

WALLTALK

ART & WRITING AT THE ICA

SCHOOL YEAR 07/08



Stace Budzko, WallTalk Resident Writer, works closely with your students.



Akinyele Staples, from McKinley South End Academy, reads his work at the WallTalk Reading Jam

FALL 07 DESIGN LIFE NOW

The most innovative American design from 2003 to 2006 in the fields of architecture, furniture, film, graphics, new technologies, animation, science, products, and fashion.

SPRING 08 THE WORLD AS A STAGE

An exhibition that explores the relationship between visual arts and theater, and the theatricality of everyday life.

WALLTALK, aimed at middle and high school students, is a multi-visit program that encourages close observation, open discussion and individual connections to contemporary art through writing. Using ICA exhibitions as a starting point, students observe, question, interpret, and respond creatively to the art of our time.

Each participating class (meeting a total of four times, twice at school and twice the ICA), works with a visual artist and a professional writer to guide their critical analysis and to complement the language arts curriculum in the schools. Hands-on and discussion-based activities complement the writing workshop. The resulting exhibition-inspired writings are compiled into a magazine-style publication, and a final event, the WallTalk Reading Jam, gives students a chance to share their work with their peers and to explore the art of spoken word. Visual Arts, Language Arts, History, and Social Sciences teachers are encouraged to participate.

WallTalk is based on the premise that careful looking and in-depth experience of works of art can be compelling stimuli for developing writing and language skills. Through this program, the ICA provides an engaging and supportive environment for students to express their ideas and develop their writing while celebrating the myriad voices of Boston's public school landscape. WallTalk is a key program in our efforts to make contemporary art an integral part of the development of young people.

WallTalk is currently focusing on schools located in Roxbury, Dorchester, and South Boston. For more information call Emma Fernandez at 617-478-3131 or email efernandez@icaboston.org

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