

11-21-2008

Children Use Imaginations at the CPA

Office of Public Affairs

Follow this and additional works at: http://opus.govst.edu/press_releases

Recommended Citation

Office of Public Affairs, "Children Use Imaginations at the CPA" (2008). *Press Releases*. Paper 406.
http://opus.govst.edu/press_releases/406

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Marketing and Communications at OPUS Open Portal to University Scholarship. It has been accepted for inclusion in Press Releases by an authorized administrator of OPUS Open Portal to University Scholarship. For more information, please contact opus@govst.edu.

[The Office of Marketing and Communications](#)[Public Affairs Services](#)[Events](#)[Production Procedures](#)[Image Standards](#)[Font and Typeface Guidelines](#)[Editorial Style Guide](#)[Downloads](#)[Photography](#)[Recent Press Releases](#)[Archived Press Releases](#)[Contact Us](#)

Date: November 21, 2008
 Contact: Lindsay Gladstone
 Governors State University
 Phone: (708) 534-7090
 Fax: (708) 534-8399
 Email: l-gladstone@govst.edu

For Immediate Release

Children use imaginations at the CPA

University Park, IL, November 21, 2008 – The children from Taft Elementary School in had a very special treat on Friday when they visited the Center for Performing Arts at Governors State University. Not only did they get to see a live musical performance of one of their favorite stories, they also had a special meeting with the author, Mary Pope Osborne.

More than 100 kindergarten through third graders from the Kankakee visual arts magnet school enjoyed the stage production of "Magic Tree House: the Musical" because of the generosity of Osborne and her husband Will, who is also one of the creators of the show.

When Osborne learned that the children wanted to attend the performance but could not afford the combined ticket and bus expense, she offered to pay for their tickets. "We want every child to experience live theater. They use their imaginations when they read my books and when they see the show. This is a very active show. They must picture it in their minds as well as see it on stage."

According to Taft second grade teacher Priscilla Dwyer, "The kids love reading the Magic Tree House books. Mrs. Osborne's donation made it possible for them to see the show. For some of our students, it will be the first live performance they have seen on stage."

The children from Taft loved the show, especially the dinosaurs and the dancing. Comments ranged from "Wow," to "Can we see it again?" Many planned to read more of the Magic Tree House books.

During her pre-performance conversation with the children, Osborne asked them to vote on the setting of her next storyline. The children choose from a variety of suggestions including playing with baby pandas in China to scoring the winning goal in the World Cup of Soccer. In the end, they overwhelmingly voted for a leap year with Leprechauns and Osborne promised to write a book featuring their choice.

In her comments, Osborne also encouraged the children to continue to read and use their imaginations. "Put down the computer games and turn off the television. Act out what is in your imaginations and have fun."

"Magic Tree House: The Musical" will continue for three more shows, November 22, at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., and November 23, at 2 p.m. Tickets are still available. For more information, call (708) 235-2222 or visit www.centertickets.net.

The Center for Performing Arts at Governors State University is located at 1 University Parkway, University Park, Illinois.