

BRAVO!!! Times

A Fine Arts Department Publication

December 2003



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Fine Arts Department
1331 Franklin SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49501
Phone—771-2156
Fax— 771-2180
Powellj@grps.k12.mi.us
Coxv@grps.k12.mi.us

Julie's Super Vision!



It's never too early to start talking about one of our finest annual events! Its Arts Jam 2004! It will take place on Sunday, February 22, 2004 at 2pm @ St. Cecilia. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$5 for students, or \$50 for a family pack (2 adults, up to 4 students). Last year, this event raised over \$10,000 with the majority go-

ing back to art and music teachers to use in their classrooms. This is deeply appreciated as a fundraiser and more importantly, as a total community venture. All of the musicians donate their time and the artists donate their work. Last year, the Arts Jam concert was followed by a visual art project which was painted wooden chairs that were auctioned off. This year, we are featuring floor cloths better described as "paintings to walk on". These canvas rugs will feature many colors, designs, and artistic expressions to add vibrancy to your home. If you would like to buy tickets to the Arts Jam or would like more information, please call our office at 771-2156.

Julie Powell

The Imperfect Chair

This chair has been worked on for many hours last year before the Arts Jam chair auction at St. Cecilia's but was never finished. The same three artists, Delechia Foster, Tiffany Cole and Brittany Williams, have moved from 5th to 6th grade and are back to complete their project. Mrs. Ege, art teacher at Alexander, repainted the chair blue over the summer and the artists started back into their planned project this year. Another artist, Les Paul Jones, came aboard this year to help the girls complete the project. With lessons learned from working wild and fast last year, the artists have controlled their images much more closely this year. The sky, ground and horizon line came first, then trees if they wanted, followed by animals. They are spending more time fine tuning the animals to make them believable looking for the basic forms that their shapes entailed. They then looked for shadows and added the darkest of detail in eyes and darkest shadow areas. Working from light tones to dark has helped greatly, as has building the background first to foreground last. Keep up the good work. We can't wait to see the finished product!



Brittany Williams - 6th grader at Alexander.

Extra! Extra!

School Tidings

Extra! Extra!



Second grade students going through the process of still life painting at Eastern elementary school.

Still Life Painting

Lucia Zapata (art teacher at Eastern elementary) is doing still life prints with her 2nd grade students. This is a simple process that the students loved. After discussing the term still life, they proceeded with the process of printmaking. First they took clean styrofoam breakfast trays in which they would draw a picture with a pencil. Mrs. Zapata had them drawing flowers in a flower pot on a table. They were to press hard to make impressions that would transfer when needed. They even used the eraser side of the pencil to make indentations that looked like flower buds. Second, they mixed two primary colors, blue and yellow, to make different shades of green. They applied a medium coat of paint to the styrofoam tray, covered it completely, and then took a piece of white construction paper, pre cut in a rectangular shape, and laid it on top of the styrofoam tray.

They pressed and rubbed firmly, without moving the paper from that position, until they thought the image had transferred and thus made a print. When the students lifted their papers you would see their eyes light up and beautiful prints from the styrofoam trays in color. Great Job Eastern!

Fall City-Wide Festival Concert



Kim Jarnegan preparing Iroquois choir for the Fall City-Wide Concert.

Music Teachers Vanessa Allen, Debra Perry, Kim Jarnegan, Pat Tergerson and Sonja Schultz collaborated and the secondary choirs came together for a singing session on October 14, 2003 at Ottawa Hills. This was a magical night as each choir took the stage and demonstrated the pride of their school through their rhythmic successions of tunes. Henry Paidea choir had the audience on their feet as Principal Ruth Jones looked on in adoration. Sherwood choir was rocking with joy with their tunes that were euphonic. Iroquois choir took a moment out to remember beloved classmate Markeith Mitchell, with sincere words, who had passed away the weekend before the concert. They went on to sing diligently in spite of their loss. Burton Middle school choir sang

their melodies filled with bliss. Central and Ottawa Hill choirs brought down the house with their mellifluous voices. All the choirs sang selections that were familiar and appreciated and the audience had a chance to join in on the festivities. All in all it was a fantastic evening; parents, teachers, students and the community enjoyed the festivities thoroughly. Hooray for our wonderful music teachers and their organization of this event!

