

Kalamazoo Public Schools



EXCELSIOR

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January 2022 • Volume 26, Issue 1

Happy Feet

Woods Lake Dance Celebrates All Learning

(STORY ON PAGE 12)

Focus on the Arts

A special insert on
Scholarships from the
Kalamazoo Community
Foundation

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE



EXHIBIT NOW - JUNE 4, 2023 | FREE

MOMENTS IN TIME: THE KALAMAZOO COUNTY PHOTO DOCUMENTARY PROJECT

See photos about life in Kalamazoo County that have been collected since 1984 and learn about the people who made it all happen. A public reception is planned for 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21, to celebrate the immense achievement of this important history project.



PLAY ENCORE

JAN. 15, 1:30 P.M. | FREE

A HeLa Story:

MOTHER OF MODERN MEDICINE

See a video recording of the play that premiered at the museum in September about Kalamazoo resident Jermaine Jackson's late aunt Henrietta Lacks and her immortal cells, which led to major medical breakthroughs.



PLAY AREA AGES 0 - 5 | FREE

CHILDREN'S LANDSCAPE

NEW THEME: Astronaut Training!

An adventure of learning about our solar system and space science through play. Become the astronaut! Space is limited. First come, first served.

EXHIBIT JAN. 27 - JUNE 18, 2023 | FREE

MENTAL HEALTH: MIND MATTERS

This exhibit creates a safe space for important conversations about mental illness. It was produced for North America by the Science Museum of Minnesota in collaboration with Heureka, The Finnish Science Centre.



PLANETARIUM EXPERIENCE

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS | JAN. 6 - 29 | \$3

Lucia, The Secret of Shooting Stars Grades 4 & up | 11 a.m. | 31 min.
Unveiling the Invisible Universe Grades 8 & up | 2 p.m. | 28 min.

SUNDAYS | JAN. 6 - 29 | \$3

Polaris: The Space Submarine and the Mystery of the Polar Night
Grades 3 & up | 1 p.m. | 29 min.
Unveiling the Invisible Universe Grades 8 & up | 2 p.m. | 28 min.

Let It Snow | \$3 | JAN. 3 - 4, 11 a.m. & 2 p.m. | JAN. 5, 2 p.m.
All Ages | 30 min.

Celebrate the winter season with a holiday music and light show.

PUBLIC HOURS: Tuesday - Saturday | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sunday | Noon - 4 p.m.
The museum will be open late, at 1 p.m. on January 5.

FREE GENERAL ADMISSION

Note: Some areas of the museum may be closed due to exhibit changes, staffing needs, special programs or collections care. We thank you for your patience.

The Kalamazoo Valley Museum is operated by Kalamazoo Valley Community College and is governed by its Board of Trustees.



230 N. Rose St., Kalamazoo
kalamazoomuseum.org | 269.373.7990

Helping the District to Keep Moving Forward

WHAT AN honor to have the opportunity to return to KPS! I look forward to serving as your interim superintendent.

Many of you who are familiar with the district, may already know me. I grew up in Battle Creek, graduated from Western Michigan University, and with my late husband, Jeff, raised my daughters Nicole and Kaiti in Kalamazoo. Both are Kalamazoo Central High School graduates.

During my 36 years serving the children of KPS, I was a special education teacher, elementary teacher, assistant principal, and director of special education, eventually becoming assistant superintendent for student services and then assistant superintendent of teaching and learning services before retiring in 2021.

Throughout all of those years in the classroom and administration, my main passion was always trying to find ways to serve the needs of all of our children, because we know that all children can learn. All children simply need to have the opportunity to learn.

As I help the district navigate this period of transition, the one constant must remain our focus on helping students succeed and become the best versions of themselves.

I look forward to working again with the talented staff at KPS to achieve that goal. Our teachers, administrators, counselors, paraprofessionals, secretaries, food service, bus drivers, and other staff, have always been among the most dedicated professionals that I have had the honor to work with. I was always proud to be a member of the KPS team, and I look forward to rekindling those relationships as we work together toward the successful completion of another school year.

I am also excited to reconnect with the community organizations, who are so vital to our students' success. I know from my previous work with KPS, that community volunteers and organizations have a huge impact on our students and staff. From the mentors who meet with students to the artists who share their talents in our classrooms to the donors who help our families celebrate the holidays, you lift our students and families through your gifts of time and resources.

Some may wonder what I have been doing with my time during my retirement. After the requisite pickleball lessons and traveling to visit friends and family in California, Colorado,

New York, Tennessee, and Wisconsin — I went back to work.

For the first six months of this year, I served as the interim superintendent at Lakeview School District in Battle Creek, my alma mater. It was a thrill to be back at the place that helped form me as a student and young person.

Interim is different from permanent. Permanent is wonderful and important, but as with Lakeview, permanent is not my goal at KPS. My goal is to help the district keep moving forward over the next few months, to help ensure a smooth transition during which students can still learn and achieve and staff can feel satisfied and supported.

The interim, the in-between time, can still be filled with accomplishment. And, I am happy and proud to be able to help shepherd the district through this time of continued growth and learning.

I was always proud to be a member of the KPS team, and I look forward to rekindling those relationships as we work together toward the successful completion of another school year.

A Message from the Interim Superintendent



Cindy Green



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ARTISTS' CORNER

Kalamazoo Central High School visual arts teacher Julie LaBudda is highlighting the work of Kalamazoo Central senior **Lydia Johnson** this month to provide an overview of the types of works students create in Central's basic design class. As a student in the first trimester of basic design, Johnson created a sketchbook cover, self portrait, an optical illusion drawing and a topographic map sculpture under the guidance of LaBudda and art education intern Emma Cunningham.



Johnson's self portrait.



Kalamazoo Central Senior Lydia Johnson shares works from Julie LaBudda's basic design class. Johnson is shown here with an optical illusion drawing.



The cover of Johnson's sketchbook.



Johnson's topographical sculpture.



60TH ANNIVERSARY
Martin Luther King
"I Have a Dream" speech

Monday, January 9, 2023

6 pm | Eastwood | All Ages | Discuss Dr. King's most famous speech and its relevancy in today's society. Is Dr. King's dream deferred?



Peace During War

January 7, 2023 | Oshtemo | 11 am–1 pm | Teen & January 17 | Eastwood | 3:30–5:30 pm

Peace During War presents an opportunity to discuss gun violence and the impact on our youth.

Check out these fun KPL events this winter!
Visit kpl.gov to learn more.



