



**B**ernards **T**ownship **E**ducation **F**oundation  
Post Office Box 69  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

*"Advancing Public Education in the 21st Century through principled leadership, dynamic programs, shared resources and community participation"*

December 2011

Dear Friends of the Arts at Ridge High School,

For many years, the Art Department at Ridge High School has exhibited student artwork on homosote panels which have become quite dilapidated. Over the past few years, volunteers have covered the panels with paper. Last year, the surfaces were repainted. but, with the hinges tearing, the panels are now worn out. The Art Department needs to replace these panels with portable, light-weight units. These new panels would greatly enhance the exhibit experience by visitors and assist Ridge's aspiring art students in a professional presentation of their work. New art panels cost \$18,500.

Last year, the Parents Art Advisory Board (PAAB) was formed to foster development of the arts at Ridge. The PAAB is focusing its fundraising efforts this year on making the Art Department's wish for new display panels a reality. To have these panels in time for the 2012 Art Show, we are asking families with children enrolled in an art class at Ridge, families of recent art major graduates, families interested in the future of the program and alumni of the Art Department to consider making a tax-deductible donation to the Bernards Township Education Foundation (BTEF) to support the purchase of new panels. While any amount is appreciated, we are requesting a minimum donation of \$15.

If every family and alumni pledged the minimum amount, we would meet our goal. Your donation may also be eligible for a corporate matching gift. Please review the pledge form for additional details. To make a gift, please complete the enclosed pledge form, make checks payable to the Bernards Township Education Foundation, and return the form to the above address. Donations are also accepted on line at <http://www.btcf.org/BTEF/Donations.aspx>.

Thank you, in advance, for your generosity and support.

Sincerely,

Parents Art Advisory Board

**Ridge ART DEPARTMENT & PAAB FACTS**

- 80% of all Ridge High School students participate in the Art Program.
  - Art Students received over \$500,000 in college scholarships.
- Prepared hundreds of professional portfolios for college applications.
  - Over 2000 visitors and participants to the 2011 Art Show.
  - Published a book Dreamland- Illusions of Coney Island.
    - Created a summer scholarship fund.
  - Completed 2 successful projects with DonorsChoose.