



St. Mary Catholic Schools

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Catholic Schools
Grades P-12

Fine Arts Newsletter

Vol. 2: April 2017



Rave Reviews for "Godspell"

This year's middle school musical, "Godspell," tells the story of Jesus and his disciples from the Gospel of Matthew. "Godspell" has been produced in a variety of creative ways since its off-Broadway debut in 1971. The most interesting thing about the middle school Zephyr Players' production is that it was told in a modern-day school setting. Jesus, played by eighth grader Charlie Staner, was portrayed as a retreat leader. His followers were played as stereotypical students who participated in Jesus' all-day retreat. This concept allowed the production team to accomplish several great things. One of the biggest advantages was the modern-day setting, which helped cast and audience members connect to the biblical stories that were being portrayed, bringing new relevance to the parables from the Gospel of Matthew. The script's flexibility also served to teach the drama students the power of imagination and creativity, as actors got to include many personal touches.

Drama Education

On April 28, SMCHS drama students traveled to UW-Oshkosh to see a production of "And Then There Were None." Participants were able to review the show and share thoughts on the production with students from other schools.

Community Show "Joseph" Auditions on May 13

This summer will be SMCS's fifth year producing a community production! We now have more than 100 people who participate, at no cost, in this community-connecting experience each year. One new addition is a "student edition cast," which will allow students, ages 7-15, to be cast in an abridged version of the show that will be performed the same weekend as the SMCS Zephyr Players Community Theater show. Students involved in this free drama experience will have access to professional drama workshops. We have also added a live orchestra for anyone interested in playing with the group! We are always looking for more cast, crew and production team members! "Joseph" will appear in the Jane Bergstrom Fine Arts Education Center July 20-23, 2017!

Art Show During Spring Concerts



SMCS Spring Concerts Schedule

| | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|
| April 25 | St. Gabriel Elementary Concert |
| April 27 | St. Mary Elementary Concert |
| May 2 | St. Margaret Mary Elementary Concert |
| May 8 | Elementary School Band Concert |
| May 9 | Middle School Band & Choir Concert |
| May 19 | High School Band & Choir Concert |

Student artwork floods the FAEC corridors for our spring concert series. Please join us for one of the performances to have the pleasure of seeing the artwork and hearing our students.

High School Workshop with Mark Wood



On March 22, students from the SMCHS orchestra program had the wonderful opportunity to work with Mark Wood of the Trans-Siberian Orchestra. Mr. Wood gave students a unique look at his custom electric violin, performing several pieces for them as well. Students also did a brief workshop on improvisation and had the chance to perform on stage with Mr. Wood at an afternoon concert for middle and high school students.

Elementary Schools Band Recital

On April 23, SMCS third grade students had fun “test driving” potential instruments for band class next year. At the same time, in the black box theater, fourth and fifth grade band students hosted a recital with small groups performances.



Opera Outing

Students from our high school band, choir and drama programs traveled to Madison on April 19 to see the opera “The Magic Flute” by Mozart. The show was put on by the Madison Opera. Students were able to see and hear a professional opera ensemble sing in German while acting out a wonderful story!



Behind the Scenes at “Little Shop of Horrors”



The “Little Shop of Horrors” character Audrey II was mastered by two SMCHS seniors, William O’Brien (voice) and Collin Higgins (puppeteer).

“Audrey II” is a starring character of “Little Shop of Horrors,” and an unusual one at that! This character is a small plant from outer space that grows larger than life in an attempt to take over the world! Four different sized puppets were rented from a professional prop company in Pennsylvania, giving the crew an opportunity to become master puppeteers. The largest plant (upper left) was over six feet in length and weighed over two hundred pounds. Renting the professional puppets gave our building team the time to focus on the remaining visual elements of the show, including twenty-foot high building walls that glided on and off stage.

Solo & Ensemble



Congratulations to SMCHS choir and band students who qualified for State:

- Kaylann Adler – violin
- Kaylann Adler & Emma Nutini – piano duet
- Caroline Connolly – baritone saxophone
- Caroline Connolly & Ruth Meier – baritone saxophone duet
- Caileen Fahrenkrug – alto saxophone
- Katelyn Flanagan – classical solo
- Katelyn Flanagan & Olivia Pennings – classical duet
- Cecilia Krautkramer – trumpet
- Katie Krautkramer – trombone
- Emma Nutini – flute
- Emma Nutini – piano
- Olivia Pennings – musical theater solo
- Isabel Taubel – musical theater solo
- Alex Ullrich – alto saxophone
- Jazz Band: Kaylann Adler, Kate Britt, Caroline Connolly, Caileen Fahrenkrug, Patrick Golichnik, Cecelia Krautkramer, Joe Kerwin, Mike Kerwin, Claire Krautkramer, Katie Krautkramer, Harrison Long, Emma Nutini, Will O'Brien, Mollie Olson, Nicholas Purcell, Alex Ullrich, Ethan Unruh, Max Van Rossum, Marcus Wittmann

Band Students get 1st Rating at WSMA

The SMCHS concert band performed a Class A (the most challenging level) repertoire at the WSMA Concert Festival at Lakeland University. Our musicians were honored to receive unanimous 1st Ratings from all three judges.

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