Extra! Extra!

School Tidings

Extra! Extra!



Mr. Ward's third graders are practicing the "Blitzen Boogie" for the Holiday

Music Magic

Bob Ward has been teaching music in the district for 19 years. He knows how to play all 14 instruments that he teaches. He plays the trombone professionally for the Grand Rapids Symphony. This is his first year teaching general music and he loves it. Bob is the instrumental and general music teacher at Harrison Park. This added adventure of general music has been surprisingly pleasing to Bob. He wants to teach his 4th graders in nine weeks the Suzuki method by rote which means they will watch him play and mimic him without actually learning to read music but just getting a feel for the instrument. He hopes to give his 5th grade students a two week session on experiencing different instruments (fingering and sound) before they get to the 6th grade. This way when it is time to choose they will be more familiar with the instrument of their choice and be more likely to stick with that instrument throughout middle school.

For the Holiday Concert Mr. Ward's 5th graders will be singing a song totally in Spanish called "*Deja Nosentrar*" which means *Let us come inside*. Mr. Ward created a pronunciation guide for his students and once they could pronounce all the words it was a breeze. The Spanish speaking students became very confident and participated greatly in helping their peers pronounce words. What great team effort! Keep up the good work Harrison Park!

It's Artsy!



Coit Creative Arts Academy is experiencing some really cool things these days. Mary Henninger, art teacher at Coit, has two Calvin students working with her this semester. One Calvin student works with Coit students on paper mache sculptures inspired by Chihuly. Dale Chihuly is an awesome glassblower and sculptor and his kaleidoscope of glass sculptures was on exhibit at Frederick Meijers Garden last winter. The students sculptures are shades and values in color like the Chihuly sculptures only in paper mache.

The other Calvin student comes in and does clay sculptures with the students. K-2 grades are doing tiles and fish and the 3rd -5th grades are doing kimonos and chairs. Sounds like fun! What a way to be artistic!

Filming

By Carol Dodge (Shared Time Music Teacher)



The eighth graders at St. James school are taking a class at WGVU on how to televise a program. WGVU will graciously bring their equipment to St. James and the eight graders will televise their holiday program, which includes choral and dance. It will air on WGVU after December 16, 2003. Please call WGVU for air time after that date @ 331-6666. Terrific St. James!

Arts Jam

Oozing with pizzazz, and dripping with fun, it's the Arts Jam! The annual event of the Fine Arts department is sponsored by the Arts Advocates. There will be sweet music to the ears and soft colors for the eyes and it will all benefit Grand Rapids Public Schools. Auctioning off fine pieces created by our very own students and teachers is one of the attractions. Magnificent posters created by students will be placed all around the city advertising and supporting this event. Let's all get excited and support the Fine Arts Department.

Extra! Extra!

School Tidings

Extra! Extra!

Jamming!



Randall Burt is the Director of the Ottawa Hills Marching Band. He has known most of his band members since elementary. Mr. Burt is well liked and highly respected by his band members. Ottawa Hills band is tantalizing with over 70 band players. They are well trained and very disciplined. Mr. Burt says that he never stoops to their level when there is pandemonium. He remains in control by maintaining his authority. The Ottawa Hills Marching Band is a whirlwind of talent, abilities and charisma. The students give 100 percent effort and it shows. The band has been cordially invited to attend the "American Musical Salute", which is a salute to the veterans of the United States of America, in Washington D.C. in the Spring/Summer 2004. They will

proudly represent the state of Michigan. They took first place for "Best Marching Band 2003" at the 35th Annual Santa Claus Parade on November 18, 2003 in downtown Grand Rapids. The band has been invited to the Soul of the City Parade on December 6, 2003, which will take place on Franklin Street. Congratulations Ottawa. We are proud of you!!!

Exceptional Artist

Rick Brunson is the art teacher at Union High School who also teaches an dual enrollment art program offered to his students through Kendall College. Matthew Geerling is one of the students taking advantage of this program and he is a stupendous artist with many talents. During the 2002-2003 school year, Matthew and other art students created a mural on the band room wall in their school. The mural measures 50-by-9 feet and has a 3-D effect. The students are very proud of this wall and it gives them a sense of ownership at Union High.



"Getting caught stealing a cookie" Matthew Geerling's self-portrait with graphite pencil.

