

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.

November Dates

- Nov. 1 New Student Auditions @ 6PM
PTSO @ 6PM in Cafeteria
- Nov. 1-5 Spirit Week
 - 1 - Twin Day
 - 2 - Celebrity Day
 - 3 - Teacher-Student Swap Day
 - 4 - Rep your Major Day
 - 5 - Back to the 70's Day
- Nov. 5 **That 70s Dance**
- Nov. 6 New Student Auditions @ 10 AM
- Nov. 10,11,16 WKCE New Dates!
- Nov. 11 SGC @ 6PM (Library)
- Nov. 12 Senior Yearbook Materials Due!
- Nov. 16 *Coffee, Cakes & Conversation*
Paint and Play Piano Concert
- Nov. 17 Cross Country Banquet 6:30 PM
- Nov. 18 Group Photo Day
- Nov. 20 Winter Music Concert - St. Seb's
- Nov. 23 Winter Band Concert
- Nov. 25-26 Thanksgiving Recess

December Dates

- Dec. 2 Kanopy Dance Concert
- Dec. 3 Classical Shorts @ 7PM
- Dec. 4 Classical Shorts @ 7 PM
- Dec. 5 Classical Shorts @ 2 PM
- Dec. 6 PTSO Meeting @ 6PM
- Dec. 10 *Attitudes* Dance Concert @ 7 PM
- Dec. 11 *Attitudes* Dance Concert @ 7 PM
- Dec. 12 *Attitudes* Dance Concert @ 2 PM
- Dec. 16 SGC Meeting (New Date!)
- Dec. 22 Winter Break Begins

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

November 2010



Not far from Hogwarts. Cambridge, England
MHSA Theatre Trip to the UK 2008

Get your funk on for

THAT 70'S DANCE

Friday, November 5

6-10 PM

Dinner in the cafe is included.

Tickets are sold out.

You MUST have your student I.D. and ticket in order to enter the building.

And you must arrive BEFORE 8:30 PM.

Wear 70's-style clothes!

(Ask your parents. They will have some.)

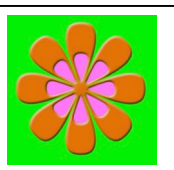
Parent chaperones are needed.

Call Dr. Lobley at 934-7178 to volunteer.

We also need BAKED GOODS for the dance.

You can bring them in anytime on Fri., Nov. 5.

Please label them "70's Dance!"



Student Auditions for 2011-2012

For prospective students and current students who want to change their major.

Nov. 1 at 6PM Sharp! Nov. 6 at 10AM Sharp

Do Not Be Late!

Latecomers will not be able to audition.

Fill out your application online and bring all of the needed paperwork.

WCKE Testing for 10th 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:

Wednesday, November 10

Thursday, November 11

Tuesday, November 16

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

WCKE Testing Incentive - ONE Final Exam Exemption Coupon

To be used for 2nd 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 had earned a 1 on their 8th grade WKCE will be rewarded a coupon if their 10th grade score goes up to a 2 or higher.
- If any subject area score drops below 8th 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 2nd 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.

New Policies Effective Immediately as per Central Office

Transcripts: Students 17 and younger requesting high school transcripts must have a parent come in to pick up the transcript(s). The school office will still mail transcripts directly to the college in which the student is applying.

Change of Address: If you move during the year, you need to fill out a change of address form. Effective immediately you must provide us with proof of your new residence. Please bring with you ONE of these forms: 1. A driver's license with your new address. 2. A lease agreement with your new address. 3. A utility bill with your new address.

News from Administration

The MHSA administration would like to apologize for the last-minute cancellation of the Motivational Training that was scheduled for September 17, 2010. The program had to be postponed due to major problems in logistics and scheduling conflicts. This training is from a program called "Real Character." Its main focus is to convey how to make the right choices when confronted with issues that include teen pregnancy, suicide, and drug use. Another focus of the training is character building through self-esteem and motivational activities. The plan now is to bring this program to MHSA in the spring. More details will be forthcoming.

