

# MILWAUKEE HIGH SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Intellectual Growth through Creative Expression

2300 West Highland Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53233 414-934-7000 8AM-4PM

MHSA is the only public performing arts high school in the state of Wisconsin.

Students spend two hours of study each day in their chosen major.

<b>Visual Arts</b>	<b>Theatre</b>	<b>Creative Writing/Journalism</b>	<b>Dance</b>	<b>Music</b>
AP classes: Art History	Biology	Chemistry	English Language	English Literature
Music Theory	Physics	Spanish	Statistics	Studio Art
			US Government	US History



## November

- Nov. 1 UK Students Depart
- Nov. 7 PTSO 6:00 PM (Cafeteria)
- Nov. 8,9,15 WKCE Testing
- Nov. 8 New Student Auditions 6:00 PM
- Nov. 10 SGC 6:00 PM (Library)
- Nov. 10 Staff Talent Show 7:00 PM
- Nov. 12 New Student Auditions 10:00 AM
- Nov. 14 Concert Chorale at Carthage
- Nov. 15 Fall Piano Recital 7:00 PM
- Nov. 17 Cross Country Banquet 6:30 PM
- Nov. 19 Fall Music Concert 7:00 PM
- Nov. 22 Fall Band Concert 7:00 PM
- Nov. 24-25 Thanksgiving Recess
- Nov. 25 National Day of Listening
- Nov. 29 DPI Visits MHSA

## December

- Dec. 1 World AIDS Day
- Dec. 2 Senior Yearbook Materials Due!
- Dec. 2-3 *Theatre of Protest* 7:00 PM
- Dec. 4 *Theatre of Protest* 2:00 PM
- Dec. 6 Blood Drive
- Dec. 8 Food for Thought Art Show
- Dec. 9-10 New Horizons Dance 7:00 PM
- Dec. 11 New Horizons Dance 2:00 PM
- Dec. 13 Senior Night (Seniors /Parents)
- Dec. 16-17 *Amahl and the Night Visitors*
- Dec. 21 Theatre Dance Recital
- Dec. 22-Jan 1 Winter Break

Stay tuned by visiting:

<http://www.mhsarts.com>

School Starts at 8:45 AM  
School Ends at 3:55 PM

## November 2011



"The First Thanksgiving"  
Jean Leon Gerome Ferris,  
American Painter 1863 - 1930

### Vote for MHSA

in the glee give a note video contest!

Spread the word.

Vote once a day.

A vote for MHSA could result in a good amount of money for our Arts programs!



Voting ends on  
November 7th - so  
get busy and Vote.

Vote here:

[http://www.gleegiveanote.com/vote\\_details.php?id=129](http://www.gleegiveanote.com/vote_details.php?id=129)

### WKCE Testing for Sophomores

Tuesday, November 8  
Wednesday, November 9  
Tuesday, November 15

## From the Guidance Department WKCE Testing for 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

The Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examination includes three days of testing, and measures achievement in reading and math, language arts, science, social studies, and writing. Sample questions are available at <http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/wkce.html>. Test dates are:

Tuesday, November 8      Wednesday, November 9      Tuesday, November 15

### Parenting Tip: Students should

Get a good night's sleep.    Eat a good breakfast.    Be on time.    Avoid test anxiety.

### WKCE Testing Incentive - ONE Final Exam Exemption Coupon

To be used for 2<sup>nd</sup> semester with the following conditions:

- Must earn a 3 or 4 (proficient or advanced) in the subject area for which the exemption is desired. (English, math, social studies, or science)
- Students who earned a 1 on their 8<sup>th</sup> grade WKCE will be rewarded a coupon if their 10<sup>th</sup> grade score goes up to a 2 or higher.
- If any subject area score drops below 8<sup>th</sup> grade WKCE scores then the student forfeits his/her right to a coupon.

Coupons will be issued in the spring and must be given to the teacher at least two weeks before the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester final exam. Please be reminded that no more than 2 exams can be exempted in any given semester. This coupon does not permit the user to exempt any academic class with a grade of C or higher. (The standard attendance criteria and the A/B criteria will not be requirements attached to this coupon.)

