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Gallaudet Fact—

- Q.** What important modern invention did Gallaudet benefactor Amos Kendall help to make a reality?
- The grain elevator
 - The telegraph
 - The dishwasher
 - The vulcanised rubber pneumatic tire

Answer on page 3.



A member of the dance troupe Arts with the Disabled Association of Hong Kong gives a "low five" to a young audience member following a March 5 performance of *Journey to the West* in Foster Auditorium. The group traveled to Gallaudet to take part in QuestFest, a two-week visual theatre festival presented by Quest Productions. To read about the Clerc Center's role in QuestFest, go to page 4.



Richard Jones of Alexandria, Va., the grandson of the groundbreaking deaf architect and Gallaudet alumnus Olof Hanson, and his niece, Cara Jones (right), view the exhibition about their ancestor during a February 23 visit to campus. The Joneses were unable to attend the October opening of the exhibition, "Olof Hanson, Conspicuous Leader, 1862-1933," so they made a special visit to view the sketches and paintings displayed in the Weyerhaeuser Family Art Gallery and Exhibition Hall, located on the lower level of the Jordan Student Academic Center. During the visit, arranged by Erin Casler, assistant director of corporation and foundation relations in the Office of Development, the Joneses had a tour with exhibition curator Tabitha Jacques (left). Dr. Jane Norman, exhibition project director and director of the Gallaudet University Museum, and Rev. Barbara Allen, Gallaudet's Episcopal chaplain, also enhanced the visit with their expertise on the history of Hanson's life and career.



Chris Brown (left) of the Federal Aviation Administration provides career information to Audrey Pope, a 2009 Gallaudet graduate, at the February 25 Internship and Job Fair, sponsored by the Career Center. The fair, which was held at the Field House—a new venue—attracted 47 registered employers offering internships and full-time employment to more than 400 students and alumni. According to Career Center Interim Director Anjali Desai-Margolin, there was a good mix of federal agencies, private companies, and schools. Participating employers included the National Institutes of Health, Social Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security, Howard County Public Schools, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Sorenson Communications, and Smithsonian Institution—to name just a few. The employers took advantage of a private area to conduct onsite interviews. "The fair provides a wonderful opportunity for Gallaudet students and alumni to find a myriad of internship and employment opportunities in one central place," said Desai-Margolin. "I am really very pleased with the outcome of the fair, given the positive comments from employers and students in this new venue." She further noted, "Students came to the fair well-prepared, with resumes and good questions for the prospective employers. The fair was a great success!"

On the Green—A publication for Gallaudet faculty, teachers, and staff
Gallaudet University • 800 Florida Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20002-3695

Gallaudet, National Gallery of Art team up to celebrate works of deaf Dutch artist



"Ice Skating in a Village," c. 1610, is one of the paintings on display in "Hendrick Avercamp: The Little Ice Age" at the National Gallery of Art. Starting in April, Gallaudet students and alumna Tabitha Jacques will provide ASL tours of the exhibit, which features 30 works by Avercamp, a deaf artist from Holland.

A pilot program developed with the National Gallery of Art and several Gallaudet units celebrates the work of Hendrick Avercamp (1585–1634), a deaf Dutch artist of the "Golden Age," so called for the prolific amount of art produced in the Netherlands in the 17th century.

"Hendrick Avercamp: The Little Ice Age" is on exhibit in the National Gallery of Art, West Building, Dutch Cabinet Galleries through July 5. Lectures and programs associated with the exhibition are interpreted and special outreach to the deaf community is being conducted. In addition, six Gallaudet students and one alumna, Tabitha Jacques, a museum professional who works at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum, will offer guided ASL tours each Thursday at 1 p.m., beginning April 1.

"Gallaudet University is delighted to partner with the National Gallery of Art for this stellar exhibition of the work of Hendrick Avercamp," President Hurwitz commented on the pilot program. "It is fitting that student guides bring a 'deaf lens' to tours of his paintings. This collaboration is an example of the many opportunities Gallaudet students gain from the rich resources of our Nation's Capital."

