

Weekly Voice

The Heart of Us Gala

As you may have already heard or read about in last weeks' Southridge Wednesday, this year's Heart of Us Gala was incredible. Certainly, it was extremely successful – achieving well beyond our fundraising goals, but it was more than that. It was an affirmation that the unique spirit of our community is as strong now as it has ever been.

The spirit of who we are as a school extends much deeper than having a collective sense of enthusiasm for our community – as wonderful as that may be. At the core of who we are lies the essence of what makes our school exceptional. The core of anything – or anyone – is difficult to put into words, and when we try to do so, what is put on paper or spoken out loud often falls short of our best and most thoughtful intentions. Poetry, music and other artistic expressions, on the other hand, typically serve as more appropriate mediums to capture feelings that express what lies at "the heart of us" – our essence, our core, our soul.

Not having any gifts related to the world of art other than a relatively unsophisticated appreciation for artistic expression, the best I can do is share a short personal experience to describe why I found this year's gala to be so incredible. The experience started a couple of decades ago when my wife and I were considering a move across the country from teaching at a boarding school in Quebec to begin new careers at Southridge.

Only in its second year of operation, we flew across the country in early April 1997 to visit Southridge, and to see for ourselves whether we should make the move with our young family. To be honest, the physical school itself at the time was unimpressive – a U-shaped arrangement of grey portables surrounding a central hall used for assemblies, a cafeteria, a student commons, clubs and performances. Poor air circulation, floors that echoed, low ceilings and sketchy plumbing were some of the many functional faults of the place, but they were all far overshadowed by "that special feeling".

Over many years, I admit that "that special feeling" became an expectation and I began to take it for granted. In fact, I became so used to it that it took comments from visitors and guests to remind me it was here. It was something they could feel when they walked through the door, and they almost always commented on how unique and special it was. Indeed, it was something to care for and protect.



"That special feeling" surfaced in abundance at the Gala this year, and it was a powerful reminder of the energy that lies at the core of our community. It was almost identical to the feeling that drew me here in the first place, and it confirmed that what lies at the "heart of us" has endured and is as strong now as it has ever been. It grounds us, it defines us and it inspires us – definitely not something to be taken for granted!

Have a wonderful week!

Drew Stephens Head of School



Drew Stephens at the Heart of Us Gala Photo by Sara Borck Photography



Important Dates

Event	Date	Time	Location
Junior School AR Term 1 Deadline	Friday, November 30		Junior School
Casual Day	Friday, November 30		
Admissions Application Deadline	Saturday, December 1		Both Schools
Senior School Assembly	Monday, December 3	8:40 am	Alan Brown Great Hall
Term 2 AR Begins	Monday, December 3		Junior School
Junior School Assembly	Wednesday, December 5	8:10 am	Junior School Great Hall
Grade 4-7 Glee Fieldtrip to Sunnyside Manor	Thursday, December 6	12:30 pm	Junior School
Winter Storm Tournament	Friday, December 7		Senior Gym
PYP Skating Day – KSR-T, KJM, 2TW, 3MY, 3CK	Friday, December 7	8:30 am	Junior School
PYP Skating Day 4 Classes – 1RK, 1RR, 2DA, 4WM, 4WR	Monday, December 10	8:30 am	Junior School
Senior Christmas Concert	Tuesday, December 11	7:00 pm	Alan Brown Great Hall
Junior School Assembly	Wednesday, December 12	8:10 am	Junior School Great Hall
Senior Christmas Concert	Wednesday, December 12	7:00 pm	Alan Brown Great Hall
MYP Assembly	Monday, December 17	8:10 am	Junior School Great Hall
Junior School Christmas Concert Dress Rehearsal	Monday, December 17	1:00 pm	Junior School Great Hall
Junior School Christmas Concert – Matinee	Tuesday, December 18	1:00 pm	Junior School Great Hall
Junior School Holiday Assembly	Wednesday, December 19	8:10 am	Junior School Great Hall
Junior School Christmas Concert	Wednesday, December 19	6:30 pm	Junior School Great Hall
Junior School Feast Performance	Thursday, December 20	8:00 am	Alan Brown Great Hall



Junior School News

Upcoming Junior School Concerts – Save the Date!

While December is not yet upon us, we are mindful of what a busy month it can be for families. As such, we would like to ensure all families are aware of the dates of our Junior School Christmas concerts so that you can plan to attend **one** of them:

- Matinee performance Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at 1:00 pm
- Evening performance Wednesday, December 19, 2018 at 6:30 pm.

We look forward to celebrating the festive season with you! Please stay tuned for specific details that will come from Dr. Bespflug and Mrs. Winterburn.

