

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, Physics, American Government, Art History and Studio Art.

April Dates

- April 1 *Hairspray* @ 7 PM
- April 2 WSMA Large Group Ensemble
Alumni Night Dinner 5 - 7 PM
Hairspray @ 7PM
- April 3 *Hairspray* @ 2PM
- April 4 PTSO 6 - 7:30 PM
- April 5 Vote!
- April 6 MHSA-MSO Family Dinner 6 PM
Concert @ 7:30 PM with Guest
Conductor: Marvin Hamlisch
- April 9 ACT-SO Competition MHSA
- April 14 SGC @ 6PM - 7:30 PM Library
- April 18 Spring Break Begins
- April 26 School Resumes (Tuesday)
- April 27 ACT Exam for all Juniors
- April 29 Sophomore Comedy Show
- April 30 Fashion Show 3PM and 7PM

Coming in May

- May 2 PTSO 6 - 7:30 PM
- May 2 - 11 AP Exams
- May 11 ACT Make-Up Day (Juniors)
- May 12 or 19 SGC
- May 13 Rexnord Awards Ceremony 5PM
- May 20 Prom
- May 24 - 26 Senior Theatre Projects
- May 24 CW (Creative Writing) Show
- May 25 Jazz Finale
- May 26 Student Dance Recitals
- May 27 Student Dance Concert
- May 28 NHS Fundraiser
- May 31 Final Piano Concert

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

School Starts at 8:35 AM
School Ends at 3:45 PM

April 2011

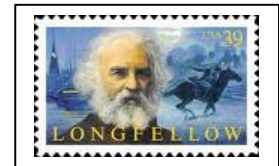
The Arrow and the Song

I shot an arrow into the air,
It fell to earth, I knew not where;
For, so swiftly it flew, the sight
Could not follow it in its flight.

I breathed a song into the air,
It fell to earth, I knew not where;
For who has sight so keen and strong,
That it can follow the flight of song?

Long, long afterward, in an oak
I found the arrow, still unbroke;
And the song, from beginning to end,
I found again in the heart of a friend.

- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



Now Playing

April 1 at 7PM
April 2 at 7PM
April 3 at 2PM

Join us for the
4th Annual
MSO at MHSA Concert with
Guest Conductor:
Marvin Hamlisch
Wednesday, April 6th at 7:30 PM

~ Upcoming Events -

4th Annual MSO at MHSA - Wednesday, April 6
Dinner at 6:00 PM and Concert at 7:30 PM

Members of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra
and Guest Conductor: **Marvin Hamlisch**

Tickets are \$1. (I know, what a bargain!)

A Casserole Supper will be available starting at 6 PM for \$4 per plate.

The band and orchestra families will be hosting this event. We invite anyone from the MHSA family to contribute a dish. We are looking for main dishes of all sorts that can be cooked or reheated. The dinner will feature a variety of main dishes, bread, salads, beverages and dessert - all for \$4! Deliver food to the Parent Center (off the cafeteria) during the day of the 6th or bring it warm to the cafeteria by 5:30 PM. The meal will be served beginning at 6:00 pm. Tickets will be available at the door for \$4. **Families who bring a main dish for the supper will get two free tickets to eat!**

Maestro Hamlisch will be in residence at MHSA on April 6th

1:30 - 3:00 PM	Musical Theatre Master Class Room 100
3:00 - 5:00 PM	Rehearsal and Q and A with MHSA Symphony Orchestra
6:00 PM	Casserole Supper in the Cafeteria (\$4 per plate)
7:30 PM	Concert - Maestro Hamlisch will conduct his "Overture to a Chorus Line"



Parent and Staff Morning Coffee ~ MHSA Library Wednesday, April 13 from 7:30 AM - 8:45 AM

Good Coffee. Tea from the Motherland. Real Cream. Real Sugar. Cake.
You. Me. Staff. Parents.
Talk. Mingle. Keeping it Real.
Good.

Free ACT Exam for all Juniors ~ April 27th

- You do not need to sign up for this
- Make sure you get a good night's sleep
- Make sure you eat a good breakfast
- **Report to your assigned room immediately at 8:25**
- Do NOT come late or you will not be able to take this test!
- More information about the ACT test is available at: www.act.org

MHSA Fashion Show: *The Fashion Affair*
Saturday, April 30th - Seatings at 3PM and 7PM

The Sophomore Class Night of Comedy

The Sophomore Class is proposing to have a Comedy Night at MHSA on the evening of Friday, April 29th. Parental help may be needed. More details will be forthcoming in the weekly email updates. Sign up for the email updates NOW on the MHSA website.

