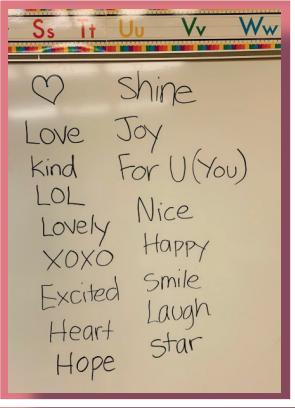


## Giving Artfully<sup>Kids</sup>

### 1st Grade Classes - Keychain Crafting Kits



### Ms. Robinet's Class - Dog Toys



Read more about Giving Artfully on page 8

# NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Portrait of Mr. E. Valen N.

“Cold December flies away.” So the Catalonian carol opens, and sure enough, the month and the year have escaped us like a snowflake that melts upon landing! As we close out 2019 and prepare to pause for Winter Break, we know that conferences coming in January will already mark our passing the halfway point in this school year. Hard to believe, but true!

Last month, our running history in honor of the **140th anniversary** of Beye School left us winding up the 1800s. By 1901, the Board’s Building and Grounds Committee was reporting that Beye School “was so crowded, basement rooms were being used as schoolrooms.” That year, the sixth, seventh and eighth grades each had two teachers, although the third and fourth grades teamed up to be taught by one woman. During the year, the Board issued bonds for the purchase of two more school sites, and construction on the schools we now know as Whittier and Julian began. Elementary school students at that time studied reading, language and grammar, geography, arithmetic and history. They also had instruction in drawing and music (courses the far-seeing William Beye had insisted be introduced into the curriculum) and in spelling and science, as well as the structure and care of the body including “lectures on the injurious effect of the use of alcohol and tobacco.” Beginning in 1892, elementary school boys had been able to study shop and mechanical drawing at the high school. The 1901 Board Report stated, “There has been a strong feeling that the needs of the girls should be recognized,” and a domestic science teacher was engaged for the next school year. The seventh and eighth grade girls were to spend one afternoon a week for a semester learning cooking and other household arts, with 45 minutes set aside especially for sewing.

Oak Park became a municipality, a village, in 1902, and the school district was named District 97 that year. In November 1903, the School Board changed the names of six of Oak Park’s seven schools — only Beye remained the same. Augusta Street School became Whittier School; Central became Lowell; North became Holmes; South became Emerson; Highland Avenue became Longfellow, and Sixty-Fourth Avenue became Hawthorne. Lincoln School opened in 1906; Irving in 1909; Hatch in 1922, and Mann in 1927. School enrollment increased over the years, and in 1905, a basement room at Beye was refurbished for a classroom. Parents were assured that it was “well ventilated and wholesome.” In 1911, the Board spent \$16,069 for lots on the Beye block and in 1914, a 50-by-100 foot frame addition was built north of the main building at a cost of \$15,000. It housed a study hall and indoor gymnasium and was used for assemblies and music and writing classes, as well as a community meeting hall. It stood where the auditorium and gym now stand. Next month: fire strikes Beye School!

The search has begun for the **next principal of Beye Elementary School**. The posting is up and scheduled to close on January 2, 2020. Once it closes, the District’s administrative team will review and assess all applicant information, including a quick screening interview held on January 15 or 16. The assessment will be based on the job description for the position and the candidate profile that Beye families and staff created via the surveys and focus groups. Candidates who make it through this initial screening will then be invited to participate in team interviews. Those interviews will be the second step in the selection process. Candidates will meet with a team of staff members, a team of parents/guardians, and a team of building and District administrators that represent the diversity of Beye School. Parents and guardians recently received an email with a link to a form allowing them to express an interest in serving. [I hope you will consider participating and helping us to insure that we have a diverse and representative group working on our behalf.](#) The three teams will interview each candidate and provide feedback based on the candidate profile. The third step of the process will be an interview with the superintendent’s cabinet team. Selected candidates will then interview with Dr. Kelley at the candidate’s current work location and provide a tour to Dr. Kelley and selected administrators. A final recommendation is slated to go to the school board in March.

