



# Fall 23'-Winter 24' Newsletter

Thank you for taking the time to read through this newsletter. Our goal is to provide an update on how CMP has been active this year and showcase the many events and achievements of the CCS Music Department. Being a part of "all things musical" at CCS encompasses more than the daily instruction of band, orchestra and chorus to over 400 students. We are fortunate to have a staff dedicated to reaching beyond the school day and leading numerous extracurricular performance opportunities, which you will discover as you continue to read this newsletter.

## Fall Events

### Middle School Musical

The 23rd annual Middle School Musical was held on November 10-11 and was a great success! Under the direction of Ms. Lopata, 58 students on stage and 35 students backstage on the crew made High School Musical Jr. possible.

#### Congratulations to the Cast and Crew of



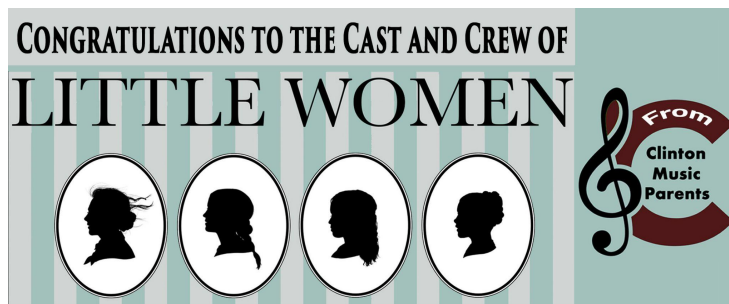
**We are so proud of you!**

Thank you to all of the Faculty, Staff, & Volunteers!!

*From the Clinton Music Parents*



### Drama Club



Bravo to the drama club on their production of Little Women! Performances were held on October 14-15. This cast and crew, made up of 23 high school students, learned, rehearsed and performed the shows in just five short weeks. Over 200 people attended the performances. Great work!

# **Student Achievements**

## **Area All State**

Several students from the High School were selected to participate in the Area All-State Music Festival. They joined students from Oneida, Herkimer and Oswego Counties to prepare and perform under the direction of guest conductors on November 17-18, at Phoenix High School. Selection of students was based upon the scores earned on their spring 2023 NYSSMA performances.



### **String Orchestra**

Eliana Bentley  
Chloe Fillippo  
Delia Memmer  
Mac Spadaea  
Fionna Vogel  
Maren Wohnsen

### **Concert Band**

Gideon Dreier  
Mia Le  
Alena Wratten

### **Treble Choir**

Elizabeth Bashant  
Nikolina Gleboff  
Gracen Grimm  
Phoenix Townsend

### **Mixed Choir**

Alex Abraham  
Olivia Cofano  
Lydia DeTraglia  
Clara Kelly  
Relily Notar  
Nora Reid

## **Allegro Honor Ensembles**

Started in 1995, *Allegro Honor Ensembles* has provided quality performance opportunities for outstanding student-musicians from across Central New York. The Allegro mission is to provide a musically rich and educationally sound learning experience for serious scholastic musicians who seek supplemental performance opportunities close to home. Allegro is proudly sponsored by the Central Winds Music

### **Educators' Wind Ensemble**

The following musicians participated in the Allegro Honor Band at Liverpool HS:

Chase Gogola - Flute  
Alistair Heintz - Flute  
James Shelley - Flute  
Ava Carney - Clarinet  
Lauren Gus Clarinet  
Simon Terrell - Clarinet

Micah Fisher - Trumpet  
Evan Gifford - Trumpet  
Logan Otto - Trumpet  
Nicholas Waskiewicz -  
Saxophone

## Jr. Area All State

New this year! Congratulations to the following students who were selected to rehearse and perform at Junior Area All State on February 2 and 3, 2024. The concert will be held at Mexico Middle School, Mexico, NY

### Orchestra

Jax Simons  
Scarlett Skye-Stanton  
Jue Leising  
Lydia Le  
Sabrina Vogel  
Brindalin Filippo  
Molly Spadea  
Yumeng Shi  
Alyah Bentley

