

6TH GRADE CHOIR STUDENTS PERFORMED AND HONORED VETERANS

Choir News

Pictured above are singers in the 6th grade choir after their Veteran's Day assembly performance. Military personnel addressed the crowd, and the students honored one of their own teachers who is a Navy veteran

Symphony Concert

Students in the Butler Senior High Mixed Ensemble and Women's Ensemble performed alongside students in the Seneca Valley Chamber Ensemble as part of the Butler Symphony's Holiday Concert.

This is the second such collaboration between Butler and Seneca Choirs, and represents our fourth collaboration with the Butler Symphony. This year, we sustained that collaborative relationship by singing a medley from the *Grinch*, whose book celebrates its 60th anniversary this year. Continuing to celebrate holiday films, the choirs sang *Believe*, from *The Polar Express*; *Somewhere in my Memory* from *Home Alone*, and they sang *Walking in the air* as the symphony presented a multi-media viewing of the animated holiday classic, *The Snowman*.

Regarding the experience, Women's Ensemble members Fallon Brim and Amber Bervinkle said that they enjoyed making new friends with the Seneca Valley choral students with whom we collaborated. Senior Taylor Roy said that Maestro Matthew Kraemer was "really nice to work with, and I enjoyed getting criticisms from him that helped us improve as an ensemble." Tori Krauland added that his conducting was

clear and helpful. According to Keera Gilliland, "It was a beautiful experience to be up on stage with the symphony performers instead of looking up from the audience because I could observe how they behaved as musicians."

Jr. High District Choir

This year marks the first year that Butler Area School District will have participants in the PMEA Jr. High District Choir. The festival will be held at Beaver High School this January. Congratulations to the following students who were selected into the two ensembles:

9th grade District Choir: Tishy Hornsby, Meghan Lewis, and Anastasia Menchyk

Grades 7-8 District Choir: Daylen Mavrodos, Dalynn Marrodos, Charles Simms, Katerina Menchyk, Stefani Hartman, Dominic Burns, Taryn Miller

BMS FAB Choir

Mrs. Erevia (formerly Pabrinkis) is forming a singing group of 5th and 6th grade students who will perform a 1950s medley at the FAB show on April 7, 2018. Interested students should contact her, and we look forward to hearing them in the spring!

Butler Music Dept Newsletter

Winter 2017

MUSICAL LEGACY



"America Forever" was the piece the marching band performed at the Veterans Day Parade this year. It was composed by James V. Colonna on the night Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941.

Colonna was the great grandfather of current band students Kayla and Hunter Karenbauer. Colonna was the band director at Kittanning High School at the time of the composition. Both of the Karenbauer parents are currently music educators in the Butler Area School District. When asked about the legacy and the piece, Hunter Karenbauer said that he likes playing the upbeat piece: "It gives me a sense of pride, knowing it was my family who wrote the song." Kayla added that "Because he's a freshman and I'm a senior, it's the only year that we'll be in band together." The Veterans parade was held in Butler on November 11.

PMEA DISTRICT FESTIVALS

Butler Choir students will attend the PMEA District 5 Choir festival on January 25-27, 2018. Congratulations to the following students who were chosen: Joseph Atkinson, Dante Burns, Abigail Cavanaugh, Kayla Karenbauer, Reed Kruger, Nicole Laborie, Leah Mills, and Elizabeth Simms.

The festival will be held at New Castle High School, and the guest conductor will be well-known composer, Jim Papoulis. At District Choir, students will audition for a spot in Region Choir, which will be hosted by Butler at the Intermediate School on February 28-March 2. We'll be bringing in world-renowned composer and clinician, Dr. Rollo Dilworth as guest conductor for Region Choir.

Orchestra Workshops



On October 20, Dr. Melinda Crawford Perttu (pictured above) visited Butler Senior High and offered a workshop with the orchestra. Dr. Crawford Perttu is the orchestra director and string specialist at Westminster College, and she is internationally recognized in the area of Scottish Fiddling and strings pedagogy.

On November 2, Dr. Warren Davidson (pictured below) offered a workshop to the Butler Senior High Orchestra. Dr. Davidson is the orchestra director and strings specialist at Slippery Rock University



Band travels to Toronto

The Butler Golden Tornado Marching Band recently represented the Butler community by performing in the Toronto Santa Claus Parade in Toronto, Canada. The parade was held on Sunday, November 19, 2017. More than a half million people attend the parade every year. It has over 25 floats, 20-25 bands and 1,700 participants. The parade route is 3.5 mi long. It is one of the biggest parade productions in North America

Regarding the experience, Joseph Boozel said, "Because of the strength and unity of all us, we marched our longest parade, and it was the best of my four years." According to Keera Gilliland, "The hard work and dedication we had to put into afterschool practices paid off when we got to the parade and I saw the thousands of people cheering us on!" Senior Kayla Karenbauer stated, "It was an interesting experience to bring joy to other bands with our cadences and see other bands become one instead of competing."

PMEA Honors Band: The following students participated in the Honors Band festival and concert, which was held at Westminster College on December 2, 2017: Nicole Laborie, flute; Raeanne Rumbaugh, flute; Kayla Karenbauer, oboe; Gabrielle Finan, horn; Juli Bish, horn; Katherine Pawluk, trumpet; Dante Burns, percussion; and Hunter Karenbauer, percussion.

District Orchestra and Band

District Orchestra will be hosted at Beaver High School on February 8-10, 2018. Students were selected for this honor are as follows:

Olivia Montag, cello; Sadie Schaeffer; Gabrielle Finan, horn; Kayla Karenbauer, oboe; Jacob Menees, percussion; Dante Burns, percussion; Milena McCandless, trombone; Jilian Ranko, viola; Jennifer Baum, viola; Julia Coyle, violin; Sarah Hepfl, violin; and Michelle Kenyon, violin.

Congratulations to the following students who will represent Butler at the PMEA District Band festival in January: Nicole Laborie, flute; Kayla Karenbauer, oboe; Gabrielle Finan, horn; Milena McCandless, trombone; and Dante Burns, percussion.

The mission of the Butler Area School District music department is to provide a sequential and relevant music education that enables its students to become musically engaged global citizens.

Choir Party



Students in the 6th grade choir joined with Senior High Choir members to collaborate musically and of course, to eat pizza. We hope the event will become an annual way to connect younger members of the choral family with the end product that we want them to continue to be a part of.

Upcoming Events

- December 11: 5th grade choir 6 pm
- December 12: 6th grade choir 6 pm
- December 13: Senior High Choirs 7:30 pm
- December 14: 7th grade choirs at 6 pm (IHS), 8-9 grade choirs at 7:30 pm
- December 15 & 18: All-school musical auditions – 3 pm SHS auditorium
- December 19: IHS orchestra 7 pm (IHS)
- December 20: SHS orchestra 7 pm (IHS)
- January 30: SHS band at IHS 7 pm
- February 28-March 2: Region Choir at Butler IHS. Concert is at 7:30 pm on Friday, March 2.
- March 16 & 17 – All School Musical – *The Little Mermaid*
- April 5-8: Senior High Choir tour to Nashville, TN
- April 11: Senior High Choir Concert at 7:30