

Jean Butler

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Experience:

- 2009 took 2 educators, 11 ms students and 11 parents to Senegal, West Africa
- 2009 took 6 artists, educators and a high school student to Senegal, West Africa
- 2008 took 3 educators, 10 ms students and 10 parents to Senegal, West Africa
- 2008 took 6 artists, educators and a high school student to Senegal, West Africa
- 2007 took 3 educators, 10 ms students and 10 parents to Senegal, West Africa
- 2005-06 Took 17 artists, educators and professionals to Senegal, West Africa
- Co-Director of The Senegal-America Project and the SAP Trip since 2005.
- President and Founder of Arts Are Essential, Inc. Incorporated as a non-profit in July 2003.
- February 2001 – 3 week professional development trip to Egypt with Katie Green
- December 1998 – first trip to Senegal, West Africa
- Business Manager and Agent for Artists since fall of 1998.
- Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council Appointed fall 1998 – Chair & Grants Chair for 4 years
- Acton and Acton Boxborough School Committees for 8.5 years.
- Chairperson of the Acton Public School District for one term.
- Education Foundation of Acton & Acton-Boxborough -- Founding Member and Board of Directors Member for 3 years.
- President of West Suburban Creative Arts Council, Inc. for 3 years, an unpaid, volunteer position. WSCAC is a non-profit Arts in Education Advocacy Corporation.
- Founder & Chair of Acton-Boxborough Schools Arts Resource Team since 1987.
- Volunteer Arts Enrichment Committee Chair at Douglas Elementary School for nearly 15 years.
- Successful grant writer and grant writing workshop coordinator
- Presented Marketing Workshops for Artists hosted by Massachusetts Cultural Council.

As a parent-volunteer arts-coordinator for 15 years, I created and booked programs for my children's elementary school. During this time period, I served on the Acton and Acton-Boxborough School Committees for 8.5 years and also served as the President of the West Suburban Creative Arts Council for 3 years. I have worked with Arts in Education programming and artists in many different capacities. I enjoy assisting artists, parents and educators creating school specific or Massachusetts Frameworks and Core Curriculum related workshops and residencies, and professional development for educators. I especially love the challenge of coordinating our Senegal-America Project Cultural Educational Trips – taking professionals and students to experience the people and culture of Senegal. Our student travelers are going to be the leaders of the future. Our artists and programs make a difference!

Personal: I was born in Indiana in 1946. Married Neal Butler in 1965. We have three great children.

Arts ARE ESSENTIAL, Inc.

P.O. Box 2797, Acton MA 01720-6797
978-263-0108 • www.Arts-Are-Essential.org

REFERENCES:

Artists

Tony Vacca, our original artist, World Rhythms, 20 Mountain Laurel Rd., West Whately, MA 413-665-1067 or 413-658-5109 (cell), Co-Director of The Senegal-America Project

Priscilla Kane Hellweg, our newest artist, Enchanted Circle Theater, 4 Open Square, Holyoke, Ma 413-534-3789

Arts in Education Clients

Rachel Porter & Derek Fenner, Hampshire Educational Collaborative, Northampton, MA 413-320-2434 Have worked with Rachel and Derek for a couple of years now on the DYS Unlocking the Light Program in several facilities.

Russ Tortorella, Goss I & II DYS Facilities in Taunton 508-828-3861 Have worked several times with Russ setting up residencies with Tony Vacca.

Rich Haxhi, Faculty, Roger Ludlowe MS, Fairfield, CT 203-255-8345 Ongoing day events in the School and 3 year collaboration taking RLMS students to Senegal, West Africa with Tony Vacca for our 10 day Senegal-America Project cultural educational exchange.

Troy Czukoski, Principal Phoenixville Area Middle School, Phoenixville, PA 484-927-5200 November 2009 Tony Vacca 4 day residency with 7th grade's Communications Curriculum.

Brenda Lilly, Art Teacher, Deerfield Elementary, (413) 665-1131. Have worked on several multiple day residencies and performances with Tony Vacca and Abdou Sarr.

Brian O'Grady, Teacher, BART Charter Arts School, Adams, MA 413-743-7311 2008 and 2009 Have worked on several residencies with Brian.

Jane Hyman, Principal, Jefferson Ele. School, Franklin, MA 508-541-2140 December '03 - March '04 Tony Vacca, I helped support and prepare for a 12 day residency in Visual Art, Music-making instruments and culminating in community performance by students.

The Senegal-America Project

Mary Ross, parent, SAP nurse liaison and 3 time traveler to Senegal with us, 203-259-7470

ARTS ARE ESSENTIAL, INC.

Mission Statement:

Arts Are Essential works in partnership with educators and artists to bring arts experiences that enrich, educate and enlighten students of all ages while inspiring creativity and imagination.

Guiding Principles:

Arts Are Essential is committed to the belief that through performances, concerts, hands-on workshops, residencies and cultural exchanges, the visual and performing arts can:

- Accommodate many learning styles
- Adapt to demonstrate and teach varied curricula, including language arts, math, science and social studies
- Offer cultural awareness, which encourages acceptance

Goals:

To Provide Arts in Education enrichment of the highest caliber artistically and educationally.

To Provide opportunities for cultural exchanges that increase understanding and acceptance between our diverse world populations.

The Senegal-America Project

The Senegal-America Project has two components. The first is the exchange of performing artists from both countries. Several tours have already happened with artists coming here and with our artists traveling there for performances.

The second component, The Senegal America Project Trips provide professional development for artists, educators and parents and a separate cultural educational exchange for students. Approximately \$40,000 has been donated by our travelers to help the Senegalese students and families. AAE, Inc. oversees all the donations.