

Minutes, Parent Rep Meeting Feb. 18

We started with a brief discussion of the recently completed first session of Adult (r)Ed. Susie enjoyed the *Lolita* class very much, and said it was nice to get an idea of what is going on in the high school. More classes will be offered in the future, so please spread the word.

Visibility will begin on Monday, Feb. 22, at Charlton St. However, it is not too late to submit pictures; later submissions will be included when the exhibit moves to the Sixth Ave. building. Please send pictures and questions to visibility@lrei.org. The opening reception will be held the evening of Monday, March 8, at Sixth Ave.

On Sunday, Feb. 28, the school will be decorated for Faculty and Staff Appreciation Day, taking place on Monday, March 1. Whether or not you can make it to help decorate, you can cut out LREI houses in advance. Please leave them at the Sixth Avenue reception desk in an envelope labeled "FSA Day." Decorating on the 28th will run from 10 to 1; please bring your kids and come help. It's fun and our teachers deserve it! The FSA committee will be giving out gifts. It is a surprise, so try not to mention in front of any faculty and staff. For anyone who would like to bring in goodies for teachers, please contact Sharon Fong at fongwistman1@verizon.net.

On Wednesday, March 3, the Art Auction will open for viewing. The cocktail reception and final bidding will be 6-8 PM on Thursday, March 4. The auction takes place at Splashlight, 1 Hudson Square (75 Varick St., near Canal St.), 3rd Floor. Admission is free! As our one major fundraiser for the year, it is important to encourage everyone to come. There is a wide range of artworks to bid on. The event provides essential support for our Tuition Assistance Program and is going to be a wonderful evening with refreshments and fun. Visit <http://artauction.lrei.org/> for additional information and to view items that will be auctioned.

The LREI cookbook, Downtown Potluck, will be seeking recipes through March 19. Please submit your favorite recipes for potlucks. It's fine if the recipe originated from a cookbook; we can give credit where appropriate, and you can include a few words about how you might have adapted the recipe, or how you like to serve it. Please send recipes or questions to cookbook@lrei.org.

LREI Night at YANK! Tuesday, February 23rd at 7:00 p.m. Limited tickets available; please contact Liza Sacks at lsacks@lrei.org if interested. Set during World War II, *Yank!* chronicles the romantic

relationship between two servicemen long before don't-ask-don't-tell was part of the national discussion. With a lively score inspired by the pop sounds of the 1940s, *Yank!* captures the spirit and exuberance of the era even as it explores questions of prejudice, courage and survival. Produced by LREI parent Maren Berthelsen.

Plans for **Stir the Pot** (May 13) are continuing to develop. Anyone with ideas for restaurant recommendations or raffle items, please contact Ceci Van Blerkom (cloebl@gmail.com) or Jenn Esposito (jenn_esp@msn.com). If you would like to be on the committee, please check the blog for meeting dates.

Namita reviewed some of the faculty changes for next year. In most cases, the teachers concerned have not yet told children of their plans, so please don't mention anything for now. Ads for positions that will be open are currently appearing in the New York Times. Jami (1st grade) will be taking next year off to be with her new baby, so a maternity replacement is being sought. Colleen (2nd grade) has decided to take a more permanent break from teaching to be with her young son, so her position will be open. Tina (learning specialist) is expecting in May, so a maternity replacement for her is being sought. Sue Ribaud (early childhood music) has decided to retire, so a permanent replacement is being sought. She will be sorely missed!

Other parent rep business: Soon there will be a PA email address set up, so that any parent who would like to volunteer for a PA position for next year can send a message directly to Kim and Regina. We will publicize this more as the year goes on. In the meantime, parent reps can think about what they would like to do next year, and of course encourage parents who have not yet gotten involved to consider volunteering in some way.

In attendance: Namita, Susie Marples, Regina Trumbull, Amy Nelms, Keith Bunnell, Juliet Burrows, Kim Beck, Hilary Meltzer, Lisa Paolella, Molly Harris, Ceci Van Blerkom, A.M. Homes, Liselotte Vince, Shannon Barden, Marisa Droga