



Residential Life NEWSLETTER



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Student Highlights: Musicians at Heart



Susanna Consonni



Ada Gungor

Washington Academy takes pride in its multitalented student body. At the heart of the school's spirit is the school's band. It performs at basketball games and hosts events such as the winter concert, coffee houses and Veterans Day Assembly. Photos featured here are from the winter concert where Juan brought a new beat with his vocal percussion performance. In addition, this year our international students have brought some added rhythm to the band when Yejun, Ada, Susanna, Dung Khoung, and Lenz began a rock band called, *Northern Lights* with American student Georgia. They can be found on Instagram@wa_northernlights.

International students also participate in chorus and guitar class that were also featured performances at this year's winter concert.



Lenz Valentin
Roseler



Juan Lopez Garda



Chorus/Singing Club



Rock Band: Yejun Mo, Dung Khoung, Ada Gungor

Where We've Been

Perry Christmas Forest



The Perry Christmas Forest is a staple in Downeast Maine. The small forest boasts over 300,000 Christmas lights and was voted one of the top 10 Christmas shows in Maine. A small stable is set up where visitors can pet Buddy, an American Mammoth Jackstock otherwise known as the largest breed of donkey in the world.



Cirque Dream Holidaze

The Cirque Dream Holidaze show combines theatre and circus acts with a Christmas theme. A select group of students were chosen to attend this year's show in Bangor. It is the longest running cirque holiday event.



UMO Culturefest

Culturefest at the University of Maine Orno is an opportunity for students to learn about other cultures from around the world. Informational tables were set up around the gym and students had an opportunity to taste cuisine from various countries. In addition, the event ended with a fashion show, featuring international dress and music.



The Grand



Lost on a Mountain in Maine

Lost on a Mountain in Maine premiered in November. The movie follows a boy who got lost on Mount Katahdin, one of Maine's most famous mountains. It is a true story and the movie was much anticipated throughout Maine. Students got to view the movie at the Grand Theatre in Ellsworth. The theatre was built in 1938 and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Prior to the show, students enjoyed dinner at Helen's Restaurant, a well known spot in Downeast Maine.



EVENTS AROUND CAMPUS

International Dinner

For our first international dinner, Vietnamese students shared some of their favorite dishes, Corn Tăm and Pho. Students were joined by teachers, administrators and other staff members for this formal event celebrating the Vietnamese culture and cuisine. Hai Le, Quyhn Vo, Lan Nguyen, Tien Vo, and Kha Phan took over the school kitchen with Assistant Director of Residential Life, Ms. Hill, preparing the meal as authentically as possible for all to enjoy.



Thanksgiving Dinner

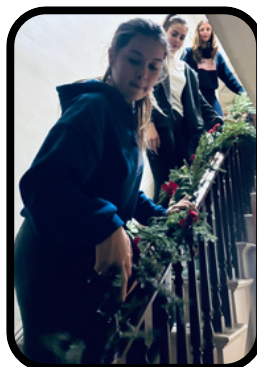
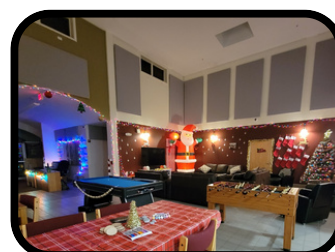


This year, students enjoyed a traditional American Thanksgiving meal in the WA cafeteria. The week prior, students wrote on wood ornaments something they were grateful for. These along with other decorations adorned the tables for Thanksgiving dinner. Students enjoyed turkey, stuffing balls, cranberry sauce and of course, different flavors of pie including our traditional pumpkin pie.



Christmas Parties

Students spent November and December decking out the halls of their respective dorms for their Christmas parties. This of course was a competition to see who could decorate the best. The girls dorm won with their cozy Christmas theme. Teachers and staff members joined the festivities when the international students hosted holiday parties early in December. Food and games were enjoyed by all on the fun and joyful night.



Meet our Team:

New Additions and Special Thanks

This quarter, our team welcomes a new face, Mr. Isaac Bradshaw. He is the newest member of our counseling department and has joined our residential faculty as a dorm parent in the Talbot dorm.

In addition to our core residential faculty, our program is supported by many other individuals throughout the year. The first half of our 2024-2025 school year, two individuals, Mr.

Farnsworth and Mr. DellaGatta, have made significant contributions to our program. We are lucky to have them on our team and grateful for their hard work and dedication to our students!



Mr. Farnsworth

Mr. Farnsworth is a Washington Academy Alumni (class of '80). Currently, he works on our maintenance and custodial staff and has contributed immensely to the residential life program over the last several years.

Over the past few months, Mr. Farnsworth has filled in as a dorm parent and driver for our program. We would like to take a moment to thank him for his contributions and hard work.



Mr. Bradshaw

Mr. Bradshaw joins Washington Academy in our Counseling Department and as our newest member of the Residential Life Staff. He joins us from Tennessee where he served as a school counselor in Knoxville. Mr. Bradshaw also has experience teaching social studies in American Samoa. He brings a new energy to our program and we are excited to add him to our team.

Mr. Dellagatta

Mr. Dellagatta, or as you have probably heard the students refer to him, Rumble, has been a key member of the residential life team over the last several years. Mr. Dellagatta is always willing to step in to help with our after school activities such as swim, town bus, or open gym. He also works in the kitchen and helps as an assistant coach for several of our athletic teams.



Upcoming Events

1/18 Trampoline Park

1/30 2nd International Dinner: S. Korea, Czech, Spain

1/25 UMO Women's Hockey Game

1/29 Yamato Drumming Concert @UMO

2/8 Rock Climbing

2/15 UMO Basketball Game

2/16-2/23 February Break, Ski Trip

3/8 SAT at WA



Stephanie Griffin

Director of Residential
Life