

"It is not so much what we are taught, but what we are surrounded by, that determines the course of our lives: the music and poetry and talk, the bright cocoon of life that is woven around us."

-Julie Keller

Linden Corner LEAFLET

June 2008

Linden Corner School • 3201 Hillsboro Pike, Nashville, TN 37215 • 615.354.0270 • lindencorner.org

LAURA ASKS

At the end of May, we graduated our second class from Linden Corner School. I decided to interview our three graduates to find out about their LCS experience and what they are looking forward to in high school. Enjoy hearing from Amanda Howell, Aiden Holley & Josh Kutsko.

LD: How long have you been at Linden Corner?

Aiden: Almost 6 years.

Amanda: I've been at LCS for about 3 ½ years.

Josh: 5 years.

LD: What is your favorite memory of being a student at LCS?

Aiden: There are so many, but one I really enjoyed was having Ginny in our class and coming early every day to school to play with Ginny and talk to Ms. Way.

Amanda: I have so many awesome memories here. I couldn't possibly pick a favorite.

Josh: Getting to school early in 7th grade to hang out with Ms. Way and Ginny and play cards with friends.

LD: What will you miss about the school? Will you come back for Elves' Faire and other activities at the school?

Amanda: What I will miss is the free-spirited atmosphere that this school has provided. I will most definitely try to keep involved in school activities like the Elves' Faire, etc.

Josh: I will miss knowing and being friends with everyone. I will probably come to events if I won't miss much that day.

Aiden: I will miss the awesome people here as well as the recesses and friends. I'll probably come for Elves' Faire and next year's 8th grade graduation.

LD: Where are you going to school next year? What are you looking forward to in high school?

Aiden: I'm going to Hume Fogg... looking forward to new friends, and not having to drive so far.

Amanda: I am going to Nashville School of the Arts (NSA). What I'm looking forward to is all the people I know who are going there as well.

Josh: I am going to University School of Nashville (USN), and I look forward to the orchestra there.

LD: How do you feel art & music have enriched your learning experience here?

Aiden: It's made my schooling a lot more fun and has made me a great musician and artist. I probably would never have discovered I had that in me if it weren't for this school.

Josh: One, I think art and music should always be integrated with academics, and two, I got a scholarship to USN because of violin.

Amanda: It's really helped me to understand the tasks given to me in the past years.



Josh Kutsko, Amanda Howell & Aiden Holley

LD: What have been your favorite main lesson blocks and why?

Josh: My favorite block of all time was European Geography, because Ms. Way was an awesome teacher and made it really interesting. I loved the medieval period, all science blocks in seventh/eighth grade, and our English block with Ms. Bouldin.

Amanda: My favorite block was probably Astronomy because we got to learn about the stars.

Aiden: My all-time favorite block was our short story block with Ms. Bouldin, because we read cool stories and had a lot of fun laughing and talking about the stories.

LD: How confident do you feel about your academic preparedness for high school?

Josh: I feel slightly nervous—not about the classes, just the different structure. Every single block helped me learn important things.

Aiden: I feel confident, but some blocks, like the geography and English, seemed much too short.

Amanda: I feel pretty confident about academics.

LD: What would be some fun alumni activities for you?

Aiden: It would be fun to have an alumni party every year in the Fellowship Hall with all the alumni from last year, too. For our class alone we'll probably just keep in touch since there are only three of us.

Amanda: Just hanging out, you know, doing anything.

LD: And, as always, what is your favorite paleta flavor?

Aiden: Caramel, but it has a special Spanish name. I just forgot the real name.

Amanda: My favorite flavor is chocolate strawberry. (By the way, when we answer this, does it mean we get a free one?)

Josh: Watermelon.



—Laura Duke, LCS Parent and Enrollment Coordinator

OUTREACH COMMITTEE



The Outreach Committee is thrilled to have completed its yearlong project of new school name, logo, and website. We will officially begin the 2008-2009 school year as Linden Waldorf School! We extend heartfelt thanks to each of you for your participation.

The Symbolism of the Linden Waldorf School Logo

We begin with the familiar form of the linden leaf, significant in the school's history. By intertwining the leaf element into a form drawing and adding a watercolor texture, we relate our logo to the art that is an everyday part of learning in a Waldorf school. Three leaves symbolize the trinity of heart, head, and hands, or the thinking, feeling and willing aspect of the education, while the

unbroken circular weaving of the leaf forms indicate our eternal shared commitment to our children through Waldorf education. And finally, the colors of the seasons are chosen to symbolize the cycle and rhythm of the year, celebrated throughout each school day as well as with community-wide festivals.

