

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.

Visual Arts Theatre Creative Writing/Journalism Dance Music

We offer Honors classes. We also offer AP classes in English, History, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, American Government, Calculus, Art History and Studio Art.



February Events

- Feb 1 PTSO Meeting @ 6 PM
- Feb 4 SGC at 6PM (**Date Change!**)
- Feb 6 Fashion Show 2 PM and 7 PM
- Feb 12 Banking Day (No School)
- Feb 15 Mid-Semester Break (No School)
- Feb 17 Piano Recital 7 PM
- Feb 18 Poetry Slam 4:30 PM Library
- Feb 20 WSMA Solo/Ensemble @ MHSA
- Feb 26-27 *Haroun* at 7 PM
- Feb 28 *Haroun* at 2 PM

Coming in March

- Mar 1 PTSO Meeting @ 6 PM
- Mar 5 Black History Program @ 7 PM
- Mar 8 CW Theatre Plays 4:15 PM
- Mar 10 Conferences 3:45-7:15 PM
- Mar 11 Conferences 3:45-7:00 PM
- Mar 12 No School
- Mar 18 SGC Meeting @ 6PM
- Mar 19 Battle of the Bands @ 7 PM
- Mar 20 Potluck Dinner and the MSO at MHSA Event
- Mar 24 Final Auditions for 2010-2011
- Mar 26 Banking Day (No School)
- Mar 27 Choir to Macalester
WSMA Large Ensemble
- Mar 30 Blood Drive 8 AM - 1 PM

Check our website for last-minute changes, additions and updates:
<http://www.mhsarts.com>

February 2010

This month we celebrate Presidents Day. Do you remember the story of the cherry tree? Well guess what else is getting the axe? Our budget! Mr. Applewhite will discuss the budget at the PTSO meeting on Mon., Feb. 1 (6PM in the cafe) and at the SGC meeting (which has been moved ahead one week) on Thurs., Feb. 4 (6PM in the library). It would be worth your while to attend one of these meetings.

In happier news, we have great events this month!



MHSA Fashion Show

Beyond the Runway

Saturday, Feb. 6

2 PM and 7 PM

Adults \$6
Students \$4

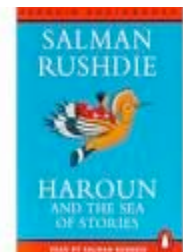
The Theatre Department
presents

*Haroun
and the Sea of Stories*

Feb. 26-27 @ 7 PM

Feb. 28 @ 2PM

Adults \$6 Students \$4
MHSA Main Stage



School Budget News: Principal Applewhite has been given the MHSA 2010-2011 school budget. The news is NOT GOOD. There is an anticipated 15% increase in expenditures due to possible contracted staff benefits. We must determine the best way for our school to deal with what can be considered a \$571,000.00 deficit between the 09-10 and the 10-11 budgets. Mr. Applewhite will share the budget and his ideas with us at the PTSO meeting on **Monday, February 1** at 6 PM (in the cafeteria) and at the SGC meeting (which has been moved one week ahead) on **Thursday, February 4** at 6 PM in the library. The budget must be returned to Central Office by February 11, 2010.

Parents and Guardians: You will be receiving a staff newsletter with the next report card. It addresses student behavior and school policies. Here they are in a nutshell. Remind your kids what is expected of them at school. They should be cleaning up their own mess in the cafeteria. (Would you want to clean up the mess of a bunch of high school kids in your home? I didn't think so.) Students need to be reminded to use appropriate language in school. (If they want to cuss, they can do it in front of the mirror in your bathroom. Not here.) Cell phones are not allowed and will be confiscated and kept for ONE WEEK and only returned to a parent who comes to school to get them. Students also need to remember to have their MHSA ID with them at all times. If they try to enter the cafeteria without their ID they will be fined \$1.00. Each time. (That can add up.) The student parking lot is locked for most of the day. (Do you want hoodlums breaking into cars and / or stealing them?)

Research Paper: Each English class is assigning a Research Paper during Mark Period 3. Students will need a topic by mid-February. This paper will count in both their Art Area and in their English class. Research Papers will be DUE to English Teachers just after Parent-Teacher Conferences (March 10 and 11).

Attention Senior Parents! Change in the site for College Goal Sunday:

(It's called College Goal Sunday but it will be held on a Saturday! Go figure!)

MHSA is NOT available on Saturday February 20th for FAFSA assistance.

You may have recently received information that says MHSA is open on February 20th for help with completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) forms. But MHSA is not available because it will be hosting the WSMA music competitions that day.

