

School Governance Council Meeting 10/21/2025

Attendance:

Dr. Stasaitis

Mr. Ferreira

Jessica Gaddis

Isa Alves

Doug Donato

Hanalei Cocchiola

Jazmin Alves

Mr. Cheatham

Amy (WSO)

Mr. Cheatham – Welcomed everyone and started our meeting! Mrs. Terhune submitted her notes.

Mrs. Terhune – September/October 2025

WAMS / Palace Theater

September/October 2025

- Chief Production Officer Dave Flowers had a production meeting with the *Clara & The Nutcracker* team on October 21, and another meeting with the *Chicago* team on October 24.
- The “Learning in the Wings” technical theater internship schedule was sent over to WAMS at the start of the school year. Two students expressed interest but have not replied to Dave Flowers regarding dates/shows they would like to sign up for. There are several out-of-district students who are eager to participate, so he may not be able to hold spots for long.
- Thank you to WAMS teacher Justin Amenta, who recently helped test a device used for KC and the Sunshine Band!
- We have received a couple of grants for student tickets to see *Clue* in December, so I will be reaching out about that, probably next month.

Thank you to Dr. Stasaitis for writing a wonderful letter of support for one of those grants!

- We also received funding for this year's after-school program, which will center around *Blue Man Group* and *The Music Man*. It will be called *Instruments of Change: Building Creative Communities* and will run Feb-March 2026. Registration information will be sent out later this fall.
- We have more education and ticket-related grant requests pending.
- The Broadway Season 2025-2026: *Austen's Pride*, *Tina: The Tina Turner Musical*, *Clue*, *Blue Man Group*, *Stereophonic*, *The Music Man*.
- Here's to a good year for WAMS and the arts!

Mr. Donato

Waterbury Symphony Orchestra

Education committee will visit WAMS and see the mentorship program

It is important for the leaders to visit

Ms. Amy

Waterbury Symphony Orchestra

Budget was cut. Thanked Mr. Donato for obtaining the extra funding. In the orchestra, Ed and Amy work with the teachers. School shutdown, during covid, becoming very apparent - seeing it with 6th graders

Mr. Ferreira - The Winter Concert is scheduled for Friday, December 12

Mr. Donato and Ms. Amy weekends are challenging for musicians

Dr. Stasaitis & Mr. Ferreira – will look into other possible dates

Dr. Stasaitis – lots of opportunities ie. college visits, list below

November 21-23 Chicago

Openings at WAMS looking for an Attendance Counselor

Mr. O'Neil and Mr. Ostrander leaving the Waterbury Public School district

Mr. Ferreira - MTSS interventions looked at which students would benefit

21st Century after-school program experiencing budget cuts

Funding for Seven Angels back in January

Open House had over 100 families – huge turnout

Ms. Gaddis – Shakesperience

At WAMS - SEPTEMBER

- Shakespeare class doing Macbeth. They had auditions already
- Middle School doing an Edgar Allen Poe script and holding auditions today after school
- The concept is around exploring both the theatricality of cyclical nature of life and death. I revised the script after the directing class read it, and I believe it's in its final draft now, but we may tweak it a little based on feedback and/or casting

At Shakesperience

- Bringing back *The Gift of Peace* this December. Auditions are: Oct 4 1:00-2:00, Oct 8 5:30-6:30, Oct 9 9:30-10:30. Show dates are Dec 11-13

At WAMS - OCTOBER

- Shakespeare class doing Macbeth. They had auditions already.
- Middle School doing an Edgar Allen Poe script that includes: *The Conqueror Worm*, *The Masque of the Red Death*, *The Raven*, *The Oval Portrait*, and, *The Tell-Tale Heart*. Its concept is based on the cyclical and theatricality of life. Staging for the first three pieces is complete. The actors are getting more tablework than they normally would for a middle school production.
- Encore or after-school

At Shakesperience

- Bringing back *The Gift of Peace* this December. Show dates are December 11-13
- WAMS alum Clark Atkinson is doing workshops with us

Miss Cocchiola –

PSAT/SAT: digital readiness and testing days went well, felt comfortable and prepared

Chicago: students from band are playing in the orchestra, shows on 11/21, 22, 23

Tri-M: going to sell themed roses for Chicago and will try to do so with all other performances as well, thinking about setting up an RSVP for rose sales for people attending the shows so we know how many roses to buy, considering making an Instagram account