The Linden Tree and Linden Corner

The Linden tree refers to the genus of *Tilia* found in Europe; the native species in Eastern North America (and Tennessee) is known as Basswood. These trees love water and have huge heart-shaped leaves. There is absolutely nothing poisonous about the Linden tree, and it is prized by all kinds of sentient beings as a source of food, shelter, shade and even clothing. Perfumes and teas are made from its fragrant flowers. Squirrels, chipmunks, and bees also enjoy the flowers, deer eat its bark, and all kinds of critters nest in its frequently hollow trunk. Linden honey is treasured for its lightness and flavor, and linden tea is an herbal remedy for anxiety and high blood pressure (among other things), bark was used for making shoes and clothing, and the wood of

the linden tree is soft and favored for carving. The first wood Mr. Bale gives our children to carve in woodworking class is basswood. It is a favored wood used in crafting musical instruments, particularly flutes and drums—perfect for this Waldorf school in Music City that offers us woodcarving and so much music.

The term “linden” is of Germanic origin. Waldorf education is also of German origin—and the linden tree, like Waldorf education, is the best of what the German culture has to offer. The linden tree has been sacred to the Germanic and Slavic people for centuries as a “tree of peace” and/or the “tree of life.” In the pre-Christian times, village communities gathered under the linden tree to hold their “Dings” or councils to settle disputes between citizens. They also danced around the linden tree during festivals.

Even today the linden tree is a symbol of peace and life in these countries. Over the years, the heart-shaped leaves have served as the logo on our literature—symbolizing the warmth and love of this Linden Corner community.

Special thanks to Sylvia Hurdle and Kristen Beahm for contributing to this article.

Coming Soon: LindenWaldorf.org

This summer, the Outreach Committee will finish an ambitious, yearlong effort to redesign our website. The new site, www.LindenWaldorf.org, is designed to be a dynamic tool for research and communications—a place to keep tabs on everything going on at the school as well as to find in-depth information about all things “Waldorf.”

Here's some ways you will be able to use the site in your everyday life:

- look up the date of your child's next concert
- show friends sample student workbooks
- learn about the curriculum your children will be studying
- seek answers to questions, like “Has school been cancelled due to snow?”
- forward the web address to friends who are interested in Waldorf Ed
- research articles on child development
- keep tabs on how our alumni are doing in high school
- discover a craft idea to share with your child
- register for special events
- email friends a flier about the Elves Faire (or other event)
- donate or volunteer your time
- look at pictures from the latest big event
- check the school handbook
- discover who is on the Board of Trustees or its committees
- download enrollment applications
- check Linden Seed Store hours
- link to more about topics in the Manse Minutes or Leaflet newsletters
- and much more!

Our website will be able to grow with our school, thanks to the dynamic tools provided by SiteMason hosting and web development services (donated by owner and Linden parent Tim Moses). Its content management tools enable our administrative staff to keep the site loaded with fresh content and up-to-the-minute news.

Sitemason

websites. hosting. content management.
custom programming. academic solutions.

Publish Your Website Quickly & Easily



With Sitemason you can...

Sell your products online, publish news or podcasts and manage your entire site from any web browser. Sitemason is designed for any size business, non-profit organization or university.

Watch your email box this summer for an announcement when the site is “live”—then share it with all your friends and family. Help us spread the word about Waldorf education in Tennessee!

Kristen Beahm

Grace, Beauty, Strength, and Speed: Fifth Graders Compete in Atlanta Pentathlon

On Monday, April 28, ten Linden fifth graders headed eastward to Atlanta along with several parents and their class teacher, Mrs. Ross, for the much-anticipated Pentathlon. Our own Ms. Roff was already in attendance as an event judge and coach. The festivities began with the solemn and reverent opening ceremonies, complete with Olympic flame, drum circle, and the Olympic Oath, spoken in unison by all athletes. 86 students from seven Waldorf schools were in attendance, and each was welcomed into one of the city-states of Athens, Sparta, Corinth, or Thebes. The following day was filled with intensive training in javelin,

discus, relay running, long jump, and Greek wrestling, as well as performances of plays, music, and dancing by all participating schools. Competition morning dawned cold and bright as the city-states processed into an open field ringed with trees to begin. It was beautiful to see these children, who have been working towards this event all year, take up their places with joy and equipoise as they endeavored to “win with grace and lose with dignity.” The competition was beautiful to behold! All too soon, the closing ceremonies marked the conclusion of the three days. Every athlete received a laurel wreath and medal, and



Margo throws the javelin!



