

Published for the friends of
the Brookline Education Foundation

www.BrooklineEducation.org
FAX 617-232-6261
TEL 617-232-3846
Brookline, MA 02447
P.O. Box 470652

Supporting Excellence in Teaching
& Love of Learning in Our Schools

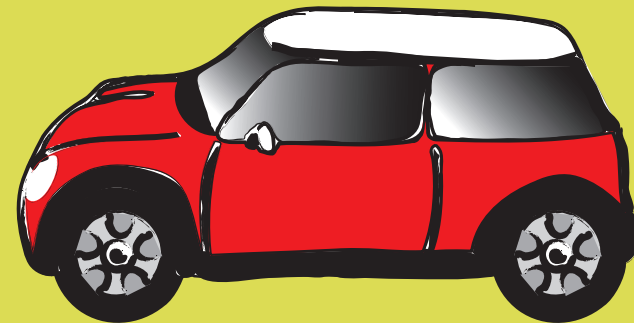
**BROOKLINE
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION**



Bulk Mail Permit
Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Boston, MA
Permit No. 51756

Don't Miss Out on the 2008 WIN-A-MINI Raffle!

Great new prizes and
convenient ticket locations
All proceeds support the programs of
the Brookline Education Foundation.



Exciting new prizes...

- **1st Prize:**
2008 Herb Chambers Mini Cooper
(with standard transmission,
fair market value \$18,800)
or
\$12,000 cash
- **2nd Prize:**
Apple iPhone (service not included)
- **3rd Prize:**
Apple iPod Nano
- **4th Prize:**
Apple iPod Shuffle

More convenient places to buy...

- In Brookline:
- Audy's Mobil Service Stations – 345 Boylston Street/
198 Harvard Street
 - Brookline Booksmith – 279 Harvard Street
 - The Children's Bookshop – 237 Washington Street
 - Connelly Hardware – 706 Washington Street
 - Party Favors – 1356 Beacon Street
- In Boston:
- Sara Campbell Ltd. – 44 Plympton Street

1 in 150 Odds of Winning...

Someone has to win—why not you? With only 600 tickets available at \$100 each, this could be your lucky year. Winners will be announced during the Foundation's Annual Spelling Bee on Sunday, March 9th at Brookline High School.

The Brookline Education Foundation @ Brookline High School

Educator Studies Intricacies of World Language

When Tanya Duarte enters her Brookline High School classroom each day, she brings with her a unique perspective. As a Spanish teacher today, she vividly recalls her days as a BHS student. The child of Puerto Rican and Peruvian parents, Duarte was conversant in Spanish and studied the language at BHS. A circuitous educational and career path, including a Masters degree in Spanish literature, eventually led her back to BHS, this time as a teacher.

A dedicated educator, Duarte has honed her expertise in Spanish while at BHS. This year, a Brookline Education Foundation grant enabled her to work on her proficiency in the most intricate complexities of the language by attending an intensive summer program at the Don Quijote Language School in Madrid.

Recounting the benefits of the program, Duarte avers, "Now I can speak from experience when comparing, for example, Latin American and Spanish lexicons. I can also encourage my students to never give up, demonstrating that even Spanish teachers need more practice."

SAVE THE DATE Mark Your Calendars!

It's Time for THE BEE!



ANNUAL SPELLING BEES

Sunday, March 9, 2008
5th Grade Bee
12:00 pm
Adult Bee
2:00 pm
Brookline High School

BROOKLINE SCIENCEFEST

Saturday,
April 12, 2008
10 am-2 pm
Heath School

*A day for kids and
families to play, discover,
and mess with science
Sponsored by the
Brookline Education
Foundation*

**WIN A MINI
RAFFLE TICKETS
ON SALE NOW!**

The Brookline Education Foundation @ the PreK - Grade 8 Schools

Grant "Empowers" Educators to Teach Writing Strategies

Fifteen educators from Pierce, Runkle, Driscoll, and Brookline High School have collaborated, with the aid of a Foundation grant, to help students develop proficiency in expository writing. Speech-Language Pathologists and grant leaders Marty Paul, James Varnum, and Laura Vish indicate that, "As educators, we are constantly teaching students with all skill levels and experiences...who are struggling with how to get their thoughts down onto paper in a clear and organized manner. Brookline teachers have a variety of wonderful writing techniques, yet are challenged by helping children learn how to transfer the expository writing techniques they have learned from one assignment to the other."

The grant team is an unusual mix of grade 4 through 12 educators from multiple disciplines. Their work has focused on an intensive yearlong study of "EmPower," an explicit method of teaching writing strategies. The result for Brookline students? In year one, nearly 250 students have acquired writing skills they can continue to apply to every subject throughout their school careers.



What's Happening at the BROOKLINE EDUCATION FOUNDATION...

