

creative artifacts

From the Principal

A new beginning in 2016



Welcome to the New Year! 2016 has nothing but greatness in store for Creative Arts Secondary School. As we welcome our students back to school from the winter break on

Monday, January 4th, we will go over our behavior expectations for our students, which are articulated in our PBIS ARTS Matrix. It is through this matrix students know exactly what showings ARTS at CASS looks like.

As I mentioned in the December newsletter, we have begun planning for the 2016-2017 school. Each decision made will allow us to move closer to the vision and mission of Creative Arts Secondary School. Our vision and mission is as follows:

Vision: Creative Arts Secondary School is a premier Saint Paul arts school graduating successful, creative producers, ready for college and career.

Mission: Creative Arts Secondary School develops creative young adults through rigorous study in both arts and academics. Students pursue a personal artistic vision, learning in and through the arts, as part of a safe and supportive creative community.

On Tuesday, January 5th, we will host our third Parent Advisory Committee Meeting from 6 pm to 8 pm. I encourage each of you to attend. We will be activating committees that will help enhance opportunities for our students.

I would like to thank Mr. Frensz, our music long-term substitute, for filling in our music void while we take the time to survey our students to better understand how we should design our music department. He led our

students as they performed the fall concert and spoke to parents about their progress for Quarter Two.

I am excited to announce that there will be three new staff members starting with CASS on Monday, January 4th. David Billingsley will be our new music teacher. Cornelius Rish will be our new theater teacher. Molly will be our guidance technician/assessment coordinator. Aaron Liebo will be moving into the English/Language Arts department as Elizabeth Anderson is on leave from the district.

I would like to invite each of you to our winter dance performance on Thursday, January 14th at 6 pm. The school had an opportunity to preview some of what the dancers have been practicing and we are in for a treat. We will also host an Open House for prospective students and families on Thursday, January 21st from 6-8 pm. We will end the week with Performance Night on Friday, January 22nd at 6:30 pm.

As a reminder, Quarter Two ends on Thursday, January 28th. Please check in with your student about their grades and reach out to their teachers to inquire about how you can support them.

Life is "ruff!" Dogs in art

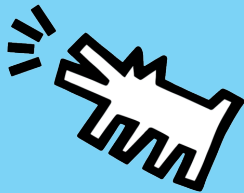
There are many famous depictions of dogs in art — across the centuries and around the world (not just at Creative Arts).

If you are a dog lover and an art lover, check out some of beautiful, fun, and interesting interpretations of the canine form by the following artists:

Frida Kahlo
Jeff Koons:



Keith Haring:



Norman Rockwell
Andy Warhol
Charles Schulz

Do you know the name of the dog made famous by the last artist? Snoopy. (Did you know he's from Saint Paul?)

Critical Response:
What do you notice about these dogs?



Artwork by Malakai L.

State of the Arts

New staff join the Creative Arts team

by Benjamin Lacina,
Program Manager

We at Creative Arts are always excited to introduce our students to new artist and creative mentors. Four new staff members join our team in 2016, and we thought it important that our families can get to know them a little better.

As a school, we are constantly asking our students about their art. You'll notice the same information and insight shared by these great new staff.

David Billingsley, Music

I love all things concerning music! I am creative in my own life by being music director at a church, having my own band #MPLS, and having a studio at home where I'm currently creating my own solo piano record.

When I was 19 I toured internationally in Italy and then a few years later in Japan. I also performed all over the United States with various artists.

[I have appreciated] all of my mentors who helped me along the way. I currently have six mentors. And my favorite artists like: Robert Glasper, India Arie, Kendrick Lamar, and others. What inspires me about all of these people and all of their music is that it comes from their heart. From pain, experience, trials, and error. But they're transparent enough to let the world see their art even though its sometimes ugly or vulnerable.

Fear is the largest hurdle I

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have had to overcome in life. I love slushies, Pixar movies, and good foodie restaurants.

I love and care deeply about my students.

Adriana Lere, Visual Art

My personal art area is ceramics. For the most part, I create wheel thrown functional objects.

When I was in high school, my ceramics teacher invited me to exhibit some of my work beside hers in a show at the Northern Clay Center. Artists from all over the country were displaying their work at the same time, and I couldn't believe that my work was going to be in the same building as theirs.