Jack, Natalie, and Addie—Athens

Linden students were especially honored for their grace and beauty in Greek wrestling, discus, and javelin; received honorable mentions in discus, javelin, Greek wrestling, and long jump; and were awarded for longest javelin and discus throws. The Waldorf School of Atlanta brought the 2008 Pentathlon to a close by lighting the Olympic torch from the brazier and passing the flame to The Redmont School of Birmingham, who will host the Pentathlon next year. Everyone in attendance left the grounds that afternoon with

hearts full of gratitude and the resounding notes of “Glorious Apollo” reflecting the beauty of the three days. Many thanks to Ms. Roff, Ms. Ross, Hyram Williams, Diane Bishop, and Laura Duke for their leadership and assistance throughout. Linden Waldorf School looks forward to hosting the Pentathlon in Nashville in 2010! *Janie Wilkerson*

Sunflower Kindergarten

After many weeks of hard work, the Sunflower Kindergarteners welcome their dear little babies in a naming ceremony. Each name is chosen with care, just as they have sewn the baby dolls with Frau Olney.



Frau Olney with Maxi Baudenbacher (and baby Felix)

Mya Morrill and Sunny (well dressed by her sister's handwork!)



What wonderful times we have had in the Sunflower Kindergarten this year. The children have worked and played hard and are now ready to cross the “Rainbow Bridge” as they move on to their next adventure. Congratulations!

MAY FAIRE AND GRANDPARENTS DAY



UPPER GRADES CONCERT



My heroes! You played like real pros and sang like angels. Many thanks!!!



What a sound! You became a real Philharmonic tonight!!



LOWER GRADES CONCERT



Congratulations to our 3rd-5th graders on a beautiful Spring concert!

The excitement and anticipation of the concert 15-20 minutes prior is one of those special moments for me at Linden Corner. Classes are bonding together, music is still being practiced and the children are so anxious for the minutes to go by so the concert can begin! Each piece performed was a gift for our ears and spirit that evening. Thanks for the overwhelming support of our program by parents and faculty that Mr. Fink and I have received throughout the year!

—Mrs. Sprouse

1ST GRADE—Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain



CLASS PLAYS . . .

5TH GRADE—Prometheus, the Fire-Bringer



3RD GRADE—The Twelve Sons of Jacob



20 Ideas for Summer Fun

- 1 Teach your child a song you liked to sing as a child.
- 2 Watch a sunrise together.
- 3 Put family pictures in an album.
- 4 Help your child learn how to sew on a button.
- 5 Give your young child a bucket of water and a paint brush to "paint" with outdoors.
- 6 Visit the library. Take plenty of time to browse.
- 7 Take time to look at the shapes of the clouds.
- 8 Make a window garden by planting seeds in cut-down milk cartons.
- 9 On a rainy day, put on boots and go for a walk in the puddles.
- 10 Scribble in time to music. Use a big piece of paper. When the music stops switch to another color crayon.
- 11 Take turns clapping a simple pattern and having the other person try to repeat it.
- 12 Leave a surprise note for your child under a pillow or in a pocket.
- 13 Go to the store together and buy a fresh fruit or vegetable that neither of you has ever tasted before. Prepare it for a snack together.
- 14 Learn how long a minute really is. One person watches the second hand on a clock while the other one sings, talks, claps or is quiet for one minute straight.
- 15 Go on a picnic. Keep the food simple and the place close by.
- 16 Mail yourselves a letter from the post office.
- 17 On a rainy day let your child make a fort using chairs, couch cushions, sheets and blankets.
- 18 Summer is a good time to call your child's attention to fragrance: the smell of a hot sidewalk when a rainshower begins, freshly cut grass, flowers, moist earth.
- 19 Cut an apple in half from side to side to find the star formed by the seeds.
- 20 Make mud pies.

adapted from The Well-Centered Child, May 1994, © by Sally Nurs

A BIG THANK YOU

From the teachers of Linden to the parents of Linden

We thank you for all the many ways you make such a wonderful difference in the life of the school, the children, the teachers, and the administration.