Board of Directors

Kathleen L. Ames
President

Kate Anderson
Karin Cole
Cherie Gaehe
David Kirshner
Benna Kushlefsky
Julie F. Leitman
Judy Levenson
Ken Maloney
Lisa McElaney
Linda McQuillan
Ruben Moreno
Jennifer Morrison
Stephen Morrissey
Mary Lynn Pergantis
David Pollak
Kate Poverman
Kay Schlozman
Katharine Silbaugh
Margaret E. Talmers
Haris Theoharides
Deanne Army
Crispin B. Weinberg
Mark A. Weinstein
Yvette Yelardy
Lucille Zanghi

Skye Morrison Kramer
Executive Director

Kathleen Sheehy
Assistant Director

Board of Overseers

Elias Audy
Dana Brigham
Deborah Brooks
Peggy Campion
Selina Chow
Nancy Bader Gardiner
Cindy Beck Goldstein
John Hodgman
Chobee Hoy
Richard Kazis
Polly Kornblith
Louise Lipsitz
William H. Lupini
Lynn and William Osborn
Susan Rothstein
Ethel Sadowsky
Arthur Segel
Sam Solomon
Robert I. Sperber
James F. Walsh



Supported by a collaborative grant, Amy Neale, Marianne Taylor, and Bob Thomas hosted a workshop on replicating Driscoll School's Media Literacy unit. Pictured are Christina Collins from Baker School and Pierce School's Joan Hamilton and Mary Megias, examining a print of artist Heidi Cody's *American Alphabet* during the Fall 2007 Workshop. Each letter on the poster is taken from a brand logo.



Tanya Duarte, a Brookline High School World Language teacher, measures a botanical arch at the Generalife Gardens at the Alhambra in Granada, Spain. Ms. Duarte's teacher grant took her to Spain for a month where she studied advanced Spanish grammar, vocabulary, and conversation for 25 hours per week.

Brookline Spells for E-D-U-C-A-T-I-O-N

Every year around this time, the ubiquitous Brookline bee emerges. This colorful icon lands on lapels, in windows, and on bulletin boards, signaling the arrival of the Brookline Education Foundation's Annual Spelling Bees. This year's Bees take place on March 9th in the Brookline High School Auditorium. The Children's Bee begins at 12:00 pm and the Adult Bee follows at 2:00 pm.



The Adult Bee is a major fundraiser for the Foundation. Spellers participate in teams of 3—sponsored by individuals, local businesses, PTOs, and other community groups—competing in “swarms” of up to 8 teams. The winner of each swarm advances to the Championship Round. Prizes are awarded to the 1st and 2nd place teams and to the team wearing the most creative costumes. Brookline's own Pomodoro, Lineage, The Fireplace, La Morra, and Fugakyu restaurants have generously donated prizes this year.

The registration deadline for the Adult Bee is February 29th. The tax-deductible entry fee is \$300 per team. To participate in or to sponsor a team for the Bee, please visit www.BrooklineEducation.org/events/spelling_bee.html or call the Foundation at (617) 232-3846.

The Children's Bee, an old-fashioned spell-off for individuals, is open to 5th grade students in Brookline Public Schools. Bee details are mailed to students' homes at the end of January.

We hope that you will join us on March 9th for an afternoon of fun and friendly competition. Thanks to Brookline Access TV, you can relive every exciting minute! Comcast Channel 23/RCN Channel 15 will transmit the Bees on the following schedule:

ADULT BEE

Sunday, March 9th LIVE at 2pm
Saturday, March 15th & 22nd at 6pm
Monday, March 17th & 24th at 3pm
Wednesday, March 19th & 26th at 10am

CHILDREN'S BEE

Sunday, March 9th at 7pm
Sunday, March 16th & 23rd at 3pm
Monday, March 17th & 24th at 10am
Wednesday, March 19th & 26th at 6pm



Pierce School's Susan Harvey, a participant in the *EmPOWER Approach for Teaching Expository Writing* grant, works with her 4th grade class on “Brain Frames” to generate and organize ideas about a story.



Students in Lincoln School's After Hours U program investigate the effect of the slope, shape, and length of a track on the distance and accuracy of marbles traveling on the track. A BEF collaborative grant, *After School Matters*, has supported Steps to Success' efforts to provide quality after-school academic enrichment in science, technology, engineering, and math.



A hermit crab from the Traveling Tidepool exhibit of the New England Aquarium delights students in Susan Harmon's class at Runkle School. This is the 5th year that the Jack and Jordan Trust Litchman Fund has sponsored a Tidepool Exhibit visit to 3rd grade classes in all eight Brookline elementary schools.

This newsletter is published by the Brookline Education Foundation

Editors/Contributors:

Ken Maloney
Skye Morrison Kramer
Kathleen Sheehy
Deanne Army

Layout & Design: Cindy Beck Goldstein