Dismissal for Winter Break and Return for Monday, January 14, 2019 (Late Start)

On Friday, December 21, all Junior School students will be dismissed at 11:45 am for the Winter Break. Winter break is three weeks long with classes resuming at 10:25 am on Monday, January 14, 2019 (Day 2). Students should arrive between 10:10 and 10:20 am for a start time of 10:25 am. *Please do not drop your child off before 10:10 am as all teachers and staff are in meetings and no supervision is provided.* Please mark your calendars accordingly.

Uniform Expectation Reminders

We take pride in our school uniform – it is a statement of who we are and so consistency with adhering to uniform expectations is important. Please be reminded of the following:

- Black shoes must be polishable leather. Suede, nubuck, canvas, and other fabrics are not appropriate.
- Tights worn with kilts and tunics must be solid black and be footed. Wearing a
 pair of thick black leggings with socks is not appropriate, nor are patterned tights.
 (Note: tights and socks can be purchased at any store if your child prefers a
 different fabric to what is sold in the uniform shop, so long as they are footed and
 solid black.)
- If a student needs to wear an under layer, it should match the shirt being worn (e.g. white with white dress shirts, royal blue with PE shirts).
- Grey pants must be uniform issue and purchased through our school store.



Should your child's teacher let you know of a uniform concern, please take immediate action to ensure your child is adhering to our uniform guidelines. If you are unsure about something, please check with a teacher, Mrs. de Hoog, or Ms. Graham.

Poppy Campaign for Royal Canadian Legion

Remembrance Day may have passed, but you can still do your part to help veterans injured in the war through donating to the Legion. It is also important to research more to further your understanding about the Legion and the selfless assistance they provide for veterans. This help includes food distribution, shelter, essential needs, transportation, cadet units, physical and mental therapy, aid for disabled veterans, medical aid, and relief from disasters impacting the veterans. Donating towards assistance for veterans gives us a chance to repay a small fraction of what soldiers sacrificed for our freedom and country.

An important factor in our poppy campaign for the Royal Canadian Legion is informing others. By providing information and spreading the word, more action has the potential to be put in motion, therefore helping the Legion as a team, with each individual doing as much as they can, in any way they can. Donating, raising awareness, educating yourself and others; these all have the capacity to aid the Royal Canadian Legion and those they are supporting. In other words, taking action will be a way for the veterans who fought for us to know we appreciate their sacrifice more than words can express.

There will be a casual day on **November 30th**, so please remember to bring your minimum \$2 donation so you can wear your casual clothes - and support the legion!

Sophie Choong, Grade 7 Students Leading Action Together

Annual Christmas Hampers

As the holiday season approaches we empathize with those less fortunate than we are and help them to enjoy a more comfortable time. Through a local organization, Options, we are sponsoring seventeen refugee families. Each class, from Kindergarten to Grade 7 and the Junior School staff, will adopt one family and fill a hamper with non-perishable supplies, and optional gifts and gift cards. Please look for detailed information from your child's teacher/class parent about the sponsored family. If you have any strong boxes that may be useful, please offer them to your child's teacher(s) or us, as we always seem to need more. Lastly, should you have any gently used items that you think may be suitable for a family, please call 604.542.5368 or email imurchie@southridge.bc.ca. You may be able to offer additional support to one or more of our families.



The hampers will then be picked up and delivered by the caseworkers during the week before the break, so please ensure that all donations are at school by December 14th. Thank you so much for your generosity and support. Giving to others is a rewarding and important experience for children, as they learn to be caring and respectful community members.

Kari Labelle and Jo-Ann Murchie Students Leading Action Together Teacher Sponsors

Senior School News

Southridge Students Win ZoomFest Awards Including "Best Overall Junior Film"

Southridge student filmmakers and animators won multiple awards including "Best Overall Junior Film" at the ZoomFest awards gala at Mulgrave School on Saturday, Nov.24. This year, ZoomFest had over 100 entries from around the province.

ZoomFest is a 48-hour filmmaking competition for teenagers. Over the course of two days, students must make a complete film that incorporates the secret theme and prop. This year, the theme was "There's no free lunch" and the prop was a CD. Southridge had 70 students enter the competition as part of 16 teams.

Interestingly, a team of Southridge students was able to create a complete animated film in 48 hours for ZoomFest and were recognized by the judges with an honourable mention award for this achievement. In recent years, Southridge students have pioneered the use of animation in ZoomFest by creating claymation films and 2D animation films. This year, students from another school also took the animation approach and, in recognition of student interest, ZoomFest has announced a new animation category for next year!