- *volunteering as room parent*
- *organizing & attending private music lessons*
- *handling class fundraising*
- *creating costumes and props for class plays*
- *volunteering endless hours*
- *-serving on the Board of Trustees*
- *substitute teaching*
- *encouraging practice on instruments*
- *being involved*
- *giving gifts to the class: flowers, books, silks, & more*
- *organizing class Gala projects*
- *bringing snacks during ERB testing*
- *making the Elves Faire a huge success*
- *participating on committees*
- *assisting with handwork*
- *organizing community service work*
- *driving on field trips*
- *reading during handwork time*
- *organizing snacks for various events*
- *reading during lunch*
- *organizing the weekly egg sale*
- *moral support*

Summer is here!

Looking for wonderful books for your children? Here are some favorites: parent-tested, kid-approved. Look for them at your favorite library or bookstore. Happy reading, everyone!

First Grade (read aloud)

Flower Fairy books by Cicely Mary Barker
Nature Stories by Thornton Burgess
Catwings series by Ursula LeGuin
anything by Elsa Belkrow
The Snail House by Allan Ahlberg
Night in the Country by Cynthia Rylant
Owl Moon by Jane Yolen
The Big Big Sea by Martin Waddell
Owl Babies by Martin Waddell
The Toot and Puddle series by Holly Hobbie
Happy Birth Day! by Robie Harris
You Be Good and I'll Be Night (poetry) by Eve Merriam

continued on back

Second Grade (read aloud)

Clown of God, Big Anthony, Strega Nona,
Oliver Butto is a Sissy, and others
by Tomie dePaola
The Light Princess, The Princess and the
Goblin, The Princess and Curdie
by George MacDonald
Winnie the Pooh and others by A.A. Milne
Frederick's Fables by Leo Lionni
Many Moons by James Thurber
& Louis Slobodkin
Miss Rumphius by Barbara Cooney
The Story of Ferdinand by Munro Leaf
The Quiltmaker's Gift by Jeff Brumbeau
Thunder Cake by Patricia Polacco
The Salamander Room by Anne Mazer
All the Places to Love by Patricia McLachlan
Mole Music by David McPhail
The Mousehole Cat by Antonia Barber
Somebody Loves You, Mr. Hatch
by Eileen Spinelli
This Land is Your Land by Woody Guthrie
Whoever You Are by Mem Fox
The Mare on the Hill by Thomas Locker
Sunflower House by Eve Bunting
The Butterfly House by Eve Bunting
Roxaboxen by Alice McLerran
Weslandia by Paul Fleischman
The Blue Hill Meadows by Cynthia Rylant
The Raft by Jim LaMarche
The Lighthouse Family series by Cynthia Rylant

Third & Fourth Grade (read alone or read aloud)

Spring Story, Summer Story, Autumn Story,
Winter Story, The World of Brambley Hedge
by Jill Barklem
The Wizard of Oz by Frank Baum
Tales of a Korean Grandmother
by Frances Carpenter
Down the Mountain by Ellis Credle
Matilda, The BFG, The Witches, James
and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl
The Frances series by Russell Hoban
The Jungle Book, Just So Stories
by Rudyard Kipling
Eli, Big, Bad Bruce by Bill Peet
The Tale of Peter Rabbit series by Beatrix Potter
Red Indian Folk and Fairy Tales by Sanders
Doctor DeSoto, Sylvester and the Magic
Pebble by William Steig
Stuart Little, The Trumpet of the Swan,
Charlotte's Web by E.B. White
Celtic Wonder Tales, The Tangle-Coated Horse
by Ella Young
Pippi Longstocking series by Astrid Lindgren
The Little House series by Laura Ingalls Wilder
Miss Hickory by Carolyn S. Bailey
The Courage of Sarah Noble by Alice Dalgliesh
The Wheel on the School by Meindert DeJong
Half Magic and others by Edward Eager
Thimble Summer and Gone-Away Lake
by Elizabeth Enright

The Moffats and others by Eleanor Estes
My Father's Dragon by Ruth Stiles Gannett
Animal Family by Randall Jarrel
The Railway Children by E. Nesbit
The Borrowers by Mary Norton
All of a Kind Family by Sydney Taylor
Boxcar Children by Gertrude Warner