The person who originally inspired me to make functional pottery was Warren Mackenzie. In my first year of college, my ceramics professor arranged a trip to his studio. We were able to watch him throw, speak to him about his philosophy, see his works in progress. He spoke a lot about how he wanted his work to be accessible to the average person, and how he didn't believe that art belonged to an elite class. As a student coming from a low-income family, this really resonated with me.

As I continued exploring the medium of ceramics, I found artists like Mary O'Malley, Ellen Jewette, and Barbara Hast.

It seemed natural that my fascination with details combined with the idea that art should be accessible would lead towards food. What better way to incorporate art into daily life than to create the vessels that contain food? Why not make the surfaces of these vessels beautiful and enjoyable for the people using them?

When I first expressed an interest in a career in the arts, I had a lot of people stand up and tell me how silly it was. Everyone was sure to tell me how

I wouldn't make any money, I wouldn't be successful, and I should find a "real" career. I almost listened to all of them, but I realized that the amount of happiness the arts brought me and the community outweighed all of the uncertainty.

I just want to let everyone at Creative Arts Secondary School know how excited I am to be a part of the community for the 2016 school year. If anyone has questions for me, I'd be happy to answer them.

Cornelius Rish, Theater

At heart, I am a performing artist - whether I am acting on stage, engaging students in my classroom, facilitating a workshop, teaching Sunday School, or public speaking, I am always "on stage". As an educator, I find creative, enriching ways to engage, reach, and teaching my students.

In 2000, a student performance troupe that I created and directed won the Minnesota Peace Prize for helping to transform Minnesota schools and communities. Although I have been acting or directing plays for twenty years, in 2011, I directed my first full length Broadway production, *The Wiz*. The production set attendance records and helped to rebuild a struggling theater program.

Denzel Washington inspires me because he is a strong actor and a man of faith. He is not only a strong master of his craft, but he shares his knowledge with other upcoming actors—his way of giving back. In addition, he had to overcome many barriers to African-American actors such as the lack of roles writing for a leading African-American man. Hence, Denzel Washington is a phenomenal actor, wonderful person, and trailblazer.

Although, my love and re-

spect for Denzel Washington runs deep, I have to creative my love for theater and acting to my church's theater director Ms. Lola Piper. I got my start acting in church play production - my schools did not have a drama program nor where there any community theater programs available. Ms. Lola Piper encouraged us to work to excellence during rehearsals and performances.

Although I take pride in preparing my student actors to perform well on stage, live performances are unpredictable. I have encountered challenges ranging from a student running off stage during a performance showcase; set pieces falling apart in the middle of a show; a student breaking their foot on stage; in cast disagreements; to an important member of the tech crew not showing up for a performance. It is the lessons from handling these moments that have made me a better teacher and director.

I am the youngest of five children; I played football in high school and college and broke three rushing records on my high school football team; I was a body builder in college (but I never competed).

I love teaching kids. In addition to teaching Theater, I also have taught Social Studies, AVID, and Multicultural Studies. My goal of teaching his inspiring my students become their best selves - giving my the academic, social, and emotional needs that they need to succeed in life.

Molly Stafford, Guidance

Music is one of my creative loves. I was a dedicated pianist for more than 15 years, and I also played the alto saxophone for about 7 years.

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PERFORMANCE NIGHT is Friday, January 22!

Come witness the skills and talents of Creative Arts visual and performing artists as they present and perform their work in our new Theater. Auditions due January 11.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JAN 3	4 Extended Day Learning 2-4 p.m.	5 Mobile Jazz Project 2-5 p.m. PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL 6-8 p.m.	6 Extended Day Learning 2-4 p.m.	7 Mobile Jazz Project 2-5 p.m.	8	9

Performance Night!
 Performance night is an opportunity for all Creative Arts students in all arts disciplines to showcase their performances and artworks to the public. Students in all grades audition to be able to present their work. It all comes together that night to celebrate the multitude of talents that exist in our student body as a whole.

