

2006 League Apple Award Recipients

Anita Winstead, Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School, Louisville, Kentucky

Ms. Winstead made it possible for her third grade class to experience live musical theatre, many for the first time. Not only did she take her entire class to see Annie at the Kentucky Center for the Arts, but she also incorporated the production into many other aspects of the classroom. Her class learned about homelessness, made a Caring Quilt for a homeless family, and were visited by a local social worker to discuss the topic. Students learned terminology and elements of drama and also had visits from actors from the touring company. After viewing the live performance of Annie, the class wrote and performed their own school-wide adaptation, which the adopted homeless family attended. Prior to this program, Ms. Winstead also spent her own money to send 25 students to see The Lion King when alternative funding was unavailable.

Elizabeth Brooks-Gordon, Kennedy Middle School; David Jester, J.T. Williams Middle School; Kim Hotchner, Northwest School of the Arts; Charlotte, North Carolina

These three educators collaborated on an event called Movin' Stories for their middle school students in conjunction with the North Carolina Blumenthal Performing Arts Center and the tour of Movin' Out. The process had three elements, all inspired by Movin' Out. First, Ms. Brooks-Gordon's class researched events from 1990 through 2004 (picking up where Billy Joel's timeline ends) to create a social, political, and cultural timeline. Next, Mr. Jester's class turned the timeline into a creative writing story following four friends throughout the years. The collaboration ended with Ms. Hotchner's students who created a dance interpretation of the other two classes' work. The project culminated with a presentation highlighting all three schools' activities.

Tara Kissane, Paradise Valley Unified School District, Phoenix, Arizona

Ms. Kissane, the District Arts Coordinator, helped coordinate the logistics of ASU Public Events' Kaleidoscope program, an arts education program that recognizes, encourages, and motivates students who might not otherwise, by choice or circumstance, have an opportunity to experience live theatre. Before seeing The Lion King at Gammage Auditorium, Ms. Kissane's fourth grade students participated in a variety of learning activities during a ten-week unit. The students met twice a week to learn about social studies, history, science, and math as they relate to The Lion King. Three Arizona artists also introduced the students to music, culture, and theatrical techniques. After viewing the live production, students had the opportunity to speak with cast members during dinner. The following week, the students met to assess what they had learned during the process.

Phyllis Sims-Roy and Lisa Stewart, Overton High School, Memphis, Tennessee

Mrs. Roy and Mrs. Stewart have proven great dedication to Overton High School dance students by offering the opportunity to see a touring Broadway show, meet and work with dance professionals and be exposed to different styles of dance. Participating touring Broadway productions over the last few years include Fosse, 42nd Street, The Lion King, Hairspray and Chicago. Mrs. Roy, the Assistant Principal, coordinates the relationship with the Orpheum Theatre while Mrs. Stewart works with the students to prepare them for master classes and introduce them to the shows, helping them to see the connection of various forms of Broadway choreography. This program has also helped enhance the Orpheum's partnership with the entire student population of the school.