Fifth & Sixth Grade (read alone or read aloud)

Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech
Catherine, Called Birdy by Karen Cushman
Rip Van Winkle by Washington Irving
Heidi by Johanna Spyri
Kidnapped, Treasure Island
by Robert Louis Stevenson
Lord of the Rings, The Hobbit, The Two
Towers, Return of the King by J.R.R. Tolkien
Tom Sawyer, Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
Spirits, Heroes, and Hunters from North
American and Indian Mythology
by Marion Wood
The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett
The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis
The Saturdays, The Four-Story Mistake,
Spiderweb for Two, And Then There Were
Five by Elizabeth Enright
The Long Secret by Eleanor Estes
Harriet the Spy by Louise Fitzhugh
The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame
Paddle to the Sea by Holling D. Holling
A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle
anything by Lois Lenski
Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell
Around the World in 80 Days, Journey to the
Center of the Earth, Twenty Thousand Leagues
Under the Sea by Jules Verne
Chronicles of Prydain by Alexander
Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll
The Little Prince by Antoine de St. Exupery
The Boys' Sherlock Holmes
by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
Hitty: Her First Hundred Years by Rachel Field
Rip Van Winkle by Washington Irving
Number the Stars by Lois Lowry
Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery
Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls
The Yearling by Marjorie Rawlings
Rootabaga Stories by Carl Sandburg
The Witch of Blackbird Pond and The Sign of
the Beaver by Elizabeth Speare

Seventh & Eighth Grade

Robinson Crusoe by Daniel DeFoe
The Three Musketeers by Alexander Dumas
Anything by Lloyd Alexander
Little Women and Little Men
by Louisa May Alcott
Sounder by William Armstrong
Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank
Across Five Aprils by Irene Hunt
The Keeping Days by Norman Johnston
Bright and Morning Star by Rosemary Harris
Tales of King Arthur by Roger Greene

Wizard of Earthsea, The Farthest Shore,
The Tombs of Atuan by Ursula LeGuin
Call of the Wild by Jack London
Cry, the Beloved Country by Alan Paton
The Prince and the Pauper by Mark Twain
Watership Down by Richard Adams
Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt
Caddie Woodlawn by Carol Ryrie Brink
Silent Spring by Rachel Carson
My Antonia and O Pioneers by Willa Cather
Last of the Mohicans
by James Fennimore Cooper
Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane
David Copperfield, Oliver Twist, Tale of Two
Cities, and others by Charles Dickens
The Outsiders and That Was Then, This is Now
by S.E. Hinton
Flowers for Algernon by Daniel Keyes
To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
Animal Farm and 1984 by George Orwell
Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger
Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift
Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe

Children, Nature & Us

This year's annual regional Waldorf parenting conference will be built around the theme **"Children, Nature & Us"** and will be held October 25-26 in Boulder. The conference will feature internationally-known speakers on nature education. Joseph Cornell has been a leader in the field since his first book, **Sharing Nature with Children**, was published 25 years ago; his six Sharing Nature books have been translated into 20 languages. Sharon Lovejoy's books are equally well known and have provided the inspiration that has helped introduced hundreds of thousands of children to the wonders of nature through gardening (**Sunflower Houses, Hollyhock Days, and Roots, Shoots, Buckets & Boots**).

Keynotes working out of Anthroposophy include Craig Holdrege, founder and director of The Nature Institute in Ghent, NY and Chris Korrow, a bio-dynamic farmer and film maker living in Kentucky. In addition, there will be more than three dozen workshops on deepening your relationship with nature and ways to share that with your family.

A complete brochure and secure online registration will be available the end of May at www.waldorfinthehome.com or by calling 303-546-0070.

The conference is organized by Rahima Baldwin Dancy and co-sponsored by Informed Family Life, Shining Mountain Waldorf School, and Wild Bear Center for Nature Discovery.

FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

It's courageous work to help a developing Waldorf school grow and thrive in Nashville. It takes the commitment and undaunted determination of many.

I am thankful to the faculty who demonstrate a true desire to strengthen and deepen their work in the classroom. This includes pedagogical study and working with Rudolf Steiner's insights about child development. The formation of a Faculty Leadership Council, of which the Administrator is a part, provides a foundation for stability and continuity in our school. The council directs the pedagogical arm of the school

by providing oversight to the school's curriculum development, faculty hiring and dismissal, and professional development.