The first U.S. exhibition devoted to Avercamp, an artist known to contemporaries as the "Stomme van Kampen" (Mute of Kampen), is made up of 14 paintings and 16 drawings that bring to life the lively pastimes and day-to-day bustle of the

Golden Age. Avercamp's works reveal a tremendous diversity of subjects. They range from the hardships of winter, such as beggars trying to survive in the cold and women doing laundry in freezing water, to the more delightful possibilities of the cold: finely dressed couples on ice skates swooping and whirling across frozen canals and waterways, gentlemen playing colf (a game combining aspects of golf and hockey), children throwing snowballs and skating, with sleds swishing past. Within these winter scenes lies a record of daily life unencumbered by status—as all classes formed one community on the ice.

A selection of 17th-century Dutch ice skates is also on view. The exhibition was organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington, and the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, where it was on view from November 20 through February 15. Avercamp painted in a style that reflected the 16th-century pictorial traditions of winter scenes. Yet it was his cast of characters and their activities that became the primary focus of his work. Avercamp was the first artist to specialize in winter landscapes that feature people enjoying themselves on the ice, thus making the "ice scene" a genre in its own right.

Special Gallaudet shuttle services will be offered on April 15 and 29 during "Common Time" so the campus community can easily attend the ASL tours. Shuttles will depart from the Kellogg Conference Hotel at 12:20 p.m. ■

Administrators explain financial actions in campus memo

(Campus administrators emailed the following memo to the campus community on March 10.)

To: Gallaudet Community

From: Donald Beil, Chief of Staff; Edward Bosso, Vice President, Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center; Paul Kelly, Vice President, Administration and Finance; Cindy King, Interim Chief Information Officer; and Stephen Weiner, Provost

As you know from President Hurwitz's email of February 25, 2010, a financial review of the University during the current year is being conducted. Our sub-group of the Cabinet found that in the absence of timely action we are facing a deficit of approximately \$2,000,000 for the current year. The directions we have received from our Board of Trustees clearly indicate we must live within our means on a year-to-year basis.


After considerable study, we concluded, with support from the President and the Cabinet, that we would reduce \$1,500,000 in spending by eliminating 40 positions, and achieve \$500,000 in savings through reductions in non-personnel spend-

ing. These proportions parallel our overall spending; each division of the University was impacted by personnel reductions in proportion to the number of employees in each division.

The employees affected are now being informed that their positions are eliminated effective April 2, 2010. The eliminated positions were identified through individual and group reviews by those sending this message, and by the Directors of Human Resources and Equal Opportunity Programs.

Significant additional details regarding these actions are provided in a document posted on the web at: aaweb.gallaudet.edu/documents/President/GU-2010March-RIF-FAQ.pdf.

As directed by President Hurwitz, and paraphrasing from his referenced email: please be aware that we realize that the actions we take will touch lives, and we ask for your understanding that in the midst of discussions of dollars and headcounts we have not and did not lose sight of the fact that we are affecting the futures of employees who we now gratefully thank for serving our students and the University. ■



The Laurent Clerc Cultural Fund of the Gallaudet University Alumni Association cordially invites you to celebrate Gallaudet University's 146th Charter Day and

41st Annual Charter Day Brunch & Awards Program

Saturday, April 17, 2010

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. — Peikoff Alumni House ("Ole Jim") - Upper Level

Master of Ceremonies: Fred Beam & Guest Speaker: Fred Weiner, '88

Awards Program

GUAA Outstanding Young Alumnus Award: Lynn Ray Boren, '96 (Md.)

GUAA Pauline "Polly" Peikoff, E-'36, Service to Others Award: Melanie Paul, '74 (Va.)

LCCF Alice Cogswell Award: Stephen H. Hamerdinger, G-'89 (Ala.)

LCCF Edward Miner Gallaudet Award: Dr. Robert R. Davila, '53 (Md.)

LCCF Amos Kendall Award: Charles Wildbank (N.Y.)

LCCF Laurent Clerc Award: Dr. Barbara Kannapell, '61 (D.C.)