When you take the test...

- Read the directions carefully.
- Skip an answer you don't know.
- Review to make sure every question is answered.
- Your first answer is most likely correct. Unless you know you are wrong, don't change your answer.

### ACT TEST DATES

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Fee Required
Dec. 10, 2011	Nov. 4, 2011	Nov. 5 - 18, 2011
Feb. 11, 2012	Jan. 13, 2012	Jan. 14 - 20, 2012
April 14, 2012	March 9, 2012	March 10 - 23, 2012
June 9, 2012	May 4, 2012	May 5 - 18, 2012

Basic ACT is \$34.00    ACT with writing is \$49.50    Late fee is \$21.00

Find more information at:

<http://www.actstudent.org/index.html>

The 2011-2012 Student and Parent Planning Calendar is a good resource for college, career, and exam planning. Students will receive these during their class meetings. You can also find the information on the MPS web site: <http://mpsportal.milwaukee.k12.wi.us> by typing "2011-2012 Student and Parent Planning Calendar" in the search area.

### AP (Advanced Placement) Classes Offered at MHSA 2011-2012

Art History	Biology	Chemistry	
English Language and Composition		English Literature and Composition	
Music Theory	Physics	Spanish Language	Statistics
Studio Art	U.S. Government and Politics		U. S. History

#### Parenting Tip: Preparing for AP (Advanced Placement) Success!

- Pay attention to the news and world events.
- Keep up with the latest innovations.
- Know the issues of the day and talk about them with your student.

This advice comes from a recent AP conference at Alverno College. We heard, once again, how crucial it is for students to be conversant in a wide range of topics. How can you do this?

- Listen to the radio (Example: National Public Radio at 90.7 and 89.7 FM)
- Check out the online news sources
- View TED talks, “Riveting talks by remarkable people, free to the world” (<http://www.ted.com/>)
- Watch a nightly newscast – or even check out such offbeat sources as Comedy Central’s The Daily Show – to know what’s going on in our world!

# Senior Night

Parents of Seniors - Mark your Calendar for December 13th!

This meeting is for graduating seniors and at least one parent / guardian. The evening will include a light supper and a chance to learn about:

- Credits / Requirements for Graduation
- The Graduation Ceremony and Information from Senior Representatives
- FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and General College Information

Please RSVP with your student’s name, your name, and the number of parents/guardians attending. RSVP to Sara Raasch at 934-7059 or [raaschsm@milwaukee.k12.wi.us](mailto:raaschsm@milwaukee.k12.wi.us).

#### Yearbook Information for Seniors - DUE DATE LOOMING!

Seniors have the option of having senior portraits, baby pictures and “wills” in the MHSA yearbook. Senior portraits will be placed in the yearbook for free. Baby pictures and wills cost \$7.50 each. Wills are limited to 30 words or less. The smallest acceptable photo is a 2.5" x 3.5" wallet. Please write your name clearly on the back of all photos and wills and give them to Mr. Wszalek. **These materials are due DECEMBER 2, 2011.**

#### JUNIORS: Do you need Spanish I?

Spanish I is now being offered after school for 1 full credit of Spanish I. Students must be able to stay after school Tuesdays/Thursdays from 4 -5 PM, and must have excellent attendance. There is a sign-up sheet outside of Ms. Craine’s door in the guidance office.

And speaking of Spanish, Ms. Kolafa is still collecting **Labels for Education** for the Spanish Department in order to purchase a projector. Please bring in your labels. You can check the web site: <http://www.labelsforeducation.com> for more information.

You can also vote for MHSA to receive a \$45K Technology Makeover. Vote every day through 12/31/2011 at: <http://campbellsoup.promotionexpert.com/labelsforeducation/fs/index.html>.