I am thankful for parent volunteers who energetically give countless hours and donate sacrificially to provide Waldorf education to our community. Without their dynamism, generosity of time and talents, and strength of will, our developing school could not operate.

I am thankful to an administrative team comprised of warm people who have brought professionalism and solidarity that truly model teamwork

It is clear that Nashville wants a Waldorf School in its midst. The school remains vibrant and prosperous.

—Betsy Gimenez, AWSNA Leadership Council representative and visiting Waldorf educator

and collaborative working. At the beginning of each week we discuss highlights of the previous week. Among those highlights this year have been bringing processes and efficiencies to work previously addressed in ad hoc fashion; streamlining requests and resources; hosting full visitor mornings and having to increase the frequency because of so much interest; significantly increased enrollment in the grades program; acceptance of our students to the academic magnet school lottery; full early childhood program classes and a waiting pool for next fall.

I'm thankful for students who arrive daily with contagious enthusiasm and whose love for learning inspires and motivates all of us.

It's been an honor to work with a school community that reaffirms what Waldorf education represents—learning, striving and

The number of changes undertaken at Linden Corner in the past few months is substantial and astonishingly successful. I observed active, effective working in every aspect of the brand new administrative staff and I observed peaceful, productive working in the (mostly new) faculty.

—Kathleen Young, visiting Waldorf educator

bringing out the best in ourselves and in one another. I hope that the summer brings each of you rest, renewal and rejuvenation as we prepare for another year in strengthening and stabilizing the gift of Linden Waldorf School.

Blessings on our work,
Eileen Smith

Focus on the Grad

by Sonia Merchant

Here's the second installment in our series designed to answer the question "How do your school's graduates do in high school?" Lilly Olney (LCS '07) dropped by the office one day after a long day at Hillsboro High. She was cheerful, thoughtful, and honest—and, I must say, very humble considering her great beauty and brains.



Q Lilly, thank you so much for doing this. So, how has it been, adjusting to high school socially and academically?

A In the beginning it was a little difficult because I had to get used to how each teacher teaches. My grades are really good. It was just getting comfortable with new people, I guess, and that would be the same thing everywhere. I didn't like school at all at first. But, by November I got really comfortable. Now I like going to see my friends and everything.

Q I've heard that you have received amazing grades and enrolled in advanced classes like IB, AP and honors classes.

A They don't offer IB until 11th grade. (Oops.) I really like my AP class. The rest are honors.

Q So, you can really handle the academics? (Reader: I admit this was a leading question—I was trying to get her to talk about the incredible grades I knew she was getting.)

A I think everyone who was in our class can handle it. (I already said a humble, right?)

Q All right, well, tell me things you really liked about Linden Corner.

A I liked everything about Linden Corner, really, and I miss it. I miss it a lot. The teachers were really good. They really taught you how to look deeper into things, how to analyze them better. That was good.

Q What would you say to people who wonder how their children will do after coming out of Linden Corner?

A Not to worry, I guess. Academically they'll be up to it and even if they don't know little things they can catch up quickly. A woman, a teacher at Hillsboro (Suzanne Frensey, who is a LCS fourth grade parent), went to our English teacher and asked how the Linden Corner kids were doing. My English teacher spoke highly of us. And so she (Suzanne) decided to put her kids here. I guess that says something.

Q What do you miss the most about Linden Corner School?

A There was just something about it. I don't know how to explain it well. My class was so tight as a unit. It was like a family. The teachers made us think really hard and deeply.

Q What's your favorite thing about Hillsboro?

A It takes time getting used to, but I like having so many people there. It's like the real world. So much is going on, just like the real world.

Q There was something you once said to me about being grateful your parents let you have a long childhood. Would you please talk a little about that?

A It was nice to be sheltered so much. I got to have a real childhood. I think a lot of people at my high school didn't get to have that. Now kids have to grow up so quickly. Here [at LCS] they don't. We didn't have to deal with so much pressure here. I think it was just right. I was happy at Linden Corner. I'm happy at high school now, too.

Q What's the most obvious way your Waldorf education helped you?

A I think when we are in English and discussing things, I find it easy to find things like symbolism because we talked a lot like that. Linden Corner School taught me how to learn and how to understand things that helped with everything. I wasn't just fed facts. (Thanks Lilly)

Goodbye to the 8th Grade

As our three eighth graders move on to high school, it is natural to consider what the school has gained from their presence over the years and in particular this last year. Their performances in “A Christmas Carol” give a wonderful picture of who they are both individually and as a group.