Brunch Menu

Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Pancakes with an Assortment of Toppings, Smoked Salmon Platter, Bagels/Rolls/Croissants/Biscuits, Assortment of Cakes, Tropical Fruit, and Tea/Coffee/Orange Juice

Charter Day tickets are \$35 each, with \$10 of each sale going toward the Laurent Clerc Cultural Fund. For more information and to register, go to alumni.gallaudet.edu and click on "Events & Reunions." The deadline to register is April 2.

Among Ourselves

Dr. Carol Cutler Riddick, a professor in the Department of Physical Education and Recreation, was recently given visiting fellow status at the Oxford Institute of Ageing (OIA) at Oxford University in Oxford, England. Riddick will spend part of this summer working with an interdisciplinary and international team of researchers at OIA, examining, among other things, how leisure pursuits affect the mental and social health of older people, and presenting a research seminar at Oxford. Riddick has also been conferred research associate status in the School of Sport, Leisure, and Travel at Bucks New University in England. She will continue collaborative work this summer that began during a 2009 sabbatical which focuses on qualitative research with women who began windsurfing later in life.

Dr. Beth Benedict, a professor in the Department of Communication Studies, was named the 2010 winner of the Antonia Brancia Maxon Award for Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Excellence on March 1. The award honors the career achievements of the late Dr. Maxon, a pioneer in promoting effective early hearing detection and intervention programs for newborns, infants, and young children. Benedict received the award during the Ninth Annual EHDI Conference, held in Chicago, Ill. Benedict has co-developed and taught courses in early education for professionals working with deaf and hard of hearing children and their families through the Gerald "Bummy" Burstein Leadership Institute at Gallaudet. She served as a Council on Education of the Deaf representative to the Joint Committee on Infant Hearing (JCIH), and currently participates on the JCIH committee developing an Early Intervention Position Statement. She is a member of the Maryland Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Advisory Council, and is a consultant on early intervention and family involvement. She also is the president of the American Society for Deaf Children.

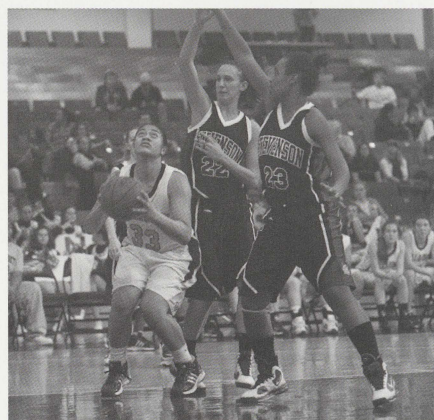
Frank Wu, vice chair of Gallaudet's Board of Trustees, moderated a February 24 panel discussion featuring rare War Relocation Authority photographs in the National Archives. The panelists had each published books of images depicting Japanese Americans between 1942 and 1945, when photographers documented the evacuation and relocation of Japanese Americans.

Linda Williams, coordinator of Tutorial and Instructional Programs, was featured in the February/March issue of *Nicker News*, the newsletter of HorseNet Horse Rescue. Her article, "Shadow, a wish come true," described her experience with caring for a horse. She had learned about HorseNet and decided to visit its facility in Mt. Airy, Md. "After meeting the horses, there was one that came forward and we absolutely clicked with each other," Williams wrote. Shadow is a 13-year-old Standardbred who suffered abuse and neglect. Williams now visits the farm on weekends to do chores and spend quality time with "her" horse. She plans to sponsor more horses in the future.

Two recently-released sign language books feature the multi-exposure photography of **Johnston Grindstaff**, a professor in the Art Department. Morris Book Publishing released *American Sign Language: A Step-by-Step Guide to Signing*, in 2009, and *Baby Sign Language: A Step-by-Step Guide to Communicating with Your Little One*, in 2010. Each book contains more than 400 images, and took about six months of shooting and editing.



Bison Roundup



Easter Faafiti prepares for a shot.