10	11 Performance Night Round 1 Audition deadline Extended Day Learning 2-4 p.m.	12 Mobile Jazz Project 2-5 p.m.	13 Extended Day Learning 2-4 p.m.	14 Mobile Jazz Project 2-5 p.m. Dance Concert 6 p.m.	15	16
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17	18 MLK Holiday No school	19 Mobile Jazz Project 2-5 p.m.	20 Extended Day Learning 2-4 p.m.	21 Mobile Jazz Project 2-5 p.m. SHOWCASE NIGHT for prospective students & families 6 - 8 p.m.	22 PERFORMANCE NIGHT 6:30 p.m.	23
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24	25 Extended Day Learning 2-4 p.m.	26 Mobile Jazz Project 2-5 p.m.	27 Extended Day Learning 2-4 p.m.	28 LAST DAY of 2nd QUARTER Mobile Jazz Project 2-5 p.m.	29 GRADING DAY No school	30
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31	<h1>Jan</h1>					
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Dance Concert: January 14
 6 p.m. in the CASS Theater

Parent Advisory Council: creating recognition and celebration events for students (& prom!)

Attention all parents and guardians of CASS: the Parent Advisory Committee will be sponsoring the 2016 Junior/Senior Prom at the end of April. (We are considering April 29 or 30. The date will be finalized soon).

Many hands are needed to help ensure the event is

successful for our students. Help is needed to finalized the plans, decorate, chaperone, clean-up and much more. Contact Dan Feidt via email dkfeidt@comcast.net or call 651-340-3818 if you would like to be involved. We will begin to have a meeting towards the end of January

(watch for dates) as some items need to be secured by mid-February.

The PAC group is also scheduling more honors events. Contact Josie Ahartz for more information or to help out.

The next PAC meeting is Tuesday, March 1.

creative arts

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

CREATIVE ARTS SECONDARY SCHOOL
65 KELLOGG BLVD E
SAINT PAUL, MN 55101
651 292 3480
651 292 3484 Fax

CASS ADMINISTRATION
Dr. Carlondrea Hines, Principal
Kristen Lynch, Assistant Principal
Benjamin Lacina, Program Manager



2016 BOARD OF EDUCATION
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SUPERINTENDENT
VALERIA S. SILVA

January Students of the Month recognized

Congratulations to the following students for being nominated by teachers and staff at Creative Arts Secondary School to be Students of the Month for January.

6th Grade

Kyah Manneh
Calvin Yang
Damenica Ellis
Grace Balang

7th Grade

Seloma Manneh
Carter Jackman
Angel Barrientos Ortega
Latrell Owens

8th Grade

Eh Klu Moo

9th Grade

Moriah Hannemann
Andrew Smith

10th Grade

Hannah Feidt
Jackson Ruiz

11th Grade

Faith Christensen
Paige Graling
Mariah Franklin
Christina (Chris) Markowski
Emily Winkelaar
Emerald Smith
Francia Perez Ortega (Paris)

12th Grade

Dyno thao
Kyra Gerst

Staff, c ontinued from page 2

While I don't play much of either instrument anymore, I have a huge appreciation instrumental music, especially electronic, jazz and classical. I am always on a quest to discover new music.

I also love to write. For me, writing is the best way to seek clarity in my thoughts and emotions, and I spend a few hours every week writing for

myself. My dream is to some day write a memoir, even if no one ever reads it!

I am proud that I had the opportunity to contribute to the recent CASS production of *Little Shop of Horrors* as Stage Manager. I love that the vibrancy and success of theater depends on the collective efforts and varied talents of many different types of people working together in harmony. It was a thrill to be a part of the magic!

I am a huge fan of some of today's popular female comedians, like Mindy Kaling, Amy Poehler and Tina Fey. These ladies are extraordinarily talented and funny, but they are extremely dedicated and hard working and have shown great courage by constantly taking on new risks and challenges in their careers.

Prior to joining CASS, I spent more than a decade working as corporate business consultant and consumer researcher. I'm excited to re-engage with my creative side here at CASS!

See you at
Performance
Night: Jan 22!



What is
A.R.T.S.

Accept Responsibility
Respectful
Teachable (Ready to Learn)
Safe



© 2016
CREATIVE
ARTS
SECONDARY
SCHOOL