Predictably, our **lost and found** has continued to balloon as the weather fluctuates from cool to genuinely cold. The lockers outside the office house those items. We implore you to find a place in all your gear where you can scrawl your child’s name with a Sharpie. Items so labeled almost always get back to their owner. Items that are not labeled often go unclaimed (and eventually get donated to charity to at least be put to good use)

# ASK MR. E & ART START AT BEYE

*Continued from page 2*

Recently, fifth-grade teacher Natalie Bauman completed her **national board certification**. This additional endorsement is designed to develop, retain and recognize accomplished teachers across the country. Seeking certification is a very rigorous, multi-year process. Mrs. Bauman joins Mrs. Buckley, Sra. Colmenero, Mrs. Rosenblum, Ms. Smith, Mrs. Mabry and Mrs. Milburn, who are already nationally board certified. We also congratulate our two recent Golden Apple nominees, Amy Baker and Lindsay Smith. It is always great to see great teaching recognized. Congratulations one and all!.

As we head into 2020, I hope that your days will be merry and bright, that your time together with family and friends will be fun and festive, and that the New Year will bring hope and happiness to you and yours. As always, please email, call or make an appointment to stop by with questions, concerns, observations, ideas and causes for celebration.

Sincerely,  
Jonathan Ellwanger, Principal

## ASK MR. E:

**Our question this month comes from two students: "Why do we have gym only twice a week and can we have it more?"**

It used to be that PE was even less frequent, only once a week for one hour. Having PE twice a week as we do currently is mostly a function of available resources. With the space we have and number of classrooms, it would not be possible to have PE in the gymnasium more than twice a week without classes being shorter. It would also cost the district twice as much to have PE twice as often (four days rather than two, for instance) and mean that something else would have to go in our current schedule or the day would have to be longer. These and many other decisions are made by our school board for all eight elementary schools. If we had the space, the time and the money, I'd love to see students have PE every day!

## ART START AT BEYE!

Thanks to strong partnerships between Beye School, the PTO and community organizations, students at Beye School experience myriad enrichment opportunities throughout the year. On December 13, second graders from Mrs. Louthan's class performed African drumming with Baba Atiba Jali, thanks to the Art Start program sponsored by the Oak Park Education Foundation.



# FUN FAIR & BULLS RAFFLE WINNER!

## Fun Fair Raffle and Silent Auctions!

The PTO is seeking raffle and silent auction item and experience donations

The Beye School Fun Fair is hands-down one of the most — well . . . — fun events of the year! It's also one of the PTO's largest fundraisers. Proceeds from the Fun Fair will help us continue to build a more welcoming, inclusive community at Beye School, where every child and every family can truly feel like they belong. We'd love your help procuring raffle and silent auction items for the event on April 4. No donation is too small, too large or too unique. Thanks for considering!

If you answer YES to any of the questions below, please contact [beyeschoolsilentauktion@gmail.com](mailto:beyeschoolsilentauktion@gmail.com) to brainstorm, discuss or set up a time for pick up.

- \* Do you have a skill that you could teach to others? Perhaps you play guitar, speak another language, are a chess whiz, a photographer, etc.?
- \* Are you an artist or crafter who'd be willing to donate some of your creations?
- \* Do you work for a company that may be interested in contributing an item, experience or service? (All donors are acknowledged via social media, print advertising and on signage at the event.)
- \* Are you a frequent customer of a local business (some examples include: dry cleaner, pet groomer, restaurant, auto mechanic, meal delivery service, etc.) that may be willing to contribute?
- \* Do you have season tickets to any local teams, theaters, etc., or airline or hotel points that you cannot utilize and would love to put to use?
- \* Did you or your kids receive duplicate holiday gifts or birthday gifts (or gifts that are not entirely their speed)?
- \* Do you have any connections to any "behind the scenes" or "exclusive" experiences? (For example, an opportunity to check out a practice of a sports team, tour a brewery with the brewmaster, meet a chef, etc.)
- \* Are you interested in working on a small team soliciting donations?