Awards roll in for Easter Faafiti

Junior center Easter Faafiti was named the 2010 Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) Player of the Year, the first time a Bison has earned the award since 2001. Faafiti was also a first-team All-CAC selection, leading the CAC in scoring (19.1 points per game), rebounding (11.1 per game), field goal percentage (.597), and offensive rebounds (5.1 per game). She was second in steals (3.3 per game) and fourth in defensive rebounds (6.0). In addition, Faafiti received All-American honors from the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA), as an honorable mention, and D3hoops.com, where she was selected to the fourth team. She also received All-Region honors from both the WBCA, D3hoops.com, and the Eastern College Athletic Conference. D3hoops.com also tabbed Faafiti as its Women's Atlantic Region Player of the Year.

Nationally, Faafiti was ranked in several categories among all NCAA Division III women's basketball programs, including field goal percentage (10th overall), scoring (27th), rebounding (30th), and steals (39th). Faafiti was selected to the WBCA All-Region team on March 9, and received an honorable mention in the running for one of the 10 spots on the WBCA All-American Team.



Women's basketball coach Kevin Cook

Coach Cook receives prestigious WBCA award

Coach Kevin Cook was selected for the prestigious Carol Eckman Award from the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA), becoming the 25th recipient of the honor. The award is named for the late Carol Eckman, who is considered the mother of the Women's Collegiate Basketball Championship. "It

is a pleasure to present Kevin Cook with the Carol Eckman Award," said WBCA CEO Beth Bass. "Your commitment to sportsmanship, honesty, ethical behavior and most importantly, your student-athletes has not gone unnoticed." Cook is the first Division III coach to be honored since the award's inception in 1986. A full story on Cook's award can be found at www.gallaudetathletics.com/sports/wbkb/2009-10/releases/eckmanaward.

Spring athletics underway

After a delayed start to the 2010 season due to the blizzards, the baseball, softball, and men's and women's track and field are underway. The Bison baseball team hosted three home games before Spring Break. Gallaudet posted an 0-7 record to begin the season as the Bison faced stiff competition in nationally ranked Salisbury University (three games) and regionally tough opponents in Catholic University of America, the University of Mary Washington, and Stevenson University. The Bison are led by two-time team captain Jeremy Shepps, sophomore shortstop/pitcher.

Coach Kitty Bottoms' era got off to a slow start for the softball team as the Bison dropped their first six games March 9 to 11. Gallaudet hosted three consecutive doubleheaders but was swept by Southern Virginia University, Wilson College, and University of Mary Washington. This is the first time in 25 years that the Bison are being coached by someone other than Sarah Doleac, who retired last season. Bottoms was an assistant coach under Doleac for four seasons prior to being named the interim head coach this season. The Bison are led by returning junior pitcher/outfielder Alicia Balzer.

Gallaudet's track and field program continues to practice and prepare for the 2010 Capital Athletic Conference championships scheduled for April 17 in Salisbury, Md. ■

ON THE GREEN

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98-342M

Roving Reporter

It's Women's History Month! Name a woman—deaf or hearing—who you feel should be honored.



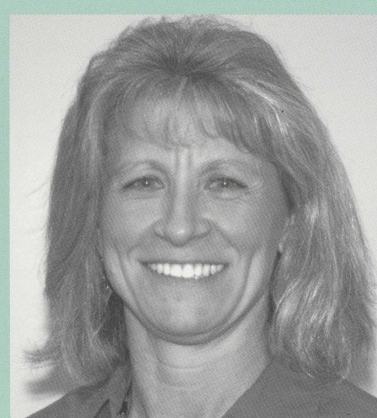
Tara Downing, family educator at KDES, is very involved with the entire campus community. She teaches dance at KDES, MSSD, and Gallaudet. She choreographs for the Gallaudet Dance Company and travels extensively around the world with The National Deaf Dance Theater.

Darla Washington, executive secretary, Office of the Principal, KDES



Rigoberta Menchú is an indigenous Guatemalan, of the K'iche' Maya ethnic group. Menchú has dedicated her life to publicizing the plight of Guatemala's indigenous peoples during and after the Guatemalan Civil War (1960–1996), and to promoting indigenous rights in the country.

Vince DiMare, undergraduate student



For the many women who juggle different roles in the workplace and in the home, Eleanor Roosevelt's life and leadership can provide inspiration. She was a great leader on many fronts. The message I take from her is to celebrate your passion every day and bring out the best in yourself!

