FALL 2023 ISSUE 5

COLOR & CHORDS

Celebrating the Fine and Performing Arts in Medford Public Schools

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:



CTE + ARTS = Freshman Exploratory Update

The Arts Department is so thrilled to be added to the Freshman exploratory rotation at Medford High School. We wanted to integrate an introduction to Music, Art, Theater, and Basic Technology within the Career & Technical Education Exploratory Program Schedule. This unique elective creates an opportunity for student enrichment in which freshmen can develop a comprehensive understanding of opportunities for areas of study offered at the high school throughout their education. Students in grade nine will experience all 15 vocational rotations in addition to all the arts and technology electives during quarters 1,2 and 3. For the fourth quarter, students will spend the term in the course of their choosing!

How long have you been making art?

I've been making art since I was 12 years old. I did not grow up in an art environment. However, one day I took some old acrylic ink from my mother and put a lot of effort into doing a beautiful dry tree. The painting was not good at all, but I enjoyed the process and started to do it since then.

What inspires you?

I am very inspired by colors. I always want to express it in my paintings, I love colors. I love combining colors and making everything more intense and meaningful with them.

Who is your favorite artist and why?

Van Gogh, every time that I look at some of his paintings I can feel what the canvas what to say to me. I like this emotion.

What is your favorite kind of art to make?

My favorite kind of art is of nature with a lot of shadows. I like to do it using acrylic ink or watercolor. I like to make a lot of values that will demonstrate emotion.

How have the classes you have taken helped you as an artist?

I've taken a Design class where you can work your creativity every day and try to do something different. This class helped me to do other types of art. In this class, I discovered that I love digital art too. Lovely.

Do you plan to pursue a career in the arts?

I am still not sure. However, I would be happy to have it as a career.

The Medford Public Schools offered a 2-week instrumental camp this summer at Medford High School where over 140 rising 4th-8th grade students had an opportunity to get a jumpstart on their band and orchestra instruments!

Students strengthened their musical skills and techniques while covering topics including notereading, rhythm skills, sight reading,

tuning/intonation and instrumental terminology.

The district supplied various string and
percussion instruments free of charge for the
duration of the program. All Students received
free t-shirts and snack!

At the conclusion of the two-week program, the students presented their work in an End of Camp Showcase. Family and friends were invited to the Caron Theater for the performance.

Members of the High School Orchestra and Medford Mustang Marching Band also gave a special performance for our campers!



The Middle School and High School Band and Orchestras put on an amazing Winter Concert Series! Be sure to check out the Spring Concerts coming soon!



PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS: UPDATE!

Mr. Esner's photography class is off to an amazing start. Students have tried pinhole photography and are developing their own photography portfolios. A new photo printer for this class has just arrived. Stay tuned to future issues to see some of their amazing work!

MOSIAC AT MHS

After almost a year of planning, preparing and creating the "over the Rainbow"

Mosaic is complete! This piece was created by over 100 Medford students, families, friends and Arts Medford wth Susan Altman. MHS students Lina Alkurdi, Julie DesAutels, and Maureen Ndirangu designed the mural. This piece celebrates the diversity, equity and inclusion in our schools and citiy. This project was supported in part by Medford Arts Council and Arts Alive Medford Foundation.





Congrats to the MHS Drama Club on a successful fall production of The **Dining Room by A.R Gurney! This quirky** play involved a fun cast of characters with multiple situations across multiple timelines, all occurring in the same dining room! The students did a fantastic iob and left the audience delighted! Bravo!



ART & MUSIC CLUBS

We are proud to offer Art, Music and Drama After School enrichment opportunities at both middle schools as well as at the high school level. Please reach out to Mrs. Fee or Mrs. Rello if your child is interested in participating in any of our after school clubs- all are welcome!



In addition to our new photo class at MHS, we also have a new class called "Drawing from Art History."

Students spend class time sketching and learning about important pieces from Art History. Students add a new piece each day and their sketchbooks become illustrated Art History texts by the end of the semester!





Our outstanding Elementary Students from the Missituk and the McGlynn put on amazing winter assemblies in December. Thanks to our music teachers for working hard to put together a great show for all to enjoy!

The Medford BPO held their 9th Annual **Christmas Tree and** Wreath Sale at the beginning of **December! They sold** out in record time this vear and would like to thank the community for their continued support!



MEDFORD MUSTANG







In music at the Brooks this fall, the 4th and 5th grade students, composed rhythm patterns using words from the song "Al Citron" a Mexican passing game for Hispanic Heritage month.

> Students added a bass xylophone, alto xylophone, soprano xylophones and glockenspiels to play our rhythms on! Such a wonderful sound when we all create together!

> > Stav tuned to see what musical activities we do throughout the year!



The Medford Mustang Marching Band completed an amazing undefeated fall season and brought home 13 trophies!

They made Medford History at Championship Finals by becoming the 2023 New England Scholastic Band **Association's Division II Champions!**

Their field show "My Immortal Beloved" also won the Division II High Caption Awards for best visual effect, best overall effect, best music and best color guard. Their 1st place platinum medal score of 95.83 was the highest score of the night, beating out 33 other high schools in all five divisions!

A huge thank you to the Medford Police Department for the Police escort back from Finals, the Mayor, Superintendent and School Committee for the awards and recognition, and the Medford community for their continued support!