Thank you in advance for your partnership.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR BULLS RAFFLE WINNERS!

Congratulations to Niles and third-grader Lilah Townsend, the lucky winners of the Chicago Bulls raffle in November! Check out these awesome shots they got at their center court photo opportunity.

Special thanks to the Borlabi family for generously donating these tickets, and thank you to all who participated!



# BEYE DISCOVERY



## BEYE PTO'S AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM WITH A FOCUS IN ART AND SCIENCE

jocelyne@bydiscovery.org

### Beye Discovery Highlights, November and December 2019

#### Circus of Birds

Exhilaration is in the air! Students are excited to perform a month-long project titled "A Circus of Birds"! This work is inspired by Alexander Calder's circus and Beye Discovery's October and November bird theme. Calder's handmade circus performers emerged from two suitcases and entertained Parisian audiences for hours. Our table-top circus will take place before winter break and will feature puppet-like birds created from toilet paper tubes, foam, feathers, colored paper and recycled materials. Performers act in skits, fly airplanes, wear high heels, take on the role of Santa and engage in other humorous and amazing feats!

#### Giving Tuesday

Our Beye Discovery students LOVE animals, so their enthusiasm to make homemade dog treats for Giving Tuesday was no surprise! The Oak Park Animal Care League was very appreciative to receive two generous batches of healthy allergen-considerate dog biscuits. Love, cooperation and a huge helping of joy were important ingredients in the creation of this gift.

#### Small Business Wednesday

The classroom buzzed with excitement as our young artisans displayed their handmade wares for Beye Discovery's annual Small Business Wednesday sale. Since late October, students have been hard at work inventing and creating. Their efforts were rewarded as eager peers fostered stellar sales, shopping with pennies shared at the start of the event!

#### Outdoor Clay Totem Installation, Beye School

Visiting Artist and Educator Susan Zimmerman introduced new techniques for working with clay. Stacked on poles, these clay totems provide colorful whimsical perches for birds! Stop by our display, mid-December through mid-April, Beye School grounds, southwest corner. A huge heartfelt thank you to Susan for going above and beyond to make this installation a reality!

We wish everyone peace, love and joy this holiday season!

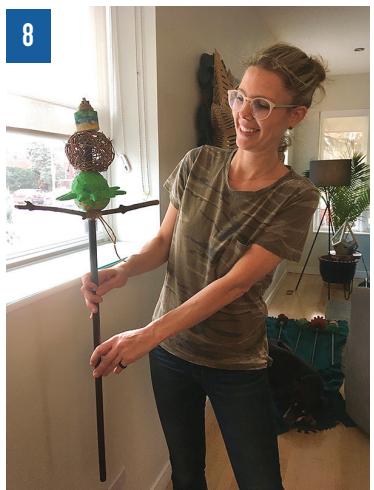


1. Clay Totem Installation, Beye
2. Circus for Birds, Set Painting
3. Dev\_Dog Biscuits for ACL, Giving Tuesday
4. Small Biz Wed, Paper and Playdo Shop
5. McKenna and Valen, Dog Biscuits, Giving Tuesday

Beye Discovery is an enrichment program of the Beye PTO that offers children opportunities for exploration and growth through creative project-based learning in art and science. It is facilitated by Stacey Grief, Lead Educator; Nguyen Tran, Teaching Assistant; and Jocelyne Adkins, Program Director. For questions about Beye Discovery please contact: [jocelyne@bydiscovery.org](mailto:jocelyne@bydiscovery.org).

