

2010-2011 Touring Arts Program Planning

Dear WHS Touring Arts Advisory Panel Member,

Please spend some time getting familiar with the artists listed here. This is not an all inclusive list of artists. Please feel free to make suggestions for additions.

It has been difficult for us to plan face to face meetings with the weekly bouts of bad weather we've been having. I'm making steps to have an online tool for evaluating each of the artists I have proposed (as well as a way to share about artists that you would be interested in that may not be on this list).

Thank you so much for your time and energy as we work together to make next year's touring arts program one of the best Watauga County students have seen!

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MUSIC

Josh Goforth

<http://www.myspace.com/joshgoforthmusic>



Josh Goforth has been playing and teaching traditional, bluegrass, and acoustic music professionally for 11 years. He now brings his talents for teaching, arranging, and performance to his own band. They perform a wide variety of bluegrass and acoustic music, from original songs to standards and even pop tunes. Josh believes that music is about communication and wants the audience to be the most important part of every show. "These young men write, sing and pick up a storm. They have the potential to raise the bar for Blue Grass music in the 21st century. Josh Goforth is a super star in waiting. He shows the same promise I saw in Ricky Skaggs, Tony Rice, Jerry Douglas and Vince Gill in the 70s." Hugh Sturgill - producer and former manager of Boone Creek Josh is also a freelance artist who works with 4 time

Grammy Artist David Holt, Carolina Road Bluegrass Band, Laura Boosinger, and many more. He also performs solo shows and teaches workshops on several instruments around the world. Josh's main goal is to influence young people in a positive way as well as entertain audiences of all ages.

DANCE

Galumph

<http://www.galumpha.com/>



Combining stunning acrobatics, striking visual effects, physical comedy and inventive choreography, Galumph brings to life a world of imagination, beauty, muscle and merriment. The three performers, Andy Horowitz, Greg O'Brien and Marlon Torres have created a sensory feast of images ranging from the ridiculous to the sublime, drawn together into a seamless whole, consistently bringing audiences to their feet.

Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble

<http://www.footworks.org/aie.html>



Keeping the Beat: Contemporary American Traditional Dance

Footworks presents live music and authentic American traditional dance in an energetic engaging performance with plenty of audience participation.

Footworks has an exceptional ability to convey the joy of dance to every student while illuminating the historical and multicultural perspectives of different American percussive dances. For over twenty eight years, Footworks has specialized in performing and teaching the music and dance that developed

up and down the East Coast and across the continent from origins in African-American, Celtic, and Native American cultural traditions still found in Southern Appalachia. Footworks presents live fiddle music, American clogging and hambone along with call-and-answer songs, rhythms, and other related dances such as French Canadian stepdance and South African bootdance.

Grade Level: K-5, 6-8, 9-12

Curriculum Connectors: Multi-Cultural, History/Social Studies, Music, Dance, and Physical Education

THEATRE ARTS

Mike Wiley – One man plays

www.goingbarefoot.com



Mike Wiley Productions is a theatre company that specializes in African American historical narrative, and true events that shaped the foundation of our present day United States. Utilizing over a decade of professional acting experience, "I transform through my voice and posture into dozens of real and sometimes fictional personalities from American history." By dramatizing the lives and events that have made a patchwork quilt of cultures and communities, he inspires audiences to seek opportunity in the shadow of success or failure.

Glenis Redmond – Performance Poet

<http://www.loydartists.com/index.php?page=bio&display=10>



Glenis Redmond's love of words has carried her across the country for over thirteen years. Glenis logs over 35,000 miles a year bringing poetry to the masses. This Road Warrior Poet, though steeped in Afro-Carolinian roots, speaks a universal tongue of love, loss, celebration, sorrow and hope. Her verse uplifts family, culture, and community. Glenis is a gentle pen pusher as she encourages others to find their voice at diverse venues across the country from prisons, universities, festivals, conferences, theaters to schools. Her poems soothe, illicit and inspire others to pick up their pen and travel their own poetic road.

Box of Light Theatre

Shakespeare's Clowns

www.boxoflight.org



Introduce your students to Shakespeare's funniest characters with Box of Light's performance of *Shakespeare's Clowns*. This performance uses live actors and computer animated graphics. It is audience interactive and very entertaining!

Gary Lee Smith

www.samervin.com



This one-man play starring professional actor Gary Lee Smith examines the life of one of the South's most famous country lawyers, Sam Ervin, Jr. Whether it's in a single classroom, school auditorium or library, "Senator Ervin" uses the time he's given with your high school students to talk about his life. From growing up in the mountains, fighting in World War I, the childhood accident that resulted in family tragedy and thrust him into public service to his fights against the monkey bill.

Your students will be learning about history without realizing it as they watch the "Senator" re-enact his battles with Joseph McCarthy, Robert Kennedy and various witnesses in the Watergate hearings. The play is not only filled with personal insight and political confrontation, but it's also peppered with the home spun mountain humor Sam Ervin was famous for, entertaining your students (and teachers) as well as educating them.