



creative artifacts



Creative Arts Secondary School
Monthly Newsletter
December 2018

WE ARE CREATIVE.

Celebrating Ten Years of Word Freaks

Word Freaks, Creative Arts' online literary magazine, is celebrating its ten year anniversary. Starting off as a bi-annual printed publication, the 'zine was originally strictly intended to publish the work of Creative Writing students. Through the guidance of Mr. Shane O'Reilly, however, Word Freaks grew into an intriguing catalog run by an afterschool club. His group encouraged the submission of both visual and written work that was edited and compiled by the student group. Original copies of these compiled masterpieces can still be found around the school, leaving a lasting legacy of the Freak Founders.

Last year, Mrs. Goebel and Ms. Corrigan took the reins, bringing the publication into the 21st century. Word Freaks is now published online each month, allowing for video and audio productions to be featured alongside more traditional literary styles, such as poetry and short prose. Each issue also includes "Ask Micole!" Through this feature, students are encouraged to submit questions to Micole Andrews, Word Freaks' student advice columnist. Both teenagers and adults are likely to appreciate the wise-beyond-her-years guidance.

The club Mr. O'Reilly envisioned is still very much the same: students continue to submit, edit, and compile the work. The new format, however, allows more student work to be published throughout the school year. All three advisors would like to thank the school community for being so supportive and for giving freaks a chance.

If you are interested in joining Word Freaks, meetings are held in Ms. Corrigan's room (6110) every first and third Monday of the month from 3:00 to 4:00. If you are interested in submitting work, you may share it with Mrs. Goebel or Ms. Corrigan, or you may email it to wordfreakscass@gmail.com. If you are interested in sending Word Freaks an anniversary gift, aluminum is tradition.

You can check out the latest issue here: <https://tinyurl.com/wordfreaks>

IN THIS ISSUE

Page 2: Staff Feature Siri Keller, Family Engagement, Tardies and Truancy

Page 3: Counseling Corner (Health Start Clinic), Principal's Note, #wearegoodatwhatwedo Action Shots

Page 4: October Students of the Month

UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 1 :Fall Play Anon(ymous)
- December 6: Vocal Music Concert
- December 10: PAC Meeting
- December 13: Q2 Conferences
- December 18: Band Concert
- December 21-January 1- No School; Winter Break
- January 2: Classes Resume

YEARBOOKS FOR SALE

Don't let the memories fade away!

Go to treering.com to get your 2018-2019 yearbook.

Yearbooks are 5% off for the month of November. After November, the price will be \$22.00.

For just \$6.95 you can upgrade to a hardcover yearbook.

If you have any questions, contact Ms. Van Voorhis or Ms. Duke.



WE ARE CREATIVE.

Every month we will be honoring one of our staff members and their creativity by providing a brief overview of their life and work.

Staff Feature: Siri Keller

Siri Keller, our Music Teacher, cannot remember a time when she was not singing. She has also played the piano since age 4. In third grade, when her parents heard her sing at a school event, they knew her talent would take her far. Ms. Keller initially hoped to be a rock star. She wasn't entirely sure about the logistics of that career path and because she equally enjoyed working with children she opted for a music education degree from St. Olaf College.

While attending St. Olaf, Siri sang with the internationally renowned St. Olaf Choir. With them she toured Texas and the East Coast. She even sang in Carnegie Hall in New York City.

Ms. Keller has been with Creative Arts for 3 years. She also conducts a church choir and is part of Vocal Point, a community chorus with a social justice focus. Additionally, she enjoys jamming with her friends and thinks she'd enjoy trying open mic sometime.

If Ms. Keller could give one piece of advice to students it would be to "keep being involved in your art even if it feels like there's no time. It's important to your whole being."

TARDINESS AND TRUANCY

Tardy Policy for Quarter 2:

- 1 Tardy to class = warning by teacher.
- 2 Tardies to class = phone call home
- 3 Tardies to class = tardy contract
- 4 Tardies to class = 30-mins detention w/ Ms. Vang
- 5 or more Tardies = NO PASS list for the quarter

Winter is fast approaching and the season can be extreme. However, students are expected to attend school every day and on time unless the district declares a snow day or cold weather day closure. You can access school closures at spps.org/weather. Please ensure that your contact information is up-to-date with the school to receive notifications regarding school closures and please continue to encourage your child/ren to be on time to school and class to avoid letters and truancy action.

WE SUPPORT EACH OTHER.

Family Engagement: Family Bingo Night

Over 30 family members and staff played through rounds of traditional, four corners, and blackout. Families went home with great prizes that were generously donated from local organizations and businesses, such as Science Museum tickets, art goody bags from Blick and Wet Paint, gift certificates to Cadenza music store, and much more.

