

# Haddam Killingworth High School

## November-December 2019



*From the Principal...*

Haddam Killingworth High School has seen a flurry of activity this month with our students very busy in this holiday season. As you can see, the common themes from this month's HK news are the spirit of giving and caring for each other in the community as well as the continued celebration of student accomplishments.

### NEWS FROM THE HK FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

Please join the HK Select Choirs for a very special event on Sunday, December 8th at 4pm as we join with the Shoreline Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Daniel Hand High School Select Choir for the annual ABC (A Better Chance) Holiday Concert that takes place at the First Congregational Church in Madison. Headlining the event is Yale University's *acapella* choir- "Red, Hot, and Blue". Admission is free- join us!



#### WINTER CHORUS CONCERT

The HK Music Department is proud to invite you to our 2019 Winter Chorus Concert on Thursday, December 12th at 6pm in the H-K Auditorium. Students will be sharing seasonal selections such as *Carol of the Bells*, *Mary Did you Know*, *That's Christmas to Me*, and *God Rest Ye Merry Gentleman*, in full 1800s costumes. Following the 45-minute concert there is a free preview of our winter drama production, "A Christmas Carol".

#### THE HK PLAYERS PROUDLY PRESENT:



#### A CHRISTMAS CAROL



**Ticket Prices:** \$10 per seat

**Box Office:** Purchase tickets at the door or by calling 860-345-8541 X3240

**For questions contact:** Marcy Webster [MWebster@rsd17.org](mailto:MWebster@rsd17.org) or 860-345-8541

Published 176 years ago, Dickens first conceived of his project as a pamphlet, which he planned on calling, "An Appeal to the People of England on behalf of the Poor Man's Child." But in less than a week of thinking about it, he decided instead to encapsulate the idea as a story which was the first time he published a complete book rather than a series found in a periodical. The first 6000 copies that were published on December 19, 1843 sold out just five days later, on Christmas Eve. In his later years, A Christmas Carol would become one of his favorites to read aloud on the literary tours he embarked on in the late 1860s. Since then it has been adapted hundreds of times to nearly every medium possible including the first surviving film version in 1901; Orsen Wells on CBS Radio in 1938; an Opera; a Broadway Musical; and even a Muppets' movie. (Broich, 2016)

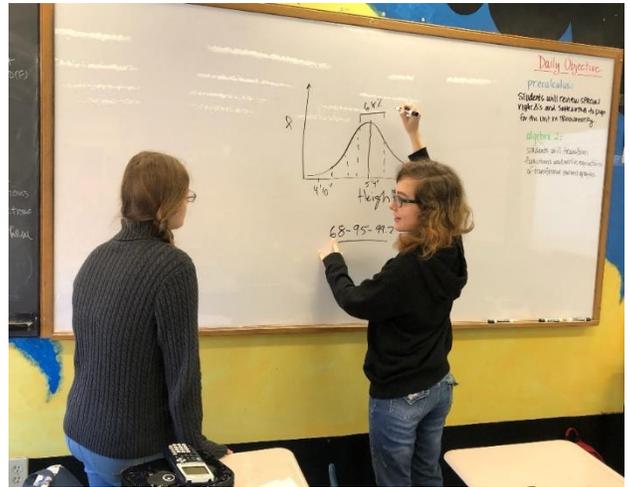
**Starring:** Arjun Badami (Ebenezer Scrooge), Devin Coon (Bob Cratchit), Hannah Laird-Hoover (Narrator and Janet Halloway), Payton Kasperzyk (Ghost of Christmas Past), Tyson Glazier (Ghost of Christmas Present), Tori Carlson (Ghost of Jacob Marley and Ghost of Christmas Yet-to-come), Michael Vaughn (Fred Halloway), Amanda Ketchedjian (Belle), Pooja Badami (Mrs. Dilber and Young Ebenezer), Katrin Wilson (Mrs. Fezziwig), Julia Thelan (Fan), Valleri Freibauer (Mrs. Cratchit), Charles Petrie (Peter Cratchit), Kateri Sonki (Martha Cratchit), Emma Peterson (Tiny Tim Cratchit,) Luke Haase (Old Joe), Josh Kulak and Emma Sirignano (Various Townspeople)

## HK TUTOR CLUB

During the first Advisory period of quarter 2, students completed a reflection questionnaire about the information on their Q1 report cards. Students were asked to reflect on their grades and on their teachers' comments, and think about their next steps for success. Students then developed SMART goals for quarter 2 that would help them improve their performance.