Karen Sheffer, admissions counselor, Admissions



One of my unsung heroines is Judith Hermine Stein Williams, Class of 1964. Judy studied with [sign language linguist] William Stokoe and was working on her Ph.D. when her life was tragically cut short in a car accident in 1972. Had she lived, she may have been the first deaf woman with a Ph.D. in linguistics.

Arlene B. Kelly, associate professor/chair, ASL and Deaf Studies Department

'Charlotte's Web' coming to Gallaudet



The Theatre Arts Department will present *Charlotte's Web*, playwright Joseph Robinette's stage adaptation of E.B. White's award-winning children's novel, April 15 to 18 on the Elstad Auditorium stage.

The story of Wilbur, the endearing piglet; Charlotte, the wise and winsome spider; Templeton, the rat; the Goose; and the Sheep explores the meaning of friendship, loyalty, ingenuity, and the cycle of life in the barnyard and beyond. This production integrates American Sign Language, voice, and puppetry to create a delightful theatre experience. It is appropriate for children in kindergarten through sixth grade.

Performances will be held on April 15 and 16 at 7 p.m. and April 17 and 18 at 2 p.m. The production runs for approximately one hour with no intermission.

Full-time Gallaudet students who have paid the unit fee receive one free ticket with ID; tickets for non-Gallaudet students with ID and for children are \$8 online and \$10 at the Box Office window; tickets for adults are \$12 online and \$15 at the Box Office window; and to purchase tickets for groups of 10 or more, email or call. (See contact information below). Box Office hours are April 12, 13, and 14, 2 to 5 p.m.; April 15 and 16, 5 to 7 p.m.; and April 17 and 18, noon to 2 p.m.

For more information, call x5500/5502 (TTY), email theatre.tickets@gallaudet.edu, or go to the website, theatrearts.gallaudet.edu; to buy tickets, go to theatre-arts-department.ticketleap.com



Senior Anthony DeMare proudly displays his graduation gown at Graduation Festival 2010, held February 24 in the Jordan Student Academic Center's Multipurpose Room. The event drew scores of students eager to pick up caps and gowns, order class rings and DVDs of the Commencement exercises, and ensure that everything is in order when they march to receive their diplomas.

Notes from Human Resources

Service awards for January

Five years:

Karen Terhune, community services program coordinator, Community Services

Ten years:

Shannon Augustine, e-Learning coordinator and academic webmaster, Academic Technology; **Michael Sauder**, PeopleSoft technical analyst for human resources, Information Technology Services; **Leonard Swann, Sr.**, telecommunication technician, Telecommunications; **Paula Tucker**, research associate, Communication Arts Research

Twenty years:

Janel Grossinger, assistant director, Financial Aid; **Sharrell McCaskill**, director of equal opportunity programs, Program Development; **Vickie Whetstone**, administrative secretary, Admissions

Thirty years:

Beth Betman, instructor, Social Work Specialization; **Sue Hotto**, research associate for survey and testing programs, Gallaudet Research Institute; **Lillie Johnson**, custodian, Custodial Services

Thirty-five years:

John Woo, research applications programmer, Gallaudet Research Institute

New employees hired in January

Donald Beil, chief of staff, President's Office; **Sharon Cargo**, laboratory and instructional assistant, Chemistry; **Elizabeth Craft**, research assistant, Molecular Genetics Lab; **Thomas Horejles**, assistant professor, Sociology; **T. Alan Hurwitz**, president, President's Office

Promotions in January

Edward Bosso, vice president, Clerc Center; **Rebecca Church**, recruitment coordinator, Admissions; **Deborah DeStefano**, special assistant to the president for operations/board liaison, President's Office; **Karen Evans**, executive secretary, Student Affairs; **Cynthia King**, interim chief information officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer

Retirements in January

Linda Chambers, Custodial Services; **Nancy Goodman**, Financial Aid; **Jane Hurst**, Philosophy and Religion; **Eileen Matthews**, Diversity and Equity for Students; **Carol Monigan**, Postal Services; **Mary Peake**, Transportation

Gallaudet Fact—

Answer: B. The telegraph. Amos Kendall, who later donated land to a school that would become Gallaudet University, served as a business manager to telegraph pioneer Samuel Morse. Morse's first message went from Washington, D.C. to Baltimore, Md., via Kendall Green's Telegraph Hill, on May 24, 1844. The coded message spelled out "What hath God wrought?"

