

**October 30, 2007**

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SIP  
MEMO

10/30/07



**to:** All Staff  
**from:** Jean Ney, Coordinator of Fine Arts & PE  
**subject:** Smithsonian Scholars  
**date:** October 30, 2007

The Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C. is a repository for our many of our nation's historical treasures. In recent years the Smithsonian has put together traveling exhibits that are specific in nature, and are comprised of original artifacts and information.

In November the Union Station in KCMO will feature a Smithsonian Exhibit entitled "Behind the Magic: 50 Years of Disneyland." Here is the exciting part:

Whenever the Smithsonian sends out an exhibit, they also send out **Smithsonian Scholars**. These folks are experts in the subject who present lectures and workshops for students in the community. The Smithsonian chooses the school districts in which the lectures will be presented. Our school district has been chosen! The Smithsonian Scholars will be in our district November 14-16.

The Smithsonian Scholars for this event are:

- **Max Alvarez**, a TV and film historian. He will speak on animation from early cartoons to the computer-generated movies of today. Mr. Alvarez's presentation is well-suited to secondary school visual arts classes.
- **Tricia Edwards**, Education Specialist at the Smithsonian's Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation, who will use hands-on activities to talk about creativity. Ms. Edwards' presentation is best suited for upper elementary grades. She will present a short talk first on creativity and invention, illustrated by some Smithsonian examples, then will move on to a hands-on activity for the students. For this, she breaks the class into smaller groups of 4-5 and they "invent" something.

Both presentations are about an hour, but can be adapted to fit the class schedule. Both prefer groups no larger than fifty students.

There are a very limited number of slots for Smithsonian Scholar presentations available. They will be distributed to schools on a first-request-first-served basis. To request consideration, please e-mail Jean Ney at [jeney@kckps.org](mailto:jeney@kckps.org). Include your name, school, subject taught, and grade level along with a first and second choice of times from the schedule below. Be sure to OK your request with your school principal first. No request will be considered after November 2.

Schedule of Scholars (choose a first and second choice of scholars and times, please):

**MAX ALVAREZ (secondary)**

Wed., Nov. 14: two AM sessions (before early dismissal)  
Thurs., Nov. 15: two sessions (AM or early afternoon)  
Fri., Nov. 16: two sessions (afternoon from about 12:30 on)

**TRICIA EDWARDS (upper elementary)**

Wed., Nov. 14: one (possibly 2) AM session  
Thurs. Nov. 15: one afternoon session  
Fri., Nov. 16: one afternoon session

All teachers are invited to attend a special free educator workshop planned for Thursday evening, Nov. 15, at Union Station. It starts with a preview of the exhibit at 4-5:30 pm, followed by the workshop at 5:30-7:30 pm which will feature both Smithsonian presenters. Pre-registration is required; interested teachers should contact Union Station at 816-460-2226. Both Mr. Alvarez and Ms. Edwards will be making presentations at that event.

# ALCOTT ARTS CENTER

## Trunk or Treat

180 S. 18<sup>th</sup> Street

Kansas City, KS 66102

913-233-2787

[www.alcottartscenter.org](http://www.alcottartscenter.org)

Sponsored by:

Chas Ball's, Ed's Trophies,  
The Zaragoza Family & the  
Alcott Neighborhood Group



**OCTOBER 31<sup>st</sup>  
Halloween!**

Trunk or Treat at the Alcott

**5 to 8PM** Bring your kids in

costume. Get goodies and candy

Have a great time in a

Safe environment.

