Highlights for January 17-23, 2012
Paper Dragons & Arts Advocacy

With college tuition rising ever higher, lack of financial aid is a major barrier for low-income students who want to go to college. The San Francisco Board of Supervisors has declared January 16-22 “Financial Aid Awareness Week,” and the Mission Economic Development Agency (MEDA) will be discussing why families should know about and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), a form that determines a student’s eligibility for college financial aid.

When: Wednesday, January 18 / 11:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Where: Mission HS / 3750 18th St.

For many San Franciscans of Asian descent, Lunar New Year is a festive and important family celebration. At Sunset Elementary, staff and students mark the event with a variety of activities: cooking kuo jai (a special pastry), designing mini dragon books, reading stories about Lunar New Year customs and traditions, and creating art projects, including a large paper dragon to grace the school hallway.

When: Thursday, January 19 / 12:45-2:00 p.m.
Where: Sunset ES / 1920 41st Ave.

The non-profit organization Friends of School of the Arts (FoSOTA) works to support the Ruth Asawa School of the Arts, a public high school in San Francisco. This year, the organization is presenting its first Asawa Arts Advocacy Award to someone who has followed the example set by artist Ruth Asawa, the school’s namesake. Susan Stauter will be recognized for her advocacy for artistic excellence and commitment to arts in public schools. Stauter is the Artistic Director for SFUSD and has been instrumental in the development and ongoing work of the SFUSD’s Arts Education Master Plan, which promises equity and access in arts education for all students during the curricular day.

When: Friday, January 20 / 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Where: African- American Art and Culture Complex / 762 Fulton St.

San Francisco’s public schools will be closed Monday, January 23 to observe Lunar New Year. District administrative offices will be open.

##