

A weekly publication of the Lake Harriet Community School PTA

May 8, 2012

## **ESSAY CONTEST:**

**Topic: How gratitude influences our lives.**

### **Student Essay Contest**

This year the Upper Campus is holding an essay contest for grades 3-8. If it goes well this may become an annual event. Join us this year by writing an essay on: "How gratitude influences our lives."

**Deadline:** All entries must be received no later than **May 11**. Please email your entry to [julie.hirsch@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:julie.hirsch@mpls.k12.mn.us) or place it in her mailbox in the main office by May 11. The PBIS Committee and the Literacy Coach will review all entries. Two people will review each essay to determine an average score using the rubric shown on the back of this document. Please click on the link for more detailed contest information.

## **MUSIC PROGRAM SPRING CONCERTS**

LOWER CAMPUS Wednesday May 16th 9:50 – 11:00 ROOM SCHEDULE: 1st grade, Rooms 102 & 110: 9:50-10:00; 1st Grade, Rooms 105, 107, and 109: 10:10-10:20; 2nd grade, Rooms 201 & 101: 10:30-10:40; 2nd grade, Rooms 202, 203, and 204: 10:50-11:00.

The Chamber Orchestra (Grades 4-5) will perform in their annual spring concert on Tuesday, May 8, at 2:30 in the school gym. Our Chamber Orchestra will perform a program that includes classical, fiddle music, and contemporary orchestra arrangements.

The Concert Band (Grades 4-5) will perform in their annual spring concert on Friday, May 11, at 2:30 p.m. in the school gym. Marches, Overtures, novelty band works and a concert band works will round out the program for the concert. The members of the Wind Ensemble, Chamber Orchestra, and Concert band have all been working hard toward these performances. We look forward to seeing families, friends, and community members at our upcoming performances.

## **PARTIES GALORE IN MAY**

Second Grade Family Bowling Party - Sunday, May 6th 12-2pm TICKETS AVAILABLE Delete

Casino Night - Saturday, May 12th 7-11pm Only 4 TICKETS LEFT

4th Grade Mom's Night Out - Friday, May 18th 7-11pm TICKETS AVAILABLE

8th Grade Music Party - Friday, May 18th 5-9pm TICKETS AVAILABLE

5th Grade Trivia Night and Wall of Wonderful Beverages Raffle - Saturday, May 19th 7pm ONLY 1 TICKET LEFT

7th Grade All-American BBQ - Saturday, May 19th 5:30-9:30pm SOLD OUT!

Join other LHCS families at the Twins on Friday, June 8th. Tickets must be purchased by May 15th.

### **Buy your tickets today!**

Visit our Parties Galore Website to learn more about parties and purchase tickets.

[http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/Parties\\_Galore.html](http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/Parties_Galore.html)

## **District Math Competition**

Thanks and congratulations to all the 5th and 6th grade students and parents who participated and coached the students to a great District-wide math competition on Saturday, April 28th at North HS. Here are the results for the 17 fifth graders: 2 teams tied for Honorable Mention in Team Rounds: Anders C. Evan L., Isidora M. and Isabella K., Alexander M, Jemma M Individual Rounds-Third Place: Isabella K. Fact Drill-Perfect Score: Alexander M The results for the 4 sixth graders: Team Rounds-tied for 1st place: Peter K., Daniel L., Max V., Max W. Individual Rounds-2nd place: Max V. Combined individual/team Round-2nd place: Peter K., Daniel L., Max V., Max W. Special thanks to the parent coaches: Joe L., Eva C., Scott K., Tom M., and Anthony M.

## **DANCE BASH 2012 8TH GRADE DANCE CONTEST**

**On Friday, May 18th, at 2:30**, the 8th grade students will be competing in the eighth annual 8th Grade Dance Contest. Over the years, this dance contest has become a highlight of the school year. The students in Mr. DePerry's PE classes are taking part in a 3 week dance unit, practicing and performing dances to country and modern music. The 8th graders are divided into groups of 6 or 7 and asked to find music and put together a 90 second dance routine. Over the course of the dance unit, they must collaboratively design, practice, and master their dance routines. The culmination is 14 dance groups performing on stage in front of the student body and a panel of judges. Parents are welcome to attend. You will be amazed!!

As in the past, we are giving prizes out to the top three groups. As in the years past, parents have helped donate prizes for the dance contest. Once again, I am reaching out to the parents to help with the prizes for this very fun event. We need 7 prizes for each place. First-place prizes are \$20.00 gift cards to Southdale AMC Movie Theater; second place prizes are \$15.00 gift cards to Target; and third-place prizes are \$10.00 gift cards to Dunn Brothers. The 8th graders are looking forward to this contest, and they have some great dance routines in development. If you would like to help with the dance prizes or need information on the dance contest, please contact Mr. DePerry. This is a great tradition! Thanks, and let the dancing begin!!

