



Building Futures ...since 1876

February 3, 2010

RSD Building Bridges: a once weekly digest of news and information for RSD families and friends, about our school and the Deaf community. [Follow this link](#) for a PDF version of this edition of Building Bridges. Find past issues in the [RSD Web site Newsletters Center](#).

February 2010

[Please follow this link](#) for the new, monthly RSD lunch menu and you may [follow this link](#) for the February Wildcat Zone Residential and Student Life Activities Calendar.

RSD will be closed for Presidents' Day on Monday, February 15. Mid-Winter Recess for students is February 16-19. Also, there will be no classes for Middle and High School students on February 26 and no classes for Preschool and Elementary School students on March 1.

DAR, Storytelling and RSD READS

RSD is so pleased to have Patrick Graybill, our Deaf Artist in Residence (DAR) for 2009-2010, present to the community about the RSD READS program. For more information about this event, please [follow this Web link](#).

As DAR, Pat will be working with RSD students on their public speaking, acting and storytelling skills. His efforts with our students will be showcased in the newly renamed "Patrick A. Graybill Storytelling Festival" which will take place at RSD on Thursday, April 1, 2010. To learn more about that [please follow this Web link](#).

RSD Jr.NAD presents Valentine Carnation Sales. Proceeds from sales will be contributed toward Haitian Earthquake Relief. [Follow this link](#) to get the carnation order form. Thank you for your support!

Advocacy for RSD and 4201 Schools - We Need Your Help! The Deficit Reduction Plan in New York State will reduce aid to our eleven 4201 Schools totaling \$7.7 million. Now more than ever, we as RSD families, staff, and former students must communicate to our elected representatives our strong opposition to these drastic cuts. [Please follow this Web link](#) for more information on how you can help. Thank you.

Still looking for Volunteers/Walkers! Spread the word!! RSD 2010 River Ramble Volunteers: We're gearing up for our 2nd Annual River Ramble - RSD's 5K run/walk to be held on Saturday, June 5 - and we're looking for volunteers to help us in various capacities (as committee members, race day helpers, refreshment table volunteers, and so on). To learn more please contact Bill Keenan at 585-336-5884 or BKeenan@RSDeaf.org.

Community Basketball at RSD! RSD and the Rochester School for the Deaf Alumni Association invite one and all to participate in community basketball, Fridays from 4 to 7 p.m. in the Westervelt Hall gym. All are welcome. [Follow this Web link for details.](#)

News from the [Wildcat Den](#). The [RSD Martial Arts Club](#) returns February 22. Please consider this activity for your child/children. For more information about the after-school program in Martial Arts at RSD please contact [Mr. Chris Bradley](#), Director of Student Life Programs: 585-336-5876, 866-340-7760 (videophone).

ASL classes for RSD parents and family members are also offered on Monday afternoons from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Lyon Hall Conference Room #101. Ms. Terri Mertz is the ASL instructor. Please contact Terri in advance if you would like to attend these classes. Contact Terri at TMertz@rsdeaf.org

Summer Science & Technology Entry Program (STEP) - an interactive summer program for deaf students in grades 8 to 12 - is 4-weeks of hands-on learning designed to expose highly motivated students to professional work experiences. Last year the program had its first deaf participant, and more deaf students are encouraged to attend this year. Open to NY State residents, all [application materials](#) are due by February 5, 2010. [Please visit the STEP Web site](#) for more details and contact [Kim Kelstone](#) if you have any questions.

Rochester After School Academy at RSD is free and is open to all deaf and hard-of-hearing students living and attending schools in the Rochester and Monroe County area. RASA @ RSD provides high-quality academic, recreational, and social after-school activities. [Please follow this Web link](#) for more information, including contacts, the link to download the RASA@RSD registration form, and a new link to the RASA @ RSD annual calendar.

RSD Early Childhood Programs presents a brand new, informational booklet "A Positive Approach to Raising a Deaf Child: Information for New Parents of Deaf Infants and Toddlers" by Andrea Kahn-Richie, with support and co-writing by ECC staff Dawn Rood and Marilyn Curley. It's available any time as a free digital download. [Visit the Web pages for RSD Early Childhood Programs](#) and click on the booklet banner.

RIT/NTID Dance Company presents "Sleeping Beauty" February 11-14, 2010, in NTID's Robert F. Panara Theater on the RIT campus. [Please follow this link](#) for details about the show and ticket information.

Rochester Deaf Rotary Club will host an interpreted presentation by lawyer Michael T. Hagelberg on the topics of Wills, Health Care Proxies and Power of Attorneys, February 9, 2010, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Alpha Lutheran Church, 1969 South Clinton Ave. For more details [please follow this Web link](#).

The Rochester Broadway Theatre League and the Hearing Loss Association of American Rochester Chapter present open-captioned stage shows at the Auditorium Theatre. Captioned performances include: Spring Awakening, Sunday, February 14, 2:00 p.m. [\[Ticket order form\]](#); Grease, Sunday, March 21, 2:00 p.m.; Wicked, Sunday, April 18, 2:00 p.m. For information about tickets and special seating arrangements please contact Stephen Rapp at 325-7760 x3101 or srapp@rbtl.org

To join the Building Bridges distribution list, update your e-mail address or to opt out, contact:

Rochester School for the Deaf Outreach Center
E-mail: OutreachCenter@rsdeaf.org
Phone: 585-336-5855 (V/TTY)