

1. GOT RHYTHM! -Friday, August 29

Grades K-8. Tap dancer and drummer extraordinaire, Channing Cook-Holmes, presents rhythm tap in its purest form, with live instrumentation featuring drums, bass and keyboard, through a contemporary look at the origins of tap dance and the masters of the art. Discover the tap dancer or musician inside through a captivating, toe-tapping, finger-snapping program that is sure to inspire.

2. THOMAS JEFFERSON – “MAN FROM MONTICELLO,” Wednesday, October 15

8th only. Meet the third President of the United States in this one-person, entertaining performance about the political and social life of this influential character in American history. In addition, students will interact with history through thoughtful, witty and informative answers from Thomas Jefferson to any questions posed by them.

3. JACQUE NUNEZ - “JOURNEYS TO THE PAST,” Thursday, October 16

Grade 3. Experience the lifestyle of the Indians of California's Acjachemen Nation as Jacque shares her people's indigenous tools, instruments, games and clothing through songs, stories and hands-on interaction. This program is designed for all the senses and connects beautifully with third grade curriculum.

4. PAUL TRACEY – “YOUR CHARACTER COUNTS,” Thursday, October 30

Grades K-2. World traveler, Paul Tracey, is a multi-talented instrumentalist, singer, songwriter, storyteller and folklorist. Learn about universal concepts of good character through a collection of participatory, original sing-along songs in this fun-filled performance. This should tie in nicely with Red Ribbon Week.

5. LAGUNA PLAYHOUSE THEATRE REACH - “ISLAND OF THE BLUE DOLPHINS,” Friday, October 31

Grades 4 & 5. [TheatreReach: Bringing Books to Life](#) is an innovative program that tours professional productions into our schools with one-hour stage adaptations of books in the school curriculum. The historical fiction of Karana in the book, [Island of the Blue Dolphins](#), written by Scott O'Dell, is brought to life on stage this year at VV. This novel compliments the 4th grade curriculum and the study of California history.

6. SWAZZLE – Wednesday, November 19

Grades K-2. Drawing on years of experience working with leading entertainment companies such as the Jim Henson Company, Baby Einstein and Disney, these talented puppeteers present lighthearted puppet shows that emphasize positive messages for young people.

7. MOUNTAIN MAN – “KIPAWA RIVER CHRONICLES,” January 2009

4th only. Kipawa River Chronicles is the real life story of Scott Sorensen's battle to save the Kipawa River from the ravages and schemes of the most powerful hydro-electric company in North America. Anyone who loves fishing, hunting, kayaking, canoeing, rock climbing or outdoor adventure will be captivated by this assembly.

8. PIERRE CRUZETTE – “MUSICAL JOURNEY ALONG THE LEWIS & CLARK TRAIL,” Friday, January 23

5th only. Actor Daniel Slosberg brings to life Lewis & Clark's main boatman and most esteemed musician in an unforgettable musical voyage called “A Musical Journey Along

the Lewis & Clark Trail". Students will discover the role of music, dance and song to the expedition, both as entertainment to the explorers, and as a diplomatic tool with the Indian nations.

9. MICHAEL KATZ – “SEE ME, HEAR ME,” Wednesday, February 4

Grades K-5. Guaranteed to keep you laughing and learning, award-winning storyteller Michael Katz' captivating assemblies feature his highly animated and interactive style of storytelling, rubber-like face and bigger than life character. He will inspire children with folktales and original stories that teach them about compassion and patience for themselves and others.

10. MUSIC BORN IN AMERICA - “MUSIC BORN IN AMERICA,” Wednesday, February 18

Grades K-2. Performing artists and entertainers, Sandi Castleberry and friends, specialize in Americana roots music and offer three folk music assemblies that integrate U.S. history with American folk music. “Music Born in America” will connect United States history curriculum to American folk music in a program designed to both educate and entertain.

11. THE LA TROUPE - “EDGAR ALLEN POE,” Monday, March 16

Grades 6-8. From the page to the stage, talented actors with The LA Troupe bring to life the classics in quality theatrical performances for students of all ages. This year our middle school students will catch a glimpse of Edgar Allan Poe by exploring Poe's eerie, yet fascinating, world through unique performances of The Raven, The Tell-Tale Heart and The Fall of the House of Usher.

12. DANZA AZTECA XOCHIPILLI - “DANCE OF THE AZTEC,” Friday, May 1

Grades K-8. The ancient traditions of the Aztec people are preserved by this exciting dance troupe in their colorful program, combining both story and dance. During Dances of the Aztec our students will learn about Mexican culture and history through stories, music and dance.