Clerc Center Happenings

QuestFest artists-in-residence introduce visual theatre techniques



Performers from the Arts with the Disabled Association in Hong Kong work with KDES students on visual theatre exercises as part of a QuestFest artist-in-residency program.

By Susan M. Flanigan

Visual theatre draws from many traditions. Performance artists from the Arts with the Disabled Association (ADA) in Hong Kong conducted workshops at MSSD and KDES as part of QuestFest, a two-week celebration of visual theatre that took place March 1 to 14. In addition to offering artists-in-residence programs, ADA and other international theatre artists gave performances at MSSD, Gallaudet University, and venues in Baltimore, Md.

The Hong Kong artists, both deaf and hearing, introduced the MSSD students to a variety of exercises and techniques used in Chinese opera. Each workshop began with a series of slow, elegant warm-up stretches. The artists challenged the MSSD students to move with concentration, grace, and focus. Over the course of several workshops, the artists introduced the students to some of the stylized movements of female and male characters in traditional Chinese opera.

At one workshop, the students watched as the artists modeled the delicate, tiny steps a geisha would use when walking in a full-length kimono. The students made wobbly attempts to copy the women's walk, to much laughter all around, and then worked on mimicking the broad sweeping gestures of the men's walk. As the workshops progressed, the students mastered a dance movement and added it to a dance sequence, similar to creating a movie one frame at a time.

The artists also conducted workshops at KDES with students from kindergarten through eighth grade. They demonstrated movement techniques and exercises for concentration and visual focus, and taught students some Hong Kong sign language. The workshop leaders introduced the youngest children to hand clapping and rhythm games for visual awareness and focus. With the older grades, the artists led students through movement exercises and concentration games that required intense focus to copy subtle changes of hand movements. The middle school students enjoyed the challenge of working in teams to create visual picture tableaux, using their bodies to create scenes such as being in an airplane or a restaurant.

Some of the KDES students were able to see their mentors perform on stage in a matinee performance at Gallaudet of the QuestFest production, *Journey to the West*. At a "Talk Back" session with the actors and the audience following the performance, students had fun identifying the members of the troupe, still in full makeup, as the people who led their workshop.

The artists enjoyed their time with the students. "We were impressed with their energy and enthusiasm," said William Yip, director of *Journey to the West*. The QuestFest artists-in-residence gave the MSSD and KDES students a great opportunity for a cultural exchange that was both educational and entertaining. ■



The Program Prioritization Task Force (PPTF), which is charged with leading the University's effort to assess its academic programs, is shown at a March 5 meeting. Pictured are (from left): Dr. Lauri Rush, Teresa Blankmeyer Burke, Dr. Susan King, Shane Dundas, Dr. Jan Hafer, Dr. Khadijat Rashid (co-chair), Dr. Gaurav Mathur, Dr. Ann Powell, Dr. Patricia Hulsebosch (co-chair), Dr. Carol Erting, Caroline Finklea, Dr. Dennis Galvan, and Dr. Isaac Agboola. The PPTF expects to submit a preliminary report this summer with its assessment of Gallaudet's undergraduate and graduate academic programs, and in November a final report will follow. Members of the community can send questions, comments, or feedback to Program.Prioritization@gallaudet.edu. (Not pictured are Dr. Beth Benedict, Chris Catron, and Dr. William Marshall.)



Gallaudet community members shake tambourines to drown out the name of Haman, the villain of the Purim story, at a holiday celebration held at Tifereth Israel Congregation.

Gallaudet Hillel celebrates Purim at Tifereth Israel Congregation

by Casey Przygoda

Gallaudet Hillel members, along with University alumni and staff, traveled to Tifereth Israel Congregation in Northwest Washington, D.C. on the evening of February 27 to celebrate the Jewish holiday of Purim.