Students and Staff in the Limelight

Poetry Out Loud State Winners!



MHSA sweeps City and State in inaugural year!

Our two students ~ Chantal Tribble (#1) and Annetta Martin (#2) ~ WON the state Poetry Out Loud Competition in Madison on March 12. By doing so, they won money for MHSA to purchase books: (\$700 total for books). In addition to each of them winning a modest cash prize, Chantal won a full-expenses paid trip to Washington DC, in late April, where she will compete for the national title and a \$20,000 scholarship. Both young women were astonishingly good. They represented our MHSA culture of creativity with commitment and confidence. There is shared glory here. We can be proud of the MHSA community for committing to the competition in December.

Mark Metcalf Interviews Ralph Janes

Here is a link to a wonderful podcast with Mark Metcalf of Third Coast Digest talking with MHSA's Theatre Department Chair, Ralph Janes, about the value of theatre and the arts in creating high-achieving students. Listen to it here:

<http://thirdcoastdigest.com/2011/03/podcast-helping-students-reach-their-true-potential/>

Other Upcoming Dates

Advanced Placement Exams

AP exams are scheduled for May 2 - May 11. Only those students who signed up and paid for the exams by the March 25 deadline are eligible to take them. **There is NEW information!** The College Board has eliminated its long-standing "guessing penalty" on AP exams.

In the past, scores on the multiple choice portion of the AP exam were based on a formula whereby each correct answer earned one point, blank answers earned zero points, and wrong answers resulted in the deduction of a fraction of a point for every incorrect answer -- one-fourth of a point for questions with five possible answers and one-third of a point for questions with four possible answers. **Beginning with AP exams in May 2011, the College Board will no longer deduct a fraction of a point for a wrong answer.** The old formula was a "guessing adjustment," set up to counterbalance the statistical odds of guessing the right answer.

Prom is on May 20, 2011

- Date: Friday, May 20, 2011
- Time: 7:00pm - 11:30pm
- Location: Italian Community Center
- Theme: "A Night in Hollywood"
- Colors: Red, Black, Gold
- Ticket Price: \$65/person OR \$120/couple



ALL STUDENT FEES AND FINES MUST BE PAID BY MAY 6, 2011!

Students who do not pay their fees and fines will not be allowed to participate in **Graduation** ceremonies or go to **Prom**. Please call Ms. Pat Hron in the main office (934-7000) if you have questions about fees and fines.

Competitions, Internships and Opportunities

Marquette University Urban Journalism Workshop - June 19 - July 1

Applications are now being accepted for the Marquette University Urban Journalism Workshop to be held this summer. The program is for students in grades 10-12 with an interest in writing and news production and who want hands-on experiences creating a news web publication.

The workshop fee is \$500.00 and covers the cost of housing, board, and activities during the program. **Students who qualify for free or reduced lunch are eligible for DPI scholarships to cover the cost of the program.** Applications will be accepted until they reach capacity.

Here is the link for more information: <http://www.marquette.edu/comm/ujw/index.html>.

ACT-SO

ACT-SO (Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological, and Scientific Olympics) is a yearlong enrichment program that designed encourages high academic and cultural achievement among African American high school students. There are 26 categories of competition in the sciences, humanities, performing arts, visual arts and business.

The ACT-SO program is a nationally recognized youth achievement initiative. ACT-SO students receive assistance toward the development of their ACT-SO projects and valuable tools to assist them throughout their education. The local competition serves to showcase the hard work students have put in all year long. Students receive medals and prizes provided by the local and regional sponsors and contributors. ACT-SO students who receive gold medals on the local level then compete at the National Competition where they receive scholarships and other rewards provided by national sponsors. Competition Day is April 9th at MHSA from 1-5PM

Poetry Contest Sponsored by Milwaukee Public Library

Students who are residents of Milwaukee County and are 10-18 years old can submit up to two original poems online (www.mpl.org) or in person at any Milwaukee Public Library between March 28th and April 21st. Prizes will be awarded for top poems in three age categories (10-12, 13-15, 16-18). Winners will be announced at the Teen Poetry Slam at Atkinson Library on Wednesday, May 11th (6-7 p.m.) and may be published on the MPL website and Facebook page! There are prizes in each age category are: \$50, \$25 and \$15 Gift Cards.