Staff Changes

Thanks for bearing with us while we were VERY understaffed in the main office. We are now at full strength with the return of Mrs. Pat Hron (who was with us last year) and the addition of our newest secretary, Ms. Sonja Jenkins. Other new staff members include our bookkeeper, Mrs. Bates, and our new algebra and geometry teacher, Mrs. Pax.

Guidance Department News

Students can earn credits toward graduation by taking classes outside the school day through on-line/correspondence schools. Why would a student want to do this....?

- To make up a failed class
- To take a class not offered by MHSA
- To take a class that won't fit in a desired (or very full) schedule

Here are some other pointers: MATC is used quite often as the classes are @ \$35 (the cheapest). They can be completed on-line or in person at scheduled classes. Other schools offer courses that usually start at \$100 and up. Also, whenever a student completes one of these courses, it is worth .5 credit. Contact Ms. Craine at 934-7027 if you have questions or need more information.

Parents Of Seniors! Beware of any onset of senioritis! Please encourage your child to be here everyday, to work hard and to push himself/herself to achieve highly. We don't want any seniors to be in a position where they have to retake a class second semester - or worse - to take a class outside of school just to earn enough credits for graduation! We know MHSA seniors have the capacity to get it all done. Here's to a 100% graduation rate for the class of 2011!

Financial Aid / Scholarship Workshop coming in December: Date TBD

Parents and their senior students will need to sign up in the main office for this workshop once the date is known. There is, however, a Free College Application Workshop at the Center Street Library on November 20 from 1-4 PM. Interested? Bring your Grades/Transcripts, ACT or SAT Score, Social Security Number, and a list of extracurricular activities or jobs you have had. If you have questions, please call Ryan at 414-229-5088 or email him at eisnerr@uwm.edu. This is a community event and MPS students are welcome to attend.

From the Yearbook Committee

Parents of Seniors: November 12 is Deadline for Yearbook Photos! All seniors have the option of having the following items in the MHSA yearbook: 1. A senior portrait. 2. A photo of the student as a baby. 3. A Will. (A written testament to loved ones.) ALL OF THESE ARE DUE ON NOVEMBER 12 and they should be given to Mr. Wszalek. 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 so they can be returned.

Coffee, Cakes and Conversation

In the MHS Library on Tuesday, November 16

Join other parents and staff members at our first (soon-to-be-monthly) early morning coffee hour. There will be coffee. And cake (in some form). And conversations. Our guidance counselor Shelley Craine will have information about Correspondence and On-Line Schools, Youth Options, and Credit Recovery.

This is for any MHS parent / guardian / staff member / community member. If you are dropping off kids for an early morning AP class, why not stick around awhile? We'll be chatting it up anywhere from 7:30 until 8:30. If you want, you can invite a staff member to attend. You can find staff contact information on the website: <http://www.mhsarts.com>.

Upcoming Music Concerts

Paint and Play Piano Concert - November 16 @ 7 PM

This is a collaboration between the Visual Arts department and the Piano department.

Winter Music Concert - November 20 @ 7 PM

The Winter Music Concert will be on Saturday, November 20, at St. Sebastian's Church on 55th and Washington Blvd. The orchestras and choirs will be performing works by Bach, Handel, Schubert, and more. (Please be reminded that cell phones and cameras are prohibited and children (small and tall) should not be heard. Tickets will be sold on site. Please do not enter the church until you have purchased your ticket.

Winter Band Concert - November 23 @ 7 PM

The Winter Band Concert will be on Tuesday, November 23rd at 7 PM in the MHS auditorium and will feature the MHS Concert Band and Wind Ensemble as well as the MHS Big Band. All MHS students are invited to attend for free! Any student with an MPS ID can attend for free.

Tickets: MPS students with ID: FREE Adults: \$3 Seniors and non-MPS students: \$2
Please come out to support our fabulous instrumental music majors - they have worked very hard to prepare for this concert and we hope to see you there!

