



*June 2, 2010*

*To Whom It May Concern:*

*I am writing this letter to share the excitement the students at B. B. Comegys have felt about the Violette de Mazia's Young People's program. This has been an outstanding introductory year.*

*The students had an opportunity to learn the language of color. This assisted them by increasing their vocabulary and their sensitivity to many words in general. Some of the words that they have incorporated into their vocabulary are: repoussoir (push back effect), aesthetic rhythm (repetition with variety), unity, transferred values, illustrative, decorative, expressive; picture ideas; form and creative distortion. Using these words defines higher-level thinking.*

*Additionally they learned to identify and appreciate the work of many artists, some of which they had never encountered... Renoir, Cezanne, Matisse, Picasso, Bonnard, Titian, Rembrandt, Pippin and Jacob Lawrence.*

*Their artistic lens is beginning to develop. Some students have been observed as mentioning that they noticed the rhythms, the color, the relationship of Modigliani's stiff frontal pose, oval head, long nose, almond-shaped eyes, and cylinder neck as compared to an African sculpture they has just viewed. How amazing? They are using critical thinking skills while comparing and contrasting. This is in direct alignment to the Pennsylvania State Standards.*

*It was reported that our students were wonderful at the Barnes Foundation during their long awaited field trip. The docent who led them through the collection mentioned that they were interested, responsive, and perceptive — much better informed, than some of the other "unprepared" students who generally visited.*

*In summary, it has been a true honor to work with this program. We at Comegys look forward to many more years of a collaborative partnership. The students benefit greatly from this most rewarding experience.*

*Respectfully,*

*Geraldine Fitzpatrick-Doria*

*Principal,*

*B.B.Comegys Elementary School*

*School District of Philadelphia*