Zoo Internships

The Milwaukee Co. Zoo is seeking students, ages 15 and up, interested in unpaid internships. This opportunity will allow volunteers to interact with the public, help identify and find butterflies, and talk with Zoo visitors about the butterfly collection. This could be a great service learning or community service project that will help expand a student's resume. The Zoo's Volunteer Coordinator Lynn Wilding can be reached at (414) 258-2002, ext. 234, lynnw@zoosociety.org.



MPS Arts Internships

Students ages 16-18 interested in music, dance, theatre or visual arts can apply for paid internships through the MPS Arts Internship Program. Interns will be paid \$8 per hour and receive on-the-job training from local professional artists. Spaces are limited. Call 414 475-8181 for more information.

Check out the New Library Books at MHS

History - *Bloody Times: The Funeral of Abraham Lincoln and the Manhunt for Jefferson Davis* (James L. Swanson) (an adaptation of his NY Times bestselling thriller *Bloody Crimes*) Discusses how Jefferson Davis, the president of the Confederate States of America, was blamed for the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln, and how the hunt for Davis continued even after Lincoln's body was put in its final resting place.

Current Event - *Little Princes: One Man's Promise to Bring Home the Lost Children of Nepal* (Conner Grennan)

Grennan's experiences trying to reunite children from the Little Prince's Children's Home with their parents after he becomes attached to them and learns they came to the orphanage from a notorious child trafficker.



Starred review (a graphic novel) *Yummy: The Last days of a Southside Shorty* (G. Neri; illustrated by Randy DuBurke) Ripped from real life headlines, this is an account of gang activity in Chicago circa 1994. Eleven-year old Robert "Yummy" Sandifer, with no daddy, is "sucked" into gang life and in the end is executed by his own gang. A unique "comic book style approach" to a grim biography. Recommended for reluctant readers.

Realistic fiction (this month: historical) *Fallen Grace* (Mary Hooper) A Dickensian look at Victorian England, revealing shady funeral practices, two young woman left to fate, and "great and not so great expectations". The author gets kudos for her well researched Victorian information woven into a fast paced, page turning narrative.

Speculative Fiction (paranormal fiction) *Delirium* (Lauren Oliver)

The government has invented a cure for the "delirium" of love (amor deliria nervosa)! Almost eighteen-year-old Lena Haloway is scheduled for the "procedure" and then 95 days before she will no longer have to worry about the dangers of falling in love she does just that.

Wii Games Needed!

The students in Ms. Maynard's class wrote a grant and won a Wii to use in their classroom for educational purposes. The grant was intended to provide educational technology to special education classrooms, specifically for students who have emotional and behavioral disabilities. Now the class is looking for donations of gently-used Wii games. Games can be dropped off in the main office. Please label them "For Ms. Maynard."

STOP!

NO CELL PHONE ACTIVATION, USE OR DISPLAY IN SCHOOL

Students are not allowed to activate, use or display electronic communication devices, such as pagers and cell phones, while on premises controlled by MPS.

USE, ACTIVATE OR DISPLAY THEM – AND YOU WILL LOSE THEM.

Cell phones or other communication devices can be confiscated.

If you use a communication device to endanger the physical safety or mental well-being of others, you will be recommended for expulsion.

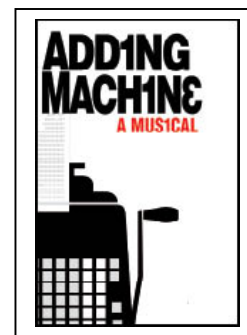
The Senior Trip to The Dells Has Been Cancelled for April 28-30!

The trip did not meet the new MPS educational requirements for a school-sponsored activity. There will be other senior activities to come. It is possible that this trip may still happen if it is reformatted to meet the requirements. Stay tuned.

Annual PTO Fundraiser at the Skylight ~ May 18th

The Skylight Opera Theatre has again graciously given us a “preview” night to benefit the MHS Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO). This year’s production is a musical called *The Adding Machine* - and it has gotten rave reviews in NYC. Especially exciting for us is that our own physics and theatre teacher, Steve Koehler, is in the cast. The MHS preview night will be on Wednesday, May 18th at 7:30 PM. We will be seated in the Dress Circle where tickets normally cost \$65-\$67 per ticket. Tickets to this will be \$20 and \$25 per person with the entire ticket price going to the PTSO. There will be 89 tickets available for this special preview night. For tickets, please call MHS Parent Advocate and PTSO Chair, Sara Raasch at 934-7059 or email her at raaschsm@milwaukee.k12.wi.us.

