

MESA ACADEMY for advanced studies

PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

What a great start to the year we've had! There is still much to come, so be sure to read below and mark your calendars.

Remember the PTO has a website, a Facebook page, and an Instagram account! We will be sending out a newsletter every other week - you can also find them archived on the website.













MAAS CULTURAL EDUCATION

This year MAAS is fortunate enough to offer two Culture Clubs and school wide in-class presenters thanks to PTO sponsorship, ECA funds, and a grant from the Arizona Aloha Festival.

This is an integral part of the IB Curriculum and we are so thankful that artists around the Valley are able to support the IB mission of Intercultural Understanding and Respect.

IN-CLASS INSTRUCTION

In furtherance of our International Baccalaureate curriculum, we are excited to incorporate meaningful cultural learning into the classroom. Through a grant provided by the Arizona Aloha Festival, every student at MAAS is receiving instruction from Polynesian artists about several Polynesian cultures. Our fourth grade students are being introduced to traditional Hawaiian instruments and songs. Fifth graders are learning different forms of Polynesian dance including a Haka from New Zealand and a Siva from Samoa. All sixth graders will learn about traditional Polynesian navigation and the techniques used to travel thousands of miles across the ocean without instruments. This will lead into the seventh grade instruction about the migration of ancient Polynesians throughout the South Pacific islands and the colonization of the islands by the western world. Finally, our eighth graders are learning storytelling and its significance in preserving oral history. The instructors will be asking each student if they are interested in presenting what they have learned at this years International Festival. Please encourage your child to participate!

TAHITIAN CULTURE CLUB

4th and 5th graders had the opportunity to sign up for Tahitian Culture Club. They have been learning drumming, dance, hula (Hawaiian), language and more. Each club meeting incorporates a language lesson and either a dance or a song. It's amazing how fast the students are picking things up. They are getting ready for the International Festival (Nov. 2nd) where they will be showcasing all of their hard work.

JAPANESE CULTURE CLUB

6th, 7th & 8th graders have been given the opportunity to participate in Japanese Culture Club. The club meetings start with meditation, language review, and one art form such as intro to instruments, brush calligraphy, origami and much more.

WE STILL HAVE 4 SPOTS AVAILABLE. If your child is interested in joining, the sign up in the library. The club meets after school on Mondays & Tuesdays ending with a student performance at the International Festival on November 2nd.

Starting Oct. 16th the students will be receiving professional instruction from one of the Valley's Premier Taiko Drumming Professionals, Ken Koshio. This is a wonderful opportunity for kids to learn this amazing art form. In addition, we are fortunate enough to have Ken performing the night of the festival.

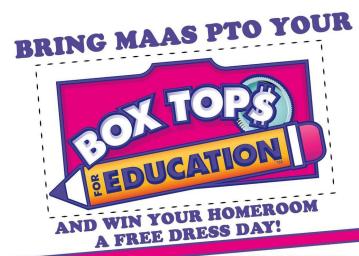
Watch Ken Koshio in concert here!

MESA ACADEMY FOR ADVANCED STUDIES EATING FOR EDUCATION UPDATE

Panda Express raised \$299 MVPita raised \$275 THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

UP NEXT <u>CHI</u>POTLE

TUESDAY OCTOBER 23RD 4:00-9:00 PM



HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

- 1. Clip non-expired Box Tops as close to clip lines as possible
- 2. Collect Box Tops in a Ziploc bag or on a collection sheet (located at the front desk)
- 3. Label your collection with the student's name and 1st hour teacher.
- 4. Turn in the collection to your 1st hour teacher or the blue PTO box at the front desk.

MESA ACADEMY COLLECTS ALL YEAR LONG!

Deadume Extended 1st Semester Prize: Free Dress Day Submission Deadline: <u>October 19th</u>

2nd Semester Prize: Free Dress Day Submission Deadline: February 15th



BOX TOPS MAKE A DIFFERENCE! MAAS PTO AVERAGES <u>\$1250</u> IN EARNINGS PER SCHOOL YEAR

WWW.ACADEMYPTO.ORG



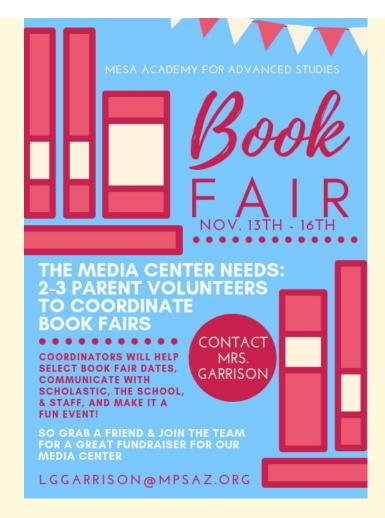
Monday, October 15th 5:30-6:30 International Festival Committee

&

6:30-7:30 PTO Board

Attend One or Both. Located in the MAAS media center. All are welcome!





Still seeking 2-3 parent volunteers!

Have you wanted to get involved but you are unable to volunteer regularly? This might be the perfect opportunity for you. Volunteer twice a year coordinating book fair fundraisers for our media center. Learn alongside the current parent volunteer this year before taking the lead next year. Contact Mrs. Garrison today!

