



NEWSLETTER

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FINE ARTS NIGHT 2024

BY SAMUEL MEHRABIAN, BEN TARBERT



On March 19, 2024, Fine Arts Night occurred at the Joseph Sears School. Fine Arts Night was an event that celebrated student achievement in various arts. Both music and visual art were showcased.

The 4th Grade Orchestra, 5th Grade Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, Junior High Orchestra, 4th Grade Band, 5th Grade Band, Jazz Band, Junior High Band, and Junior High Choir performed at the event.

Mr. Gordon, Mr. Frie, and Mrs. Lehman Hunt conducted the performances. These performances were spectacular and really showed the hard work of the kids. Many students and family members attended the performances.

Many pieces of visual art made by students were posted up around the school. Various kinds of visual art were displayed, including playing cards, rearranged concentric circles, houses, underwater scenes, frogs, and other pieces of art. Artworks were from different grades and skill levels.

Mrs. Wood, an art teacher, commented about the event, stating, "The artwork showcased at Fine Arts Nights was the reflection of students' growth, creativity, and art skills. Fine Arts Night is an opportunity to celebrate art with peers, teachers, and the wider community!"



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8TH GRADE PLAY

BY LULU HUANG, LAILA MUTHIALU, AND PIPER NELSON



On April 19 and 20, the Class of 2024 performed their 8th-grade play, *Frozen Jr.* It is a tradition that before the 8th graders graduate from Sears, they put on a play. The 8th graders put a lot of work into it. Not all characters were 8th graders; younger versions of characters like Anna and Elsa were students in younger grades. There were two casts of *Frozen Jr.* In the morning, JK and K-4th grade watched cast A in the morning, and in the afternoon, JK and 5-7th grade watched cast B in the afternoon. Cast A performed their play on Friday night, and on Saturday night, Cast B performed their play.

Mr. Gordon worked so hard to make the play amazing. “Frozen was a great experience. We learned many things and made new friends.” Madison Douglas, a sixth grader who played Anna in cast B, said. The play took place in the Auditorium. The performance was split up into multiple scenes. The cast sang songs like *Let It Go*, *Do You Want to Build a Snowman*, *For the First Time in Forever*, and *Love is an Open Door*.”

Sophie Lau, an eighth grader who played the cello at the beginning of the performance, said, “I thought the eighth-grade play was a fun experience for the school, especially with the younger kids. Mr Gordon did a fantastic job including the diverse talents of the students at Sears, and I am so lucky to have been able to play my cello in the production.” The class of 2024 will be able to remember this as one of their last big projects as a grade at the Joseph Sears School.



ODYSSEY OF THE MIND

BY LULU HUANG,

One thing the 3-5th graders did this trimester was The Odyssey of the Mind competition. (OM) It was an optional activity outside of school. Each grade had an opportunity to compete. This year, there were three teams for Sears, and each team picked out a different activity to complete. The five activities they could choose were Vehicle, Technical, Classics, Structure, and Performance. The three Sears teams choose to do Vehicle, Technical, and Performance.

Hannah Huang, a 3rd grader, commented, "OM is an engaging and fun activity." On April 13th, the three groups competed in the state finals. All three teams won 1st place, which means they all qualified for the world finals. Hannah Huang also commented, "You can act, have fun, and be competitive, and I am very happy that all three Sears teams did well."

This year, the world finals were held in Ames, Iowa. Over 800 teams went to the world finals, which took place from May 20-24. Sears competed on the 24th. One team and team two competed against 45 groups, and the last group competed against 52 others. All of the teams did a great job, and it was a great experience for all of them.