Purim is one of the most joyous and happy Jewish holidays. It celebrates the story of Queen Esther and how she saved ancient Persia's Jewish population from a plot to exterminate them. To celebrate Esther's heroism, Jews dress in costumes. The main part of the service is the reading of the *Megillah*, the Book of Esther.

Each year, the synagogue provides a

sign language interpreter, helping deaf participants understand the story of Purim in the *Megillah* more clearly than before. This year deaf participants signed and prayed together, and watched skits put on by congregation members. When the word Haman—the individual behind the plan to annihilate the Jews—came up in the *Megillah* reading, tambourines and other noisemakers rang out to drown out his name.

"I enjoyed celebrating Purim at the temple," said alumna Esme Farb, who lives in Virginia. "I also liked the costumes the kids wore." ■

(Casey Przygoda is an Alumna working in the Office of Students with Disabilities.)

QuestFest Community Showcase features KDES and MSSD performers

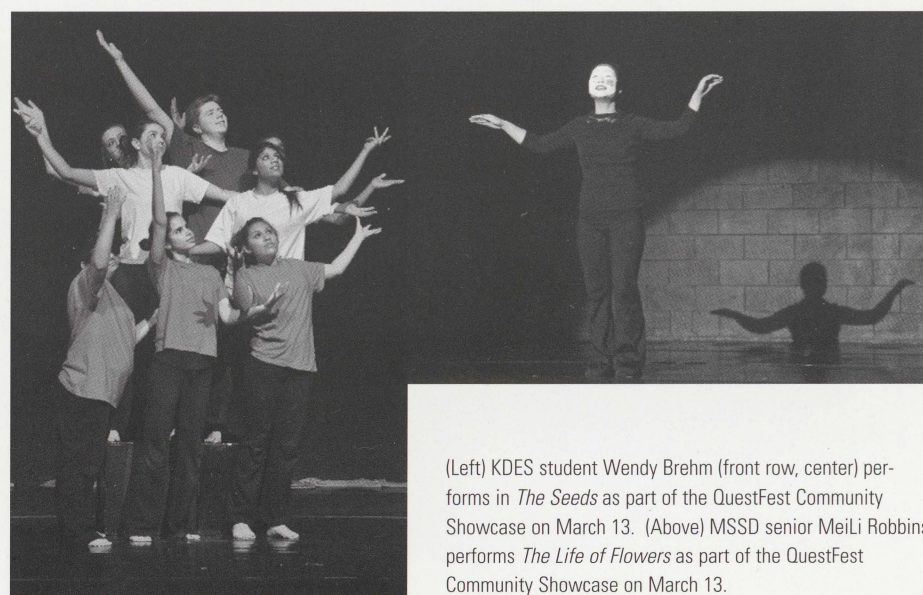
KDES and MSSD students performed in the QuestFest Community Showcase on March 13.

KDES eighth grader Wendy Brehm played a role in the Imagination Stage Youth Visual Theater company's performance of *The Seeds*. The piece explored the growth of friendships from childhood through teenage years. At the center of the stage, a tree of people spun and cast out "seeds" that started the growth of friendships depicted by the cast, with scenes of toddler play, schoolyard games, and teen secrets shared. *The Seeds* was created as part of a QuestFest artist-in-residency and co-directed by Fred Beam and Erica Segal.

MSSD senior MeiLi Robbins gave a

solo performance in the Community Showcase called *The Life of Flowers*. She developed the piece during a QuestFest artist-in-residency. Dressed in traditional black mime clothes with white make-up covering her face, Robbins evoked the life of a flower. The piece began with the seedling emerging from the ground and growing to its full height. Then, in a delightful sequence, Robbins mimed how the flower faces the forces of nature—rain, wind, and dry heat—bending, twisting, and even breaking.

Photographs from the Community Showcase and other QuestFest performances can be viewed on the QuestFest website at www.questfest.org. ■



(Left) KDES student Wendy Brehm (front row, center) performs in *The Seeds* as part of the QuestFest Community Showcase on March 13. (Above) MSSD senior MeiLi Robbins performs *The Life of Flowers* as part of the QuestFest Community Showcase on March 13.