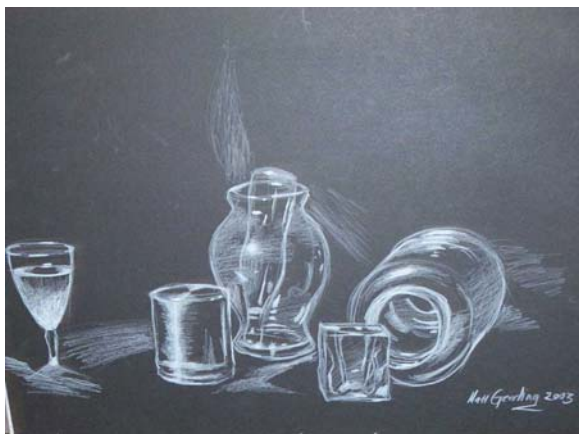
Art Trivia

True or False: India ink originated in India.

- True
 False

Answer: False

India ink, also known as Chinese ink, originated in China where it has been used for centuries in calligraphy scroll-works. It came to be known as 'India Ink' only because the pigments used to create the ink once it arrived in the West were acquired from India.



Chalk "Still Life" by Matthew Geerling.

Extra! Extra!

School Tidings

Extra! Extra!



The 2003-2004 Chorale of Creston High School

Priceless Jewells

The Chorale and the Jewell Tones Jazz Ensemble is directed by Darla Jewell. They are really involved in serving the community and they are zealous singers. The Chorale has recently produced a CD. It includes some selections from the 2001-2002 Chorale, as well as from the 2002-2003 Chorale and Jewell Tones Jazz Ensemble. They are available for a suggested donation of \$10 and may be obtained by calling 771-2447.

The Chorale sang for Toys for Tots on November 18th at Centerpointe Mall. On December 5th they will sing before the Grand Rapids Symphony Holiday Pops Concert. December 12th they will sing during intermission of the Griffins game. December 19th they sing once again at the Gerald R. Ford Airport for their Holiday Music Festival. Sing on!

Fine Arts Department Calendar of Events



December

Dec. 10 Art Staff Professional Dev. Mtg.
Digital Camera Training w/ Sue Porter @ KISD 1-5pm
Music Staff Professional Dev. Mtg.
Technology Workshop @ Alger Bring Laptops •1-5pm

Dec. 15 Music Staff Mtg. • 4-5pm

Dec. 22– Jan. 2 Happy Holidays!

Dec. 24, 25, 31 and January 1 District Closed

January

Jan. 5 Art Staff Mtg. • 4-5pm

Jan. 19 MLK Day •Schools Closed •District Open

February

Feb. 2 Art Staff Professional Dev. Mtg.
Floor Cloth Workshop @ SWCC • 4-7pm

Feb. 16 Mid Winter Break District Closed

Feb. 24-27 5th Grade Grand Rapids Symphony Concert

Musical Melodies



The City High School Band performed a concert at the Grand Rapids Art Museum on Saturday October 11, 2003. The program was part of a series for elementary school students that the museum sponsors on Saturday mornings. The band played selections of music based on the theme of the art exhibit that opened entitled Red, White and Blue and the American Spirit. They also performed a couple of marches, a quiet piece entitled, *Gently Touch the Sky*, *Big Band Classics* and *American Rhapsody*. The program was very well received and the City High School band was invited back to play again in the Spring. Well done City!

Music Trivia:

Who wrote over 100 symphonies, strongly influenced Wolfgang Mozart, taught Beethoven, and was often known as 'Papa'?

- Telemann
- Salieri
- Haydn
- Leopold Mozart

Answer: Haydn

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

Classical German Composer –Haydn wrote the former national anthem of Austria.

Holiday Concerts Anyone?