If your student is struggling or would like help meeting their goals for quarter 2, we have a wonderful group of dedicated students who are willing to tutor their peers. Tutoring is available in many subject areas.

To be matched with a peer tutor, they can see their guidance counselor, Fijare Plous, or Mrs. Adamczyk to schedule a meeting.



## GUEST SPEAKER IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

On November 7<sup>th</sup> Ray Miller, a federal prosecutor for the state of Connecticut visited the high school to speak to our criminal justice class. Criminal justice is a survey course that covers many topics dealing with the field of criminal justice. The course gives students an opportunity to study a variety of topics and potential career paths. Mr. Miller delivered an engrossing presentation on the responsibilities of a federal prosecutor. The presentation included the educational path necessary to enter this profession and the types of roles a current student could expect to be engaged in. It was fascinating to hear about some of the past cases Mr. Miller has been involved in adjudicating, in addition to the many ways that he participated in the cases. It was eye opening for students to see that the job involves more than just making a case in a courtroom. We want to thank Mr. Miller for his time and commitment and we look forward to having him back in the future.

## STUDENT COUNCIL BLOOD DRIVE

On November 8th, 39 students registered to give blood at a drive hosted by the Student Council with the American Red Cross. The day finished with 32 successful pints, which surpassed the Red Cross' goal of 26. Dozens of volunteers from Student Council pitched in to make the day a smooth and comfortable day for all involved.

## STUDENT COUNCIL HOMECOMING DANCE

On November 22nd, hundreds of students packed into the cafeteria for a dance sponsored by the HK Student Council. There was a bake sale that helped the organization to donate to the Connecticut Mental Health Foundation. The DJ kept things rocking all night and it was a fun time for all involved. A special thanks goes

out to Ms. Hayward, Mr. Apicella, Mr. Hagewood, Ms. Flint, Mr. Pallatto, Ms. Kohs, Ms. Mayer, Ms. Zagata, Mr. Battista, Ms. Ramm, and Ms. Topa-Finberg for chaperoning the event.

### **INTERNATIONAL CULTURE CLUB ACTIVITIES**

The International Culture Club has participated in a number of activities in the past month to raise money for community service and expand the cultural awareness of the club members. As a part of our community service mission the International Culture Club has loaned \$200 this month through KIVA, a non-profit international microloan agency that works to improve conditions in developing countries. Microloans are a general term to describe financial services to low-income individuals or to those who do not have access to typical banking services. This year the club members voted to give the loan to Flordeliza, in the Philippines. Flordeliza is going to use the loan to buy galvanized roofing and ceramic tiles for her family's toilet.

ICC also ran a fundraiser to benefit Habitat for Humanity. Stickers to decorate water bottles or electronics were sold to raise money for the organization so that they can continue their mission to provide help to families in Connecticut to build affordable housing in order to create strong and stable communities. ICC hopes to work further with Habitat for Humanity later in the year as well.

Lastly, ICC held a Thanksgiving Food Festival to celebrate both the season and all of the club's hard work. Members brought in food and participated in a potluck style party.

### **HKTV ANNOUNCES 31<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL HOLIDAY SHOW BENEFICIARY**

This year marks the 31st anniversary of Haddam-Killingworth High School's annual Holiday Show. HKTV is excited to announce this year's beneficiary, "A Little Compassion Inc./The Nest Coffee House." HKTV students worked hard to find just the right fit for this year's telethon.

"A Little Compassion Inc./The Nest Coffee House" is a nonprofit organization founded by Jane Moen. The mission of A Little Compassion is to change the lives of young adults with autism, intellectual, and developmental disabilities by creating employment and social opportunities that nurture their unique skills, strengths, and preferences. In addition to employment at The Nest Coffee House, young adults are given the opportunity to join Nest Gatherings which provide a fun, non-judgmental, and safe environment for young adults. (More information about their organization can be found at <https://thenestcoffeehouse.org>.) Students are passionate about this year's cause because two of our HK students are currently employed at The Nest Coffee House and students want to show their support.