**Kalamazoo
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kpl.gov

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**INTERIM
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Cindy Green

**Excelsior is mailed to every
household in Kalamazoo.****For information about
advertising, please call
Encore Magazine:
(269) 383-4433****NOTICE**

Kalamazoo Public Schools welcomes all students and staff of any religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, gender identification, height, weight, familial status, marital status, sexual orientation, and disability.

The District will not tolerate or condone any act of bias or discrimination toward any person on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, gender identification, height, weight, familial status, marital status, sexual orientation, and disability in any of its activities, hiring practices, programs or services.

Inquiries by students and/or their parents/guardians should be directed to:

**Assistant Superintendent for
Instruction and Student Services**

Kalamazoo Public Schools

1220 Howard St.

Kalamazoo, MI 49008

(269) 337-0161

All other inquiries should be directed to:

**Assistant Superintendent of
Human Resources**

Kalamazoo Public Schools

1220 Howard St.

Kalamazoo, MI 49008

(269) 337-0177

District Directory at :

www.kalamazoopublicschools.com**Recipe****from the KPS Food Service, Chartwells****Kirsten Strong, registered dietician****Samuel Dunn, executive chef****Haft Mewa**

HAVE YOU ever wondered about other cultures and their food traditions around the holidays? Haft mewa (seven fruits) is a traditional dish served during the Afghan new year, Nowruz, which is celebrated on the spring equinox. Certain foods can evoke memories and feelings about childhood or family gatherings, or simply, memories of home. Recently, Kalamazoo has welcomed many newcomers to our community, who have come far from home. This dish is a shout out to the power of food and how it can bring people together in good times or can bring comfort in bad times. No matter where you are, one smell of a dish can take you right back to the table of your family's traditional holiday meal. What a powerful thing. Celebrate this new year by trying haft mewa, a dish made by steeping fruits and nuts to create a delicious compote and syrup. Happy New Year!

**INGREDIENTS**

(makes 6 cups)

1 cup walnut halves,
shelled and peeled
½ cup pistachios,
shelled and peeled
¾ cup golden raisins
1 cup black raisins

1 cup dried apricots

¾ cup dried sweet
cherries½ cup almonds, shelled,
peeled and chopped¼ teaspoon rose water
or pure vanilla extract

5 cups filtered water

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Rinse raisins, cherries,
and apricots well with
cold water.

2. Combine the dried fruits
with the peeled nuts in a
large bowl. Add the rose
water or vanilla and filtered
water and stir to combine.

3. Cover the mixture and let
it sit in the fridge for three
days, stirring about once a
day. The fruit should soak
up most of the water and
eventually the remaining
liquid will become a sweet
syrup. Serve the dish as is
with the liquid.

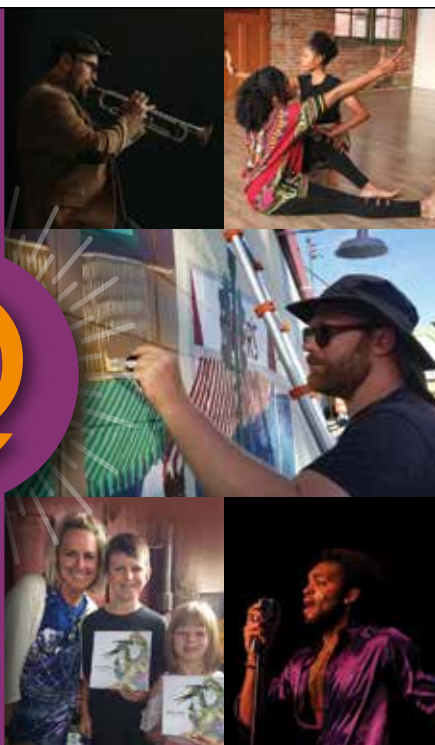
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**WHAT'S
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ARTS COUNCIL
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CREATE. CONNECT. ACHIEVE.

Become part of a network of members that share a similar respect and passion for the arts in our community. Plus, access opportunities to showcase and promote yourself! Each Arts Council membership includes an:

- Online profile and listing in directory
- Unlimited event listings on our website calendar
- Access to calls for work/calls for artists
 - Free Artist Grant Workshops and waived Grant fees
 - Discounted services through Public Media Network

Membership has its benefits.**Visit KalamazooArts.org/membership/**

Learning to Be Their Own Best Critics: Students Bring Art to Portfolio Day



Rita Lee from the Stamps School of Art at the University of Michigan watches a video created by KC senior Aberdeen Jeffries, pictured at left.

IT'S NEVER easy putting yourself out there for others to judge, and yet for one group of students, it is a regular experience that helps them build their skills and confidence.

Kalamazoo Central and Loy Norrix high school students participated in the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts 2022 Portfolio Day in November. Students brought examples of their art work for critiques by representatives from the biggest secondary art schools in the region.

Students shared their portfolios one-on-one with representatives from schools such as the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Kendall College of Art and Design at Ferris State University, and the Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design at the University of Michigan. The college reps were scouting, and the students were learning how to promote themselves and their work.

Art is an intimate expression of self, but for these students who are hoping to gain admission to some of these schools, and in some cases, to become professional artists, it was a chance to see what others see in their work, what they want to see more of, and what they see as possible career paths for the budding artists.

"Sharing art with others is integral to the creative process," said Gregg Stevens, the visual arts

teacher at Loy Norrix. "Furthermore, colleges often admit students into their respective art schools after an interview much like what they experience on Portfolio Day. So, the practice for our students is a golden opportunity for them to gain insight as to what the admission process is like."

Portfolio Day is good for helping students think critically about their own work, deciding what best represents not only their abilities but also who they are as individuals and their artistic vision.

Aberdeen Jefferies, a Kalamazoo Central senior, brought a digital portfolio to share examples of her photography, graphic design and video work. In addition, she wore a handmade necklace created from found objects — which did not go unnoticed by Rita Lee, from the Stamps School of Art.

Lee complimented her on the necklace while reviewing Jeffries' portfolio. She praised Jeffries' video work and said she demonstrated a strong understanding and control of different media, and she encouraged Jeffries to add even more breadth to the portfolio. Lee suggested to Jeffries that in addition to looking at film from the fine art perspective, she might consider pursuing it from the Film-TV-Media program.

Jeffries, who is interested in becoming a documentary filmmaker, participated in Advanced

Placement art every year in high school, is enrolled in Art and Design through the KRESA Career & Technical Education program, and interned with Rhino Media.

Jeffries said she appreciated the comments from Lee and the other representatives. She enjoys the critique process in class and feels that working with others can only make her a stronger artist.

"Interacting with people is what I enjoy the most about making art," Jefferies said. "The process can be tedious. What makes it cool, what makes me want to make art is the interactions with people. That's what I like about filmmaking. It's really collaborative."