December 2, 2003

Westwood Middle - 7pm
East Leonard - 7pm
Mulick Park - 8:45am

December 4, 2003

Burton Middle - 7:15pm
Congress - 7pm
Brookside - 7pm
Burton El - 6:30pm
Alger - 6:30pm @ Alger Park Church 2655 Eastern
Iroquois Middle - 7pm

December 9, 2003

Palmer - 6:30pm @ Creston
SWCC - 6:30pm
Union Orchestra and Band Concert - 7:30pm
SEAC - 6:30pm
Riverside North and South - 6:30pm @ Riverside South
City - 7pm @ Central

December 10, 2003

Blessed Sacrament - 7pm

December 11, 2003

Kent Hills - 7pm
St. Alphonsus - 7pm
Creston - 7pm
Fountain - 7pm Central Auditorium
Union Choir Winter Program - 7:30pm

December 12, 2003

Madison Park - 1:30pm
Buchanan Park - 2pm
Iroquois Middle Orchestra - 6pm @ Frederick Meijer Gardens

December 15, 2003

St. Anthony - 7pm

December 16, 2003

CA Frost - 7pm @ Union
St. James - 7pm
Dickinson - 1pm
Sibley - 1:30pm
St. Isadore - 7pm
Sherwood Festival of Lights - 7pm
Campau Park - 2pm
Alexander - 2pm
Ottawa Hills - 7pm

December 17, 2003

Aberdeen - 7pm
KEC Oakleigh - 12pm
Shawnee Park - 7pm @ Ottawa Hills
Hall - 1pm
Central - 7pm

December 18, 2003

Stocking - 6:30pm
Ken-O-Sha - 6:30pm @ GR International Fellowship
3765 Kalamazoo
Jefferson - 2pm
Harrison Park - 6:30pm @ Union
Straight - 10am PreK-K / 2pm PreK-1
Ottawa Montessori - 6:30pm @ Iroquois
Coit - 2pm and 7pm
Campus - 12pm
Northeast Middle School - 7pm
Blandford School - "A Christmas Carol" 7:30pm @
St. Cecilia in the Royce Auditorium (24 Ransom NE)
Teachers looking for a free holiday concert should
contact Blandford about attending the dress rehearsal
earlier that day.

December 19, 2003

Shawmut Hills Holiday Sing-a-Long - 1:45pm

COMMUNITY ART HAPPENINGS

Playacting

The G.R. Civic Theatre and School of Theatre Arts are really booming with explosive performances and new ideas that are tantalizing. The Rodgers and Hammerstein Musical *"Cinderella"* plays until December 20, 2003 Showtimes are- Wed. at 7:30, Thursday-Saturday evening at 8pm. Saturday matinees are at 2pm and Sunday matinees are at 3pm. For tickets, call Ticketsplus 222-4000. Don't miss this colorful and stimulating show!

The annual Fall student showcase is really exciting. These are chosen students who have completed the nationally-recognized Theatre Wheel Curriculum for their age range. This curriculum is part of the G.R. Civic School of Theatre Arts. The Theatre Wheel Curriculum is a series of acting classes that focus on different acting skills. The showcase is a production featuring these students This showcase is presented December 8, 2003 at 7pm. The scripts have been developed especially for the School of Theatre Arts' students in performance classes. Local playwrights have been solicited for this program. As students progress through the curriculum Education Director, Mary Kron is looking for age-appropriate scripts because she realizes that when kids play their own ages, they understand and relate to their character and have a much better experience.

This Fall, the students will present *The Fantasies*, by Randy Wyatt (students age 12-15) and *Who Needs Rudolph?*, by Paula Brothers Fuentes (students age 8-11). These shows are suitable for family audiences ages 8 and up and the performance is free of charge. No reservations are required. For more information about this performance or classes offered at the Grand Rapids Civic Theatre and School of Theatre Arts, call (616) 222-6653 or log on to the Theatre's website at www.grct.org. All performances are held at the Grand Rapids Civic Theatre, 30 N. Division.

Broadway Hits

The Broadway Theatre Guild, a non-profit organization founded in 1988, is the regions' major presenter of Broadway's professional national touring productions. Its mission is to provide audiences high-quality, professional Broadway entertainment and expand the diversity of theatre opportunities in the region, at a cost well below other major cities. To date, the Broadway Theatre Guild has presented over 120 Broadway shows in Grand Rapids' DeVos Performance Hall. Here are the hottest shows now on tour coming to Grand Rapids' DeVos Hall in 2003-2004:

<i>Mama Mia!</i>	December 23-28, 2003	Musical about family, friendship and true love with an incredible Chorus Line that leaves you uplifted, enraptured and jumping out of your seat with joy!
<i>42nd Street</i>	January 13-18, 2004	Musical comedy with its star-is-born story and best tap dancing ensemble ever.
<i>Nunsense</i>	March 23-28, 2004	Musical comedy of a covenant of star-crossed nuns displaying their talents in song and dance to raise money for good causes.
<i>Oliver!</i>	May 25-30, 2004	This musical brings Dickens' greatest character back to life again.

