

School District 300 Foundation for Educational Excellence Announces 2018 Otto Cultural Arts on the Fox

Algonquin, IL—The School District 300 Foundation for Educational Excellence will present its annual Cultural Arts on the Fox Open House April 20-21, 2018. Held in the former Illinois Iron & Bolt Foundry building along the Fox River in historic Old Town Carpentersville, the event will showcase outstanding student artwork from all District 300's 26 schools, plus its charter school.

More than 1,000 pieces of 2- and 3-dimensional student artwork on display. With the recent return of an elementary art curriculum to the district after a decades-long absence, District 300 Coordinator of Fine Arts Sheila Crotty Kagan said, the display will be an especially rich representation of the district's talent.

"Cultural Arts on the Fox exemplifies the progression of learning from elementary school all the way through high school for students in District 300," Kagan said. "Now that elementary art has had almost two years to grow and flourish, it is very important to the District that we give our youngest students this outlet to showcase their talents and demonstrate the positive impact of our elementary art program."

Middle school and high school students also will display some truly exemplary pieces of work, Kagan said. "The quality of artworks our students are creating is truly impressive," she said, "and being able to give students this avenue to showcase their talents and receive this recognition will continue to grow their enthusiasm for creating art."

Awards will be granted to the top pieces at each middle and high school. In addition, the American Academy of Art will graciously award three Summer Studio Scholarship opportunities to talented high school students.

District 300 officials expressed thanks to Otto Engineering for graciously allowing the Foundation to hold the event in its scenic venue.

"The arts are so important to a community, bringing everyone together in such a meaningful way," said Diane Magerko, who chairs the District 300 Foundation for Educational Excellence Performing & Fine Arts Committee.

The *Cultural Arts on the Fox* open house will take place on Friday, April 20, from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 21, from 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. in the former Illinois Iron & Bolt Foundry building at 100 S. Lincoln Ave., renovated in recent years by Otto Engineering. Admission to the event is \$1, and all donations will benefit the Carpentersville Boys and Girls Club.

D300 Foundation For Educational Excellence

Cultural Arts on the Fox

Enjoy the visual arts in a magnificent historical setting, featuring the talents of D300 Students.

Open House

100 S. Lincoln, Carpentersville, IL 60110

Friday, April 20 / 6:00-8:30
Saturday, April 21 / Noon-4:00

All elementary, middle, and high school art programs in District 300 will be represented at the event, including Cambridge Lakes Charter School.

SCHOOL DISTRICT 300 FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Sponsored by: **OTTO**

www.D300foundation.org

Admission: \$1 Donation

For more information call: (847) 551-8475

District 300 Foundation for Educational Excellence Bands Together with Houlihan's to Collect Donations of Gently Used Musical Instruments

Event running April 2nd through 20th a chance for community members to breathe new life into gently used band and orchestra instruments that are gathering dust while sharing the gift of music with area students.



Algonquin, IL – The School District 300 Foundation for Educational Excellence is partnering with Houlihan’s restaurant in Algonquin to collect donations of gently used musical instruments to be used by students throughout District 300.

Instruments donated during the event, which runs April 2nd to 20th, 2018, will be used to build up musical instrument lending libraries throughout the district for middle school children interested in learning to play with their school’s band or orchestra.

Guests who deliver new or gently used instruments to any of Community Unit School District 300’s 26 schools or its central office at 2550 Harnish Drive in Algonquin will receive a certificate for a free appetizer from Houlihan’s and be entered in a drawing for a \$100 Houlihan’s gift card. All instruments except pianos will be accepted during the drive.

“Houlihan’s has always been very supportive of District 300 schools, and we are thrilled that they are partnering with the Foundation once again to help more students discover the fun and educational benefits of learning to play a musical instrument,” said Diane Magerko, the District 300 Foundation’s Performing and Fine Arts Chair.

“Great music is a big part of Houlihan’s dining experience,” said Joe Dydio, General Manager of Houlihan’s restaurant at Algonquin Commons. “Plus, we know music helps develop essential skills needed for students to succeed in the 21st Century workforce: critical thinking, creative problem solving, teamwork, to name a few of its many benefits. We believe every child should have the chance to experience the joy of playing an instrument, and joining a school band or orchestra.”

In addition to partnering with local school districts to help restore instrumental music programs, Houlihan’s has previously joined forces with national groups such as the VH1 Save The Music Foundation to raise awareness about the importance of music as part of each child’s education.

The mission of the School District 300 Foundation for Educational Excellence is to enhance and extend learning opportunities for all students in D300, which serves more than 20,000 students and is one of the largest districts in the state. Since its

founding in 2002, the Foundation has raised well over half a million dollars for District 300 schools and students. The Foundation focuses on four areas of impact: Literacy, Performing and Fine Arts, Science and Technology, and Student Leadership.

Funding for the Foundation is raised through corporate partnerships, private donations, and Foundation events.