It's not too early to start thinking about our Chili Cook-Off

Our PTO will be spearheading the MHS Chili Cook-Off Classic in early 2011. Are you up for the challenge? Enter your favorite chili recipe (bring it in a crock-pot) and compete with other parents and staff members in our first soon-to-be-annual Chili Event. The tentative date is Friday, February 25th on the same night as the Jazz department's Soul show.

Parent Room Needs

- A working refrigerator
- A storage unit (Utility shelving unit) for Clothing
- A couple of comfortable chairs
- A person to organize the space and make it nice and pretty....

November always seemed to me the Norway of the year.
Emily Dickinson

How YOU Can Help MHSA

- Volunteer in the Library. Volunteers are needed on Tuesdays/Thursdays and every other Friday. Call Mary Elsner at 934-7035 if you can volunteer. She would like to schedule a training session soon. Let's keep the library open M-F!
- Chaperone or Bake Desserts for *That 70's Dance*: Friday, November 5 (6 - 10 PM)
- Want to get your hands dirty? We need weed pullers in the MHSA courtyard garden.
- File music in Mrs. Garcia's band room. It is an easy job, but would require some dedication. An adult who is a quick study would be most helpful.
- Sell Spirit Wear during lunch hours and popcorn after school on random days.
- Chair a fundraiser for the PTSO: Mr. Z's, Magazines, Pizza Hut Card, Pocket Peelers, etc. Do you have a better idea? Let us know. We are open to great ideas....

Can you donate to the following MHSA classrooms?

CW (Creative Writing) Needs:

- Donated Books (High School interest would be best)
- Printing Paper
- Cash Donations for other supplies

Band Needs

- A new stereo receiver. Is there an MHSA family that has just upgraded and could donate a working receiver?

Science Department Greenhouse Needs:

- Gardening supplies (dirt, gardening stakes, hand tools for replanting, pots, shelving, packaged seeds, etc.).
- Plastic storage bins (18 gallon size) for plants large enough you can see them from the teacher's parking lot.

Orchestra Needs

- Donations to purchase instruments and/or strings
- A Design for a New Orchestra T-shirt

Ms. Bugni's Room

- Pens / pencils and colored chalk
- Computer paper
- Young adult novels and magazines
- Lamps (they can be old - they just need to work)
- Kleenex and hand sanitizer
- A tape/digital recorder
- A projection screen (pretty please!)
- A projector

If you have questions about anything in this newsletter or want to volunteer, please contact Sara Raasch at 414-934-7059 or email her at: raaschsm@milwaukee.k12.wi.us.

November Nursing Notes

ATTN: Parents with students behind schedule on immunizations:

MHSA is partnering with the Milwaukee Health Department to hold a FREE immunization clinic at MHSA during school hours with a future date TBD. If you would like your child to participate, please sign the consent form you received in the mail, check on the MHSA website under Hannah Wolfe, School Nurse bio, to download a copy of the form, or ask the school nurse for a copy of the consent form. This consent form needs to be completed before your student can participate in this FREE clinic. Questions? Call Ms. Wolfe at 934-7019.

Poinsettia and Wreath Orders to Benefit the Dance Department:

The Dance Department will have its annual Poinsettia Sale from November 1- 12. The expected delivery date of the plants will be November 23 (the Tuesday before Thanksgiving break). Order forms can be obtained from Ms. Jordan at: jordansk@milwaukee.k12.wi.us or you can email her and let her know what you want. Checks should be made payable to MHSA Dance. THE POINSETTIAS come in: Colors: Red, White, Jingle Bell, and Marble. Sizes: 6.5" (\$17), 7" (\$22), 8.5" (\$25) and 10" (\$35)

Wreaths come Decorated or Plain and in sizes: 20" (\$22), 24" (\$25), 30" (\$30), 36" (\$35) 40" (\$40). For any plain wreath, deduct \$4.00. All forms and payment are due to Ms. Jordan on or before Nov. 12.