Bingo night would not have ran anywhere near as smoothly as it did without the support from Mr. Ruble and student council members. Student council members greeted families, served pizza, called bingo numbers, and helped clean up. Thank you so much! #wesupporteachother



Our parent advisory council (PAC) would love to hear your thoughts and have your support on future events, community partnerships, and academics. For more information on family engagement and involvement, please reach out to Natalie Kemp: natalie.kemp@spps.org
651-744-1276



WE SUPPORT EACH OTHER.

Counseling Corner Health Start Clinic

Health Start is part of West Side Community Health Services, a private, nonprofit community clinic. They operate multi-service health clinics at public schools. Health Start is available at Creative Arts Wednesdays and Fridays.

Students are able to access the following services:

- mental health assessment and care
- depression and suicide prevention
- family issues
- violence prevention
- personal and relationship problems
- school concerns
- alcohol and substance abuse
- money and housing issues
- pregnancy counseling
- immigrant/refugee experiences
- recovery from trauma

Please contact our counselors for more information about the Health Start School Based Clinic.

WE ARE GOOD AT WHAT WE DO.

Principal's Note Kristen Lynch

December is a great month to experience 'We are Good at What We Do' here at Creative Arts.

Our fall theater production *Anon(ymous)* impressed audiences with its small but mighty cast and its powerful message. The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee will be our spring musical. Auditions are held the week of December 17th and I would love to have 50+ students sign up.

We showcase our vocal and instrumental artists on December 6th and 18th. We have over 150 students in our music program (that's nearly 1/3 of the school), and every year the quality of our performances improve. This year will hear the inaugural performance of our 6th Grade Choir!

Academically, December puts us in the middle of Quarter 2. Parent/teacher conferences will be held on December 13th from 4-7pm. Conferences are the perfect time for that personal check-in with your student's teachers, especially for high school students as every grade earned charts a path toward a post-secondary opportunity. Keeping one's GPA in good standing early will make life easier as high school goes on.

And to help ensure our high schoolers are ready for the college readiness exams, we run a practice ACT for all Juniors on December 19. We then debrief each student's scores with them so they know where to focus their studying and additional practice before the real test in February. Research shows that the more times a student takes the ACT, the better their scores will be.

We welcome the excitement the end of the calendar year brings to our school and look forward to what the New Year has in store for us.

#wearegoodatwhatwedo



Students heading over to St. Paul College to take the ACCUPLACER test.



Art Olympics in Mr. Schutt's class.



High school scholars attending the National College Fair.



Staff created string art.



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Please join us in congratulating the following students for being recognized as students of the month for October:

Sinyaha Hammond, 6th Grade

Sinyaha is consistently showing "We support each other!" and "We are good at what we do!" each and every day. She is brave and bold and willing to share her thoughts in class to benefit the whole group. I am proud to watch her stick up for others and herself while continuing to be kind to all.

Tin Than Da Oo, 6th Grade

Tin Than Da Oo is very hard working. She lives up to our core values of being good at what we do! She is able to stay focused on her education and it shows when she shares her ideas in class. Keep it up Tin! You are AWESOME!

Heaven Webb, 7th Grade

Strives to get good grades and advocates for support when she needs it.

Ki'Nyah Hobson, 7th Grade

Ki'Nyah is an active participant in class by assisting other students and sharing her thoughts. She demonstrates to other students that is okay to take risks and pushes herself every single day. Keep up the great work Ki'Nyah.

Lazaya Lindsey, 7th Grade

Lazaya strives for excellence in all that she does. She is consistently following the CASS expectations and works hard to complete her work and do well academically.

Kieran Pavlica, 8th Grade

Kieran is always on his core values game in choir class. I can always count on Kieran when even I need support which is why I've nominated him for student of the month. Thanks for always crushing it Kieran!

Chloe Nelson, 8th Grade

Chloe embodies all of the Creative Arts core values being creative, supportive, and good at what we do. She works hard and fully deserves to be recognized.

McKayla Mims, 9th Grade

McKayla works hard in class each day. She asks questions and is persistent when an answer is elusive. She is good at what she does.

Celia Prom, 12th Grade

Celia provides much-needed support in the library, she has asked for things to do, been trained on things no other student has been trusted with, and is an all-around library rock star.

Eric Lee, 12th Grade

Eric is responsible, mature, trust worthy, and dedicated to making art. He is always available to help a classmate with school work or teacher with a task. Erik is a Creative Arts Leader!

Shanna Niemi, 12th Grade

Shanna is a great leader in our class and does a great job of supporting her classmates as well as her teacher. There has been a number of occasions where Shanna encourages her classmate to not give up during challenging situations. For that, she is deserving of student of the month.