The Holiday Show is a highly anticipated event, as it is student-operated. The Holiday Show consists of performances, interviews and student produced content. If your group or organization would like to get involved by fundraising for this year's telethon, contact the show's Producer, Kasha Topa-Finberg via email at [ktopa-finberg@rsd17.org](mailto:ktopa-finberg@rsd17.org)

For more information about the Holiday Show and to donate or watch, please visit <http://holidayshow.rsd17.org>. This special event will occur "live" Friday, December 20th from 8am-12pm.

## TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION STUDENTS VISIT AEROSPACE TRADE SHOW

Technology Education students took a field trip to the ACM Aerospace Industry Future Workforce Opportunities Fair at the Hartford Convention Center this month. Students had the opportunity to speak to local Connecticut based Aerospace Manufacturers about Internships, Training, and Employment opportunities and programs. Representatives impressed upon students the exciting challenges and rewards of the industry and the dire need for young people to enter this growing field.



## HK ROBOTICS IS ALIVE AND WELL

HK Robotics club is alive and well in its 13th season! Robotics is a competitive club open to all students. Each year students are challenged with a new 'game' for which they must design, build and program a robot to compete against other schools from CT and New England. This year's game "Tower Takeover" has teams stacking towers of cubes and placing them in elevated

goals. Teams get two minutes of head to head competition to score the most points. Robotics Club is always on the lookout for local engineers who might be interested in mentoring. Please contact Ryan Kish for information [rkish@rsd17.org](mailto:rkish@rsd17.org)



Trailer Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JVQOiwOUU>

## COMPUTER SCIENCE GUEST SPEAKER

Computer Science students had the opportunity to hear a presentation from Bill Stamm, Vice President of General Digital. Bill is a local resident and came to talk to students about the interesting and diverse opportunities that companies such as his hold for young people who choose careers in Computer Science and Engineering. Students got a chance to get an up close and personal look at some of the technologies that Mr. Stamm's company develops. These include interfaces for the military, aviation technicians and biomedical devices, including a first of its kind, pain measurement device. Mr. Stamm talked about the rigorous process that all devices and designs must go through for military and medical approvals. Thanks again to Mr. Stamm for sharing his passion for technology and engineering with our students. Check out more on General Digital here <https://youtu.be/SGb3k5iFrgI>. HKHS engineering classes are always on the lookout for guest speakers in technical fields. If you are interested in speaking, please contact Mr. Kish [rkish@rsd17.org](mailto:rkish@rsd17.org).



## ATHLETIC UPDATE

### GIRLS SOCCER WINS FIRST SHORELINE CHAMPIONSHIP



The Girls Soccer team defeated Valley Regional for the first Shoreline Championship in program history. The team made it to the semifinals of the Class M Tournament.



Nina Lamb set a new H-K school record of 1:11.11 in the 100-yard breaststroke at 2019 State Championships. Seven H-K swimmers swam personal best times at State Championships. From left to right: Grace Purcell (SR, captain), Johanna "Jo" Houska (FR), Kristen Thebeau (FR), Erin Marica (FR), Nina Lamb (JR), Tara Lamb (SR, captain), Adelaide "Addy" Hawkins (JR)

Winter Sports begin after Thanksgiving – please check the Athletics Website for more information specific to individual winter sports.

### **YEARBOOK INFORMATION**

**PARENTS OF FRESHMAN, SOPHOMORES, AND JUNIORS:** Please watch the mail for your order form for the 2020 Opticon! **Yearbooks MUST be ordered in advance and directly from JOSTEN'S** at [Jostensyearbooks.com](http://Jostensyearbooks.com). Discounts for ordering early are available. Please be sure to note ordering deadlines. *We sold out last year so be sure to place your order if you would like a yearbook.*

**PARENTS OF SENIORS** who have paid dues each year AND have paid 12<sup>th</sup> grade dues by Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>, **do not need to order a yearbook.** The class will use dues money to purchase for all who have paid. **HOWEVER**, seniors who did not pay four years of dues BY **NOV. 1<sup>st</sup>** must order their own directly from Jostens at [jostensyearbooks.com](http://jostensyearbooks.com).