Congratulations to all of the Southridge students who entered Zoomfest! Please see the list of Southridge award winners below. To see a highlight reel of Southridge student work from ZoomFest 2018, please click here:

https://vimeo.com/300532187



Best Overall Film (Junior)

"A Free Treat"

- Helena Hockertz
- Cindy Zhang

Honorable Mention Award for Animation 3rd Place Junior Technical Achievement

- Dominic Perez
- Maria Cucerca



Best Overall Film (Junior) - Cindy Zhang and Helena Hockertz



"Celebrate-a-Life," the Peace Arch Hospice Society and Southridge Art Students

For the past few months, Southridge art students have been diligently working on the delicate dove ornaments for the Peach Arch Hospice Society's "Celebrate a Life" fundraiser.

Inspired by the feelings hope and celebration the Grade 11 and 12 visual art students have been painting these ornamental wooden doves that the hospice has provided; these doves are meant to be the carriers of celebration and hope, and pieces that could serve as a keepsake to remember loved ones who have died.

Here is how it works; visitors at the Semiahmoo Shopping Center during the Christmas season will be able to stop by the "Celebrate-A-Life Tree" and exhibit, purchase a dove with a donation, and then write down the name of a lost loved on a paper dove and hang it on that tree. Our doves, along with other artists from the peninsula, will be supporting the hospice society and helping to honour family and friends in this way. Southridge Artists have been allotted the weekend of December 8th and 9th.

The Southridge Art department is most grateful to the students for creating these, and ever grateful to be included amongst such talented artistic company for such a resonating cause.

Small things come in awesome packages and many of these have paintings on both sides!





Maya Kobylanski Helps BC Win Gold!

Southridge Grade 11 student Maya Kobylanski finished an impressive 11th place out of 215 runners at the Canadian Cross-Country Championships in Kingston, Ontario this past weekend, November 24th & 25th. The course was a winding 4km route which was challenging as was the chilly and windy conditions. Despite this Maya finished just 31 seconds off the winning individual time while helping Team BC to the overall gold medal.

Gord Smith Senior School Director of Athletics



Maya Kobylanski at the Canadian Cross-Country Championships in Kingston, Ontario



Senior School December Concerts, 7:00 pm, December 11 & 12, Alan Brown Great Hall

It is hard to believe that the Senior School Christmas Concerts are right around the corner. The students are busy preparing music to perform and would love to have an audience! No tickets are required for the event; just come out and enjoy some seasonal sounds and jazzy jingles. This year's program includes our curricular music ensembles along with the co-curricular jazz and vocal groups. In addition, we will have selected special musical numbers, from vocal duets to a classical cello piece. Art works from our students will accompany the music. The Drama department will be represented, as will several Media Arts student films.

The Grade 8 Concert and Jazz Bands will perform the first night, Tuesday December 11, and the Grade 9 Concert and Jazz Bands plus the Grade 9 Jazz Studies class will perform on the second evening, Wednesday, December 12. The senior ensembles, choirs, and soloists will perform on both nights. In order for each group to give their best performance, we need all of our musicians in attendance. Please mark your calendars and make the necessary arrangements for your child to participate in the show.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Burrage at sburrage@southridge.bc.ca.

The Senior Music Department

Grad 2019 Purdy's Chocolate Holiday Fundraiser

With the holidays just around the corner, the Southridge Grad Committee is excited to announce our annual Purdy's Chocolate fundraiser. Pre-order all of your chocolate gifts for friends and co-workers or have some boxes at home for when friends and family come to visit during the holidays!

How to order online:

- **1.** go to http://www.purdysgpp.com
- 2. click on "register or login" and create an account for yourself
- **3.** after you have registered, you will be prompted to "Enter Customer Number or Email Address" and put in **24019**

Please get your orders in by **NOVEMBER 28**th, **2018**. All orders will be delivered to the school on December 13th and will be ready for pick-up after school in the cafeteria.

We greatly appreciate your support!!



Grad Committee & Mrs. Becker (bbecker@southridge.bc.ca)

Gift Card Fundraiser – Support the Grad 2019 Class

It's time for the annual gift card fundraiser! The order form is attached to the Wednesday and paper copies will go home with students this week. This is an easy way to do your Christmas shopping:

- 1. choose which companies you want gift cards from,
- 2. decide the amount of money on each card,
- 3. submit the order form and cheque to the reception desk (JS or SS).

The order forms will be due on Wednesday, 28 November and the cards should be delivered about a week later. We will contact you when the cards are ready to be picked up.