NJHS and NHS: switched to new officer model where five people are elected as officers and rotate through each position

Middle school show: collaboration is happening in directing class with the director

Sleepy Hollow event: very positive response, great way to integrate academics with the arts

Pink-Out: 10/28, profits go to funding for breast cancer research/awareness

Open house: more people than ever before/lots of interest

Miss Alves – Made ribbons in Key Club for cancer awareness

Community Day – Waterbury Public Schools

Applying for scholarship and working on essays

Physical Education possible field trip – great opportunity to exercise outside of the gym

Spanish club – field trip

Youth Summit – State of Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) at UCONN School of Law - November 1st

Mrs. Alves – Title I budget has also been cut in half

Participated in the Community Day at Hamilton Park

Financial Literacy Night is on November 12, 2025

Mr. Cheatham – Thanked everyone for coming – meeting adjourned

Events September / October 2025

Monday 9/22: B Day

Tuesday 9/23: A Day

Wednesday 9/24: B Day

9AM Governance Meeting

Digital Readiness Test for Students in Grade 9-11

Regular full day

Family Paint Night

Thursday 9/25: A Day

PTO Craft night

Friday 9/26: B Day

Career Fair HS Students Grades 9-11

*MS permission slips for Urban Air are due Wednesday 9/24 for Grades 6 & 7

Attention all Middle Schoolers: The WAMS Theater Department will be holding auditions for the middle school production of The Short Stories of Edgar Allen Poe on Wednesday, September 24th from 2:00-4:00. If interested, you must sign up at the call board and take a permission slip. All permission slips must be signed and turned in by the 22nd. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Schulte.

School Events Save the Date!

9/17 Early Dismissal 11AM All students

9/25 - PTO Sticker Craft Night - 6:00 - 7:30 – Café

9/27 – The Gathering

10/6 Lottery Opens

10/7 Fall PSAT Testing Date Students 9, 10, 11 Possible Early Dismissal

10/8 NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

10/16 - FAFSA Night - 5:30 - 6:30 - Cafe

10/17 - PTO HS Halloween Dance - 7 - 9 - Atrium

10/21 - Journal Making Class - 6:00 - 7:30 - Cafe

10/24 - PTO MS Halloween Dance - 6:30 - 8:30 – Atrium

10/27 – Family Paint Night

10/29 End of MP 1

Events from Cheryl Katz, WAMS College and Career Coordinator!

September:

September 8th, 2025 Boys and Girls Club HS Lunch Wave Table

September 11th, 2025 University of New Haven HS Lunch Wave Table

September 16th, 2025 Waterbury Youth Services HS Lunch Wave Table

September 18th, 2025 Rep Visit - Albertus Magnus HS Lunch Wave Table

September 23rd, 2025 Post University HS Lunch Wave Table

September 26th, 2025 College and Career Fair 9:00 am - 11:00 am

October:

October 7th, 2025	Rep Visit - SCSU	HS Lunch Wave Table
October 16th, 2025	Rep Visit - Columbia Univ	HS Lunch Wave Table
October 16th, 2025	FAFSA Parent Info Night	5:30-6:30
October 22nd, 2025	Rep Visit - NVCC	HS Lunch Wave Table
October 29, 2025	UCONN Campus Tour	7:30 am depart WAMS
	11th and 12th Grade	1:00 pm arrival WAMS

November:

TBD-November 6th or 13th, 2025	FAFSA NIGHT	5:30-7:30
November 14th, 2025	WCSU Campus Tour - 11th & 12th Grade	November 14th, 2025

WAMS STUDENT STORE:

<https://wamsstudent2025-2026.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

WAMS CLUBS:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/19n34k22gCDKgepb_bkIU0R08P_uAlxjcfOEWcoEIRIk/edit?usp=sharing

*all grade 7 students should have come home with their Smarter Balanced Assessment scores.

Next meeting November 25, 2025 @9:00 am



Fall Events!