NEW SITE: Alverno College: 3400 S. 43rd Street--starting at 2:00

If you live near MHSA, remember that MATC, 1101 N. 6th Street (Stormers Hall) is also a site for the College Goal program. It will be open Sat., Feb. 20th, starting at 2:00. Sorry for any inconvenience! If you do need help with completing the FAFSA, attending one of these sessions will be very helpful! If you want any more information about College Goal Sunday, please check out the website: www.wicollegegoalsunday.org.

Parent Teacher Conferences: Will be held on the afternoon/evenings of **Wednesday, March 10 (3:45 - 7:15 pm) and Thursday, March 11 (3:45 - 7:00 pm).**

All juniors will take the ACT at school on Wednesday, April 28th. This is FREE of Charge. This exam does not include the writing portion of the exam -- which some colleges require. Students who need the written portion or want to take the exam again can register online at: www.act.org.

ACT TEST DATE	Registration Deadline
April 10, 2010	March 5, 2010
June 12, 2010	May 7, 2010

Theatre Department Newsletter for February 2010

By Ralph Janes, Department Chairperson

December and January closed out extremely well with several performances by Level 1 and 2 to an audience that overflowed the studio and by level 3 and 4 in *It's a Wonderful Life* in the cafeteria. As we move into February we will be mounting *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* and starting to audition for Teenwrites - Part 2 (which is actually version 5 or 6 at this point). *Haroun* promises to be an epic production and the whole school will see it as well as read the source book.

The long awaited mailboxes are finished. Each student can pick up mail at the beginning and end of the day. I am hoping that this means better communication with students and parents and even enables students to stay on top of assignments better.

We will be setting up meetings this month for parents to talk about various educational trips in 2010/2011. The England trip parents will be contacted by email and level 1 and 2 parents will get details about Spring Green next year.

Please support our students and their work this month - there is so much happening. The Fashion Show is the next thing on the Mainstage and is always a wonderful time. Please support live performances - they are so important. We have students working all over the city in a variety of projects, as well as the work in our own theatres. Thanks as always for your support of our young artists - their world is a fragile one at best and the more people there are caring for them and ensuring their security the more they will be able to achieve.

Creative Writing News

Mr. Bruss has **Spider T-Shirts For Sale** for \$5. They come in a variety of sizes and colors and can be purchased in the Parent Room during lunch hours. Proceeds will go to the next batch of MHSA slam poets t-shirts. Mr. Bruss would like to thank Adam Kortenhorn for donating money for the 1st batch of shirts. Adam is not associated with MHSA - he just believes in our mission. Awesome!

The First Poetry Slam competition will be on Thursday, February 18th, 2010 in the MHSA library at 4:30 pm. Arts will be doing battle with Riverside, Marshall, and King. Come cheer on our dynamic poets!!!!

February's Fashion Show

The MHSA Fashion Show, *Beyond the Runway*, will be held on Saturday, February 6th. This is one of the most popular shows at MHSA. There will be two showings: 2PM and 7PM. Come see what fashions this year will bring. MHSA students design, sew and model the creations. Our amazing tech crew works behind the scenes. Come see one-of-a-kind designs, a variety of textiles, and medium you never thought could work for clothing. (See page 6 for news of MHSA grad and fashion show alum, Kasia Wisniewski.)

Haroun and the Sea of Stories: Feb 26 & 27 @ 7PM and Feb 28 at 2PM.

The National Theatre of England dramatized this children's story for the stage. It is about the journey of a boy named Haroun and his search to find out why his father, Rashid, the country's greatest storyteller, has lost his ability to tell stories. Author Salman Rushdie illustrates the struggle of good over evil in a story that is appropriate for the whole family.

Upcoming Events

WSMA Solo/Ensemble will be at MHSA on February 20! Parents: Your help is needed. If you help us, you help your child's art major, too. The PTSO will be spearheading the concessions during WSMA on Saturday, Feb. 20th. If you can help out for at least a two-hour shift you can earn money for your child's major! Come to the PTSO meeting on Monday, Feb. 1 at 6PM or contact Sara (934-7059 or raaschsm@milwaukee.k12.wi.us) for all the gory details.

The Third Annual MSO at MHSA concert: Saturday, March 20 @ 7:30 PM

Tickets are only \$1!!! The evening's events will feature a delicious casserole supper before the show, a performance by the MHSA Wind Ensemble and MHSA Symphony Orchestra followed by a fantastic concert by the MSO. Details will come in the March Newsletter.

NHS News: Every year the National Honor Society (NHS) finds a worthy cause to support. Past events have raised money for organizations like The Family Treatment Fund (to provide AIDS medication to Ugandan families) and Nothing but Nets (to provide malaria nets to African families). This year the issue is: Clean Water in Guatemala. The organization is: Engineers without Borders. The slogan is: Be a Drop in the Bucket. Keep the Help Flowing. The NHS event will be on Saturday, April 24. More information will come soon. Stay tuned!

