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# C.E.A. NEWSLETTER

**Conchita Espinosa - Founder**

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**MARCH**

**2006-2007 SCHOOL YEAR**

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## **NO SCHOOL – MARCH 23<sup>RD</sup>**

There will be no school on Friday, March 23, so that our teachers may attend the Teachers' Conference of the Association of Independent Schools of Florida. This conference provides our teachers with the opportunity to review new materials and confer with colleagues from other schools on the latest in educational happenings. It's a wonderful day for collaboration and learning.

School will resume as usual on Monday, March 26.

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## **BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS**

If you passed by the school on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup>, we're sure you were engulfed in the myriad of warm wishes for Mrs. Diaz's and Ms. Jolliff's birthdays. Your outpouring of love and affection made both of these days extra special. Balloons, flowers, and gifts are wonderful on your birthday, but by far the greatest gifts received were those of heartfelt words and hugs.

Mrs. Diaz was moved by the notes of gratitude for the work she has done throughout her years, delighted by the cards hanging in the breezeway and thrilled with the serenades she received.

Ms. Jolliff reveled in a day filled with all that is 50 – from 50 kisses and hugs to 50 flowers to cards and books depicting life 50 years ago. What a glorious way to celebrate life – by surrounding yourself with love and hope!

The 23<sup>rd</sup> was also a special day because it is Conchita's birthday. Special stickers noting I Conchita reminded us that the school and its founder will remain forever in all our hearts. We are forever changed by the courage and vision of this woman and her birth will always be a day of celebration for us.

Thank you for commemorating these days. You made us feel very special.

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## **OPENING PREVIEW OF THE ROSITA SEGOVIA THEATRE**

On Saturday, March 3, we had an opening preview of the Rosita Segovia Theatre. Rosita was not only an internationally acclaimed Spanish dancer, choreographer, and teacher; she was a lifelong friend and supporter of Conchita's vision and philosophy. For more than 20 years she taught Spanish dance to our students, instilling in each one a sense of discipline, pride and appreciation of order and beauty.

The afternoon and evening performances were noteworthy not only for the showcase of our students' hard work and efforts but also because of the loving gifts of our dance teachers who favored us with their marvelous

talents. Lindsey’s tap piece was joyful, expressive, and showed the essence of clear sound. Danella’s piece was not only beautiful. It was a gift from her heart that was exhibited in each movement and expression. Marisol’s and Leiza’s piece brought the passion of Spanish dance to the forefront and reminded us all of our cultural roots. It was an inspiration to our students, a realization to our parents of the quality of the artists who teach their children, and an affirmation of our philosophy. What better way to preview such a special space!

For us at Conchita, the arts are more than entertainment; they are a path to growth. They are a way of opening our minds and souls to higher learning. The arts encourage a thirst for knowledge. They enhance and support the academics by giving our students a larger and deeper vision of thinking, feeling, and creating. Our aim is to bring the extraordinary out in every one of our students.

We see our theatre as a means to enhance and develop the social skills, self-assurance and creativity of our students. It will be a dreaming and learning place.

We thank you, parents, for your support and belief in our philosophy, and we thank our dedicated teachers in the school and conservatory that are instrumental in achieving our goals.

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**STAR SUPPORTERS**

We are very proud of and grateful for the support we have received for our new theatre. Our Brag Board lists the names of students,

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auditorium seat. This contribution of \$500 allows the contributor to emboss a plaque that will be affixed to one of the auditorium seats and will remind everyone of his/her support for the theatre, our school and Conchita’s vision.

If you would like to sponsor a seat(s), you may pick up a form in the school office.

We want to thank the Leon and Maury families (Katerina Maury– 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, Albert Maury and Benji Leon– 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, Sabrina Leon and Linnette Romay – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, Alexandra Maury – Class of ’04 and Steffany Maury – Class of ’06) for their generous gift that was used for the upgrading of the sound system.

The Sardiñas family (Sophia – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade and Victoria – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade) deserve our heartfelt appreciation for their generous donation the cabinetry for our sound booth.

This spirit of generosity and commitment is appreciated, enjoyed, and valued by all of us.



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**REGISTRATION IS NOW CLOSED**

Registration for the 2007-2008 school year is now closed. Registration for new students for the 2008-2009 school year will open in November 2007.

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**REPORT CARDS**

Report cards will be going home on Friday, March 30 for students in Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. We will not have report

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card nights. If you need to see your child's teacher, please phone Mrs. Recio to set up an appointment.



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**DAANS STAR AWARDS**



Each year the Dade Association of Academic Non-Public Schools allows each school to designate up to three students as STARS. These students have shown outstanding ability and achievement in academics, sports, community service, the arts, effort, improvement, etc. This year the STARS chosen to represent Conchita Espinosa Academy are:

Susana Jimenez – for her dedication to the CEA community, excellent academic achievement and for being an example of commitment, citizenship and responsibility

Alejandra de Socarraz-Novoa – for her dedication to the arts and for being an example of citizenship, perseverance and friendship

Erik Gonzalez – for his outstanding example of scholarship, hard work, loyalty, and determination.

Congratulations to these stars and their families! They reflect the values and essence of our school community.

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**NEW YORK TRIPS**

A select group of our middle school students have been invited to attend workshops in New York City this month.

