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Feb. 25, 2008

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WCM AWARDED ARTS-IN-EDUCATION GRANTS

Two Arts Partners Challenge Grants, provided through the New York State Council on the Arts' Local Capacity Building Initiative of its Arts in Education Program, were awarded Weekend of Chamber Music in a ceremony on Feb. 4 at the Westchester Arts Council (WAC), which manages the Challenge Grants for the State Council.

The funding supports two different cross-curriculum projects with Weekend of Chamber Music's professional musicians. The Board of Trustees of awarded a \$1,750 match in partnership with Tri-Valley Middle School for the project, "The Fascinating Rhythm of Poetry." The Trustees awarded \$2,000 in partnership with Monticello High School for "Between the Wars: A Living Timeline."

Westchester County Legislator Lois T. Bronz and WAC Board Member & Education Committee Co-chair Hannah Schmerler presented the Grants at the White Plains ceremony. Monticello High School Director of Music Dr. Kevin Dirth and Tri-Valley performing arts teacher Regina Hartman represented their districts as the awards were presented to WCM, represented by its communications director, Terry Schommer.

In its second year of Arts-in-Education work at Monticello, WCM's project with clarinetist Allen Blustine will "bring to life" the historical time period between World Wars I & II, & draw from the music of Hindemith, Satie, Bartók, Gershwin & Shostakovich. The emphasis is to enhance the Global Studies curriculum, connection the performing arts to social & political issues of the era. Students will be responsible for developing projects that they will share with each other, younger students & the public. "Between the Wars" culminates with a performance on May 30 at the school.

At Tri-Valley, the chamber music students will work with flutist Judith Pearce and five 8th grade English classes. Using composer Steve Reich's "Clapping Music," they will create joint performances of the students' rhythmic poetry, derived from newly-learned vocabulary. Their project will be incorporated into a performance on May 16 at Tri-Valley. This is a first-time grant for the collaboration between WCM and Tri-Valley.

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Weekend of Chamber Music is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit organization, supported in part by public funding from the New York State Council on the Arts, a State agency.