Joining NHS: In mid-March or so, 10th and 11th grade students with a CUMULATIVE GPA of 3.25 or better will be asked if they wish to be considered for NHS membership. Forms will be due sometime in April (just after Spring Break), and the faculty council will have a decision in early May. Induction of new NHS members will take place at the end of May.

One Man's Trash is another Man's Treasure or possibly Art Supplies!!!

The art department is looking for various items to create a mosaic for the school. The mosaic will be installed at the front of the school in between our large windows (where the cork boards are). We are in great need of adding to our stash of mosaic pieces to have enough to complete our project. We need:

*Tiles -- the smaller the better

*Ceramic plates/China - We will break them and use the pieces

*Broken mirror - This will erase your seven years of bad luck!

THE MORE COLORFUL THE BETTER!! We usually have a lot of white pieces but we are always in need of more colorful pieces! If you have something that you would like to donate please send an e-mail to Ms. Wojnar at: wojnaraj@milwaukee.k12.wi.us. (Donate that chipped china!)

Got Plastic Bottles? Mrs. Lustig, Mr. Charles and Ms. Maynard's classes are helping to make MHSA "go green." Their students will be working on a window-farming project during second semester. Please donate your empty 1- and 2-liter bottles to Mrs. Lustig in room 213. Any type of plastic bottle (at least 1 liter) may be donated. They will also collect "green" plastic bottles (skinny in the middle) and empty 1-gallon plastic milk jugs. (Please wash them first.)

Prom News and Needs: Prom is May 7, 2010 at the Pfister. The theme is "Midnight Masquerade." In order to keep ticket prices down and ensure a memorable evening we are looking for some donations. We are accepting cash donations for decorations and to use to purchase raffle prizes. We are also accepting actual raffle prizes. (You could donate gift cards, a basket of school supplies, movie passes, or even an iPod!) These items will be raffled off to all students who attend Prom. Contact Mrs. Claypool: claypokm@milwaukee.k12.wi.us or Ms. Freuck: somppiem@milwaukee.k12.wi.us if you have questions or donations.

Parents (it's 1 AM) Do You Know Where Your Children Are?

And what they've been doing?

Students in the News...

Some of our Senior Visual Arts students have been working as interns with various community artists at the new Redline Art Center 1422 N. 4th Street in Milwaukee. **Domliare Tomori, Liv Heidenreich, Daneisha Kirksey and Zakariah Ingvoldstad** meet with their mentor several times a week and work primarily with printmaking.

RedLine is also hosting a monthly teen night open to anyone in Milwaukee. Check out their website: redlineartmke.org or sign up on Facebook RedLine MKE Teens.

TEEN NIGHT: Tues., Feb. 2, 4:30-7:30. Free Subs, animation w/artist Jon Brown and more!

The following visual arts students have had artwork featured at The Planning Council for the past four months: **Sua Vang, Ross Jackson, Alexandra Shelvik, Able Hernandez and Ashley Suttle.**

Alyssa Sylvester, Senior Theatre & Voice major, playing Dorothy & **Jimmie Harris**, Senior Theatre major, in the ensemble along with many other talented local performers, will be performing with First Stage Children's Theatre in THE WIZ. Starting March 5, they will "ease on down the road" in the **world premiere** of the Theatre for Young Audiences adaptation of THE WIZ. The MHSA family of students & staff are encouraged to come support these very talented performers in this great endeavor. They perform on the dates listed below: For tickets please contact the Marcus Center Box Office at 414-273-7206.

Friday	March 5 Opening Night	7:00 PM
Saturdays	March 6	3:30 PM
	March 13 and 20	1:00 and 3:30 PM
Sundays	March 7 and 21	1:00 and 3:30 PM

Lydia Eiche just won a Civic Music High School Showcase award. She performed in the Helen Bader Recital Hall at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music and won a \$250 scholarship. She also won the Donald & Idabelle Mohr scholarship in the amount of \$500 for an MPS student going into music.

On Wednesday, February 3rd, Lydia will be a performer and keynote speaker at the UPAF kick-off at the Pabst Theatre. Congratulations Lydia!

Kids Write the Darnedest Things:

Henry VIII by his own efforts increased the population of England by 40,000.

From *More Anguished English* by Richard Lederer
An expose of embarrassing, excruciating, and egregious errors in English.