### Band

Grayson Bastian  
Ben Morford  
Emily Roy  
Parker Sojda  
Daniel Gus

### Chorus

Cooper Rorick  
Sierra Townsend  
Sydnee Moore  
Lydia Dreier  
Andrew Bashant  
Claudia Hepler  
Grayson Bastian  
Alexis Chan  
Emily Roy  
Claire MacPherson  
Cooper Rorick

## Tri-M National Honor Society

**What is Tri M?** It's the only national honor society intended solely for music students and we were excited to see a chapter established here at CCS last year. Eligibility is based on students' enrollment in an ensemble, and a high average in both music and academic classes. Throughout the year, Tri-M students are involved in service-based activities including volunteer work, fundraising, and special performances.



Tri M is welcoming new members and planning activities for this academic year. They will be holding a food drive during all of the winter concerts. Please consider donating a non-perishable food item when you attend one of the upcoming school music performances. Also on their agenda is volunteering as bell ringers for the Salvation Army Kettle Campaign this holiday season.



# Chamber Singers and Jazz Band

The Chamber Singers, under the direction of Mrs. Jenna Wratten and the Jazz Band, under the direction of Mr. Norin Lavender, have a busy calendar sharing their talents throughout the greater community.

- Students honored our nation's Veterans by singing at a ceremony at the Helmuth-Ingalls American Legion, November 11
- The Chamber vocalists performed at the Historical Society and for the tree lighting during the Shoppers Stroll on November 24
- Students will be performing holiday music at the Root Farm holiday open house and tree lighting on 12/9 and the Daughters of the American Revolution wreath laying ceremony on 12/16 at the Old Burying Ground, Clinton
- Along with the Jazz Band, the Chamber Singers will be traveling to Preswick Glen, the New Hartford Senior Square Apartments, and the Meadows on December 21.



## Mark Your Calendars

### Winter Concert Schedule

Save the dates for Clinton Central School's upcoming winter concerts, all held in the CCS Auditorium! Please remember that the dress code for students in all performances is black pants or skirt and a white top. All concerts will be live streamed.

<https://www.youtube.com/@ccstv3556/streams>

- **Elementary School Concert:** December 7, 6:30 pm
- **Middle School Concert:** December 14, 6:30 pm
- **High School Concert:** December 20, 6:30 pm

### Broadway in Utica Tickets!

- Call the box office or visit their downtown Utica location (across from the Stanley Theater) and mention "**Clinton family**" to receive your discount; offer not available online
- No minimum purchase required,
- Payment due at time of purchase

A **BROADWAY** Theatre League **EXCLUSIVE OFFER**

**SHREK** THE MUSICAL  
FALL IN LOVE ALL OVER AGAIN!

**FEB. 24 OR 25**  
SPECIAL OFFER PRICE  
**\*\$37.<sup>00</sup>**

**COME FROM AWAY**  
TRUE STORY. HIT MUSICAL.

**APRIL 16**  
SPECIAL OFFER PRICE  
**\*\$48.<sup>25</sup>**

Price includes fees • Available on select seat sections

**\*MENTION "CLINTON FAMILY" TO RECEIVE DISCOUNTED RATE**  
315-624-9444 | MON. - FRI. 9AM - 4PM



## Jr. High All- County Auditions and Festival to be held at Whitesboro High School

- Auditions: January 10, 2024
- Festival: March 2024

## Clinton High School Musical 2024

The high school is pleased to announce that this year's musical will be.....Sister Act! "Sister Act pits disco-dancing nuns against dangerous gangsters in a joyous feel-good musical comedy. It celebrates the universal power of friendship, sisterhood and music." Students in grades 8-12 are invited to audition; information packets are available from Mrs. Wratten.

- Auditions: December 15 and 16, with call-backs on December 18
- Performances: March 8-10, 2024

## Fall Fundraising Report

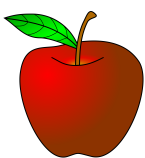
### Membership Drive

Our current membership is at 47 members. This includes individuals, families and businesses throughout our community. There's still time to become a CMP member by joining or renewing your membership for the '23-'24 school year.