Kalamazoo Central visual arts teacher Julie LaBudda said Portfolio Day is a good opportunity to drill her students on a number of basics for professional interactions, such as how to introduce themselves, how to present their work and how to engage with other art professionals.

"Students need to be exposed to meeting new people and learning how to discuss the work that they have done," LaBudda said. "It's my hope that students catch a glimpse or an inspiration of just one new thing and take that learning with them."

(continued on page 7)

Students Bring Art to Portfolio Day *(continued from page 6)*



Gordie Jennings shows his works to John Thompson from Indiana University – South Bend at the annual Portfolio Day held at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts.



Kalamazoo Valley Community College instructor Aubrey Jewel reviews the work of Reynaldo Jeronimo-Cabrera during the KIA Portfolio Day.

This is learning that goes far beyond creating art. I am teaching them to be active members of society.”

Loy Norrix junior Gordie Jennings isn’t sure he wants to become a visual artist. He makes detailed pen and ink drawings and works in computer modeling and collage and has at times dabbled in printmaking and designing graphic T-shirts, but his real passion is as a musician, playing synthesizer and keyboards.

“Everything is available to artists nowadays,” he said. “You can do whatever you want. It’s just good to try a lot of things.”

Coming to Portfolio Day, “I just want to get feedback on what I do,” Jennings said. Most of his critiques are from fellow students, and he was interested to see what advice professionals might have to offer.

In his first portfolio review with Lee, she told him that in future critiques he should consider telling the story behind his work — not just share his techniques.

“Talk about your background, what the art is about, why you made it — not just about how you work,” she said. “Your work is fun and evocative. Keep doing what you’re doing.”

John Thompson at Indiana University — South Bend had advice of a different type. He gave Jennings several suggestions of art to check out including Honore Daumier, a French artist known for his political caricatures.

Phil Renato, a product design professor attended portfolio day as part of the Kendall College of Art team, said Jennings showed tremendous flexibility, which indicated an ability to succeed in a variety of areas. Analyzing one of his works, which was a commentary on factory farming, Renato said Jennings’ visuals told a strong story and the piece could almost work as several comic panels.

He encouraged him to show examples of the work in progress saying that, “Iteration is a big thing. One of the skills you develop in art school is judgment, the judgment to tell the difference between your better ideas and your worst ideas.” Jennings could put several on one page, which allows an adjudicator to see how he developed an idea, like a movie storyboard.

While that may seem repetitive, Renato said, “the people who are going to be the best are the people who spend the most time working on something.”

From the practical information about classes to take to the more probing questions about style and approach, all advice is good advice for the young artists, Stevens said.

“Feedback from a fresh set of eyes is always appreciated in the art world, since students often have the same people look at their pieces. Different opinions can often lead to new ideas for the artist to explore.”





**CONNECTING PEOPLE
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KALAMAZOO COUNTY**

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HIGH SCHOOL Information Nights 2023

Want to know more about the programs and classes that Kalamazoo RESA has to offer? Please join us for a short presentation followed by a Q & A session to answer any questions you may have about the many options available in Career and Technical Education (CTE), Education for the Arts (EFA) and Early/Middle College (EMC).

KRESA staff will be hosting the following virtual and in-person information sessions:

- ▶ **Thursday, Jan. 19** CTE/EFA/EMC from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. via Zoom
- ▶ **Thursday, Feb. 2** EMC from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. | IN-PERSON at KRESA Wile Auditorium*
- ▶ **Tuesday, Feb. 7** EMC from 5:45 – 6:15 pm and 6:45 – 7:15 p.m. | IN-PERSON during KRESA High School Classes Open House at the Air Zoo
- ▶ **Tuesday, Feb. 21** CTE/EFA/EMC from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. via Zoom
- ▶ **Tuesday, Feb. 28** EMC from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. | IN-PERSON at KRESA Wile Auditorium*

**KRESA Wile Auditorium is located at 1819 East Milham Avenue Portage, MI 49002*

For Zoom meeting links, visit the Information Nights section at kresa.org/apply



ONE APPLICATION. DOZENS OF SCHOLARSHIPS.

2023 SCHOLARSHIP CATALOG

Kalamazoo Community Foundation (KZCF) makes applying for scholarships easy. Fill out **one** application to get matched with scholarships and grants that fit you and your educational plans. With 60+ scholarships, **high school, undergraduate, graduate and adult students** can find opportunities to pursue the future they want for themselves.

Many scholarships can be used at both in and out of state schools. Most can be used along with the **Kalamazoo Promise** and can be applied toward:

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& FEES

ROOM
& BOARD

EDUCATIONAL
EXPENSES

TRANSPORTATION

UPDATE: THE CLARENCE L. REMYNSE SCHOLARSHIP IS NOW PART OF OUR GENERAL APPLICATION!

After receiving feedback from counselors and community partners who provided strong arguments for the benefit of a later application, we have merged the RemyNSE Scholarship application with the General Scholarship Application.

New application open January 1, 2023 - March 1, 2023

Join a 30+ year legacy of RemyNSE scholars!
This renewable scholarship is open to high school seniors and current college freshmen pursuing a bachelor's degree full-time.

KEY - ICONS & ABBREVIATIONS



Must **demonstrate financial need** through the FAFSA



Also available to students **already attending college**



Also available to **today's students** (formerly known as non-traditional)



Available to **part-time and full-time students**

2023 SCHOLARSHIP LISTING

Applications open January 1, 2023 - March 1, 2023*



LEARN MORE & APPLY

kalfound.org/scholarships

Full descriptions available at link.

* Unless otherwise noted

Academics

Bhargava Family Scholarship High school senior; min. 3.75 GPA; min. 1310 SAT/28 ACT; demonstrate outstanding leadership; enrolling at a college/university.



Kalamazoo Science Foundation Scholarship Graduating senior or undergraduate student who is a Kalamazoo County resident or graduated from a Kalamazoo County high school. Major in science, math or engineering; enrolling at a college/university; Min. 3.5 GPA; Current college undergraduates: min. 3.0 GPA. Renewable.

Arts

Dominic and Barbara Court Family Arts Scholarship

Kalamazoo County resident or graduate of a Kalamazoo County high school who is a graduating senior, undergraduate, or graduate student pursuing a degree in the arts.



Brady & Patrick Gallagher Memorial Scholarship Graduating Loy Norrix High School senior; demonstrate ability and interest in creative arts; enrolled or enrolling at a college/university. Renewable.



