



Pawtucket Armory Association eNewsletter : June 2004

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The Exchange eNewsletter is designed to spread the word about our efforts to renovate the historic Pawtucket Armory and manage it as The Arts Exchange, an affordable and sustainable, regional center for the arts and arts education. The Pawtucket Armory Association is a 501(c)(3) non- profit corporation.

### **● Pawtucket School Board Approves Lease With Pawtucket Armory Association**

At its June 22 meeting the Pawtucket School Committee voted unanimously to sign a lease with the Pawtucket Armory Association. With this decision, PAA can now move forward to renovate the "Castle" section of the Armory so that the Jacqueline M. Walsh High School for the Performing and Visual Arts can begin operations there in September of 2005.



The new public high school will enroll students through a competitive audition process. The school will be divided into sections devoted to visual arts, music, dance and theater. The school's organizers estimate that 60% of the students will be Pawtucket residents, with the rest being tuition-paying students from outside the city.

PAA board president Seth Handy told the School Committee that "the whole concept of The Arts Exchange is to have a lot of collaboration within the groups in the complex." The high school will be the second occupant of The Arts Exchange, joining the [The Sandra](#)

[Feinstein-Gamm Theatre](#) which has been in residence since November of last year.

Congratulations and thanks to all the members of the Pawtucket School Committee, School Superintendent Hans Dellith, and Shea High School music teacher and PAA Operations Committee member Donna Jeffrey.

• **Red Sox Legends: PAA To Hold Auction Of McCoy Stadium PawSox Portraits on July 12**

On Monday, July 12, 2004 the Pawtucket Armory Association will sell at auction 42 portraits of Pawtucket Red Sox players. The auction will take place at the Armory, 172 Exchange Street, Pawtucket at 7:00 PM, with the auction preview taking place starting at 5:00 PM. Coyle's Auction Gallery of Bellingham, Massachusetts will be the guest auctioneer. All proceeds will go to PAA to support our fund raising efforts to renovate and convert the Pawtucket Armory for use as a center for the arts and arts education.



These unique and original portraits of the PawSox players who went on to play in the major leagues were commissioned by PawSox owner Ben Mondor from artist Carol "Tayo" Heuser between 1990 and 1998. They are on 4'x 8' wood panels (three were painted on 4'x 4' panels), are framed and enclosed with ¼" Plexiglas covers, and used to hang on McCoy Stadium's walls. All the portraits can be viewed at [www.arts-exchange.org/portraits](http://www.arts-exchange.org/portraits).

During the last renovation project at McCoy Stadium the PawSox found that the portraits would no longer fit on the stadium walls (because of the addition of handicap railings). The PawSox then graciously donated the original player portraits to PAA.

The roster includes such all-stars as Fred Lynn, Jim Rice, Wade Boggs, Roger Clemens, Hall of Famer Carlton Fisk and current Boston Red Sox star Nomar Garciapara. Other portrayals include Mo Vaughn, Rick Burleson, John Valentin, Dennis "Oil Can" Boyd, John Tudor, Cecil Cooper, Mark Fidrych, Ellis Burks, Brady Anderson, Pawtucket native Ken Ryan and Butch Hobson.

Many of these former great PawSox players are now retired, yet even in their retirement this lineup still has some remaining hits in their bats. For more information, contact Steve Kumins, Executive Director, at [steve@arts-exchange.org](mailto:steve@arts-exchange.org). Steve can also be reached by phone at 401.721.0723.

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