



Note-worthy

Mount Pleasant Central School District's Quarterly Performing Arts Newsletter

AT A GLANCE

- Spotlight on Columbus Elementary School
- Westlake Players Presents... *You Can't Take it With You*
- Music at Westlake Middle School
- The Life of A Westlake High School Musician
- Hawthorne Elementary School Welcomes Mr. Hahn
- Collaboration and Responsibility in the Music Classroom

Spotlight on CES



Take-A-Vet-To-School Day



Columbus Honors Our Country's Veterans

CES has a strong tradition of honoring our local veterans, and one of the highlights of every year is the Take-a-Vet-to-School Day, which is held on the last school day before Veterans Day. Local veterans of all ages take time to have breakfast with students and visit classrooms to help them better understand the sacrifices that have been made to give us the freedoms we enjoy on a daily basis.



The high point of the day is an assembly where veterans are honored and students are educated on various subjects related to our country and the meaning of service. Mr. Enoch's after-school singing group, the Troubadours, led the school in singing the "Star Spangled Banner" and "America the Beautiful," while Mr. A's honor band played the theme songs of each branch of the armed forces to honor the veterans who served.



On this emotional day, the students learned how music can be a meaningful way of giving back to the community. Great job CES musicians!



New Experiences for Young Music-Makers



The band program at CES is well under way with 146 enthusiastic fourth graders beginning their musical journey on band instruments this year! Mr. Alianiello and Mr. Enoch have been working diligently to instill in these young musicians the essential habits and attitudes that will serve them well as they progress on their instruments. The continuing fifth graders have built on the strong foundation they developed last year and are now learning how to make their playing even more expressive and musical. They are eagerly preparing for their winter concert on December 12th, where they will perform several pieces, including the premiere of one written by Mr. A himself.

Westlake Players Presents...

You Can't Take it With You

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU ***at Westlake High School***

Come Support the Westlake Players as they put on the hysterical comedic play "You Can't Take It With You" this weekend! Directing team Mike and Toni Williams have shared that this madcap, idealistic comedy reinforces that you can only live life to the fullest by doing whatever makes you happy!

Showtimes are: Friday, 11/22 at 8 PM, Saturday, 11/23 at 8 PM, and Sunday, 11/24 at 1 PM. There is a complimentary luncheon at 12PM for all senior citizens who have a ticket to Sunday's show.

Buy your ticket for the show using this link:



CUR8
CUR8 is a free online ticketing solution for K-12, Colleges....
cur8.com

THE WESTLAKE PLAYERS PROUDLY PRESENT

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU

2024
FRI NOV 22 @ 8 PM
SAT NOV 23 @ 8 PM
SUN NOV 24 @ 1 PM

TICKETS:
\$15 General Admission
\$10 Students & Seniors

SUN NOV 24:
FREE 12 PM luncheon
for senior citizens
with purchase of ticket

by MOSS HART and GEORGE S. KAUFMAN

Westlake High School 825 Westlake Drive Thornwood, NY 10594

SCAN ME

FUN-damentals in WMS Band



This fall, middle school band students have been working diligently on musical fundamentals. About a quarter of every band period is devoted to practicing essential musical principles such as long tones, breath support, articulation, flexibility, rhythm counting, dynamics and chromatic notes. To put a fun spin on this systematic approach to improving instrumental skills, Mrs. Sica has been utilizing warm-ups that provide a cinematic accompaniment track. [Here is an example of Halloween cinematic fundamentals used in October!](#)

Finding Harmony in WMS Chorus

The choral activities at Westlake Middle School are off to a great start this year! All three grades have been tackling their repertoire with excitement and enthusiasm.

6th Grade has been highly successful in learning to sing in harmony and contrapuntal contexts. 7th and 8th Grade have been working hard developing three part repertoire with broad range and varied styles.

Meistersingers began a few weeks ago with a record high number of auditions. Our largest ever ensemble size of 50 students has been rehearsing advanced repertoire weekly and preparing for a busy year of performances!





Westlake's Got Talent

The Middle School Talent Show, "Westlake's Got Talent", took place on Thursday, October 10th at 7 PM in the Whearty Theater. Nineteen acts graced the high school stage, including talented instrumentalists, vocalists, comedic actors/actresses and dancers. Kudos to our student performers! [Here is a link to the program.](#) The curtain call is pictured above.

Northern Westchester Honor Band

Nineteen Middle and High School Band students in seventh through twelfth grade were selected to participate in the Northern Westchester Honor Band this fall! The band performed on Saturday, October 5th at North Salem High School. Congratulations to our talented instrumentalists, listed in alphabetical order and pictured below:



Dominic Amendola, Gregory Carreira, Sophia DelliCarpini, Isabella DiLeo, Sevak Hovsepyan, Devon Hurdis, Sophie Keolamphu, Kiera Lavelle, Matthew Ludwiszewski, Michael McKiernan, Martina Salomone, Regina Sica, Serena Shim, Jeffrey Sliss, Dylan Spencer, Andrew Swirsky, Leo Trapani, John Trezza, and Crystal Zhang



Welcome Westlake Winds

This fall, there is a new extracurricular music ensemble in the middle school. Westlake Winds is a new group composed of 35 seventh and eighth grade instrumentalists who want the challenge of creating high level music together outside of the school day! The group is excited to share their progress at the middle school concerts this year!