Ann N. MacGregor Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or graduate of a Kalamazoo County high school who is a graduating senior, undergraduate or graduate student majoring in visual arts. GPA of 2.75 or greater and full-time attendance.



Melissa Wroblewski Scholarship Kalamazoo Central High School or Loy Norrix High School graduating senior; pursuing 2-4 year degree in the visual arts. Must be enrolled in art classes in high school or have taken art classes.

Athletics

Bob Block Memorial Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or student of a Kalamazoo County high school who is a graduating high school senior.



Junior Golf Fund Scholarship Graduating high school senior, participant in the Junior Golf Association program. Enrolling or enrolled in a four-year degree program. Min. 2.5 GPA.

Evelyn Prince Memorial Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or student at a Kalamazoo County high school who is a graduating senior and participated on a women's golf team for a minimum of one season in junior or senior year. Min. 2.5 GPA. Renewable.

Glen C. Smith Jr./KCC Caddie Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or graduate of a Kalamazoo county high school who is a graduating high school senior or current undergraduate; 2+ years as a caddie at the Kalamazoo Country Club or a member club of the Golf Association of Michigan or the Western Golf Association. Min 2.0 GPA. Renewable.

Brian Thiele Memorial Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or graduate of a Kalamazoo County high school who is a graduating High school senior or undergraduate student.; graduating high school senior or undergraduate student; four years of soccer during high school; enrolling in a 2-4 year degree program at a college/ university.

Matthew VanderSalm Memorial Scholarship Southwest Michigan High School Hockey League defensemen; graduating high school senior; attending a 2-4 year college/university within 15 months of graduating from high school.

Roy G. Walters Memorial Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or student of a Kalamazoo County high school who is a graduating senior. Graduating high school senior; involvement in athletics as well as school and community activities.

Curtis and Dorothy Young Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or student at a Kalamazoo County high school who is a graduating senior; participation in varsity-level high school sports; enrolling at a college/university.

College Undergraduates

Ronald C. Cavanaugh Memorial Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or graduate of Kalamazoo County high school who is enrolled/enrolling full-time as a junior, senior or fifth year student in Western Michigan University's Haworth College of Business.

Frank & Hildegard Goodrich Family Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or graduate of a Kalamazoo County high school who is a junior or senior level undergraduate student or graduate student at Western Michigan University, Michigan State University, University of Colorado or University of Wisconsin; GPA of 3.0 or greater, full-time employment; min. 3.0 GPA; participation in college/ community activities; work experience.

Gail & Hilda Oster Scholarship Resident of Van Buren County or graduate of a Van Buren County high school pursuing a bachelor's degree. GPA of 2.75 or greater. Financial need, renewable.

Wade & Clio Van Valkenburg Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident; graduating High school senior or undergraduate, previous criminal conviction; phrsuing a 2-4 year degree, trade school or vocational/technical training

John C. Volderauer Scholarship Undergraduate in radiologic technology, magnetic resonance imaging, ultrasound sonography or nuclear medicine technology; resident or receiving clinical or didactic training in Kalamazoo County. Or continuing education for current radiologic technologist employed in or resident of Kalamazoo County.

Edmond B. Woodruff & Beth Woodruff Shipman Memorial Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or student at a Kalamazoo County high school who is a graduating senior with a GPA of 3.8 or greater enrolling full-time in an undergraduate institution.

Company Sponsored

Welch's/National Grape Cooperative Scholarship Graduating high school senior; child or grandchild of an employee of the Welch's Company plant in Lawton or child or grandchild of a National Grape Cooperative member residing in Allegan, Berrien, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, Kent or Van Buren County; min. 2.0 GPA; pursuing enrollment at a college/university or in vocational/technical training. Demonstrates community and extracurricular involvement. Renewable.

Leadership

Derek Jeter Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or student at a Kalamazoo County high school who is a graduating senior and advocates a substance-free lifestyle; GPA of 3.0 or greater, renewable. Enrolling at a college/university. Renewable.

Love Where You Live Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or graduate of a Kalamazoo County high school who is an undergraduate student.

William R. Steers Kalamazoo Community Foundation Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or student at a Kalamazoo County high school who is a graduating senior enrolling at Albion College; 3.0 GPA or greater.

Kalamazoo Public Schools

Mildred McConkey Memorial Scholarship Kalamazoo Public Schools graduating senior who has shown improvement in English composition throughout their time in high school.

CIS/Kalamazoo Public Education Foundation Scholarship Kalamazoo Public Schools graduating senior pursuing a degree in education; GPA of 2.75 or greater, renewable.

Duane Roberts Scholarship KPS graduating senior or graduate; BIPOC; demonstrates commitment to social justice.

Mary Ruth Robinson Scholarship Kalamazoo Central High School graduating senior or graduate; 2.5 GPA in high school. Renewable.

Peter & Inez Schonveld Scholarship KPS graduating high school senior or graduate of KPS; enrolled in an undergraduate program.

Specific High Schools

COMSTOCK Mary Roe Memorial Scholarship Comstock High School graduating senior; pursuing undergraduate degree in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics); enrolling in an accredited four-year college/university; demonstration of leadership and involvement in school/community activities; min. 3.0 GPA.

HACKETT Earl Haas Hackett Catholic Prep Scholarship Hackett Catholic Prep graduating high school senior; enrolling in a college or university. Renewable.

PAW PAW David & Barbara Kruse Paw Paw High School Scholarship Paw Paw High School graduating senior (including Michigan Avenue Academy) or graduate; enrolled in a vocational or technical school or 2-4 year degree program leading to a career in a technical field; min. 2.0 GPA.

SCHOOLCRAFT Dr. Jack & Charlene Sauer Scholarship Schoolcraft High School graduating senior; pursuing vocational or technical training or a 2-4 year degree at a college/university in the state of Michigan.. Renewable.

Specific Area/Program of Study

AVIATION OR ENGINEERING William T. Nuyen Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or graduate of a Kalamazoo county high school pursuing an undergraduate degree in aviation or engineering at Western Michigan University.

BUSINESS Jean Hunse Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or graduate of a Kalamazoo County high school. Enrolling or enrolled as a junior, senior, or fifth-year senior in the Haworth College of Business at Western Michigan University; min. 3.5 GPA.

EDUCATION Schwenk Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or graduating senior of a Kalamazoo County high school who is pursuing an elementary education degree. Renewable.

MANUFACTURING/ENGINEERING Weber Specialties Company Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or graduate of a Kalamazoo County high school who is pursuing a certificate or 2-4 year degree in manufacturing technology, manufacturing engineering, integrated supply management or engineering graphics and design technology.