## What's Going On?

### Research Papers

MHSA teachers are committed to excellence in preparing students for academic success after high school. One example of this is our collaborative decision to engage students in research projects throughout the school year. Our schedule for doing so is:

**Mark Period 1:** Students learn the research project in English class

**Mark Period 2:** Social Studies teachers will assign research paper

**Mark Period 3:** Art Area teachers will assign research papers

**Mark Period 4:** Science teachers will assign a research project

### National Honor Society

The members of the National Honor Society joined with other students to support the MPS Adaptive Bowling tournament on Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. It was a rewarding day all around, as this activity allowed us to serve students from around the MPS district who are challenged with severe and profound disabilities. (Current sophomores and juniors, who have a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher, will have an opportunity to apply to become NHS members later this year. This is a great extracurricular activity to have on your college applications!)

### MLK, Jr. Speech and Essay Contests

This year's theme for both the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Speech and Writing contest is "Maintain Faith in the Future." Mrs. Claypool (room 207) will coordinate the speech contest. See her for details. For details about the writing contest go to:

<http://www.mtea.org/ParentsCommunity/KingWritingContestCopy.nws>



### Poetry Out Loud

This month, students throughout the school will be learning, listening, loving and living poetry. English classes will begin Poetry Out Loud activities just prior to Thanksgiving, so students have time over the break to peruse and select poems from the Poetry Out Loud web site: <http://www.poetryoutloud.org/>. In early December, there will be classroom level competitions, followed by the school-wide competition. Last year, this effort yielded outstanding success. Annetta Martin placed 1st and Chantal Tribble placed 2nd in the City Competition. And Chantal placed 1st and Annetta placed 2nd in the State Competition!

### The National Day of Listening

The day after Thanksgiving, November 25<sup>th</sup>, is the National Day of Listening. At this time when families and friends are gathering, students are encouraged to participate in this opportunity to share stories. See <http://nationaldayoflistening.org/> for information about how you can join the conversation.

## Sports Corner

- Fall Sports: Cross Country, Football, Boys Soccer, Girls Tennis, Volleyball, Girls Swimming and Diving
- Winter Sports: Boys and Girls Basketball, Wrestling, Boys Swimming and Diving
- Spring Sports: Boys and Girls Track and Field, Baseball, Girls Soccer, Boys Tennis

Announcements are made to students during the school day. Students need to fill out Athletic Forms (located in the main office) in order to be cleared for practice. If you have questions, contact Coach Stefanovich at 934-7044.

## Upcoming Events in November

### New Student Auditions: Nov. 8 at 6:00 PM and Nov. 12 at 10 AM SHARP!

This is for placement in the 2012-2013 School Year (and for current MHSA students who want to change their major). **YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO AUDITION** if you come late. Fill out your application online and bring in all of the needed paperwork.

### Staff Talent Show - Thursday, November 10th 7:00 PM

NEW THIS YEAR: What talents remain hidden among MHSA staff members? Find out at the **Staff Talent Show**. Tickets are \$5 at the door. This is a fundraiser for the theatre's spring trip to England. If you think you can dance, you should see us!

### Got Coffee? Wed., November 16 7:45AM - 9AM

Parents are invited to have coffee with staff members once a month. Find out what's what. We'll be "caffeinating" in the Library. Join us.



## Upcoming Music Concerts

### Paint and Play Piano Concert - Tuesday, November 15 7:00 PM

This annual recital features students from the MHSA Piano and Visual Arts Departments. The visual artists create on-the-spot artwork inspired by the musical selections. Free Will Offering.

### Orchestra - Choir Concert - Saturday, November 19th 7:00 PM

St. Sebastian's Church - 5400 W. Washington Blvd.

This is a gorgeous concert and one to be enjoyed in silence. Please be reminded that cell phones and cameras are prohibited and that the sound of crying babies/toddlers and talking adults is distracting to the audience, and rude to the performers who have spent hours in rehearsals. Please try to arrange for child-care so everyone can enjoy the beautiful music.

