

# Inform

AWSNA COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

**DECEMBER 2016**

## DEAR WALDORF COMMUNITY

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Leadership Council and AWSNA staff, we wish to express our profound gratefulness to you as Parents, Teachers, Administrators, and Community Members. We warmly thank you for your support, generosity, and commitment to Waldorf Education!

Wishing you all a joyful holiday season,

*Stephanie, Melanie,  
& Beverly*



## ESSENTIALS IN EDUCATION BLOG

### [Make Them Scientists – Redirecting the Science Instruction Paradigm](#)

The ability to observe a phenomenon with fresh eyes is a key first step in divergent or “out-of-box” thinking, which is, in turn, essential for innovation.

Please visit our new education blog, called "[Essentials in Education](#)." In it we explore topics that matter to educators, researchers, policy experts, and thought

leaders - from a Waldorf Education perspective.

We welcome comments and feedback. We also welcome guest posts. Please contact Beverly Amico at [bamico@awsna.org](mailto:bamico@awsna.org) for details.



## GLOBAL WALDORF EDUCATION

In late October, Beverly had the distinct privilege to represent AWSNA at a transnational meeting of the Steiner-Waldorf Schools Fellowship UK & Ireland, Sammenslutningen af frie Rudolf Steiner skoler i Danmark (Denmark); Steinerskoleforbundet (Norway); Steinerkasvatuksen liitto (Finland), and Crossfields Institute (UK). Waldorf leaders from these organizations are promoting dialogue around complex global issues and long-range thinking necessary to advance ideas, opportunities, and strategies about our global, educational future. One of the initiatives is the development of a program called ACTS – Acknowledging Creative Thinking. ACTS has far-reaching international possibilities and potential legislative impact around the globe.

The primary work of the transnational group over the past year has been the development of a student appraisal system. This system of appraisal aims to move away from the ‘exam at end of course’ mindset toward the assessment of creative thinking skills.

As Waldorf Education approaches its 100 year anniversary, this project aims to increase the relevance of our schools by creating a worldwide statement of success.

## 100 YEARS OF WALDORF EDUCATION

The **Waldorf100 Work Group** continues to reach out to schools, institutes, supporters, and affiliated organizations to solicit thoughts and ideas for Waldorf100 activities to take place throughout the 2019-2020 school year. This work group represents one of numerous organizations from across the globe, all guided by the International Forum and we'd love to hear your input! If you have thoughts, ideas, inspirations, volunteer energy, or creative know-how please contact Beverly Amico, at [bamico@awsna.org](mailto:bamico@awsna.org).

## WALDORF IN THE NEWS

Students in grades 6, 7, and 8 from the **Brooklyn Waldorf School**, **Rudolf Steiner School**, and the **Green Meadow Waldorf School** took part in a first-of-its kind Waldorf Choral Festival at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City, one of the world's largest cathedrals. Students, their teachers, and a few

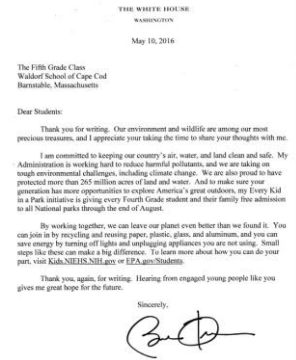


parent chaperones had the opportunity to tour the Cathedral, learning about its history, rich architecture as well as stained glass windows and sculpture. They also

climbed 124 feet through spiral staircases to the cathedral's top roof where they were treated to sweeping views of Manhattan.

On September 15, 2016 President Obama designated the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument, approximately 150 miles offshore of Cape Cod, as the first national monument in the Atlantic. The sixth grade students from the **Waldorf School of Cape Cod** sent postcards with their watercolor paintings of ocean life to President Obama in support of this marine monument, and [he replied to the students in a letter](#) commending the students for their interest in these environmental concerns. "The sixth graders began their year with a study of geology and were interested to learn about all the changes that have occurred to our continent over the last four billion years," according to sixth grade teacher Claire Anacreon Small. The class

focused their studies on the geological history of New England and Cape Cod. "This land of glacial moraines with runaway erratic boulders, eskers, and kettle ponds, which our Waldorf School of Cape Cod calls home, was created about 10,000 years ago, not so long ago," she says. "Perhaps this great treasure of life and earth's history will continue to thrive even until the next glacier slides this way again."



## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



Thank you to **Mercurius USA** and to **TADS** and to **BigSIS**



for supporting AWSNA as members of our partners' circle.

Please join us on social media:



## COMMUNITY WEB RESOURCES

[WALDORFEDUCATION.ORG](http://WALDORFEDUCATION.ORG)

### FORMS

Templates you can use to create your own forms can be found on the "Affiliated School Resources" page of our website.

### STAY CONNECTED

Sign up for our newsletter on our website and like and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Pinterest.

You can also support us on our website. Thank you for your commitment to Waldorf Education!

## LEADERSHIP TEAM

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