NURSING/OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY Phyllis A. Nuyen Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or student at a Kalamazoo County high school who is a graduating senior; pursuing a degree in nursing or occupational therapy at Western Michigan University; min. 3.5 GPA.

Unique Scholarships

High on Heroes Scholarship Child, stepchild, grandchild, step-grandchild or spouse of a currently employed or retired certified law enforcement officer, certified firefighter, licensed EMT/first responder, or licensed paramedic employed within Kalamazoo County; min. 2.5 GPA; enrolled to earn a certificate, associate's, bachelor's or post-graduate degree.

Kreager Family Scholarship Graduating high school senior enrolled in South Haven High School or a high school in Kalamazoo County, or a resident of Kalamazoo County; loss of a parent through death or abandonment beyond infancy; vocational or technical training or 2-4 year degree.

Montague Myers Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or graduate of a Kalamazoo County high school; abused, abandoned or neglected as a child; 2-4 year degree or vocational training. Renewable.

Eva L. Ozier Scholarship (Graduating High School) Black, non-Hispanic/Latinx Kalamazoo County resident or attendee of a Kalamazoo County high school; graduating High school senior; pursuing technical/vocational training, certificate hrogram or a 2-4 year degree. Min 2.75 GPA.

Van Buren County Students

Covert Township Community Foundation Scholarship Graduating high school senior or undergraduate student, must be a Covert Township resident for the past three consecutive years; age 17-25; enrolled in a technical or vocational/trade school, certificate program or 2-4 year college/university. Renewable.

Danial & Joeanna Smith Education Scholarship Resident of Van Buren County; graduating high school senior or undergraduate student pursuing a bachelor's degree FT at a 4-year college/ university; min. 3.5 GPA for graduating high school seniors or 3.0 min. GPA for undergraduate students.

DID YOU KNOW?

You can support and create scholarships in our community!

Through Kalamazoo Community Foundation, you can donate to funds for an existing scholarships or create one of your own!

Your donations to our Love Where You Live Scholarship fund allow Kalamazoo Community Foundation to offer scholarships to high school students throughout Kalamazoo County.

Learn more at kalfound.org/giving or share your love for where we live now at bit.ly/whenugive

Today's Students

(Formerly non-traditional students)



Enhancement Ministries Scholarship Adult undergraduates; residents of Kalamazoo or Calhoun County; min. five years employment beyond high school; community service involvement.



Earl Haas Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or graduate of a Kalamazoo County high school pursuing an undergraduate degree.



David & Priscilla Morris Scholarship Black/African-American Kalamazoo County resident or graduating senior/graduate of a Kalamazoo County high school. Attending Western Michigan University.



Eva L. Ozier Student Scholarship (Today's Students)

Kalamazoo County resident or graduate of a Kalamazoo County high school who is Black or African-American. Planning to enroll or returning to a community college, undergraduate program or vocational/technical institute. Must have had 2+ year break in education.



Leon A., Donald J., and Jean K. Schau Scholarship Resident of Kalamazoo County or a graduate of a Kalamazoo County high school, Otsego high school or Plainwell high school with a 3-5 year break in education. Pursuing or continuing a certificate, degree, educational program, continuing education opportunity or professional development opportunity.



Jerry A. and M. Christine Walker Scholarship Resident of Kalamazoo County or graduate of a Kalamazoo County high school or GED program pursuing an undergraduate degree or certificate. GPA of 2.5 or greater for graduating high school seniors and students attending a 4 year college; GPA of 2.0 or greater for students attending a trade, vocational or community college program.



E. Earl Wright Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or graduate of a Kalamazoo County high school enrolling in a technology or vocational school or two-year program; min. 2.0 GPA. Renewable.

Graduate Students



Dominic and Barbara Court Family Scholarship Resident of Kalamazoo County or graduate of a Kalamazoo County high school enrolled in a graduate program in Veterinary Medicine.



Nancy C. Niles Donovan Scholarship Resident of Kalamazoo or St. Joseph County, or graduate of a Kalamazoo or St. Joseph County high school enrolling or enrolled in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Michigan State University.



Kalamazoo Public Library Amanda Green Scholarship

BIPOC who are either Kalamazoo County residents or graduates of a Kalamazoo County high school pursuing a graduate degree in Library & Information Sciences. Renewable.



S. Rudolph Light Medical Education Scholarship Kalamazoo County resident or graduate of a Kalamazoo County high school. Graduate student pursuing a degree leading to a career as a doctor, dentist, or nurse.



Benjamin & Cherie Gubin Scholarship Graduate of a Kalamazoo County High School or resident of Kalamazoo County for at least 12 months prior to applying. Enrolling or enrolled in an accredited graduate school program at a college/university; min. 3.0 GPA.



Gail & Hilda Oster Scholarship Resident of Van Buren County. Enrolled in either Michigan State University's College of Veterinary Medicine or WMU Homer Stryker School of Medicine. Min 3.0 GPA for graduate program. Renewable.



Myra P. Whalen Resident of Kalamazoo County or graduate of a Kalamazoo County high school pursuing a graduate degree. Renewable.

HOW TO APPLY FOR KZCF SCHOLARSHIPS

Step 1: Start



Starting January 1, 2023, go to bit.ly/HowToApply23 and click the Apply Now button.

From there, you can either login to Kaleidoscope with your existing login information or create an account.

Step 2: Fill out your app

Click Opportunities on the left side of the screen and select the 2023 Kalamazoo Community Foundation Scholarship application.

You don't have to finish your application all at once. Be sure to click Save before exiting. To return to work on your application another time, login, then click Draft and select the KZCF General application.

Step 3: Submit your app

Click "Submit" on the final page of the application when you're finished. Your online application must be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m. on March 1, 2023.

Step 4: Check back!

Log in to see if your letters of recommendation have been received.

Sign up for reminders

Go to bit.ly/RemindMe23

Have questions?

Connect with a member of the Scholarships team at scholarships@kalfound.org.

EFA PACE Program Bridges Language Barriers at Milwood Magnet

E DUCATION for the Arts is using dance to cross language barriers at Milwood Magnet School: A Center for Math, Science and Technology.

Although EFA is not new to Kalamazoo Public Schools, it is a new experience for the KPS Newcomer Program, which was launched in 2021 to help students from immigrant families acclimate to their new schools and educational systems.

Milwood Magnet Principal Mitch Hawkins said that he initiated the connection because he saw PACE as a way to help foster social-emotional growth and to help address some of the consequences of refugee trauma.



Dance instructor Heather Mitchell leads PACE dance classes at Milwood Magnet School.



Heather Mitchell teaches moves to students, from left, Alaa Karim, Elizabeth Sebastian, and Zainab Mayar.