**PLEASE NOTE: Seniors who are on Free/Reduced Lunch DO NOT get a free yearbook as part of that program.**

**Parents of Seniors**, you have recently received **Jostens Recognition Ads** (formerly *GRAD-AD*) information via email. This is an opportunity for parents to have a space in the yearbook to celebrate their graduates with pictures and sentiments. Proceeds help offset the price of the yearbook and are popular with the seniors! **Contact Nancy McGee if you did not receive the Jostens Recognition Ads information: 860-345-8541 ext. 3111 or [nmcgee@rsd17.org](mailto:nmcgee@rsd17.org)**

**BUSINESS ADVERTISING:** Below is the contact information for parents who would like to place a business advertisement in the 2020 yearbook. Deadline for ads is December 1st. Your support in offsetting costs is greatly appreciated! **Contact Nancy McGee with questions: 860-345-8541 ext. 3111 or [nmcgee@rsd17.org](mailto:nmcgee@rsd17.org)**



On behalf of the entire Haddam Killingworth High School community, I wish you and your family a warm and safe Thanksgiving and a joyous holiday season. All the best to you and yours in the New Year!

Respectfully,

***Donna L. Hayward***

Enclosures

## **SCHOOL COUNSELING UPDATE – NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2019**

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)** - If your child is enrolled in an AP class this year, you should have received a letter with important AP payment information. We will be using Total Registration for AP exam registration and payment. Online exam payment began on November 18, 2019. Any further questions, please contact Alex Stone, AP Coordinator, at [astone@rsd17.org](mailto:astone@rsd17.org).

**POWERSCHOOL** – Please be sure to activate your PowerSchool parent account to view your child’s grades and attendance. In order to receive class emails from your child’s teachers, your account must be set-up and linked to your email address. If you have not yet set-up your account, you would have received the PowerSchool log-in information in your child’s report card. Please contact Mrs. Estrom at [sestrom@rsd17.org](mailto:sestrom@rsd17.org).

### **PSAT TESTING**

Our sophomores & juniors took the PSAT Test on October 16, 2019. The PSAT score reports are anticipated to be available online in December. HKHS will hold a presentation on PSAT score reports during Advisory on December 18<sup>th</sup> for all students who took the PSAT.

### **SENIORS:**

We have had over 65 college representatives visit HKHS to meet with students during their lunch/activity period. This has been a great way for students to ask the representative specific questions regarding their school.

Our School Counselors have been assisting students with applications and sending out materials to colleges via Naviance. Please be sure your child submits their transcript release form two weeks prior to their application deadline. Any questions, please contact your child’s School Counselor.

### **JUNIORS:**

**Junior Parent Night** – Junior Parent Night will be held on Monday, December 9, 2019. The presentation will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Auditorium for students and parents (Snow date: Monday, December 16, 2019.) There will be an introduction to post-secondary planning, and a discussion on Naviance, including eDocs program that all seniors will use next year when requesting teacher recommendations, having transcripts sent to colleges, etc. Juniors will also meet with their School Counselors in groups during Advisory in the month of December. Counselors will be meeting with Juniors and their families individually in the coming months.

### **FRESHMEN:**

Freshmen will soon complete the Prep for Success program for Marking Period 1. After Report Card grades are reviewed, those students who received a D+ or lower will remain in Prep for Success for Marking Period 2. All other students will be able to use Activity period to attend club meetings, meet with teachers for extra help, etc.

## **UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER**

December 4, 2019 – Marking Period 2 – Progress Reports  
December 9, 2019– Junior Parent Night – 6 p.m. – Auditorium  
December 12, 2019 - Chorus Concert/Fall Show  
December 13, 2019 – Fall Show – 6:00pm  
December 20, 2019 – Holiday Show – 8:00am-12:00  
January 8, 2020 – Alumni Day Presentation – Advisory Period

**ACT Testing** –The next ACT test to be held at HKHS will be on April 4, 2020. Please register online at: [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org).

**SAT Testing** – The next Saturday SAT test administration to be held at our school will be on June 6, 2020. Please register online at: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org).