



### **“We Are Rhode Island”**

Saylesville Elementary Schools is excited to partner with Angela Brasil, an educator and actress from Trinity Rep, in bringing history alive through a multidisciplinary, arts-based approach to teaching history to 4th graders. The project entitled “We Are Rhode Island” is funded through a RI State Council on the Arts grant. Saylesville’s project is one of 68 that were awarded out of 235. This is the second year of a project (last year was a pilot year) that features researching noteworthy, but lesser well known, Rhode Islanders and their impact on the state and our country. The project aligns well with one of Saylesville’s values: Respect All since many of the figures being researched are groups that are traditionally underrepresented in textbooks and historical surveys. In addition to reading primary and secondary texts and synthesizing information, the students will also collaborate to create an original performance piece based on what they have learned. One key objective of the project is for students to think about “who makes history and how” and envision themselves as the next generation of Rhode Islanders who can and will make a difference. Ms. Brasil will work directly with the teachers and students throughout the project. By using an arts-based approach, more students will be engaged and inspired to learn and share. The project is scheduled to begin in March.