EFA dance instructor Heather Mitchell has been visiting with Milwood newcomer and select general education students twice a week since October. She has been working with lead ESL teacher Kawther Mohammed to create a unique classroom dynamic in which movement becomes another language and allows the students to expend energy in a safe environment. Mohammed has used the classes as a way to incorporate

new vocabulary into the educational setting.

The classes celebrate cultural diversity as students from across the world — representing Mexico, Syria, Venezuela, Rwanda, Honduras, Jordan, Afghanistan, Kurdistan, Dominican Republic, Togo, and Angola — work together through the new common language of dance to communicate and build rapport, Mohammed said.



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Everyone Can Share in the Magic of Music through KPS Music Program



Kalamazoo Central band and KPS lead music teacher Ryan Kasperski conducts the KC band.

to begin talking to their third-graders about picking up an instrument in fourth grade. Students can begin band and choir in sixth grade.

"I view elementary music and early middle school music as exploration to give students as many experiences as possible so they can figure out what their interests are," he said. But as they explore they also need to start developing some experience playing so they're ready to begin performing in middle school and high school.

"I think music can be for everybody but it does take some effort," he said. "That's the nature of learning music. You're learning a skill. You're not just

learning knowledge. You're practicing a skill over and over."

Some parents think that playing in the school band or orchestra is open to only a select few students, but that's not true, Kasperski said.

KPS does a good job helping stu-

dents and families overcome barriers.

Teachers structure classes to make music as accessible as possible for students. Some districts really push parental involvement, which often equates to a huge financial burden, he said.

KPS is one of the few districts to have a music storeroom and a full-time repair technician. The district can provide instruments for any student interested in playing. For students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch, the instrument program is free. For all others, the cost is \$60 a year, which is about 10 percent of most rent-to-own instrument programs, Kasperski said.

"I think a lot of families think they can't do music, because it costs money, but knowing about

(continued on page 11)

MUSIC is for everyone — even those who think it is beyond their reach.

Ryan Kasperski, who became the district's new lead music teacher this school year, says Kalamazoo Public Schools' music program is designed to support students with a broad program that tries to remove as many barriers as possible to learning music.

The music program is certainly in a rebuilding phase coming out of Covid, but the infrastructure is there to ensure every student has the opportunity to explore the world of music.

A native of Belleville, this band kid first came to Kalamazoo to study trumpet and music education at Western Michigan University. After graduating, he taught at districts around the state, including several in Kalamazoo County, before joining KPS in 2020.

His first day with KPS was March 16, 2020 — the day schools first closed because of the pandemic. He has taught at Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts, Milwood Elementary School, Hillside Middle School and Kalamazoo Central High School. In addition to being the lead music teacher, he is the band director at KC.

"I think my background gives a really good perspective," he said. "I taught in very rural locations, but I came from more of an urban situation, where I had my upbringing and also taught for a while. Seeing schools in Kalamazoo County lets me compare similarities and differences between districts."

In addition, he's taught everything from general music to preschoolers to choirs and bands at middle school and high schools. He has directed musicals after school and was even a varsity track coach for a year.

"I feel I do have a wide lens when it comes to trying to make decisions and figure out how to best serve our students," Kasperski said.

That is especially true these days as the music program tries to rebuild after the pandemic. In KPS, all students have general music classes twice a week from kindergarten through third grade.

But, starting in fourth grade, students can choose to participate in orchestra. Kasperski urges parents who think their child may want to participate in music in middle school or high school



Kalamazoo Central band members rehearse, from left, Carter Halifax, Cora Michalski, Tyler Bale, and Savannah Keck.

The Magic of Music *(continued from page 10)*

our instrument program and the scholarship options available to families really keeps the cost low,” he said. “Anyone can make music, and at Kalamazoo Public Schools, the music department works hard to make sure everyone who wants to play has the opportunity to pick up an instrument.”

Right now, music programs across the country are in a rebuilding phase as a result of Covid. Students have had limited opportunities to study music over the past few years, meaning the pipelines of elementary and middle school players are a little dry. Building up those ranks over the next few years will be key to ensuring high school programs can get back to healthy levels.

Kasperski writes marching drills for other schools. He said it’s not uncommon to see programs operating with half the normal number of students.

This means that programs that may have fielded two bands are now down to one, simply because the music literature requires a certain number of students to be properly performed. Also, there is also a wider gap of experience among the most senior

“Anyone can make music, and at Kalamazoo Public Schools, the music department works hard to make sure everyone who wants to play has the opportunity to pick up an instrument.”

players and the younger students because of learning disruptions caused by the pandemic.

“Usually, when you miss a year of instruction it is hard to catch up,” he said. “All teachers in the district have been drastically altering their curriculum for a short-term period to figure out how to get everyone caught up so they have access to music and don’t feel like they’re behind.”

Another challenge some families face is simply a matter of scheduling — especially at the high school level, where students often have sports or special academic activities.

Kasperski said he understands the challenges and urges families to talk with their teachers and their counselors. Music directors, coaches, and other teachers want students to have as many opportunities as possible. He encouraged parents to ask if there is a way to make music work in a student’s

schedule — everyone wants students to be successful. “Just have the conversation,” he said.

Kasperski said families should know that KPS is fully committed to investing in music and providing that enrichment option for students. While bands and orchestras are in a rebuilding period, the district is giving the program the space and support it needs to grow young talent, and teachers are happy to be back in front of students working with them on performing and honing their skills.

“I can assure you that the quality is still there.”

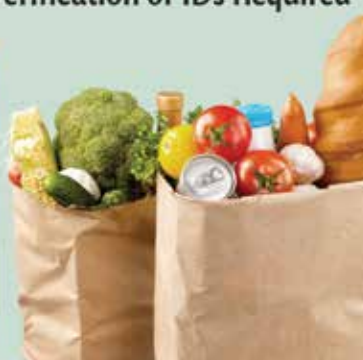
Atreyu Muha practices for a performance.



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No Wallflowers: Everyone Dances at Woods Lake



THERE is perhaps no more joyful picture than to look at little feet.

Debra Norton looks at little feet all day. Little feet. Happy feet. Dancing feet.

For more than 20 years she has been the dance instructor at Woods Lake Elementary: A Magnet Center for the Arts.

The Woods Lake dance studio was completed two years after the school became a magnet school for the arts.

"Everybody started taking a dance class," Norton said. "People didn't know what to expect. There were preconceived notions about what dance was. That it was just ballet or just hip hop. It's so much more than that.

"There are great things that happen in dance education in public schools."