### Band Concert - Tuesday, November 22 7:00 PM

This Music Concert will feature the Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, Big Band and Symphony Orchestra performing a varied repertoire - including selections from the 2nd Annual MHSA Holiday Album. The Holiday Album will be released at the concert - bring some extra cash and get an early start on your shopping! The concert should be over by 9:00 PM. Adult admission is \$3.00 (\$2.00 for senior citizens). Tickets are available at the door. All students and children are admitted free with an accompanying adult. **More Information from the Band Department:** The final payment for the Dec. 14 trip to **Chicago** is now due. Please send a check for \$35.00 and \$20.00 cash. Your child will also need to bring \$15.00 for food at the convention center and on the way home. The first payment of \$150.00 for the May 9th **New York** trip is due at this time as well. Please make checks payable to MHSA.

## Visual Arts News

MIAD is offering a figure drawing class on Tuesdays at 7:00 PM for \$6.00. Art students who would like to sign up should see Ms. Balistreri. This is a great way to improve your skills and enhance your portfolio. If you are under 18 you need a note from a parent/guardian.

**The BIG READ** Art Contest: Students can submit a piece of visual art in response to the themes of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Deadline: Dec. 16. Details: <http://www.BigReadMilwaukee.com>.

## DPI To Visit MHSA

MHSA has been chosen as the school that the Department of Instruction (DPI) will visit during their November 29th trip to Milwaukee. We welcome State Superintendent, Dr. Tony Evers, and the entire DPI contingent.

## Parent and Family Involvement Information

When you come to school, please check the parent table (located outside the main office) for registration forms and upcoming events. Also remember to “sign in” whenever you are here as an involved parent. This means you should sign in when you attend performances, too.

### Sign Up for Parent Assist on the MPS Portal

There are 345 Parents at MHSA who are signed up with Parent Assist. They can check their child’s assignments, grades, progress, and attendance. If you have not yet signed up for this, you can fill out a form at any MPS school and return the form to any MPS school. With the proper identification (a student’s birth certificate or parent’s ID) you can get a Parent Assist account. You need ONE account. It does not matter which MPS school your child attends or if you have children attending different schools. One account is all you need.

All parents are welcome to attend School Governance Council (SGC) and Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) meetings. Normally they meet once a month. **There is NO PTSO meeting in the month of December.**

### Upcoming Parent Meetings at MHSA

Group	Date/Time/Place	Monthly Focus	Contact
SGC	Thursday, November 10 6:00 PM Library	Unknown	Tyne Turner mike8963@yahoo.com
PTSO	Monday, November 7 6:00 PM Cafeteria	Beautifying MHSA Parent Initiatives	Sara Raasch 934-7059

### Upcoming Parent Meetings at MPS Central Office

The Following Meetings are open to all parents and guardians and take place at MPS Central Office, 5225 W. Vliet Street. **We NEED two District Advisory Council Representatives!**

Region Parent Meetings Meets every other Month on Thursdays 5:30 - 6:45 PM	District Advisory Council Meets the 1st Thursday of the Month 7:00 - 9:00 PM	Families First Meets these Saturdays 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
November 3	November 3 and December 1	December 17
January 5	January 5 and February 2	February 18
March 1	March 1 and April 5	April 21
May 3	May 3 and June 7	

## I AM AN INFORMED PARENT! Informational Workshop

Saturday, November 12, 2011 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

This is a meeting for all MPS parents. It will be held at Sarah Scott Professional Learning Center (1017 N. 12th Street - corner of 12th and Highland Ave.) Email or Call in registration to Monica Dickerson-Gordon at [dickermd@milwaukee.k12.wi.us](mailto:dickermd@milwaukee.k12.wi.us) or 773-9824 or Pat Kirby at [kirbypm@milwaukee.k12.wi.us](mailto:kirbypm@milwaukee.k12.wi.us) or 773-9827.

**Mark the Date: Tuesday, February 7th, 2012**  
**Parent Coffee at MHSA with MPS Superintendent, Dr. Thornton**

Parent Volunteers are still needed to run the Box Office, sell Spirit Wear, and help out as needed. If you have a brilliant idea, if you want to volunteer, if you are waiting by the phone for someone to call you and ask you to help, wait no longer! Please call Sara Raasch at 934-7059 or email her at: [raaschsm@milwaukee.k12.wi.us](mailto:raaschsm@milwaukee.k12.wi.us) and say you will be an involved parent.