Because of their talent and dedication, girls from Middle School Dade...

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been invited to take workshops at the Alvin Ailey Dance Studios. They will explore a variety of dance styles, see a performance of the world renowned Paul Taylor Dance Company and attend a Broadway show.

The contributors of *Conchita Magazine* have been invited to attend the Columbia Scholastic Spring Convention at Columbia University. This is an honor usually reserved for high school students. However, the quality of *Conchita* has earned these journalists this opportunity to study with some of the best teachers and professional journalists at one of our country's most prestigious universities.

Congratulations to these students for their hard work and efforts and to their sponsors, Ms. Danella Bedford (dance) and Mrs. Yolande Jackson (magazine). They exemplify our commitment to excellence.

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**SUMMER AT C.E.A.**

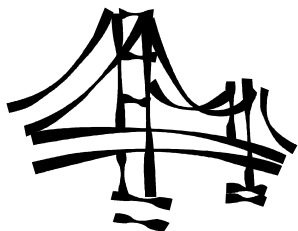
Our summer programs are taking shape and will provide our students with opportunities to make the summer of '07 a truly memorable one. There's something for everyone. If you're ready to expand your mind, dabble in the theatre arts, hone your dance and/or music talents, let off some excess energy through sports, solidify your skills and get a jump on next year, well, we've got a program for you. Summer school letters will be going out at the end of March for those needing to attend and a reminder of our Sports and W.O.W. programs will also be going out. Make plans to spend your summer under the supervision of adults who care and enjoy a good time,

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### SOUTH FLORIDA SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR

Congratulations to Garrett Duell (7<sup>th</sup> Grade) for his 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in the bridge competition of the South Florida Science and Engineering Fair. His bridge held 77 pounds! Great job, Garrett! We look forward to monumental things from you!

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### UNIFORMS

Coming to school in the appropriate school uniform is a part of a student's responsibility. We note on the calendar the days students are to wear Gala uniforms and send out notices if they need to come in gala on additional days. Students who do not come to school in the appropriate uniform will not be admitted to class until they are dressed in the correct uniform.

Uniforms also include wearing the appropriate school jacket and sweatshirts. No other jackets or sweatshirts should be worn.

Uniform compliance also applies to dance, P.E., and conservatory classes. In order to develop a learning attitude, students must take pride in their appearance. Girls are to come to school with their hair in the appropriate dance bun on dance days. Shorts worn over leotards may be either the black conservatory shorts or the burgundy school shorts. Students are not to share hair accessories (brushes, combs, ribbons, pony tail holders, etc.)

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We need your help. Please remind your children to take pride in wearing their uniforms and to come in the required attire.

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### ATTENDANCE

School attendance is vital for success. We do expect our students to be in school every day. However, this is not to be at the expense of their health. If your child is ill, please leave him or her at home. When he or she comes to school sick, others are in danger of catching the same cold, flu, virus, etc. We miss them when they're not here, but we want them to be well. Often a day at home of rest will save a week of dragging out a cold or the flu.

We are committed to providing our students with the best quality education, and we expect our students to meet high standards in academics and conduct. Students must maintain a C- average in all subjects and conduct. Students missing more than 20 days a year will be required to attend summer school.

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### EARN FREE SUPPLIES FROM OFFICE DEPOT

Office Depot is sponsoring a program, Taking Care of Education in 2007 that allows schools to earn credits for future supply purchases. Every time parents, students, and school supporters give our school's 5% Back to School ID number, we receive credits equally up to 5% of the qualifying purchases to get free supplies. Our school's ID number is 70022655. Excluded purchases are all electronics, computers, ink cartridges for printers and furniture.

This program along with other like the Target for Education program and the General Mills

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So, if you're purchasing something from Office Depot, please remember to give our school's ID number. Every little bit helps.

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**The important thing is not so much that every child should be taught, as that every child should be given the wish to learn. ~John Lubbock**



**TEACHER OF THE MONTH**

Our March Teacher of the Month brings the spirit of spring – Mrs. Patty Delgado. As a 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Mrs. Delgado not only provides her students with the rudiments of reading, writing, and arithmetic, she also gives them an excellent example of hard work, dedication, and the spirit of love. She is the model of a conscientious teacher, always looking for new ways to present material and how best to help her students. Her love for what she does is exhibited every day she comes to work.

Patty, thank you for being a part of our C.E.A. family. Thank you for sharing your talents and love for teaching. We are better because you are here!

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Don't forget to set your clocks forward on March 11 at 2:00 a.m.



**"Perhaps we've all misunderstood the reason we learn music, and all the arts, in the first place...It is that for hundreds of years it has been known that teaching the arts, along with history and math and biology, helps to create the well rounded mind that western civilization, and America, have been grounded on. America's greatest achievements - in science, in business, in popular culture, would simply not be attainable without an education that encourages achievement in all fields. It is from that creativity and imagination that the solutions to our political and social problems will come. We need that well rounded mind now. Without it, we simply make more difficult the problems we face."**

Richard Dreyfuss  
*Actor*

Maribel Z. Diaz  
Director

Carol Diaz-Zubieta  
Principal

Cassandra K. Jolliff  
Principal

Loriana Novoa  
Ed. Advisor