can contribute joyfully, voluntarily, and cooperatively to build a more beautiful, peaceful, and abundant world for all. Thursday, December 2, 2010, 1:00 - 5:00 pm at Chicago Teachers' Center of Northeastern Illinois Univ., 770 N. Halsted, Room 411, Chicago. Fee \$40. Contact Christina Foster 847-910-3883.

## Building use Afterschool

We are grateful to have this wonderful house for our activities both during school and afterschool. I respectfully request that when parents and faculty are here after school that the children in their care are monitored and guided toward remaining respectful of our school, the classrooms and equipment. There have been some disturbances of teachers' desks and classrooms from after school one day to the following morning. Thank you for your help in this matter.

## Come out after the FW Concert

Friday, November 19, the **Frank & Dave Band** (featuring FW parent **Dave Callaway**) is playing at Total Sports Bar & Grill, 523 Fairway Drive, Naperville, (off of North Aurora Road, just west of Rt. 59) 630-983-5400. 9 -11 p.m. Cover charge.

## Celebrating Excellence

7th grader, Michael Fitzgerald, competed in the Youth America Grand Prix, dance competition held in Houston, TX. on Oct. Friday Nov. 5th. Michael was very, very happy with his performances and was awarded the top prize in the Junior division (ages 12-14yrs old), Grand Prix Champion! After being selected at this Regional Semi-final, Michael has been invited to perform in the New York City Finals to be held in March. Michael performed two pieces...a classical variation from the ballet La Fille mal Garde (The Wayward Daughter) and a contemporary piece entitled "Blues in Motion".



If you would like to see Michael perform live, he has been cast as the Prince this year in State Street Dance Studio's production of the Nutcracker. Performed at the Norris Cultural Arts Center, St. Charles IL on Sat. Dec. 18 @ 7pm and Sun. Dec. 19 @2pm. Tickets are available by calling the box office at the Norris ph # 630/584-7200, ext. #10. Ticket prices \$25adult/ \$20 children under 10. The show includes lots of



"bells and whistles" with live orchestration and aerial acts implemented last year. The studio director adds "surprises" every year. Michael has been cast as Drosselheimer's nephew, Nutcracker (yes, he will battle the Mouse King) and Prince. He will also dance in the Russian

number (one of his favorite pieces). We understand that he is on stage practically the whole show, except when he rolls off the stage during the battle scene for a costume change. Tickets for this performance do sell out. But if you are able to attend...please let the Fitzgerald's know and they will greet you in the lobby. Happy Holiday to all!

The Four Tellings is published every Wednesday during the school year. The deadline for submissions to the Four Tellings is Monday at 3:00 p.m. before you want it to appear.

## Barn Dance

November 21, 2 p.m., at Fermilab's Kuhn Village Barn, Batavia on the Fermilab grounds. Live old-time music. All dances taught. Traditional American folk dances. No experience needed! \$6 Children under 12 free. Seniors and students \$3. Bring a water bottle for refreshment. Just show up or for more info, contact Meg Dedolph, 773-960-9364 or go to [www.fnal.gov/orgs/folkclub](http://www.fnal.gov/orgs/folkclub).

## A Thanksgiving Weekend Of Spiritual Wellness

Saturday, November 27 & Sunday, November 28  
Wyndham Lisle Hotel, 3000 Warrenville Road, Lisle, IL  
FREE!

Modern life is so busy, we often don't find time for what is going on with our own selves. Thanksgiving is a time of self reflection, and the focus of "A Thanksgiving Weekend of Spiritual Wellness" is reflecting on and improving every aspect of our lives. The program runs from 9 am to 5 pm on Saturday. The Sunday events begin at 9 am and end with a special keynote, a discourse by world renowned Spiritual Master, His Holiness Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj at 2 pm, "Meditation for Total Wellbeing." The public is invited to see vegetarian cooking demos, hear what health care professionals have to say, and learn how healing the spirit and the soul through meditation can bring you to a state of total wellness. For info, [www.SOSspiritualwellness.org](http://www.SOSspiritualwellness.org) or call 630.955.1200.

## Jyoti Christmas Candle Show

Gifts of style and relevance, eco-friendly, socially responsible artisan gifts for your home. Pure beeswax candles, ornaments, felted birds, other gifts, refreshments. Come & visit and bring a friend! Friday thru Sunday, December 3-5, at the home of **Deidre Levin**, 0No84 Stanley St., Winfield, hours vary each day. For more info, contact Deidre at 630-665-6801.

## Amahl and the Night Visitors

Presented by Chamber Opera Chicago  
Sat, Dec. 4 at 7:30 pm and Sun, Dec 5 at 3 pm  
Harold Washington Library, Pritzker Auditorium, Chicago  
A magical and musical holiday tradition for all ages featuring FW parent **Marilyn Maurer** in the chorus. One of the most popular operas of all time, this tells the story of how a crippled young shepherd boy's life changes when he sees an amazing star. Show runs about 1 hour. General admission is \$25; seniors & students \$20; children 12 & under \$10. Call 312-951-7944 to order tickets. This event sells out, so order soon.

## Children's Wool & Silk Undergarments

To celebrate the Holiday Season, [FloweringChild.com](http://FloweringChild.com) is sponsoring a fundraiser for Four Winds. From Nov. 15 to Jan. 1, they will donate 10% of all revenue generated by friends of Four Winds to the school. FloweringChild is an online store for very soft wool and silk undergarments for children. The products assist with the maintenance of body temperature and minimization of skin irritation. The undergarments are organic, fair-trade produced, and washable. To generate a 10% donation to Four Winds Waldorf School, just enter "Four Winds" in the comments field during checkout. Order today at [FloweringChild.com](http://FloweringChild.com).

## Scrip is Super Easy!

Use Scrip to purchase everyday expenses like food, clothing, gas and other essentials. With every purchase, **you earn revenue for our school**. Scrip is a popular fundraiser because families don't have to sell anything. Four Winds families & supporters produce revenue by making regular household purchases **they would make anyway**. Find out more and see the list of participating retailers in the school office or at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com). Sign up online using our enrollment code: **L99B27DD227L2**. Orders must be placed **online** & payment to the school office on Thursdays by 10 am. Pick up your orders the following Thursday at school Questions? Contact Cate Dyer at 630-853-5063.



## Holiday Fair at Chicago Waldorf School

Saturday, December 4

9am-5pm; \$5 admission/adults ; children free

Chicago Waldorf School, 1300 W. Loyola Avenue

Plenty of fun and activities for the entire family including candle dipping, jump rope making, puppet plays, a magical market for the children and even learning how to knit in 15 minutes. Grown-ups can browse a fabulous array of unique organic, natural and handcrafted gift items. The Holiday Fair also includes free musical performances along with feel-good holiday food, live seasonal greenery and a raffle ticket included in the \$5 adult admission price. And don't forget—students and children get in free! For info contact Cathey Stamps at [cstamps@chicagowaldorf.org](mailto:cstamps@chicagowaldorf.org) or 773-828-8461.

## Classifieds

Place classified ads here! \$5 for 50-word ad to run 2 weeks. All ads subject to editing.

**Wanted: Matching Winter Coat and Snow Pants**- Size 6 girls, and snow boots, size 12. Happy to pay you! Call Michelle Rosen, 630-776-8594.