Norton certainly teaches technique and dance concepts, but for her the strength of the program comes from being able to weave movement into any lesson in the school. She will incorporate dances from various cultures to help support social studies and rhythm work that emphasizes understanding of number patterns.

"I'm always leaning in to try to find a way to support the classroom teacher."

Norton is a lifelong dancer, who studied bal-

let, tap and jazz in Muskegon before coming to Western Michigan University to study retailing and dance. While business was her major, dance was her love and ballet was her main dance focus at WMU, where she danced with the University Ballet Theatre.

She settled in Kalamazoo and began teaching at Ballet Arts School of Dance and the Patti Herm School of Dance in Otsego before joining the WMU Dance Department as a part-time faculty member.

Eventually she joined the Woods Lake staff, where now every class has one dance class a week. Students work on keeping time as they move through the studio, with its wood floor and mirrored walls. In some exercises, students use sticks

to practice the concepts of push and pull and moving in tandem through space. Other classes work on a call-and-response version of dance and varying rhythms.

There are also fourth-grade and fifth-grade dance companies, which are for students who want a more intensive dance experience.

Students who sign up for the dance companies have to show real commitment — meaning they willingly give up recess twice a week to practice. The companies have repertoire that they learn and perform for Woods Lake, other KPS schools, and at community events. "I try to find as many dance opportunities as possible for them," she said. The program is supported with grants from the Michigan Arts & Cultural Council and the Harold & Grace Upjohn Foundation, as well as Education for the Arts and the school district.

Fifth-grader Sahar Mobarez has only been in the United States for a few months, but already dance is one of her favorite classes.

"Dance is fun," Sahar said. "It's different and beautiful."

Her classmates Cecelia Wasink and Marion Bowler agree.

"I really like the dance company because it's really fun to learn a lot of dances, like the one we did last year, the Charleston," Cecelia said.

Marion said it is much easier to have dance as part of the school day, rather than to have to go to lessons after school. It feels "meaningful" to have it during school, she said.

It's not just students who appreciate the dance classes, but parents and teachers as well. First-

(continued on page 13)



Woods Lake Elementary students, from left, Ella Arrey, Kairi Torres, Liz Smith, and Victoria Nelson work on learning a new dance.

ON THE FRONT COVER: Cyncere Briggs, Anthony Atlas, Elijah Bellinger, and Elisajuan Simmons get into the groove as they learn a new dance at Woods Lake.

Everyone Dances at Woods Lake *(continued from page 12)*

grade teacher Jennifer Warnsley joined the Woods Lake staff this year and she said she’s heard about the impact dance can have.

“I had three parents speak with me at parent-teacher conferences about how much their children like dance and that they feel it is a benefit to their children in multiple ways. And, my young student that is a newcomer is writing about becoming a dancer now and asks me every single day if it is dance day!” Warnsley said. “It is also a great way for me, as their classroom teacher, to learn with the students. I think that for some of the students, it is also a great way to feel so much success when other parts of school feel daunting and difficult.”

Norton works to ensure that she broadly defines dance and gives the students opportunities to explore new ways to move. She is working to revive the very popular tap dance troupe that was derailed by Covid.

And, lately, she’s been introducing students to ballroom dance, which is a new interest of hers. She worked with a third-grade class, teaching them East Coast Swing.



Teacher Debra Norton works with Sa'miyah Hawkins to demonstrate the idea of push and pull.

“Ballroom dance is not only great for dance, but it’s good for teaching life skills,” Norton said. “The kids are learning coordination and cooperation.”

Norton said it is difficult to predict which students will do the best in dance class. She has students who come with a background in private dance lessons and she has some star students who have never danced before.

But what she knows for certain is that the art form provides students with a valuable new way of ex-



Woods Lake Elementary students, from left; Sahar Mobarez, Aubree Adams, Kevonna Davis, Kathryn Williams, Jacori Boynton, Kashmir Warren, Ashtyn Walker, and Itzel Toloza Juarez walk to their places on the dance floor.

pressing themselves, and both she and they can see the value in that.

“I have students who don’t even speak English,” she said. “It is wonderful to have a nonverbal way for them to express themselves. The language isn’t as important as the movement they see.”

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Education for the Arts Enhances Core Education, Not Just Art Education

Education for the Arts offers programs for nearly every child in the county, but it would not surprise director Bryan Zocher if most parents were unfamiliar with the program.

Those who are familiar with EFA are probably parents of students who participate in the high school Excellence in the Arts classes, which is based on the Career & Technical Education (formerly Education For Employment) model and offers advanced art classes at locations throughout the county. These classes include dance, fine arts, media arts, computer animation, creative writing and theater arts.

But EFA offers a wide range of classes for students of all ages and abilities.

There are EFA Presents programs that bring artists from around the world to perform in Kalamazoo, arts grants, Aesthetic Education, Teaching Artists Residencies, and the Alternative Arts Initiative, which brings artists to students who might not be able to attend field trips.

All told, Zocher said, EFA probably works with at least 50,000 students each year.

For decades, EFA has been enhancing arts education in the county, helping students learn to think creatively and critically, but there are still people who question the importance of providing arts education and enrichment for students.

"Since I started this job, people have been saying things like young people are wasting time in arts and studying liberal arts in college," he said. "And then two seconds later, they are saying my business needs creative problem solvers and critical thinkers."

THE BEGINNING

EFA got its start in Kalamazoo after community leaders, including those from the Irving S. Gilmore Foundation and local grantmakers, attended a conference and toured the Kinder High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in Houston. Returning to Kalamazoo, there was discussion about creating a Kalamazoo County arts high school.



Bryan Zocher,
director of
Education
for the Arts

“Education for the Arts is working with all students ... we certainly have students interested in arts careers ... but most of the students who take our high school classes are not interested in a career in art. They just like the arts. They like the creative collaboration, the creative problem solving and the critical thinking skills and communication skills.”

"But the community kind of said collectively, there's this KRESA Education for Employment model that is decentralized and has classes throughout the community. Maybe that would be a better model for the arts," Zocher said. "That's how EFA was born."

Donors created an \$8 million endowment to support EFA. Programming began with high school classes, utilizing community resources such as the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Public Media Network, and Kalamazoo Valley Community College, as well as classes and spaces at area high schools.

"We always had an eye towards what the school districts were already doing and also looking at arts organizations," he said. "For instance, we have this amazing institution in the KIA that has all of this



Students, from left, Jaden Lipsey, Tristan Davis-Walker, Damarius Eaves, Javon Wilson, and Jamonte Black meet at Loy Norrix for the EFA hip hop class.

technical expertise and equipment that isn't in the high schools. Let's focus on some of those processes that the schools aren't going to go into."