**SCOOTER CITY** will soon be happening at the lower campus. For one week (Tues. May 8 – Mon. May 14), all physical education classes will be participating in Scooter City in the gym. If you are interested in volunteering during your child's PE class time, Ms. Chase would love to hear from you! You can help run the "restaurant", "car wash", etc. You can contact Ms. Chase by email ([carol.chase@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:carol.chase@mpls.k12.mn.us)) or voice mail (668-7593).

## **Be a Part of Next Year's Site Council**

How can you make Lake Harriet even better? Consider serving on the Lake Harriet Site Council. It's a unique opportunity to get involved and serve our school and our kids. The Site Council is a group of engaged parents, staff, and community members who meet one evening a month (the 3rd Tuesday) to provide recommendations on issues that impact our school. Members represent the interests of all Lake Harriet students and parents and serve as a vital communication link to school administration and staff. There are open positions for both parent and community members. Members serve for two-year terms. Some areas that Site Council concentrates on include STEM, School Communications and Talent Development. For more information please read the Site Council pages on the website (link below) and/or contact any current member of the Council linked here: [http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/council\\_members](http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/council_members). If you are interested, please complete the online form - at [lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/Site\\_Council](http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/Site_Council) - by May 11.

## **Viva City Choral Extravaganza brought students and directors together to build community**

From Jennifer Cuff:

On Wednesday, April 25th, 600 singers gathered on the polished wooden bleachers at Patrick Henry High School to perform for the 18th annual Viva City festival. Students sang together representing 11 Minneapolis Public Schools, grades 7-12. Each school was able to bring up to 70 students from their choral program. Lake Harriet Upper Campus 8th grade choir made up 35 voices as this is our first year with choir as a scheduled class.

The mission of this Viva City was to bridge the highway divides in the district and come together to celebrate what we love and do well together: Sing! We are celebrating the largest number of choir directors in Minneapolis Public Schools since 1986 and the largest number of students singing in choir farther back than anyone can remember! The first Viva City choral event consisted of 75 singers in the district in total. We have come a long way and hope to continue growing!

Viva City Choral Extravaganza was a three-day event where students and directors built community and incredible music through time to sing, talk, laugh, dance, play, play instruments, find new friends, take risks, break down stereotypes and be a part of making amazing, great music. Our (choral directors) vision for the event began to develop through our PLC (Professional Learning Community) in September of 2010. It was thrilling to be a part of the process and to finally experience the concert. The musical selections were chosen to represent the rich cultural diversity that is the foundation of our district. Robert Robinson, a Patrick Henry alumn, sang a fabulous rendition of "Put a Little Love in Your Heart" before having 600 back up singers on "He Lives in You". A finale of "21 Guns", arranged and directed by one of our newest MPS music teachers, Eric Sayre, was performed by all of our singers, accompanied by a rock orchestra of MPS students.

Directors, students, parents and administration are beaming and will remember this event forever.

From a parent:

I attended the Viva City choir performance last night, and I watched as over 600 middle and high school students came together in harmony and created musical magic. I was incredibly moved and so proud of our kids. I want to publicly acknowledge the choir directors and others who were committed to making this event happen. We struggle with and debate many issues and challenges in this forum, and sometimes we're left with a sense of hopelessness. Last night, I witnessed the power of people coming together to create something that touches our hearts and souls. We need a dose of the good stuff now and then to remind us to be hopeful, and this was just what the doctored ordered. Thanks again to all who worked tirelessly to make this happen.

Therese Balach  
Parent, Anthony Middle School

## **Community News**

### **TWO CLASS OFFERINGS FOR 2012-13**

Looking Ahead! Next Year Tarneka Harrison will be offering Beginner's Crochet, Dance and more at Lower Campus for Community Education. Also, there will be yearlong Drama Club with opportunities to showcase several times throughout the school year at Upper Campus! I am excited, how about You?

### **2011-2012 Connection Contacts:**

Mary Anne Welch Lavin: [maryanne.lavin@gmail.com](mailto:maryanne.lavin@gmail.com)  
Gwen Spurgat: [gwen.spurgat@objectpartners.com](mailto:gwen.spurgat@objectpartners.com)

Published every Tuesday. Deadline for submission is 4pm the preceding Thursday.

**Submissions:** email to [maryanne.lavin@gmail.com](mailto:maryanne.lavin@gmail.com) or use the online submission form at:

<http://lakeharriet.mpls.k12.mn.us/connection1.html>.

Please try to limit each submission to approximately 150 words in length.