Winter Sports Start Dates:

Boys Basketball Boys Swim Boys Wrestling: 11/15/10
Girls Basketball: 11/17/10

Remember that you need to have all of your forms in before you can begin practice. Also, if you are a student athlete and currently have yellow bus service and you want to continue yellow bus service to school you must call Ms. Adair and tell her. Otherwise, Central Office may take you off yellow bus service and issue you a bus pass home from practice. This is a backwards system that we are trying to correct. The theory behind it is that you can't "double dip" and have yellow bus service to school and also get a bus pass home from practice. If you want to complain to MPS Central Office, please do. If you need to talk to our Athletic Director, Mr. Pitta, you can call him or email him at: 414-267-8215 or: pittajv@milwaukee.k12.wi.us.

Have you taken the School Climate Survey??? It Ends December 21!

Students! Parents! Staff! MPS wants to know what you think about MHSA. Let your voice be heard by taking the School Climate Survey. You can get a hard copy of the survey in the main office or take it online. It takes about 10 minutes. Students will be able to access the on-line survey in either English or Spanish. Parents can access versions in English, Spanish, and Hmong.

Online Directions: Log onto the Internet.

Go to: <http://www.milwaukee.k12.wi.us>.

Click on **Parents**.

Click on **Parent Climate Survey 2010-2011**. For more info call: 414-475-8225.

Not getting enough information from MHSA? Sign up for the **Weekly E-Newsletter** that is emailed to you (yes, each week). Go to the MHSA website (<http://www.mhsarts>). Find the pink tab on the right-hand side of the page that says "Weekly E-Newsletter." Click on that. Type in your email address. **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. Give me YOUR NAME, YOUR STUDENT'S NAME and your MAILING ADDRESS. I will then take you off of the mailed newsletter list and send the newsletter to you by email.

Alumni in the Lime Light

MHSA Visual Arts major, Kasia Wisniewski, (2006) was featured in an article titled, "Out of a fairy tale," in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on Thursday, October 21, 2010. Kasia is one of five nation-wide finalists in the Operation Dream Dress Competition organized by Brides Magazine. The recent Pratt graduate may appear on "Good Morning America" or the "Today Show" on the morning of November 5 when the winner of the contest will be announced. The winner will receive \$10,000 and the coveted cover of Bride's December issue.



Out of a fairy tale
Milwaukee native turns heads with her bridal creations
To see the entire article online go to:
<http://www.jsonline.com/entertainment/105311268.html>
Photos by Jonathan Frickies



A Penny For Kids Campaign from Tom Beebe

Are you concerned about the school-funding crisis? There is one thing you can do right now: Go to the "A Penny for Kids" website (<http://www.apennyforkids.org>) and sign the petition in favor of a one-cent increase in the sales tax for Wisconsin's public schools. For 17 years the state's share of school cost has been diminishing and now, with the economic downturn, the crisis of funding our children face is getting worse. It's time to act, and that's the opportunity you have. As a matter of fact, once you've signed the petition, send it on to others so they have the opportunity to take part in this movement.

As MPS residents, there is another opportunity I urge you to take advantage of. A group of parents, grandparents, teachers, and just plain folk have come together and formed Milwaukee Families for School Funding. They support the goals we all support ... to give all of our children the opportunities -- the books, the quality teachers, the safe buildings, the computers, and the challenging courses -- they need to succeed.

If you are interested in joining this organization, contact Michael Mathias at 414-477-6957 or at michaelmathias@yahoo.com; Jennifer Mandel at cjmandel@yahoo.com; or Ted Kraig at tedk1968@live.com.

If you need more information on why the Arts are critical in education (and in our world) here are some good videos. Sir Ken Robinson is a leading authority on education and an advocate for Arts and Creativity and why they are so important.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zDZFcDGpL4U>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iG9CE55wbTY>

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