

OCT 12 2000

Superintendent's Message

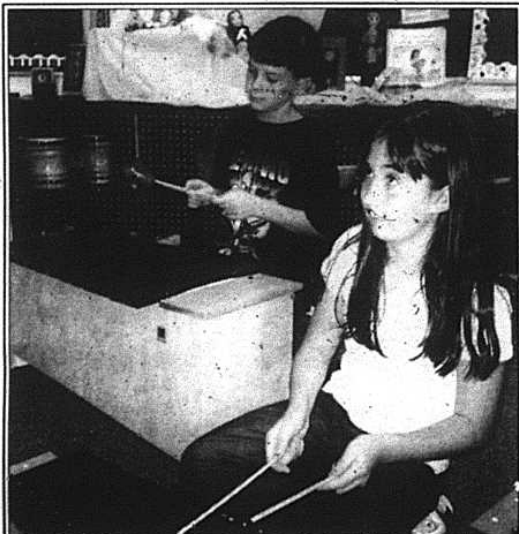
We in Rockcastle County Schools observe October as "Arts and Humanities" month. It is hoped that all citizens will join us in recognizing the students, teachers, staff and administrators in viewing the arts as academic. Rockcastle County Schools has responded to the instruction of the arts and humanities as basic to the total education of all students. We are fortunate to have both a faculty and staff who realize that arts instruction is the responsibility of all.

From the gains achieved on the arts and humanities state assessment to the inclusion of arts and humanities instruction in all disciplines, Rockcastle County Schools is seen as a leader in the continued development of a strong arts and humanities program on a state and national level.

The captions accompanying the photos in the publication are a direct reflection of the arts and humanities academic expectations mandated by the state legislature in 1990. These are the very goals that continue to drive the study of arts and humanities in our schools.

Where once the arts were viewed as simply electives available to only those students with "talent", educators now incorporate the study of arts and humanities as a tool to strengthen critical thinking skills. No longer are the arts just an "add-on" responding to emotion and opinion but rather the arts have become a necessary component in appreciating and understanding a variety of peoples and their culture.

I encourage you, the public, to visit our schools during October and become a partner in the success we have achieved during the past ten years in realizing the importance of the arts and humanities to our lives and the lives of our children.



Students create works of art and make presentations to convey a point of view.



Rockcastle County Schools Superintendent Larry B. Hammond with Rockcastle County Middle School Art students proclaiming October, Arts and Humanities Month.

PROCLAMATION

ARTS AND HUMANITIES MONTH OCTOBER

To all whom these presents shall come:

WHEREAS arts and humanities education contributes powerful educational benefits to all elementary and secondary students including the following:

- arts and humanities education teaches sensitivity to beauty, order, and other expressive qualities;
- arts and humanities education gives students a deeper understanding of multicultural values and beliefs;
- arts and humanities education reinforces and brings to life what students learn in other subjects; and
- arts and humanities education interrelates student learning in production, history, criticism, and aesthetics; and

WHEREAS these benefits of arts and humanities education form the basis of "World Class Standards" developed by the U.S. Department of Education and the National Endowment for the Arts; and

WHEREAS our national leaders have acknowledged the necessity of including arts and humanities experiences in all students' education;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that support should be given to arts and humanities teachers as they attempt to strengthen arts and humanities education in their schools and communities.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Larry B. Hammond, Superintendent Rockcastle County Schools, proclaim that October be observed as ARTS AND HUMANITIES MONTH.

Larry B. Hammond
Name and Title

Signed this 2nd day of October, 2000