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March 2008

## MagnetMatters' Highlights

*Magnet Schools win national awards of excellence and distinction*

*Enloe & Ligon Students Perform at Carnegie Hall*

*Martin GT goes to Mount Everest – the 21<sup>st</sup> century way*

*Centennial University Connections/Leadership Magnet hosts Asian Festival*

*Ligon Features An Acclaimed Film about Race, Family and Raleigh History: MOVING MIDWAY*

## Seven Magnet Schools Win National Awards

The Magnet Schools of America professional organization has selected 7 of the WCPSS Magnet Schools to win national awards. Combs Leadership Magnet Elementary, Broughton International Baccalaureate Magnet HS, Ligon Gifted & Talented/AG Basics Magnet Middle won the Magnet Schools of Excellence Award.

Douglas Creative Arts and Science Magnet Elementary, East Millbrook International Baccalaureate MYP / Integrated Arts Magnet Middle, Farmington Woods International Baccalaureate PYP Magnet Elementary, and Joyner Center for Spanish / International Baccalaureate PYP Magnet were awarded Magnet Schools of Distinction.

Over 200 magnet schools across the nation applied for the MSA awards and only 50% of the applicants met the high standards of schools of excellence or schools of distinction. 100% of the WCPSS magnet school's who applied met the high standards and received an award.

## Enloe & Ligon Gifted & Talented Magnet Schools Perform at Carnegie Hall

**Enloe Magnet High School Singers**, led by Ann Johnson-Huff, were selected by The Weill Music Institute at Carnegie Hall to be one of four choirs participating in its Fifth Annual National High School Choral Festival, which culminates in a Carnegie Hall concert on Monday, March 10, 2008. The four choirs were selected by recorded audition from among 75 applicant groups from 31 states throughout the US.

Enloe's Magnet High School Singers is made up of The Chamber Choir and the Advanced Women's Ensemble, two of the five choirs of Enloe's Choral Department. The Chamber Choir and the Advanced Women's Ensemble study a wide array of repertoire and perform for numerous local and national events throughout the school year.

**Ligon Gifted & Talented/AG Basics Magnet Middle School's** orchestra of 50 students, conducted by Ruth Johnsen, will also perform at Carnegie on March 20<sup>th</sup>. Their orchestra performance is titled *Symmetry and Style: Music and the Golden Mean* featuring pieces from Stamitz, Hayden, Mozart, and Prokofiev. Congratulations to the student performers, faculty and principals at Enloe and Ligon!

## Martin GT Magnet Middle Goes to Everest; the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Way

Martin GT Magnet Middle School is embarking on a unique collaborative, educational experience with Cisco, MCNC, Arch Rock, Dr. James R. Stevens, and WRAL.com. These partnerships will move the school, the students, and Wake County firmly into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Model through real-world experiences, combining technology with climbing Mount Everest.

Ciprian “Chip” Popoviciu from Cisco is going to climb the southern route of Mt. Everest. He will leave Raleigh and travel to Kathmandu on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, with the plan to summit Everest, sometime between May 1<sup>st</sup> and May 31<sup>st</sup>. Tim Woods from Cisco is Chip’s communications partner and collaborator. He will set up “base camp communications.” Arch Rock will be providing the sensors to Chip, and will be providing a set of sensors to the Martin GT Magnet Middle School for local remote sensing opportunities around the campus.

Chip will be traveling with the most state-of-the-art technology, provided by Cisco, and Arch Rock. Martin GT Magnet Middle School will be collaborating with Cisco and MCNC to bring this technology into the school. Therefore, the project will be collaborative across all grade levels and all disciplines, allowing students to have opportunities across all curricular disciplines to experience Everest in a meaningful, personal manner. This project will take them to the top of the world (Digital-Age Literacy). Martin’s curriculum specialists have worked diligently to connect all activities to the Standard Course of Study (High Productivity).

Chip and Tim will be coming to Martin on March 10<sup>th</sup> to present the expedition from the technical and personal aspects to the students and staff. There are also plans to expand the experience for the students at Martin in June once Chip has returned home safely.

### MagnetMatters

#### April Newsletter:

Please send school news and announcements to :  
[magnetcenter@wcpss.net](mailto:magnetcenter@wcpss.net)  
or fax to 501-7923.

## Centennial University Connections & Leadership Magnet Middle Hosts Asian Festival

If you see a Centennial Administrator or faculty person, be sure to ask about the Asian Festival. On March 6<sup>th</sup>, the Centennial Magnet Middle seventh-grade house collaborated with the Confucius Center and the Japan Center at North Carolina State University to host a day-long Asian Festival. Students rotated through seven stations. Students were engaged in cultural questions and answers, calligraphy writing, martial arts demonstrations, creating origami, arranging tangrams, making Chinese lanterns and playing authentic games from China – with an emphasis on integrated curriculum aligned with the NCSCoS. A highlight of the day was the Japanese Tea Ceremony conducted between 12:10 and 2:00 pm.

## Ligon GT/AG Basics Magnet Middle Presents “Moving Midway” An Acclaimed Film about Race, Family and Raleigh History on March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at Ligon’s Auditorium

Godfrey Cheshire and Robert Hinton grew up in the 1950’s and 1960’s in segregated Raleigh. Robert attended Ligon and Godfrey attended Broughton. They didn’t know it at the time, but they were connected by Midway Plantation, near Raleigh. MOVING MIDWAY tells the story not just of one plantation and one family over four centuries, but also explores the image of the Southern Plantation in US culture. MOVING MIDWAY has been acclaimed at film festivals across the country and will be released nationally in fall 2008.