

Tradisyon Lakou Lakay

SPRING FEST 2011

Spring Fest Newsletter

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Tradisyon Lakou Lakay, Inc. had its annual Spring Fest on March 14 - 18. The event was held at the Little Haiti Cultural Center, in partnership with their art camp. There were about 35 students enrolled in the program; many of them attend public and private schools and are part of Special Education Program (formerly ESE). The program includes academics, art, dance and drumming. This year's event was filled with excitement as the students received extra support for the upcoming Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test. The program also made available art enrichment, includ-



ing clay, painting, drumming and Haitian folkloric dance.

Ms. Edlin Gelin, Ms. Marie Vickles (coordinator of Little Haiti Art Program) and Ms. Christian Hollifield taught the art session; Ms. Myrna Jean, Ms. Weiselande Cesar and Ms. Myriame Pierre led the academic session. Lead Haitian drummers, Myrtho Exavier, Ronald Desire and Caleus Laguerre) guided the students through the drumming session; needless to say Ms. Cesar (Yanui) and Ms. Kettlie Cajoux instructed and trained the children on popular Haitian traditional dance. Moreover, a few high school students volunteered during the Spring Fest 2011.



Drumming:

In this segment of the program, children are first introduced to the history of drum. They had a broad knowledge that drum is another form of communication, starting back during civil war time. Drums also served as a *call*



and response during dancing and special ceremonies. The students then had the opportunity to experience firsthand the specific rhythms demonstrated by the very skilled drummers. The students also gained knowledge of the fact that certain drums based on animal skin, size and shape make specific sounds. More effectively, the students had the chance to practice the rhythms after each demonstration.



Tradisyon Lakou Lakay, Inc. opens its doors to multi cultural activities to children through art, drumming, dance, and academic.

For more information and support

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Also ask for the next fest series and newsletter.

Art Session



With inspiration of the art teachers, the art session made its debut in clay work. The children were able to create Ms. Gelin the art program.

Once again, TLL's well rounded with cultural and academic sessions are great

experiences for youths.

Our first art session was filled with learning and fun moments. We made clay sculptures of butterflies, beetles, and other intriguing insects. The kids



learned about bugs, and painted and drew them too! Tomorrow we will be making mobiles. Mobiles are like the wind chimes that twist and turn using insects drawing and painting. Basically, art that can move! That's Rad!



Academic Literacy Session:

Just a month before the F-CAT, TLL, Inc. offered a two-day academic session for the children. Students from 1st to 5th grade received instruction in the areas of reading and math. The teachers emphasized on major benchmarks that are important for the state standardized test. The students and parents were very satisfied with the academic session.



Dance

Dance, amongst other form of arts, is a vehicle use to communicate. A whole history ties with emotions can be expressed through dance. Haitian folkloric dance does just that. It is a dance very structured and has set of discipline like most styles of dancing. However, Haitian traditional dance, as we know is a tapestry of deep rooted culture and history of the people. It was

very rewarding and amazing to have the children learned so several of the Haitian traditional dances in less than two days. The children had a taste of yanvalou, mayi, kongo, petro, ibo parangol and rara. The participants definitely made connections of the Haitian drum rhythms to the dances and they communicate it very well in such a short time.

Field Trip:

The field trip was to the Miami Art Museum (MAM) in Downtown Miami. There, opportunity to generalize learned skilled and concepts was seized and put to use. The children received a guided tour of the galleries and exhibits and explored a few of the many aspects of an art piece, including the way to study a piece of art (observation/appreciation of two-dimensional, three-dimensional and four-dimensional art.)



~Our gratitude is greatly appreciated.
Acknowledgment
Little Haiti Cultural Center
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