



PRESS RELEASE

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MCS Students Expand Earth Festival with 'Go Green' Fashion Show, Eco-friendly Car Wash, More

"One person's junk is another person's outfit."

That's the theme of the "Go Green" Fashion Show to be held on Saturday, April 10 at Milford Central School. Beginning at 3 p.m., MCS students will showcase wearable art they made or embellished themselves with recycled and waste materials including book covers, soda can pop tops, packaging materials and men's ties. This eco-friendly event is being sponsored by the Milford Central School Education Foundation, Inc. (MEF) at the close of Earth Festival 2010. Tickets are \$10 per person or \$60 for a table of eight. Fashion show proceeds will benefit MEF programs.

Over the past few weeks, art students at Milford Central School have also been collaborating to create exciting eco-art sculptures. Found objects were brought to the art classroom where, under the tutelage of high school art teacher Jeanne Knowles, students brainstormed and recycled these discarded and unwanted objects into masterpieces. Their sculptures will serve as table centerpieces at the fashion show, and will be previewed Friday evening, April 9, when Earth Festival activities kick off at 6:30 p.m. with a free Family Movie Night showing of "Wall.E."

The purpose of MEF is to provide innovative programs and resources designed to enhance the education experience and opportunities within the Milford Central School District. The three main branches of the Foundation are: 1) MISSION (Meaningful Investments for Student Solutions in Our Neighborhood), a student-run philanthropy group that focuses on education and service learning with a community and environmental focus; 2) SouthofCooperstown.com, which focuses on student entrepreneurial education and hands-on business experience through a student run web-based business; and 3) the Richard Bates Scholarship, promoting education for students interested in mathematics and science.

Now in its fifth year, Earth Festival is an environmentally focused, interactive event featuring exhibits, workshops, vendors, food and entertainment, all with a fun, earth-friendly twist. This year, on April 10, MCS students will lead children's activity stations throughout the day, and a Seminar Series focusing on renewable energy, natural gas, and energy conservation will be held concurrently with the traditional Earth Festival events. Cooperstown Farmers' Market vendors will be on hand selling fresh spring flowers, a variety of flavored fresh sprouts and micro greens, organic meats, cheeses, baked goods, and crafts, and the popular Styrofoam collection and shredding service will return.

The Milford Central School Class of 2014 will also host an eco-friendly car wash at the school during Earth Festival. The cost per car will be \$5, and all proceeds from the car wash will benefit Relay For Life,

a division of the American Cancer Society. Students will employ "bioremediation" strategies as they clean the cars, making sure the water runs into the grass to perk and away from any storm drains or streams. Oil socks and phosphate-free detergent will be used to further lessen the environmental impact. Equipment and supplies were donated by Pressure Washing Services, Inc. of Milford.

Earth Festival 2010 is sponsored by OCCA and Wildlife Learning Company, and is funded in part by the Bezos Family Foundation. Those interested in attending the Seminar Series, exhibiting or making a financial contribution should call OCCA at (607) 547-4488 or e-mail admin@occainfo.org. For more information on the "Go Green" Fashion Show, or to make reservations, call (607) 286-7721, extension 8408.

Photo captions:

A model hand made entirely of keys from a computer keyboard, this sculpture by MCS student Dante Thompson is accented with bits of genuine moss.

Pictured left to right, top row: Francesca Green (modeling a bandana dress), Jane O'Bryan (modeling a vest dress made of tapestry fabric), Eden Ward (modeling a purse made out of a book cover), Jordan Griffiths (modeling a CD-embellished tote bag); bottom row: Jaclyn Courter (modeling a dress sewn from men's ties), Avalon Ward (modeling a skirt embellished with soda can pop tops), and Victoria Munroe (modeling magazine heels.)