

Garden School News

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Headmaster's Column

On April 17, Dr. Arthur Gruen, President of our Board of Trustees, spoke at our first General Assembly, an evening designed to present to parents our long range plan for Garden School's future over the next five years.

Dr. Gruen spoke about Garden's finances, the Board and some of our long term goals.

The Board, which consists of unpaid volunteers, has the responsibility for finances and long range planning. At present, our Board consists of alumni, current parents and one member from the financial community. The President of the PTA, along with senior administrators attend all meetings. There are also a number of committees, which meet regularly.

Financially, the school is sound. Although tuition covers only 75% of our total budget, other related activities such as camp, PTA donations, alumni and parent donations, make up the difference. Dr. Gruen also talked about the tuition increase and its relation to enhancing teacher salaries and to the beginnings of an endowment.

Included in his discussion of long range plans were curriculum development, the International Baccalaureate program and new science initiatives. Faculty development and improved faculty salaries also form an integral part of this plan. Our goal in the area of faculty development is to participate in a full program of workshops con-

ducted by NYSAIS.

Dr. Gruen also talked about investigating the need for a new state of the art facility, which would enhance the educational environment and lower maintenance costs.

What was so special about this General Assembly, the first of what we hope we be an annual event, was that we were taking a long term look at our school and where we want to be in five years. All good schools look at five year plans for formulating their development their goals for the future growth and development of an education vision. And after all, five years is only 2012!

Dates to Remember

- *Mon., May 5—Wed., 5/7 Philadelphia Trip Grades 5 & 6*
- *Mon. May 5—Mon. 5/12 AP Exams*
- *Thursday, 5/8 Bake Sale for Alzheimer Association*
- *Friday, 5/9 Grade 4 Trip to Caumsett & Sleepover*
- *Monday, 5/12 Meeting of the Board of Trustees*
- *Monday, 5/13 PTA Walk-a-thon*
- *Thurs. 5/15—Sat. 5/17 J.H. Poetry Festival*

Read Any Good Books Lately???

Grades 4, 5, and 6 have been busy reading throughout the year. These grades have accepted Scholastic's reading challenge in which classes who read up to 100 books can help disadvantaged students earn books for their schools or save 100 acres of rain forest land in Ecuador. We are happy to announce that Garden School students have helped in both these initiatives by completing not one but two book charts! Students have become so involved in reading that our students have read well over 200 book titles! Indeed two of our sixth graders (Andrew and Yasmin) have read books from all the literary genres, earning them special prizes and recognition.

In Memoriam Highlights



Mrs. Zinner was an active member of the Garden School Community for the past 17 years, having served as Director of College Counseling & Admissions, Director of Student Services and most recently Upper Division Head. A friend of Joan's summed it up beautifully... "Ever elegant, beautiful, giving and kind—Joan will always be a role model for us". She will be missed.

On April 30, 2008 the Newbery prize winning author, Johanna Reiss visited Garden School. Ms. Reiss wrote The Upstairs Room & The Journey Back. She discussed the experiences of World War II & the Holocaust to our fifth-eighth graders. Ms. Reiss showed students pictures of the farmhouse where she & her sister hid for over two years and brought other interesting artifacts as well. The students enjoyed a question & answer session with the author and were gifted autographed copies of her critically acclaimed & award winning book, The Upstairs Room.

Students in the Lower Division have finished an in-depth Holocaust unit in which they studied the causes of W.W. II and discussed issues relating specifically to the Holocaust. Sixth graders read excerpts from Holocaust literature including pieces from: The Diary of Anne Frank and Eli Wiesel's Night. Students also saw a theatrical production at Queensborough Community Theater of My Heart in a Suitcase.



Author Johanna Reiss

Congratulations to the Members of the Class of 2008 who have been admitted to the following colleges:

- *Adelphi University*
- *Bentley College*
- *Bowdoin College*
- *Boston University*
- *Canisius College*
- *Case Western Reserve University*
- *City University of New York (8)*
- *Colgate University*
- *Cornell University (2)*
- *Dartmouth College*
- *Drew University (3)*
- *Fordham University (4)*
- *Franklin and Marshall College*
- *Georgia Tech University*
- *Georgetown University*
- *Hamilton College*
- *Iona College*
- *Kean University*
- *Le Moyne College*
- *Laboratory Institute of Merchandising*
- *Long Island University - Brooklyn*
- *Long Island University/CW Post (6)*
- *Macaulay Honors College at CUNY (2)*
- *Manhattanville College (4)*
- *Molloy College*
- *New York University (5)*
- *NYU - Stern College of Business*
- *Pace University*
- *Polytechnic University*
- *Rochester Institute of Technology*
- *Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (2)*
- *St. John's University (5)*
- *SUNY - University at Albany*
- *SUNY - Binghamton University*
- *SUNY - College at Oneonta (2)*
- *SUNY - Stony Brook University (3)*
- *Syracuse University*
- *Union College*
- *University of Bridgeport*
- *University of Chicago*
- *University of Michigan*
- *University of Philadelphia*
- *University of Rochester (2)*
- *USMA West Point*
- *Washington University - St. Louis*

(As of 4/16/08. Numbers in parentheses indicate multiple admissions.)