

SHDHS Fine Arts Newsletter

Episode 3 - October 2011

UPCOMING EVENTS

Chamber Choir CD release
-October 21- \$15 each

Band Concert
-December 8, 2:00 p.m. in
Millay Hall

Choral Christmas Concert
- December 12, 7:30 p.m. at
St. Barbara Church

Fall Play
- November 18, 19, 20 in
Millay Hall

Band Update

The band had the opportunity to play in the front of the school for the Open House on October 9. Mr. Hill and his "Cru" thought it'd be a great way to showcase their talent and school spirit. They will also be playing at the Crusader Crazy Day held on November 4. The band will also start performing at boys' and girls' Basketball games.

Mr. Hill says his beginning band is moving right along and meeting his expectations and then some!

The winter concert will be Sunday December 18 at 2:00 p.m. in Millay Hall. Beginning Band and Advanced Band will both be performing at the concert.

Featured Article: CHAMBER CHOIR IS AT IT AGAIN!

The 2011-2012 Chamber Choir is thrilled to release their newest CD, Celebrate and Remember, on Friday, October 21st. This is the sixth recording the Chamber Choir has recorded over the past ten years; its purpose is to raise funds for the trip the choir takes to Europe every other year.

It's been most evident to me that the SHDHS Chamber Choirs' highest calling over these past years has been that of ministry. Celebrate and Remember is a collection of music, both solo and choral, that has been most powerful and memorable in celebrating the lives that have gone before us. Mrs. Bird feels that the beauty of the texts and the music itself speaks clearly and beautifully of the celebration of Life, to the power of Hope, the Strength of the human Spirit and the tender Love of God.

Mrs. Bird enjoyed working with the variety of voices past and present, instrumentals and the memories they evoke throughout this project. The songs in this collection represent a number of things to her: the power that music has in its capacity to carry us through grief and celebrate hope... the talent and dedicated efforts of these young choir members past and present, their love of music and joy in sharing it together and with our community...the effect their music has as they minister through community celebrations...

Something that makes this CD a bit different from their past projects is that they included songs from a couple of different sources.

AMAZING GRACE is an instrumental taken off of a GIA recording of my good friend, guitarist Stephen Petrunak. It is a peace-filled and contemplative arrangement. Listen to the oboe as it plays the tune, Amazing Grace, twice as slow as the flute plays it on the second verse. It's a genius of an arrangement!

TO WHERE YOU ARE is taken with permission from the Covington Catholic Chamber Choir CD, To Where You Are. Jim Wolfe, their director, is a close friend of mine. The selling of their CD has raised \$10,000 for the Maria Shaffstein Fund in which it was dedicated. It is our privilege to share in this ministry together. Also, there are a few tunes from our past recordings, but given a bit of new life from the present choir. Mrs. Bird feels that the inclusion of these songs speak just as strongly to this project as in the past CD's.

The CD's are on sale in the school office or through Chamber Choir members. The cost is \$15 each, and all money go toward the choir's trip to Rome. You will soon be able to hear snippets of each song on the SHDHS website.

Choral Department Update!

The SHDHS Chorus is doing an amazing job this early in the year. With so few returning from last year, this choir of 33 is nearly new! We've been practicing music for our Choral Christmas Concert and we're having a good time throughout our rehearsing. Today we started learning "Music In My Mother's House", a favorite of many over the years and it seems it's going to be one of ours, too. "The Twelve Days After Christmas" has also been a hit, a hoot, and a hilarious tune! We're a group of 33 wonderful girls, and we enjoy being together for class, singing and getting to know each other. This is certainly another blessed year for us.

Our Choral Christmas Concert is at St. Barbara Church on Monday, December 12 at 7:30pm. Admission is \$2 and CD's will be available for sale before and after the concert. Hope to see you there! ~ Mrs. Eileen Bird

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VISUAL ARTS UPDATE!

The students in Senior Portfolio and AP Portfolio recently finished their end of the quarter critiques. For the quarter Senior Portfolio students had to complete 6 projects while AP Portfolio students had to complete 7. The students did a great job getting all of their work done, and the quality in the class this year is very good. For some of the students this is the first time they have had to do this amount of work, and also the first time that some of them have participated in such an in-depth art critique. They have impressed me with their craftsmanship, their dedication to keep up on their assignments, and their insight into their art projects. I'm looking forward to the next quarter's worth of work, especially as they begin to focus on their artwork and thematic considerations.

Art II and Art III students are cruising along this year, and I have 3 strong classes. Again, I have been very pleased with the quality of work this year, and many of the students have been doing very well. We are starting color drawings in Art II and some advanced printmaking techniques in Art III. I can't wait to see what they have in store as we continue to talk about what it means to be an artist and pushing creativity. ~Mr. Eric Brass

Art I is doing very well with their drawing techniques. The students will soon be learning perspective as well as different drawing styles such as pointillism and pen and ink. Art I's first semester is focused solely on drawing because they need to be able to translate an idea into a sketch before they start creating artwork using any other media. Up to this point, the class has been very focused on proportions, composition, value, and craftsmanship. They are right on track to be finished with the drawing portion of the year by Christmas! ~ Ms. Katie Baker

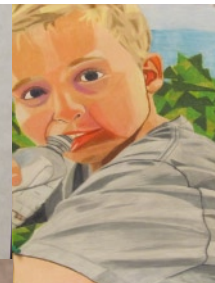
Drama 1: We just finished our studies of Medieval Theatre and have 6 really awesome pageant cars to show for it of a Biblical Scene from the Cycle Plays. We are getting ready to start storytelling and learning all about the different areas of the stage (which should help all those Drama 1 students who are in the Fall Play!). Our hope is to get to monologues soon!

Drama 2 and Drama 3: Monologue performances went really well for the first try. We are getting ready to start up the second round of monologues, but have worked some on character development and improv. Drama 2 just finished up putting a voice and finding a "body" for their characters and Drama 3 completed their in depth study of what it means to be "an actor." We are also gearing up for the Fall Play and everyone in class has been very involved in that as well. Should be a fun 2nd quarter!

Fall Play auditions were held at the end of September and 67 awesome students were cast in the play. We have spent the past three weeks working on blocking and putting movement to the play and we are starting to develop our characters. We are excited about our upcoming performance and hope to see you there! ~Mrs. Emily Himonidis

Check us out on the web! www.SHDHS.org under the Fine Arts menu.

Artists of the Week Photos!



Art I: Megan Unkraut (10)
Ashley Schneider (10)
Kelsey Humpert (10)

Art II: Mckenzie Overwein (11), Kendall Miller (11)

Art III: Natalie Spicker (11), Angie Volstad (12)