CAPAA
CREATIVE AND PERFORMING
ARTS ACADEMY

Welcome to the second edition of the CAPAA newsletter! Thank you to everyone who read, shared, and responded to our first issue. It means so much to see our community engaged in the work happening in our classrooms, studios, and performance spaces. As you'll see in the pages that follow, our students and teachers have been busy. From Neolithic settlements in Social Studies to pasta-inspired chess sets in Visual Art, from original spooky scenes and improv in Musical Theater to Broadway flats and a Jungle Book mural in Technical Theater, our students continue to show us what happens when creativity meets hard work. To our students, I'm proud of the effort, curiosity, and courage you bring every day. To our teachers, thank you for creating spaces where students are challenged, supported, and free to take risks.

I also want to draw special attention to an opportunity for our sophomores and juniors: the Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts (GSA). Each summer, GSA brings together some of the state's most promising young artists for three weeks of intensive, life-changing arts instruction across nine disciplines. Applications are due in January, so if you are a sophomore or junior who is eager to take your art to the next level, I encourage you to read the GSA details at the end of this newsletter and begin preparing now. Our talented students are exactly the kind of artists GSA is looking for. Finally, to our families: thank you. Your support of your students, of the programs they love, and of CAPAA as a whole makes everything you see in this newsletter possible. We are grateful to have you as partners, and we hope to see you at the concerts, exhibits, and performances coming up this season.

Sincerely,
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HISTORY

CAPAA students spent the past week presenting their projects in Social Studies. They have worked hard to create their own Neolithic settlements while considering the impact of agriculture on human settlement. In addition, students have worked to understand the developing nature of complex human societies and the role that geography plays in that development. Student products took on many forms, including annotated maps, digital flyers, 3D models, slide presentations and performances. “We are excited to close out this unit and begin our study of global interdependence,” says instructor Danese Caley.







VISUAL ART









Students are sculpting and glazing their chess pieces for the next gallery exhibit. There are so many incredible designs that reflect the innate creativity in the CAPAA visual art students. One student is modeling their chess sets off of noodles! “The first team is gonna be straight noodles so I have rigatoni and penne and tube shaped pastas.. And I chose those because they have a lot of height, so they'll look like actual chess pieces. I did the other side [of chess pieces] curly, so... I have rotini and macaroni,” says student artist Molly.

MUSICAL THEATER



There's always something exciting happening in the Musical Theater department. Theater students are currently working on their Holiday music and Jury pieces. Over fall break, three students made it to the semi-finals at the NATS auditions at the University of Louisville. And in the week before Halloween, "[Students] are writing original spooky scenes in acting and performing them," says teacher Rachel Strader!



Students are also working on their improvisational skills. Student actor Chloe described improv as "being put on the spot and just kind of having fun with acting, not just reading off of a script." Classmate and fellow actor Gwen agreed and added that "Acting is being comfortable with being uncomfortable, and whenever you're doing improv, you're just being thrown into some situation, and sometimes you have to create..." and that improv is a good skill to have when a fellow actor forgets their lines on stage and you have to make it appear intentional.



STRING ORCHESTRA

Concert season is fast approaching for the CAPAA Orchestra, led by instructors Felix Borges and Elise Gambrell. The students are currently preparing for their upcoming concert. This concert will be on November 7th at 3:00 PM in the Oldham County Schools Arts Center Performance Hall. The students are working on pieces such as The Carnival of the Animals by C. Saint-Saens, Country Wedding by Smetana and the main theme from Mega Man 3. "My favorite is Russian Easter Overture, by Rimskey Korsikov," says cellist Evelyn. "It's a really good piece. We're working on that with Ms. Gambrell. It's really fun, and I think everyone gets a really nice part in that piece. But we've got a lot of pieces. They're all great. I love them all!"

In addition to working on full orchestral works, students are also playing in small ensembles. These chamber groups are great for teaching musical independence as each student is the only person playing a part. Evelyn is excited to work more with her chamber group who is working on Sonata in C Major by Rossini. "Our small ensemble piece is really, really good, and we've made a lot of progress already!"