***What's the benefit of becoming a member?*** Perhaps the best reason is knowing that you directly support the students of CCS in fostering music and theater education. All income to CMP, including membership fees, are dispersed among a variety of yearly scholarships, available to all eligible music students. You'll be the first to hear about upcoming music and theater events in our area, and receive discounts when available. Though our current enrollment falls a bit short of our goal, we are hopeful that by the start 2024 we will have met (or exceeded) our expectations. Please visit our membership drive page and consider sharing with your friends and family! No donation is too small. Thank you for your support!

[my.cheddarup.com/c/2023-2024cmpmembershipdrive](https://my.cheddarup.com/c/2023-2024cmpmembershipdrive)

### Fall Apple Sale



WOW! The Fall Apple Fundraiser raised over \$1200! We are grateful to Jonathan Joseph of North Star Orchards for supporting this fundraiser, despite the shortage of apples this year. His connections with other growers guaranteed we could fill your orders with "almost local" NY apples. Thank you to Melinda Leising for helping to organize the sale, to the volunteers who assisted at pick-up, and to you, the families who purchased so many apples, cider and donuts!

## MS Musical Concession Stand

The Clinton Music Parents had a very successful concession stand at this year's MS Musical, with profits totaling over \$1000. We are especially thankful to Tara McKee for organizing concession donations, to all of the parent donors of snacks and items for the raffle baskets, to the adult and student volunteers that gave their time, and to everyone who stopped by the stand to enter the raffles, purchase flowers and satisfy your sweet tooth with treats! Thank you to the Kirkland Art Center, The Broadway Theater League of Utica, and Hamilton College/Schumbach Theater for their generous theater ticket donations.

## Music Gear Sale...open all year!

Searching for a gift for your favorite Clinton musician? The "store" will remain open for the rest of the school year, with about a 2 week turnaround time for orders. You can check out all the great options including shirts, sweatshirts, hats, jackets, mugs and more! Adult and youth sizes available. Though this is a CMP fundraiser, more importantly, it's a chance for your music student to proudly wear gear that shows they are a part of the Clinton Music "team," just as they would for their sports team.

<https://store.masteryourimage.com/CM/shop/home>

Delivery options include pick-up at A&P Master Images in Utica or direct shipping to your home.

Clinton Music stickers, the perfect size for a water bottle or laptop are also available for \$2; contact CMP to purchase.



## Volunteers Needed

Interested in becoming involved with all things "musical" at CCS? Please send us your contact information and we will keep you updated with opportunities for volunteers at upcoming events and fundraisers.

**The board is welcoming new members to fill the spots of President and Vice President.** After serving four terms, Beth and Amy are looking for some new fearless leaders to step up! Please reach out ASAP if you are interested, so we can begin the transition this spring.



# **Staying Informed**

Follow **Clinton Music Parents** on [Facebook](#) for regular updates and on events happening at CCS and in our community. **Special thank you to Elizabeth Bentley for keeping the FB page updated and sharing her photos!** You can also find information on the [CCS Website](#). We encourage you and your family to take advantage of the amazing resources for musical performances right here in the Mohawk Valley.

# **Questions or Comments?**

Please feel free to contact us at [musicparents@ccs.edu](mailto:musicparents@ccs.edu) with any questions, ideas, or music opportunities that you would like to share.

## **CMP Executive Board Members**

Amy Bashant and Beth Roy, Co-Presidents  
Tara McKee, Secretary  
Sarah McCullough, Treasurer

## **Music Department Staff** **Elementary School**

Ms. Hilary Lopata, Band  
Mrs. Lisa Jones, Chorus

## **Middle and High School**

Mr. Norin Lavender, Band  
Mrs. Jenna Wratten, Chorus  
Mr. Thomas McAvaney, Orchestra



**Cast and Crew of Little Women**



**High School Musical, Jr.**