Josh played the part of Scrooge’s nephew, who persevered in seeing the best in his Uncle, remaining loyal to him in spite of his Uncle’s unsociable behavior. Josh has demonstrated this type of positivity and loyalty in his relationships with his 8th grade classmates and to the school as a whole.

Amanda played the part of a homeless person and sang a solo, revealing her compassion for the downtrodden in addition to her beautiful singing voice and musical talent. She was also the ghost of Christmas past, the kindest of the three ghosts.

Aiden played a variety of parts, from spooky Marley, the ghost, to a washerwoman. His passion for drama and his acting ability were very evident from his performances, as was his own zany twist on the characters.

This zaniness and the ability to be true to themselves are characteristics of this class in general. It takes courage to be true to one’s self in a world that demands conformity—and that is the very world of the adolescent. Although these three particular students are very much individuals with different interests and capacities, they share in common the courage to be different from the norm. Thank you, 8th grade, for modeling this for all of us.

The independent projects that the eighth graders presented reflect the varied interests and abilities in these individuals.

Amanda examined the concept of divinity and provided a testimonial



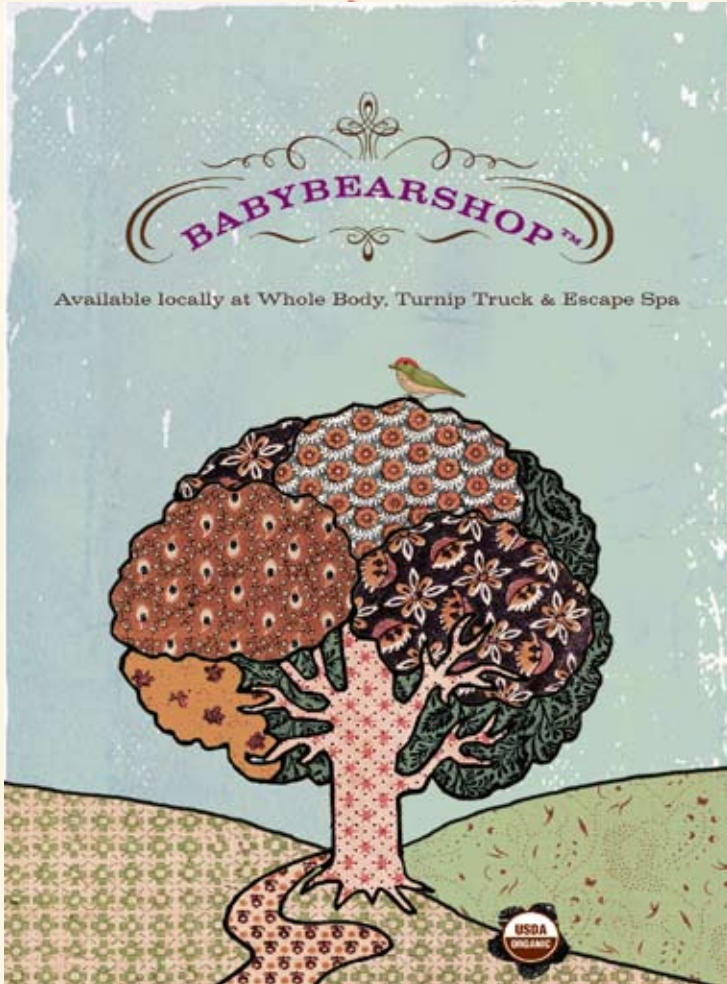
for her spiritual journey. Her project reflects her warm heart and her great interest in social harmony and community. The confident delivery of her “sermon” demonstrates her ability to stand before people and be heard. She will be attending Nashville School of the Arts next year and I am sure will continue to be heard there, too!

Aiden’s filmmaking project demonstrates how multi-talented he is. Not only did he produce two films, he acted in them, created the stories, edited, and filmed part of them. Indeed, Aiden can do anything he decides put his mind and effort toward. Generally, he chooses to direct his efforts towards artistic endeavors as anyone who has seen his beautifully crafted main lesson books or his photography can confirm. However, the same is true when he turns towards academic pursuits, and he will be a wonderful asset to Hume Fogg next year.