Studio @ 117 Bank Street, Waterbury
203.754.2531 www.shakesperience.org

They Are Not Disposable, by Maya Rose SpokenWord, inspired by Steve Parlato
August 29 & 30 * Shakesperience Studio * 8:00pm

A thought-provoking theater piece depicts 16 Black Americans whose lives were stolen due to racial violence. Addressing systemic racism and brutality, along with support stories of real-life tragedies. Incorporating spoken word poetry, interpretive dance, and multimedia components, each performance culminates with a Q&A to facilitate essential conversation.....**\$15 per person**

Farms of Waterbury exhibit

September installation * Shakesperience Studio

"Brass City, Grass Roots" explores the forgotten history of agriculture in Waterbury, which persisted even after the factories came to town.**Free for all ages**

Waterbury Interactive: Our City, Our Neighborhoods 250th Celebration

Thursdays: September 18 & October 16 * Silas Bronson Library * 6:00pm

Tuesdays: September 2—30 * Shakesperience Studio * 10:00am

Learn how *My Town, My Story* can help preserve and share your favorite memories. Let Shakesperience guide you through the process. PLUS, Follow up on at the Shakes-perience Studio to brainstorm. create. and share your story.**Free for all**

Brass City Magic Show

September 19 * Shakesperience Studio * 7-8:30pm

Shakesperience hosts an evening of magic! Cyril the Sorcerer shares enviromagic before surrendering the stage to Michael OJ and his magic and mirth.....**\$20 admission**

Saturday Acting Intensives

October 4 – December 6 * Shakesperience Studio * (No class on Sat., Nov. 29)

Holidays in Waterbury * 9:00-10:00am

Highlighting the history as communities, each student will describe their favorite Holiday experience, which will become a short script.**Free for grades 2-5***

The Gift of the Magi * 10:30am-12:30pm

Students will perform alongside resident professional actors to bring Emily Mattina's adaptation of the classic holiday tale to life.**Free for grades 6-12***

Neighborhoods After School

Mon. & Wed., October 6 – December 3 * Shakesperience Studio * 3:30—5:30pm
(No class on November 26)

A humanities initiative exploring time, history, and transformation in Waterbury. Through storytelling, performance, and discussion, participants examine community identity, celebrate diverse winter holidays, and present original scenes...**Free for Grades 2– 12***

*free for Waterbury students, thanks to Community Development Block Grant

Sponsors



AMERICA 250
CONNECTICUT

Silas Bronson Library





2024-2025 Saturday & Afterschool Sessions



Shakespeare
PRODUCTIONS, INC.

117 Bank Street
Waterbury, CT 06702
(203) 754-2531
www.shakespeare.org

Shakespeare
PRODUCTIONS, INC.
117 Bank Street, Waterbury, CT 06702

FOR ADULTS

Private Classes

Specialized classes designed for groups or individuals taught by Artistic Director Emily Martinez. Great for corporate outings, public speaking practice, and team building exercises.

Ages 18 and up

Times flexible to your needs (For individuals)

Cost: 4 one-hour sessions for \$500

Please call for more details!

THE SHAKESPERIENCE APPROACH

Whether teaching or rehearsing to perform for our diverse audience, the Shakespeare Approach focuses on creating thought-provoking, socially aware, and artistically excellent productions utilizing and using language to create action while developing a positive ensemble. Individual performers develop a defined sense of self through the creation of and immersion with a strong ensemble. Both actor and audience value their unique relationship to experience a heightened sense of reflection on the performance. Shakespeare Productions' professional artists create programming rooted in classical literature while enriching, examining, and experiencing humanity and human experiences.

OUR ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Emily Martinez

Ms. Martinez earned a B.A. from the University of New Hampshire with a major in Theater and an M.A. in 17th Century English Literature with an emphasis on Shakespeare from the University of Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, England. A founder of Shakespeare Productions, Inc., she has led the art and education program since the company's inception. She developed the Shakespeare Approach through the many workshops and residency programs under her direction.

FALL SESSION

October 12 – December 7

No class on Saturday November 30

Gift of the Magi

Students will perform alongside our resident professional actors as they Emily Martinez's adaptation of the classic holiday tale to life.

Grades 2-5, 9:00am-10:00am
Cost \$300 (Scholarships Available)
Location Shakespeare Studio

Holidays with the Three Kings

Using their magic song gloves, the Three Kings watch, demonstrate, and lead Waterbury Residents celebrate different Holidays during the winter season. Scenes based on interviews and research done with conjunction with our Neighborhood Program.