DECEMBER 2019 BEYELINES

## BEYE DISCOVERY CONTINUED...



1. Small Biz Wed, Art Shop; 2. Maya—Clay Totem;  
3. Magnus\_Circus Ring; 4. Kaia, Clay Totem;  
5. Billie, Clay Totem; 6. Small Biz Wed, Eyeglass  
Jewelry; 7. McKenna, Clay Totem; 8. Suzanne  
Zimmerman, Visiting Artist; 9. Suzanne Zimmerman,  
Totem Installation; 10. Clay Totems—Beye School;

# GREEN TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

## Recent and Ongoing Events



### Green Movie Night

Thanks to all who joined us for Green Movie Night on December 3 for screenings of *A Clean Bin Project* and *Plastic Ocean*. Adults and children alike were very engaged in the films, in the post-film dialogue and in seeking ways to take action or get plugged in. Lisa Gillis, a representative of the River Forest Sustainability Commission, and Leslie Hernandez, AmeriCorps/Greenest Region Corps member, shared their expert knowledge on zero-waste efforts as well as Oak Park and River Forest initiatives.

For the kids' films, we welcomed young filmmaker Maiana Nelson, who attends L.J. Hauser Junior High in Riverside. Maiana introduced her film *Drowning in Plastic* and participated in an active Q&A with Beye students after her film. Maiana encouraged the young audience members to consider making a film for the One Earth Young Filmmakers contest. Submissions for youth age 8 and older are being accepted through January 5, 2020; more details are available at [oneearthfilmfest.org/contest-details](http://oneearthfilmfest.org/contest-details).

Stay tuned for our next Green Movie night in April!



### Junior Outdoor Explorers

In November, Junior Outdoor Explorers celebrated Food Waste Awareness Week! We discussed the importance of eating everything on the plate, taking less so that others can have more, and brainstormed other ways to prevent food waste (including the “rot” in the 5 Rs of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Refuse and Rot). In conjunction, the group discussed creating less single-use plastic, and painted and embroidered our own reusable snack bags, created from donated sheets (“reuse”).

The next session of Junior Outdoor Explorers will begin in February. Sign up after Winter Break!



Check out page 11 for a list of local resale shops, which you can use as a resource to support second-hand shopping.

# GIVING ARTFULLY KIDS KINDNESS



## Thanks for Spreading Kindness Giving Artfully Kids Kindness Curriculum Continues

Giving Artfully Kids would like to thank the Beye School PTO for sponsoring workshops for ALL Beye students this year. Giving Artfully Kids is an Oak Park-based enrichment program that partners with schools and senior centers to use art to teach and share values such as giving back, empathy, respect and compassion. Thanks to funds received from the PTO, this year Giving Artfully Kids is bringing workshops to all Beye Students, from kindergarten through fifth grade.

### First Kindness Workshop

Ms. Robinet's fourth-grade class created 66 braided fleece dog toys to donate to the Chicago Animal Care and Control organization. The children had so much fun learning how to braid, tie the end knots on each toy and design unique tags for each toy. (see photos on page 1)

### Second Kindness Workshop

The entire second grade (Ms. Louthan, Mr. Ricker, Ms. Mabry/Ferguson's classes) created 70 pipe cleaner figure crafting kits to donate to sick children in hospitals. The children had so much fun making a sample pipe cleaner figure for each kit. They counted out all the materials needed and placed items into crafting bags. These kits will be donated to Shriners Hospital and Ronald McDonald House. (see photos on next page)

### Third Kindness Workshop

The entire first grade (Ms. Milburn/Fox, Ms. Helms, Ms. Kosari, Ms. Banks classes) created 133 kindness key-chain crafting kits to donate to sick children in hospitals. The children made simple keychain crafting kits with pony beads and kindness words such as joy, love, hope, smile, laugh as well as many more inspirational words. They counted out pony beads, carefully measured the plastic cord, added a keychain ring and placed all of these items into crafting bags. These kits will be donated to Shriners Hospital and Ronald McDonald House. (see photos on page 1)

Giving Artfully Kids really enjoyed working with each student in these classes this fall and is excited to work with even more students before the end of the year. Stay tuned for more updates!

