

Talented Broomfield Academy Students Present “A Multi-Species Celebration of Winter” and Winter Arts Festival

“It was really fun to see the students discover new talents and to watch them ‘ham it up’ on stage,” commented one parent proudly in the lobby of the Broomfield Auditorium last Thursday, following the show “A Multi-Species Celebration of Winter.” The actors, singers and dancers were the talented junior kindergarteners, kindergarteners and elementary school children from Broomfield Academy, a private school dedicated to the development of exceptional, accelerated and creative students aged 3-12.

In the play, Broomfield Academy is in a winter forest. The Moose (played by James Potter) encounters his first winter season and he is curious to know why people are nailing reindeer to their rooftops, putting blinking trees in their homes, and singing around “little trees with eight curved branches and tiny drinking cups.” Owl (played by Jaya Sethi), Goose (Sam Crist), Wolf (Holden Nicoletti) and the other forest animals decide to teach Moose about the various winter holiday traditions that people of different religions and cultures celebrate this time of year.

Sarah Kleinsteiber, music teacher at Broomfield Academy produced the program, in close collaboration with dance instructor DiAnn Schuler. The play contained humorous songs and rapid-fire jokes as well as numerous heartwarming solos, energetic group musical numbers and jazzy dance performances.

“I chose this play not only because I thought it had great music and humorous dialogue, but also because I felt it embraced learning about various cultures,” commented Kleinsteiber.



“Using different species of animals to represent the diversity of the holidays and the traditions provided the kids with a terrific way to learn about themselves and their families as well as a great way to explore the traditions of fellow students and others, in this country and around the world. The students at Broomfield Academy are a very diverse group, and they were able to share their own family traditions and celebrations with each other in a way

that included a wide variety of faiths and cultures”, she continued.

“Our teaching philosophy focuses on both academic excellence and character education. By providing our students with numerous learning opportunities such as service learning projects, cultural studies, an arts program and theatrical performances such as this play, the children learn valuable lessons about world diversity and about the necessity to treat other people and their beliefs with respect”, commented Dr. Vanessa Ewing, school principal.

“The play was a way to learn about traditions other than our own,” said Jaya Sethi, fifth grade student, who played a wise owl in the play. Second-graders Nathan Holland and Caitlin McFarlane said that they loved being “Superbadgers” in the play, flying around and acting as “know-it-alls” about Thanksgiving, Chanukah, Kwanzaa, Christmas and New Years. The beavers, played by the first graders, sang “Thank You For The Christmas Trees.” “By winter our teeth are just too sore to do any more chewing through wood, and we really appreciate it that people cut down trees, put them in their living rooms, and wait for us to come take them”, shouted beavers Gabrielle Bunch and Kamryn McNair. They sang about the manner in which they graciously took Christmas trees from neighborhood houses: “We drag them ‘cross the kitchen floor, and shove them through the doggie door.”



In the number “Family Time”, a group of cute rabbits played by the kindergarten classes sang “35 uncles, 42 aunts, all want to kiss me, all want to dance!” In “I Love That Family Time.” The junior kindergarteners, age 3-5, acted as carolers, singing traditional Christmas songs while the second and third graders sang “Oh Hanukkah.” Dmitry Kolchin, dressed as a squirrel, sang about wanting to take over Santa’s reindeer’s jobs with an impressive solo piece titled “I Want To Pull Santa’s Sleigh.” Ivy Rosen, dressed as the Bear, sang expressively in her solo, “Too Many Latkes Again.” Murray Rundus together with other junior kindergarteners were particularly expressive in their singing and stage presence throughout the show. Krista Potter and Riley Tapley stole the show with their jazzy dance duet performed to “Just Like A Yo-Yo.”

Prior to the Winter Program, the school held a "Winter Arts Festival", displaying student artwork and auctioning off some of the children's poetry, stories and student artwork, as well as baskets of goodies donated by local businesses and families. The auction raised over \$2000 towards the educational and charitable activities of the Broomfield Academy Parent's Advisory Council.

About Broomfield Academy -

Broomfield Academy provides an individualized education for exceptional, accelerated, and creative students. Broomfield Academy is a nationally accredited school offering full-day programs, beginning with junior kindergarten (with full and half-day programs) and continuing through the sixth grade. The school maintains small class sizes and utilizes an advanced curriculum – teaching at least one grade level higher than public schools, as well as multiple curricula to develop individualized student learning plans.

Broomfield Academy students recently scored an average of more than two years above grade level on the Stanford Achievement Test.

The school focuses on academic excellence through the development and implementation of individual learning plans for each student, small classes sizes and a well-rounded curriculum that includes world language, music, art and physical education. Broomfield Academy also puts a spotlight on character development, which includes a “core virtue of the month” program, along with significant community service and charitable involvement.

"We could not be more pleased with our daughter's experience at Broomfield Academy," says Beth Perez, whose daughter Christina attends kindergarten. "Her reading, writing, and math skills have improved dramatically in just a few short months. She is much more confident in her abilities and has developed a strong intellectual curiosity about the world around her. We've been so impressed with the level of attention and warmth demonstrated by the staff and administration at the school. It is wonderful to see our daughter so excited to go to school each day!"

Broomfield Academy also provides on-site before and after school care, as well as a full-day summer program. The school is accepting applications for spaces available, as well as accepting enrollments for the 2008 – 2009 school year.

Broomfield Academy
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(303) 469-6449
<http://www.broomfieldacademy.com>

Cast of Characters (3rd and 5th graders)

Moose: James Potter
Owl: Jaya Sethi
Goose: Sam Crist
Wolf: Holden Nicoletti
Bear: Ivy Rosen
Squirrel: Dmitry Kolchin



The Skunks (3rd and 5th graders)
Trevor Willenbring



Devin Desilva
Will Ishida
Kyle Winchell
Ryan Wagner

The Superbadgers (2nd graders)

Connor Nielsen
Nathan Holland
Caitlin McFarlane
Sneha Varanasi
Blake Manoff
Kevin Busch

The Beavers: (1st graders)

Kaly Rendel
Grace Ortner
Gabrielle Bunch
Zach Kuster
Alex Beilfuss
Krista Potter
Riley Tapley
Kamryn McNair
Brendan Lavigne

The Rabbits: (Kindergarteners)

Dylan Smith
Drew Kendall
Joshua Gong
Shriya Iyer
Avnee Kanherkar
Alex Hall
Madeline Schafer
Christina Perez
Lillian Emery
Cody Yan

The Carolers and Rabbit Singers (Kindergarteners)

Katie Ishida
Sarah Tang
Tom Crist
Elizabeth Agnew
Adrian Cheng
Anna Schoenfeld
Ethan Anderson
Dawson Weiler
Kelly Walsh



The Family Singers and Carolers (Junior Kindergarteners)

Carter Dorman

Micaela Landtiser

Keira Oakeson

Olivia Potter

Murray Rundus

Chayse Tapley

Alex Weiler