

LONG TRAIL SCHOOL founded 1975

For immediate release: October 21, 2008

Contact: Kim Rizio 802.867.5717 x147

LONG TRAIL SCIENCE + ART = FUNDS FOR JAMAICA BUILDING PROJECT

7th graders in Erin Duffy and Scott Worland's Environmental Studies classes are collecting debris from autumn's natural processes. The leaves, twigs, seed pods and other items that the students will remove from outdoors next week will be recycled into organic art pieces made during Anharad Edson's art classes and ultimately sold as part of a schoolwide project to raise funds for an impoverished community.

Inspired during the opening presentation about Long Trail School's commitment to Connecting Youth Around the Globe (CYAG), Duffy wanted to find a means for her students to involve themselves in the fundraising efforts to build the Bennetland, Jamaica community center. Her seventh grade curriculum lent itself to the cause.

As students become gatherers of nature's shed items, they will discuss seasonal changes in the world around them. Each student will collect his or her own items to be used in art class. Students will use these natural materials to create and decorate sculptures, pictures, collages, weavings, decoupages, jewelry or other artistic creations. In addition, each student will write a brief artist's biography, a statement of purpose and an explanation of the inspiration behind the particular piece of art. These write-ups will accompany the artwork in a November-December exhibition. The artwork will be available for purchase, with full proceeds to benefit the construction of the Bennetland community center.

Duffy is pleased by this cross-curricular project. "Meaningfully connecting classes and getting students into the outdoors are two wonderful opportunities gained through this effort." Not only are the teachers coordinating classwork, content and expectations, but also the students are reminded that their studies overlap and have shared values and attributes. For information about Long Trail School's programs, please contact Courtney Callo at 802.867.5717 x141.