- “Remarkable Theater!” -- The New Yorker
- “Exciting and Adventurous!” -- New York Post
- “A Masterpiece of Expressionism!” -- Variety



Budget Information ~ School Cuts

For information about the state budget and cuts to education, you might want to check out these two links: DPI’s Initial Summary of Governor’s 2011-13 Biennial Budget is here: <http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/pb/pdf/dpigovbud.pdf>. You can also use the MPS Portal as a source of state and district budget information. The MPS response on navigating the budget cuts is here: http://mpsportal.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/portal/server.pt/comm/mps_home/335. Otherwise you can click on the red “Navigating Budget Impacts” graphic on the MPS homepage. Under “MPS Resources” you will find the Board’s calendar for budget adoption, which has the timeline for debating and deciding the district budget. You can also visit Superintendent Thornton’s blog online here: <http://www.superintendentthornton.blogspot.com/>.

Don’t Forget to Vote

April 5, 2011

Your Vote Counts!

And speaking of Votes ...

The Winners of the 2011 Chili Cook-Off Are:

Third Place:

Mr. Applewhite and his Chili Con Carne

Second Place Tie:

Ms. Garcia’s Chunky Beef Chili (with cilantro and lime wedges)

The Mom/Daughter Team of Maggie and Caryn Redemann

First Place:

The Three Amigos (Henrick Ayala, Jake Riley and Trayvon Williams)

With Grandma’s SSS (Super Secret Stuff) Chili

Spring Sports: Tennis and Baseball

We are still in pursuit of a few good young men to round out the MHS boys varsity tennis team. Not only will it be great exercise, there will be opportunities to collaborate with peers and earn possible academic scholarships. Please see Coach Aldrich in room 210 for the necessary paperwork or call him at 934-7166. Baseball is also under way.

Volunteer Opportunities for Parents

- Sell Spirit Wear (MHSA gear) during lunch hours or during MHSA events
- Work the MHSA Box Office
- Come to the PTSO or SGC Meetings
- Wash the new black round tablecloths when needed

NOMINATIONS FOR MPS SCHOOL GOVERNANCE COUNCILS (SGC)

Nomination Forms for the MHSA SGC were mailed to each household in mid-March and are due back on APRIL 15. A ballot will be mailed to each household in early May and it will contain the names of parents who want to serve on the SGC. Ballots are due back by May 31.

The Student Governance Council provides a forum for parents, teachers, community members, students and principals to work together in providing continued analysis and improvement of public school policies, curriculum, educational plan goals, and general student well being.

Upcoming Parent Meetings at MHSA

PTSO usually meets the 1st Monday of each month.

SGC rotates between the 2nd and 3rd Thursdays of each month.

Group	Date/Time/Place	Monthly Focus	Contact
PTSO	Monday, April 4 @ 6 PM Cafe/Parent Room	MSO -MHSA Event, Skylight Event,	Sara Raasch 934-7059
SGC	Thursday, April 14 @ 6 PM Library	Variety of Topics	Tyne Turner mike8963@yahoo.com

District Advisory Council - Two Positions Still Available

The District Advisory Council (DAC) is the parent advisory group for the district. All schools are required to have at least two parent representatives. As a rep, you are responsible for attending monthly meetings and sharing the information with parents at MHSA. The DAC meets the first Thursday of each month at Central Services from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. If you have questions about the DAC, contact Tamara Johnson, MPS Parent Involvement Coordinator at 414-475-8310 or johnsots@milwaukee.k12.wi.us.

Region, DAC and Families First Monthly Meetings

The Following Meetings are open to all parents and guardians and take place once a month at MPS Central Office. The address is 5225 W. Vliet Street.

Region Parent Meetings Meets the First Thursday of each Month from 6 -7 PM	District Advisory Council Meets the First Thursday of each Month from 7-9 PM	Families First Meets the Third Wednesday of each Month from 6-8 PM
April 7	April 7	April 20
May 5	May 5	May 18
June 2	June 2	No June Meeting

Not getting enough information from MHSA? Sign up for the **MHSA Weekly E-Newsletter**. Go to the MHSA home page. Find the pink tab on the right that says **“Weekly E-Newsletter.”** Click on that. Type in your email address. You will now receive weekly updates from MHSA. Want the **Monthly Newsletter** sooner and in color? **Get it by email and print it out yourself.** Send an email to: raaschsm@milwaukee.k12.wi.us and list YOUR NAME, YOUR STUDENT’S NAME and your MAILING ADDRESS so you can be taken off the postal route.

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.

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

Sara Raasch, MHSA Newsletter Editor