Newsletter Information: This is a MONTHLY Newsletter. Each household should receive this by mail (one per family - even if you have multiple kids you should only get one by mail) or by email once a month. If you are not receiving this every month you must think there is never anything going on at school. And you would be so wrong! Make sure that if you have moved that you give your new address to the main office. If you need to be added to the email list (which saves money on paper, printing and stamps) let me know. I will need to know your student's name and address for that. (Sara: 934-7059 or tototoo@tds.net)

Did you know that MHSa has a Comedy Sportz team? Comedy Sportz is a little bit improv and a little bit "Whose Line is it Anyway?" The team is called the "Artvarks" and they play against other high school teams on Saturdays at Comedy Sportz, 420 S. 1st Street, which is located between the Third Ward and Walker's Point. Games begin in February and will be at either 11 AM, Noon or 1 PM and cost \$3 per match. The winner at each meet is usually determined by the "applause-ometer." So come on down and bring your loud voices. Children and tubas are welcome. Here is the tentative MHSa schedule:

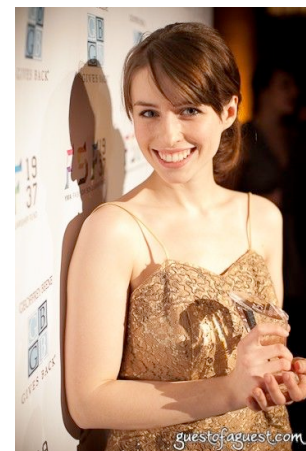
Feb 13 @ 1 PM vs. Waukesha South
 Feb 27 @ 1 PM vs. Greendale
 Mar 6 @ 1 PM vs. Rufus King
 Mar 20 @ 11AM vs. Pius

Mar 27 @ noon vs. More/North
 Apr 10 @ noon vs. Tosa West
 Apr 17 @ 11 AM vs. Plymouth
 Apr 24 @ 11 AM vs. South

Alumni News:

MHSa Grad is 2010 \$25,000 Geoffrey Beene Scholar

In other arts news, Kasia Wisniewski, 2006 MHSa Visual Arts graduate (daughter of Nancy and MHSa staff member, Blaine Wisniewski) has been named one of the 2010 \$25,000 Geoffrey Beene Scholars! Of the four students to win this award, Kasia was the only student recognized for her design work. Kasia will graduate from the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY this May. She has only had to go to school part-time this semester (allowing her to intern at Vera Wang three days a week) because of the AP credits she took at MHSa. You can read more about the event and see more photos here: <http://www.lookonline.com/blogger.html>
<http://questofaquest.com/galleries/2010/1/yma-fashion-scholarship-fund-awards-dinner/>



Cure for the Winter Doldrums....

ALMOST, MAINE

At the Milwaukee Rep

I have it on good authority that "this show is really fabulous - well acted, well staged and clever as hell! And it promises to get you out of any winter doldrums." Go to this link for a video that showcases the Rep's Stiemke Theater production of ALMOST, MAINE. Tickets are \$25 and going fast. The show has been extended for one week until February 14.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8s7bBq4msL0>

Catch a Rising Star Foundation Presents

May Fundraiser and

SILENT AUCTION!

Tuesday Evening, May 4, 2010
at The Milwaukee Theatre

The proceeds from this event will be used to fund our arts programming including visiting artists, scholarships for student field trips, books for classrooms, and special requests.

The success of this event is dependent on the support of our MHSA families!

Can you bring in a donation or solicit a donation from a business that you frequent?

SHOPS RESTAURANTS THEATRES EVENT TICKETS ARTWORK
Gift cards, gift certificates, museum passes, electronics, handmade quilts, a sailboat cruise,
dinner at your house for 4, a pie-a-month... .. the list is limitless.

If you have new or never-used items you can donate those, too.

Your gift will help support the arts mission at Milwaukee High School of the Arts!

If you can donate an item or provide a service, please fill out the form below and return the form WITH the donated item to the parent room just off of the MHSA cafeteria.

Catch a Rising Star Silent Auction Donor Card

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name of Business (if applicable): _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip Code: _____ Email: _____

Contact Person (if Business): _____

Item or Service to be Donated: _____

Value of Item or Service: _____ Any Restrictions? _____
(Expiration or Redemption Date)

Call Sara Raasch at (414) 934-7059 or by email at tototoo@tds.net with questions or if you need to arrange delivery of your donation to MHSA.

Please return this card WITH the item you are donating.

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 MHS 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. You can join the "Parent" list or the "Friends of MHS" list.

Save trees. Save the ozone. Keep costs down. Join by emailing: tototoo@tds.net.

Want to submit an article? Contact me by the 15th of the previous month.

Sara Raasch, MHS Newsletter Editor