Submitted by Suzanne Cronacher  
Manager, Instructor Oak Park Programs

[www.givingartfully.com](http://www.givingartfully.com)  
[www.givingartfullykids.com](http://www.givingartfullykids.com)

# GIVING ARTFULLY PROJECTS

## Second Grade--Pipe Cleaner Figure Crafting



## SPELLING BEE

# How Do You Spell E-X-C-E-P-T-I-O-N-A-L?

# 2020 Beye School Spelling Bee



Grades 2 through 5  
Wednesday, January 15, 2020  
6:30 p.m.  
Beye School Auditorium

Optional: Practice session after school on Wednesday, January 15, from 2:30 to 2:45 p.m.

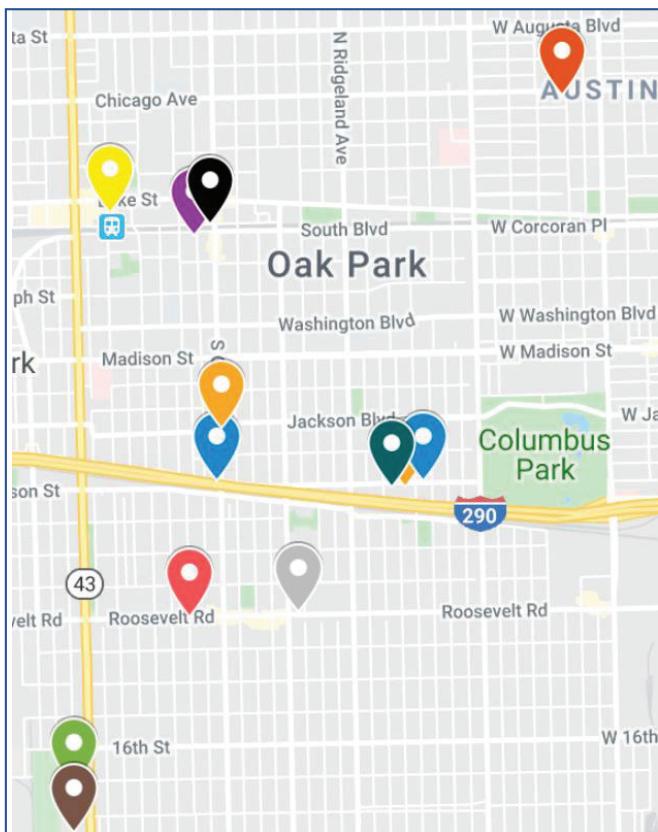
For more information (including word lists and rules), visit the Beye digital backpack at  
<https://www.op97.org/beye/dp>

Questions? Contact Paul Manus at [pmanus@op97.org](mailto:pmanus@op97.org)

# RESALE AND SECONDHAND SHOPS

## Oak Park-Area Resale & Secondhand Shops

Visit these local secondhand retail shops for holiday gift-giving ideas including children's clothing, women's clothing, interior design accents, books, music, and furniture. *Updated 12/1/2019.*



Animal Care League 2nd Cha...

Brown Elephant Resale Shop

Divine Consign North Riversi...

Economy Shop

Goodwill

Grateful Threads

Jake's Place Books

The Looking Glass

Salvation Army (OP)

Ten Thousand Villages

Trends

Salvation Army (Chicago)

Val's Halla Records

**Animal Care League 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Shop:** 808 Harrison St, Oak Park. [2ndchanceshop.org](http://2ndchanceshop.org) Thrift store selling used items to raise funds for the Animal Care League.

**Brown Elephant Resale Shop:** 217 Harrison St, Oak Park. [howardbrown.org/brown-elephant](http://howardbrown.org/brown-elephant) A resale shop with furniture, books, records, DVDs, jewelry, clothing. Proceeds benefit the Howard Brown Clinic.