Grades 6-12, 10:30am-12:30pm
Cost \$300 (Scholarships Available)
Location Shakespeare Studio



WINTER SESSION

January 4 – February 15

Save date February 22

Exploring Folklore

Students explore characters and themes in folktales from many different cultures. Students are able to delve deeper into topics introduced in our Folklore Workshop.

Grades 2-5, 9:00am-10:00am
Cost \$300 (Scholarships Available)
Location Shakespeare Studio, Waterbury

Julius Caesar

This tragedy by William Shakespeare shows a fictional account of Caesar's rise to emperor, the conspiracy to his assassination, and the violence and war that follows all wrapped up in supernatural forces including a conspirator and Caesar's ghost.

Grades 6-12, 10:30am-12:30pm
Cost \$300 (Scholarships Available)
Location Shakespeare Studio

Contact us to register
for any of these classes!



117 Bank Street
Waterbury, CT 06702
(203) 754-2531
info@shakespeareproductions.org
www.shakespeare.org

SPRING SESSION

March 8 – April 26

No class April 19

Exploring Mythology

Students explore characters and themes in myths from many different cultures. Students are able to delve deeper into topics introduced in our Mythology Workshop.

Grades 2-5, 9:00am-10:00am
Cost \$300 (Scholarships Available)
Location Shakespeare Studio
*Additional performance during Give Local

Shakespeare Title

By popular demand, this year will include TWO Shakespeare plays. This second play will be announced at a later date.

Grades 6-12, 10:30am-12:30pm
Cost \$300 (Scholarships Available)
Location Shakespeare Studio
*Additional performance during Give Local



Waterbury Arts Magnet School Theatre
Department Presents...

CHICAGO

TEEN EDITION Book by Fred Ebb and Bob Fosse

Produced by Dr. Maria Stasaitis

Directed by Mr. Tyler Caisse

Music Director Marianna Vagnini



CHICAGO: TEEN EDITION is presented by
arrangement with Concord Theatricals

www.concordtheatricals.com

Friday, November 21st and Saturday, November 22nd @ 7pm
Sunday, November 23rd @ 1pm

Palace Theater

Ticket Price: Adults- \$15 Students- \$10

Music by John Kander

Lyrics by Fred Ebb

Based on the play by Maurine Dallas Watkins

Script adaptation by David Thompson



PG-13



Urgent Crisis Center For Youth

Our Service

The Urgent Crisis Center (UCC) offers crisis stabilization support, comprehensive mental health assessment, short-term medication services, collaborative safety planning, collaboration with existing providers, and direct linkages to community services for youth ages 4-18.

Call 203-580-4298 to learn more about this service.

No appointments are necessary.

The UCC is located at 141 East Main St, Waterbury

What Are Some Reasons A Youth Might Come To The UCC?

- Thoughts of suicide or self-injury
- Feelings of depression, anxiety or hopelessness
- Behaviors that are out of control or challenging in home, school or community
- Concerns about substance misuse
- Any situation that a youth or family defines as an urgent, mental health crisis.

Our Hours Of Operation:

24 Hours a Day

7 Days a Week

365 Days a Year



NUEVO Centro de Crisis Urgentes para niños

Nuestro Servicio

El Centro de Crisis Urgentes ofrece apoyo a la estabilización de crisis, evaluación de salud mental comprensiva, servicio de medicamentos a corto plazo, planificación colaborativa de seguridad, colaboración con proveedores existentes, y vinculación directa con servicios en la comunidad para niños de 4-18 años de edad.

Llame al 203-580-4298 para aprender mas sobre este servicio. No hay necesidad de cita previa. El UCC se ubicado en 141 East Main Street, Waterbury

Cuales son las razones por la cual un niño vendria a el Centro de Crisis Urgentes?

- Pensamientos de suicidio o autolesion
- Sentimientos de depresion, ansiedad o desesperanza
- Comportamientos fuera de control o desafiante en la casa, escuela, o comunidad
- Preocupaciones de uso indebido de sustancias
- Cualquier situacion que un niño o su familia defina como una crisis urgente de salud mental=

Nuestras horas de operacion:

24 horas al día

7 días a la semana

365 días al año