For show times, additional information or a season brochure contact the Broadway Theatre Guild by calling (616) 235-6285 or go on line at broadwaytheatreguild.org.

An Old English Christmas

The Grand Rapids Symphony is presenting Fifth Third Holiday Pops: *An Old English Christmas*. Performances are Thursday 7:30pm, Friday and Saturday 8pm. Saturday matinee at 3pm and Sunday matinee at 3pm. Tickets may be purchased at any Ticketmaster Outlet or the Grand Rapids Symphony ticket office at (616) 454-9451 Reserved Seating, \$16-\$54. The Lollipop Concerts sponsored by Target Stores: *Hansel and Gretel* featuring the Grand Rapids Ballet Company. Performances are Saturday January 17, 2004—10:15 and 11:30am at Sunshine Community Church; 3300 E Beltline, NE. Tickets are \$4 per person, general admission. Available by calling the Grand Rapids Symphony ticket office or at the door prior to the performance.



COMMUNITY ART HAPPENINGS

Relax and Enjoy a Movie!

With all the hustle and bustle of shopping and preparing for festivities, take time to give yourself a break. Going to the movies is a wonderful way to relax—and nobody goes easier on your pocketbook than the Wealthy Theatre. Most films are only \$2 per ticket. Check out the website for times of events or more information, www.wealthytheatre.org. The schedule of events for December at the Wealthy Theatre are below:

- December 3-9 *It's a Wonderful Life* (film)
 December 4 *Christmas at Wealthy Theatre* (student choir concert)
 Tickets \$3
 December 5 Wealthy St. Business Alliance presents **Rib-Tide**
 (holiday party)
 December 6 *Rockin' Shepherd Concert Series* - Tickets \$10
 December 11-14 *Scrooge Tell All* (play) - Tickets \$15 adults & \$8
 students
 December 16 *Midway* (special event film) - Tickets \$5
 December 19 *Wacky Comedy at the Wealthy* (stand-up-comedy)
 Tickets \$15 or 2/\$25
 December 26-31 **Kwanzaa** (cultural holiday celebration)
 December 26-
 January 2 *Classic Big Screen Bugs* (classic cartoons)



Deborah Henson-Conant

Music Lessons

The Grandville Avenue Academy for the Arts will be offering piano/keyboard, guitar, and violin lessons after school. The program will start the week of January 12th and run through the end of the school year in May. Their target audience is elementary and middle-school age children who live in the Grandville Avenue neighborhood and attend public schools.

The goal of these classes will be to allow students to have initial success and fun as they learn to play an instrument. They will also learn to read music as well as learn basic music theory. The program is a collaboration between Best Buy, Grand Rapids Public Schools, Heart of West Michigan United Way and the Grandville Avenue Arts and Humanities. For more information or to register for dance, clay, or art classes which also begin in January, call 742-0692.

Artist Corner

Deborah Henson-Conant

She is called the “wild woman of the harp, and she is changing the way the world sees this ancient instrument. To describe Deborah Henson-Conant is nearly impossible, but she calls her music “cross-genre” jazz-pop-comedy-folk-blues-flamenco-celtic, and she is as much an entertainer as a musician. She sings with deep spirituality as she caresses the harp and even dances with it. She is one of the few nationally known female jazz instrumentalists. She is more than a player. She is a composer, arranger, band leader and the spokeswoman for a new breed of women jazz musicians. Deborah owns four acoustic harps which have been modified to function as electro-acoustic instruments. They are: Lyon & Healy Style 23 Natural, Lyon & Healy Style 19 Gold, Wurlitzer Starke Model Gold, Pilgrim’s Progress Ebony. Each harp has one (or two) Fishman transducers mounted on the inside of the sounding board. The pre-amp is then plugged into the amplifier which boosts the sound so it can be heard over a large range. Deborah performs in symphony halls as a soloist with major orchestras, and she plays intimate shows in jazz clubs and theaters nationwide. Visit Deborah Henson - Conant online @ www.hipharp.com