Josh’s independent project, a history of war, demonstrated the love he has for the Waldorf curriculum as well as his interest in history and his faith in learning as a means of improving the world. Josh is convinced that by learning from our mistakes (that is, war) we can avoid them in the future. No doubt he is convinced of this from personal experience—he has mastered learning from his mistakes thereby becoming a formidable academician. Josh’s interest in learning is a gift to his peers and teachers, and the University School of Nashville is fortunate to have him next year. In addition to being an excellent student, he will add tremendously to their music program as a talented violinist.

So, eighth graders, thank you for inspiring us with your artistry, with your music, with your regard for others, with your hard work and tenacity, and above all for your courage. We will miss you all tremendously!

Sylvia Hurdle



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8th Grade Parents Offer Words of Gratitude



My son, Aiden, has attended Linden Corner School since the third grade. I have witnessed a lot of growing pains and some difficult times, but despite everything he has always been very happy, stimulated, nurtured, and loved in the classroom environment. He has developed a strong sense of self worth, integrity, and belief in his intellectual and artistic abilities. He has maintained his joy of learning and his open heart. In addition, he is a creative and imaginative young man who thinks outside the box, asks questions, and knows how to problem-solve. These are the qualities that will ultimately help him to be successful in the world. I am so grateful that the school with its Waldorf curriculum has been there to help nurture these qualities in him. I am grateful for the ability of the school to learn and grow more efficient and wise each year.

Angela Holley



We came to Linden Corner School in early 2005. Amanda fit right in and we immediately saw a light shine through her spirit that I knew was always there. Our experience here has been one of shared caring for not only my child but for all of the children at this school. I feel as though I joined a big family who was going to help me with my child and I in return would help in any way I could. All of the people who make up this school, especially the children, are very special and loving. There is no other school like this in this town. I hope that our time here has benefited this community. What we take away from this experience is priceless and will continue to shine its light on Amanda for the rest of her life. My only regret is that we didn't come sooner! I love you all and thank you for being there for us.

Barbie Howell

After five wonderful years at Linden Corner, Josh will be heading to University School of Nashville in the fall. We moved here from Boston five years ago and Linden Corner has been "home" ever since. Joshua has made friends here I believe he will have for a lifetime...and so have I.

For the last five years every single day of school life has been a gift. Josh has loved coming to school each morning. He has soaked up the rich Waldorf curriculum each year, and he has thrived in the music program. I recently picked him up from a musical practice and he was in a very upbeat mood. I asked him why, and he said, "I get high from playing good music!" Is there any price tag we can put on hearing those words?

So many different teachers, administrators and parents have been a friend, guide, and caregiver of Josh during these years. I am so grateful to each of you. I asked Josh a few years ago the main difference between a public school he used to attend and Linden Corner and he said, "At Linden Corner everyone knows your name."

The only real downside of Linden Corner is that it becomes so much a part of you, saying good-bye is painful. So I guess we will have to come back and visit often!

Carolyn Kutsko



First Grade Class prepares to present the Eighth Graders with roses in the Reverse Rose Ceremony.



Group Hug!



The Best Is Yet To Come!!

The Gala, Online Auction, and Annual Fund Drive together bring our fundraising total to \$117,000.

The 40% of remaining families who have not contributed to the annual will fund will receive a plea by phone from a parent volunteer to help us raise another \$10,000. Linden Waldorf School is committed to supporting our teachers in their Waldorf training which

strengthens our classrooms and our school. So ...if your conscience is telling you it's time to ante-up to support this wonderful, magical place—then listen to it and open your wallet!

Todd 'Gala Man' Burr of the famous Burr-itos, Chair, Development Committee



Special appearance from Frankie, Audrey, Sammy, and Marilyn!



Knighting Ceremony for Sixth Grade

The sixth graders studied the Middle Ages during the month of May. They each took up the challenge of proving the meaning of chivalry in our current age, as well as learning many new songs and skills. They studied the art of social dance, chose a worthy cause for which to fight (such as AIDS in Africa, abused animals, the elderly), carved a sword and sewed a tunic, memorized the Pater Noster, learned to write in Uncial hand and created a beautiful illuminated manuscript about one of the characters from Chaucer's Canterbury Tales. They also memorized the first eighteen lines of the General Prologue in its original middle English.

If you see one of them, ask him/her to share with you about the experience. Truly, they are a group of knights/dames to respect and admire!



—Bernice Lowe



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