## Support our Community Partners Skylight Opera Theatre <http://www.skylightopera.com/>



See our own Sammy Ketchum (theatre major '14) in *The Music Man*. He will be playing Sidney - one of the teens in the ensemble. The show runs Nov. 18 - Dec. 18.

Remember - as a Skylight Partner School, staff, students and parents can purchase tickets to Skylight productions for \$10.

This is an *incredible* savings!

Call the Skylight Ticket office at 414-291-7800 for tickets. There is a \$1.50 handling fee per ticket.

### NEW THIS YEAR: MHSA Parent-Student Book Club

First Book: *To Kill A Mockingbird*

### Let's Be Part of The Big Read Milwaukee

The Big Read is a national literacy project funded by the National Endowment for the Arts. Its aim is to reach reluctant and lapsed readers, as well as encourage whole communities to explore culturally relevant literature. **The Big Read** in Milwaukee will focus on Harper Lee's American classic *To Kill a Mockingbird*. If you can, try and attend one of the events below. We can talk about the book club format at the November 16th Morning Coffee. (See page 5.)

**A chairperson is needed for the book club. Will it be you?**

#### Volunteers needed for The Big Read! (Students? Staff? Parents?)

The Milwaukee Rep is seeking volunteers for dramatic readings of Harper Lee's novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The readings occur at various Milwaukee locations, are accompanied by a book discussion, and would last no more than two hours. The readings run through March.

Volunteers would read aloud from the novel in front of a public audience. Here are some upcoming locations. You can volunteer at: [bigread@milwaukeeerpub.com](mailto:bigread@milwaukeeerpub.com)

Tues., Nov. 8, 2011 6:00 - 7:00 PM  
Milwaukee Public Library (Central)  
814 W Wisconsin Ave.

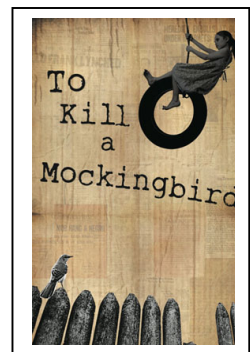
Wed., Nov. 9th 6:30 - 7:30 PM  
Milwaukee Public Library - Forest Home  
1432 W. Forest Home Ave.

See all events at: <http://www.milwaukeeerpub.com/bigread/index.htm>

*To Kill a Mockingbird*, The Pulitzer Prize-winning tale about innocence, tolerance, family and the courage to live what you believe, comes to breathtaking life on stage in January at the Milwaukee Repertory Theater.

**January 31 – March 4, 2012**

<http://www.milwaukeeerpub.com/>



Congratulations to Mr. Lampkin, Ms. Walton and all of the students of Ocean of Soul.

Oceans of Soul placed FIRST in the Circle City Classic in Indianapolis in October.

Milwaukee High School of the Arts  
2300 West Highland Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53233

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

To provide an educational experience which enables all students to nurture their academic and artistic talents to the fullest. Students will develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills, communicate effectively and become proficient in the use of modern technology. The MHSA staff, in collaboration with parents and community, will create an educational atmosphere fostering excellence and achievement. The school's curriculum, based on respect for people of all cultural backgrounds, prepares students to be responsible citizens of a democratic society.

**Our Major Areas of Study:**

Visual Arts    Dance    Creative Writing/Journalism    Music    Theatre  
For more about Milwaukee High School of the Arts, please visit our web site:

<http://www.mhsarts.com>

Please consider joining our email list. If you are a parent of a current student, you can opt to receive the newsletter by email only. Send me the name of your student AND your street address so I can take you off of the mailing list. If you are a community member or alumni I can add you to one of those lists. Save a tree! Keep costs down. Email: [raaschsm@milwaukee.k12.wi.us](mailto:raaschsm@milwaukee.k12.wi.us).

Want to submit an article? Contact me by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Sara Raasch, MHSA Newsletter Editor