LEGALLY BLONDE JR at Westlake Middle School

LEGALLY BLONDE *The Musical* JR.

Another musical season is underway at Westlake Middle School and it is sure to be a big one! With over 100 auditions, we have a talent packed cast and crew for our winter production of Legally Blonde, Jr. The performance dates are Thursday, January 30th, Friday, January 31st and Saturday, February 1st at 7:00 pm and Sunday, February 2nd at 1:00 pm.

The Life of a Westlake High School Musician

Westchester Symphonic Winds Concert



Almost 30 WHS Band students were treated to a fantastic performance by the Westchester Symphonic Winds on Sunday 11/10 at Tarrytown Music Hall. The group provided complimentary tickets to students, and our musical Wildcats took full advantage of the opportunity. The program featured SFC Nicole Caluori (principal horn, West Point Band) performing Harvest Light, by James Naigus. Dr. Gerard Morris (University of Puget Sound), the group's guest conductor, led the group in Carolyn Bremer's Early Light. Other works included Overture in Five Flat by Julie Giroux, Danceries by Kenneth Hesketh, Ayo by Katahji Copley, Echota by Kelijah Dunton, and O rose of May by Harrison J. Collins.

Our band students thoroughly enjoyed the performance and the experience of listening to a live concert band in a historic music venue. Students are already looking forward to the next concert on February 9th at 2PM.



Westlake Takes On The NYSSMA Festival

This past weekend, 11 students represented Mount Pleasant CSD at the Westchester Area All-State festival at New Rochelle High School! To earn their acceptance into these ensembles, each student prepared a solo to perform for a judge and earned a score, all of which were high enough to represent our school! Pictures are below...



Choir Hogwarts House Quarter Quell

WHS Choir students are working hard on their repertoire for the Winter Concert on December 19th! Sopranos, Altos, Tenors and Basses have been working together in their sections, and competing in our annual "Choir Hogwarts House Quarter Quell" competition to earn points for their "houses". Sopranos are 'Gryffindor', Altos are 'Hufflepuff', Tenors are 'Slytherin', and Basses are 'Ravenclaw'. The competition is close, it's anyone's game!



HES Welcomes Mr. Hahn



A New Face in Hawthorne Elementary School



It is a pleasure to welcome our newest Hawthorne Elementary Music teacher, Mr. John Hahn, to the Mt. Pleasant community. Mr. Hahn has been teaching music for over 23 years in addition to his 18 years as a Broadway Musician. Throughout his performing career, he has performed in shows such as *Les Mis*, *Dreamgirls*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Miss Saigon* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

His teaching portfolio includes general music, chorus, orchestral strings, classical guitar, music history, music technology, concert band, marching band, jazz ensemble, percussion ensembles and pit orchestras for musicals. He has also been the department head for the

performing art and fine art programs at various times during his tenure at Peekskill City Schools. He is recently retired and is excited to bring his expertise and enthusiasm to Mount Pleasant!

Sing-a-long with Mr. Hahn

Mr. Hahn's first endeavor at Mt. Pleasant will be Hawthorne Elementary School's first musical celebration held on December 13th during the school day. This performance will feature the 2nd grade class as they sing-a-long to some cheerful holiday tunes.



Collaboration and Responsibility in The Music Classroom

Mt. Pleasant Portrait of a Learner Focus

In the fall, our music classes and ensembles focused heavily on the learner traits of collaboration and responsibility. Whether working together in ensemble sections or proudly representing our schools, students learn to support one another, listen actively, and positively contribute towards a group's success. Through these experiences, the students take ownership of their roles, develop accountability, and build the skills needed to thrive as responsible, collaborative members of our community.

To learn more about Mt. Pleasant's Portrait of a Learner, click [here](#):



Upcoming Events



Westlake High School Presents: "You Can't Take it With You":

- November 22nd at 8PM
- November 23rd at 8PM
- November 24nd at 1PM

Westlake Middle School 7th and 8th Grade Winter Concert with Westlake Winds:

- December 5th at 7PM

Westlake Middle School 6th Grade Winter Concert With Meistersingers and Jazz Band:

- December 10th at 7PM

Columbus Elementary School 5th Grade Winter Concert:

- December 12th at 6:30PM and 7:45PM

Hawthorne Elementary School 2nd Grade Sing-A-Long:

- December 13th - During the School Day

Westlake High School Winter Concert:

- December 19th at 8PM