TECHNICAL THEATER

The students working behind the scenes are juggling multiple projects as they learn the skills of the technical theater trade. “Every day, we do something different,” says technical theater student Ava. “On Mondays, we are currently preparing behind the scenes for the CAPAA finale, Tuesday we do audio with Mr. Bryan. On Wednesday, we switch...between Miss Kathleen and Mr. Bryan. [With] Miss Kathleen, we are currently learning stage blocking... And Mr. Bryan we’re just working with the equipment, learning how to use it. On Thursdays, we go down to the scene shop, and currently we're making Broadway flats and painting them. And then on Friday, we're painting the inside walls in different rock textures.”

The projects that the students are working on span the entire art center building. These students can be found deep in technical discussions in the sound booth in the Performance hall, covered in paint and wood shavings in the scene shop in the Gym, and working on a mural of a scene from the “Jungle Book” in the upstairs changing rooms.







UPCOMING EVENTS

Orchestra: Fall Concert on November 7th at 3:00 pm in the OCSAC Performance hall, and stay tuned for an appearance on the WDRB morning show on November 18th!

Visual Art: CAPAA Visual Arts Exhibit at The Anita Davis Gallery, located in the lobby of the Arts Center. Friends and family are invited to join us on Tuesday, December 1st from 7-8pm.

Theater Tech: See our students work behind the scenes at upcoming performances at the Art Center, including The Music Man (11/12. 11/13, 11/14), Seussical Jr. (12/3, 12/4, 12/5), and The Lion the Witch and The Wardrobe (12/10, 12/11, 12/12)

Musical Theater: Students are preparing for the Holiday Extravaganza concert and upcoming daytime Christmas performances at local schools that will be on December 9th. Students will also be on the WDRB show on November 18th!

TEACHER HIGHLIGHT

Jessica Guinn is the Director of Visual Arts at the Arts Center, where she oversees visual arts programming both on-site and through satellite classes offered across the county in Oldham County schools. In addition to coordinating classes, she teaches ceramics courses and one-day workshops for children and adults, leads the Side by Side art program for students with disabilities, facilitates summer visual arts camps, and coordinates birthday parties at the Oldham County Schools Arts Center. Jessica also teaches 3-D Visual Art for CAPAA.

She earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Ceramics with a minor in Graphic Design from the University of Louisville in 2000. As a ceramics instructor and practicing artist, Jessica specializes in wheel throwing and hand-building, creating both sculptural and functional stoneware pottery. Her work is known for its distinctive glaze techniques and designs and has been featured in numerous regional art festivals and exhibits. Jessica draws inspiration from the natural world and excursions throughout Europe, Asia, Central America, Canada, and across the United States. She resides in Crestwood with her husband, Bert Guinn, and their three daughters, Maya, Cypress, and Josie.

Students adore Mrs. Guinn and the wonderful environment she creates in her studio. “We have a lot of creative freedom to kind of interpret the prompt differently. But also it's, like, structured enough to where, if we need help for something, we can go and get it. It's a safe environment for us to ask questions, and I really appreciate that,” says Molly, a student artist.



GSA- THE GOVERNORS SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

Taken from the GSA Website:

What is the GSA Summer Program?

Every summer, our faculty of professional artists and educators guide over 270 of Kentucky's finest young artists through three weeks of incredibly intense (and incredibly fun) arts instruction. For three weeks, the students live, breathe, eat and sleep the arts. It's a thrilling, often life-changing experience, as they meet new friends, explore their creativity, and discover new things about who they are and who they can be in the future.

GSA auditions & reviews the Commonwealth's most promising high school sophomores and juniors in nine different arts disciplines: Creative Writing, Dance, Drama, Film + Photography, Graphic Design, Instrumental Music, Musical Theatre, Visual Art and Vocal Music.

Who is eligible to apply for GSA?

In order to be considered for the Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts, students must meet the following selection criteria:

- Currently be a sophomore or junior in high school or home school.
- Live, attend school, or have a parent/ guardian who works in Kentucky.
- Complete the application by the due date in January. GSA will not consider incomplete applications. There is a fee for applying: 35foroneartform/50 for two art forms. Students that receive free and reduced lunch have the option to waive the fee.
- Complete the Recommendation Process as part of the Preliminary Round application.
- If selected as a finalist, complete the Final Round in March.

For more information and application instructions, visit:

https://www.kentuckyperformingarts.org/education/governors-school-for-the-arts

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