Two areas that were not available across the county were dance and media arts. Dance classes were launched at several high schools, including Kalamazoo Central and Loy Norrix high schools, while media arts set up a lab in the Epic Center in downtown Kalamazoo. Today, the class offerings include digital video, computer animation, theater arts, hip hop poetry, and creative writing.

One main difference between CTE and EFA, is that while CTE students often have an expressed interest in pursuing the career represented by their classes, often EFA students don't necessarily want to become artists.

"Education for the Arts is working with all students,"

Zocher said. "We certainly have students interested in arts careers and we have alumni of the program tell us, 'I feel like a sophomore in college based on the skills and appreciation and history of my art form that I have under my belt.'"

"But most of the students who take our high school classes are not interested in a career in art. They just like the

arts. They like the creative collaboration, the creative problem solving and the critical thinking skills and communication skills.

"For instance we have a lawyer who said his training in improv helped him rise through his law firm. Or the person who said in EFA dance, 'I got in tune with how the body works and how the muscles are interrelated and that helped me decide I wanted to go into physical therapy.'"



For more information about the program check out EFA course bulletins, participate in EFA information sessions or visit www.efa-rep.org/



EFA dancers perform at the Kalamazoo Central High School Auditorium.

Photo Courtesy of Herb Todd

Education for the Arts *(continued from page 14)*

YOUNGER STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM EFA

About five years after EFA launched, the program began to expand beyond high school classes to create a range of enhanced art opportunities for students from kindergarten through middle school.

Again, the focus was on supplementing what was already being offered in schools and to allow students and teachers to explore the creation and understanding of art.

Through the EFA Teaching Artist Residency programs, schools can access the knowledge and talents of area artists. These programs include:

- **Aesthetic Education Program** — Students develop analytical and critical thinking skills from the study, discussion and analysis of works of art. “When this program was first laid out and they said young people would be talking about a single work of art for 25 minutes, I didn’t think it could happen,” Zocher said. “It really isn’t about liking or not liking a work, but you dig deep into what is there. We give people the freedom to go with what is your interpretation.”
- **Alternative Arts Initiative** — This provides art experiences for special education students and students in non-traditional settings. Residencies bring the arts to students who cannot always travel to the art.
- **PACE Program** — PACE residencies present K-8 students with dance and drama experiences. Artists

work with classroom teachers to teach the elements of the art form and help the students develop their own creative statements. *(see page 13)*

EFA offers several other programs under its auspices:

- **EFA Presents!** — This program provides K-12 students with access to performances and exhibitions from around the world at little to no cost. EFA provides study guides. EFA provides subsidized bus transportation to events.
- **Grants and Scholarships** — Every year, with support from the Irving S. Gilmore Foundation, EFA awards up to \$150,000 in grants and scholarships to fund and enhance arts initiatives for students in Kalamazoo County.

Thanks to its endowment, EFA can offer most of its programs at little to no cost to schools. Cost has never been the issue for participation. What usually limits a district or a school’s involvement would be perception, Zocher said.

“It’s about getting adults and leaders in the room to recognize that time spent in student-centric, art-based learning is not time away from core education but that it fuels and enhances core education,” he said. As one teacher put it, participating in an EFA program “got everybody where they were supposed to be deeper and faster by getting the students engaged and creating a student culture that valued curiosity and exploration.”

EFA Grants

Grants are available for schools, artistic development for educators, student art scholarships and student equipment grants. Grant information is available at <http://kresa.egrant.net>. The application process is currently open for the 2023 year. Check the website for deadlines. EFA annually awards \$150,000 in Arts Education Grants to schools, teachers/artists and students.

New applicants must create an account, select the appropriate grant application listed under *Opportunities*, and then complete and submit applications electronically by the appropriate deadline.

DUE DATES

- Irving S. Gilmore Student Scholarships: Jan. 26, 2023
- Irving S. Gilmore Student Artistic Equipment Scholarships: Feb. 23, 2023
- EFA Project Grants to Schools: March 23, 2023
- EFA Artistic Development Grants to Educators: March 23, 2023



For more information, contact Kristine DeRyder at kris.deryder@kresa.org or (269) 250-9244.

CTE, EFA, E/MC Open House Coming to Air Zoo, Info Nights Planned

KALAMAZOO County middle and high school students and their families can explore free career, college and arts opportunities at an open house for the Kalamazoo RESA Career & Technical Education, Education for the Arts and Early/Middle College programs.

The KRESA High School Classes Open House will be 5:30–7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7 at the Air Zoo, 6151 Portage Road.

Students can explore the more than 50 classes and other programs to help identify which classes will best prepare them for the future. Staff, teachers and current and former students will be on hand to answer questions and discuss their experiences.

The following programs will be represented:

- **Career & Technical Education (CTE)** | Innovative, hands-on career training prepares students for the well-paying, high-demand jobs of the future
- **Education for the Arts (EFA)** | Arts-intensive courses in theater, music, dance, as well as the visual, media and literary arts, and more
- **Early/Middle College (EMC)** | Earn a two-year degree or certificate while dual enrolling high school and at Kalamazoo Valley Community College in a five-year program.

In the event of weather cancellation, the open house will be held 5:30–7:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 9, 2022, at the Air Zoo.

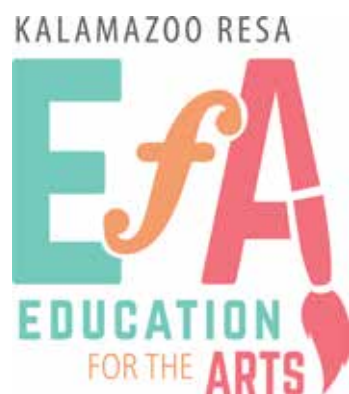
KRESA also will be hosting a series of info nights about the programs this winter:

- Thursday, Jan. 19: CTE/EFA/EMC, 6–7 p.m. via Zoom
- Thursday, Feb. 2: EMC, 6–7 p.m. | IN-PERSON at KRESA Wile Auditorium*
- Tuesday, Feb. 7: EMC, 5:45–6:15 p.m. and 6:45–7:15 p.m. | IN-PERSON during KRESA High School Classes Open House at the Air Zoo
- Tuesday, Feb. 21: CTE/EFA/EMC, 6–7 p.m. via Zoom
- Tuesday, Feb. 28: EMC, 6–7 p.m. | IN-PERSON at KRESA Wile Auditorium*

*KRESA Wile Auditorium is located at 1819 E. Milham Ave. Portage.



For more information on the open house, the info sessions, or to apply online, visit kresa.org/apply



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