**Divine Consign:** 1800 S Harlem Ave, North Riverside. [divineconsign.com](http://divineconsign.com) Furniture, lamp, home décor, and rug consignment store with an array of gift items.

**The Economy Shop:** 103 S Grove Ave, Oak Park. [economyshop.org](http://economyshop.org) An Oak Park resale shop with a broad array of clothing, toys, gifts. Proceeds benefit local organizations.

**Goodwill:** 1900 S Harlem Ave, North Riverside. [goodwillchicago.com/store-locator](http://goodwillchicago.com/store-locator) Resale clothing, home goods, and more.

**Grateful Threads:** 6900 W. Roosevelt Rd, Oak Park. Unique art, repurposed, trinkets, jewelry, vintage clothing. [facebook.com/pages/Gift-Shop/Grateful-Threads-Resale-Emporium-813490068823465](http://facebook.com/pages/Gift-Shop/Grateful-Threads-Resale-Emporium-813490068823465)

**Jake's Place Books:** 142 Harrison St, Oak Park. [facebook.com/jakesplacebooks](http://facebook.com/jakesplacebooks) Thoughtfully used books. **The Looking Glass:** 823 S. Oak Park Ave, Oak Park. [thelookingglassbooks.com](http://thelookingglassbooks.com) Not just another used bookstore!

**Polyester Soul Vintage.** [facebook.com/PolyesterSoulVintage](http://facebook.com/PolyesterSoulVintage) and [polyestersoulvintage.bigcartel.com](http://polyestersoulvintage.bigcartel.com) Vintage, timeless, + soulful fashion. Shop online or by appt, or schedule a feminist fashion history lecture!

**Ten Thousand Villages:** 121 N Marion St, Oak Park. [tenthousandvillages.com/oakpark](http://tenthousandvillages.com/oakpark). Fair-trade gifts, crafts and jewelry, some products use recycled materials.

**The Salvation Army:** 6536 Roosevelt Rd, Oak Park and 5713 W. Chicago Ave, Chicago. [satruck.org](http://satruck.org) Resale clothing, home goods, and more.

**Trends:** 810 North Blvd, Oak Park. [trendsoakpark.com](http://trendsoakpark.com). Consignment clothing, accessories, coats, and shoes for men and women.

**Val's Halla Records:** 239 Harrison St, [valshallarecords.com](http://valshallarecords.com) Long-standing fixture for new/used vinyl, cassettes, CDs, in-store performances.

## VOLUNTEER AT BEYE

Beye School's PTO fundraising team is looking for volunteers! Time commitments vary. Get involved as much as you would like. Meet new people and show your kids your school spirit. Visit the PTO home page and scroll down to the bottom of the page to indicate your interest(s): [www.beyeschoolpto.org](http://www.beyeschoolpto.org) or [www.beyeschoolpto.org/volunteer.html](http://www.beyeschoolpto.org/volunteer.html).

## CONNECT WITH US



[www.op97.org/beye](http://www.op97.org/beye)



Beye School Families



Mr E: @BeyeTheWay

## ABOUT BEYELINES

Beyelines is a monthly newsletter that highlights the past month's activities and events at Beye School, both inside and outside the classroom. If you are a Beye School parent, community member, teacher, or student and would like to submit an article for consideration, please email: [communications@beyeschoolpto.org](mailto:communications@beyeschoolpto.org).

BeyeBytes is a weekly electronic newsletter that highlights upcoming events at Beye School and in the community. If you would like to submit a news item, or if you are not currently receiving BeyeBytes and would like to be added to the distribution list, please send an email to: [communications@beyeschoolpto.org](mailto:communications@beyeschoolpto.org).

**Editors:**  
Emily Dagostino and Sean Flynn

**Graphic Designers:**  
Blake and Lindy Novotny



Turkey Trot

DECEMBER 2019 BEYELINES