University Counselling and Career Education Update

University visits have now concluded for the 2019 recruiting and admissions process. There are still some information sessions occurring in Vancouver:

- UVic is hosting an information night on Tuesday, December 4th from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm at the Executive Plaza Hotel Metro Vancouver, 405 North Road, Coquitlam
- Thinking of Visual Art & Design University Programs? Check out the following opportunities to get help and review your art portfolio:
 - Thursday, November 29th from 6:00 to 9:00 pm at St. John's School, 2215 West 10th Avenue, Vancouver see the poster in the Art Room and University Centre for the list of universities and colleges that are attending.
 - Saturday, December 1st from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm, National Portfolio Day at Wilson School of Design, Kwantlen Polytechnic. See more info www.kpu.ca/2018NationalPortfolioDay. This is a joint event hosted by Emily Carr University and Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

Thinking of Summer Programs for High School Students? A number of universities across Canada, U.S. and around the globe host high school summer experience programs.



Watch for notices on the University Counselling Board or on Schoology for upcoming information sessions.

Application Bash #2 for the Class Of 2019

Grads are invited to attend the second application bash on Wednesday, December 5th in the Library from 3:15 to 5:15 pm. Staff will be on hand to help with application questions, review personal profile statements and provide tips for video interviews.

Ms. Livingston
Director of University Counselling

Both Schools

Winter Weather Safety Tips

As we welcome December, we are preparing for the potential of ice and snow on campus this winter. With the winter weather comes a greater risk of slips, trips, or falls. We encourage our students (and families) to travel safely and follow these important tips:

- Walk in designated areas. Avoid using short cuts and self-made paths as these
 may be very icy and slippery stay on the cleared paths, even if it takes extra
 time.
- Consider wearing a backpack. Backpacks keep your load closer to your centre of gravity. Carrying heavy items in your hands hinders your arms' ability to provide balance if you should slip. You will also need your arms free to help you recover your balance if you start to slide.
- Wear appropriate winter footwear. Wear shoes with traction switch to winterappropriate footwear, even if you're walking a short distance and plan to change into your indoor shoes upon safe arrival.
- Keep both hands free for balance, rather than in your pockets. Wear gloves or mittens to stay warm and your hands can stay free to balance or catch yourself if you do start to tumble.
- Allow additional time to get where you're going do not rush in your vehicle or on foot.

Our facilities team does their best to prevent ice and clear snow as quickly as possible, however if you find some areas are slippery as you make your way across campus, please report the area to the front office receptionists of either school.



As always, the safety and well-being of our community is extremely important so please exercise caution this winter season.

Human Resources News

I am pleased to share with you that Donna Chung will be joining Southridge on November 26th in the new position of Controller, working in the Finance and Operations Department. Donna is a CPA, CA and also holds a Bachelor of Technology in Accounting and a Diploma of Technology in Financial Management. Donna brings to this role over 8 years of progressive public practice experience with PriceWaterhouseCoopers LLP and Abercromby, Melnychuk Chartered Professional Accountants. Donna has been a mentor and coach to several CPA candidates and also works as a facilitator with the CPABC (Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia). Donna is familiar with Southridge as she has managed the year end financial statement audit for several years. Donna is excited to be joining the education sector and is looking forward to contributing to Southridge.

As well, Maria Pupovac will be joining Southridge as our new Senior School Receptionist starting December 3rd. Maria has spent the past seven years in education and has extensive experience in administrative support. She started her career as an Administrative Assistant with the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board before relocating back to the lower mainland in 2015. Maria comes to us from Sherwood Park Elementary School where she has held the role of Administrative Assistant for three years. Maria is delighted to be joining Southridge and is looking forward to supporting the day to day activities of the Senior School.

Please join me in welcoming Donna and Maria to Southridge School.

Darcie Sagert Manager, Human Resources

It's the most DELICIOUS time of the year...

Order your Christmas cookies from Southridge Café's Sage Dining Services.

3 shapes to choose from – snowman, Christmas tree, or snowflake

2 tasty options – decorated or plain

Outstanding prices:



- \$1.50 for a plain cookie
- \$2.00 for a decorated cookie

*plain cookies must be ordered with a minimum of 24 hours advance notice *decorated cookies must be ordered with a minimum of 72 hours advance notice

Come visit us at Southridge Café or email Chef Gary (<u>sage@southridge.bc.ca</u>) to place your order.

Southridge Café

Hot Lunch orders for K-3 students can now be placed for the month of December through www.MyKidsSpending.com. The deadline to order for December is Thursday, November 29.

You are only required to select the main dish. Drink options (milk or spa water) and sides will be available to students on the days they receive hot lunch meals. Please note that no hot lunch is offered in the week of December 17-21, 2018.

For nutritional information regarding the menu items, please visit the <u>Sage website</u>. If there are any dietary concerns, Gary Riemer, Director of Food Services at the Southridge Café, is available to discuss the dietary needs of your child, and he can be reached at <u>sage@southridge.bc.ca</u>.

Please contact Phala Tan for any other questions regarding hot lunch at ptan@southridge.bc.ca.

Phala Tan Business Services Manager