North Star Students Clown Around

Thursday, 22 January 2009

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Erik Wander/KMXT

A visiting artist at North Star Elementary School is teaching kids the value of the theater arts and performing. The residency is part of the Artists in Schools Program funded by a grant from the Alaska State Council on the Arts with support from the PTA.

Jerry Fale, who is from Santa Cruz, California, is the artist in residence at North Star. He said teaching the elementary students theater arts, such as circus, clowning and tumbling has a value beyond the specific skills they learn.

-- (Fale 1 21 sec. "I've come up from ... entrances and exists and all that.")

Fale is a former circus clown who and is now enjoying the opportunity to teach kids his passion.

-- (Fale 2 22 sec. "I've been performing ... I'm getting close to that time.")

Fale said he finds it rewarding to work with the kids, even though he sometimes has to be hard on them in order to get them to the point where they're ready to perform live.

-- (Fale 3 28 sec. "They're doing a great ... so I stay on them.")

Fale appreciates the support he has received from the school and the PTA during his two week residency.

-- (Fale 4 19 sec. "It's wonderful that ... and try new things.")

Fale's residency will culminate in a free show, which takes place Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. in the drama pod at Kodiak High School and is free to the public. The show will include acrobatics, juggling, clowns and balancing acts.

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