In addition to our own recognition of the outstanding work of the students involved in WHS theatre, there have been several external recognitions of student work this year as well. WHS was nominated for two awards by Montclair State University at its "Theatre Night Awards", which recognizes excellence in high school plays. The fall production of A Little Hotel on the Side received nominations including "Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role" for Michaela Tropeano and "Outstanding Achievement by an Ensemble". Although they did not win either of these awards, it still speaks to the excellence achieved by these individuals, as well as all of the cast and crew of the production.

Meanwhile, at the Bucks County Theatre Festival in New Hope, PA, the students performed three one act plays, The Actor's Nightmare, by Christopher Durang; Identity Crisis, by Christopher Durang and Three Days of Rain, by Richard Greenberg. All three shows were outstanding and received the following recognitions: "Best Actor" - Geoffrey Ko; "Outstanding Performance by a Featured Performer" - Maggie Tanji; "Outstanding Performance by a Featured Performer" - Jack Venezia; "Outstanding Performance by a Featured Performer" - Nicole Zimmermann; and "Outstanding Overall Production" - 'Identity Crisis'.

Additionally, the WHS spring musical production of Bat Boy, the Musical continued the season of excellence as it received 7 nominations, 3 student achievement awards & 2 honorable mentions in the 2013 Paper Mill Playhouse "Rising Star Awards". The nominations include: “Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role” – Matthew Lynn; “Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role” – Megan Mulrooney; “Outstanding Achievement in Musical Direction” – John Brzozowski; “Outstanding Performance by a Chorus”; “Outstanding Performance by an Orchestra”; “Outstanding Achievement in Lobby Design” – Asher Horowitz; “Outstanding Achievement in Hair & Make-up Design” – Alexa Derman; “Student Achievement Award for Costume Design” – Geneva Gleason; “Student

Michael Kirkland and Matthew Lynn were presented with the New Jersey Governor’s Award in Arts Education on May 2, 2013.
Congratulations Fraser Weist, Junior at WHS and member of Concert Choir, was chosen as the winner of the Harmonium Society Choral Composition contest. His piece will be performed by the Harmonium Society Chorus in early June.

More information can be found here: http://harmonium.org/contest.shtml

Achievement Award for Stage Management” – Lydia Oquendo; “Student Achievement Award for Film and Computer Animation” – Chris Sabatino; andHonorable Mentions: “Outstanding Overall Production of a Musical” and “Outstanding Achievement by a Teacher or Outside Director” – Daniel Devlin. The winners of the “Rising Star Awards” will be announced at a ceremony held at Paper Mill on June 4 at 7:30 pm. Congratulations to all of the WHS theatre students for their outstanding work, both in and out of the classroom.

WHS Writing and Arranging composers and Graphic Designers on TV 36: The young composers enrolled in Writing and Arranging as taught by Mr. Wojcik will have their compositions featured in a TV 36 video concert. The program will consist of cartoon trailers set to music by the composing class. Mr. Chamber’s graphic design students created original cartoon trailers in response to the music composed by the class. The cartoon themes were performed by WHS instrumental students and recorded by Al Grigg. For their final project, the young composers composed longer pieces for larger ensembles. The WHS Chamber Orchestra will be featured playing original works for string orchestra.

NJ All State Chorus
Five WHS students were accepted into the NJ All State Chorus for 2013 – 2014 school year. The students in the Mixed Chorus will perform in November at the NJ Teachers Convention as well as the New Jersey Performing Arts Center. The students in the Women’s Chorus will perform at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in February 2014.

2013 NJ All State Mixed Chorus – Julian Mone and Kim Roth; 2014 NJ All State Women’s Chorus – Kristin Hauge, Katherine Ko and Melanie Snyder.

More information about the groups can be found at NJMEA.org.

Mr. Chambers’ Foundations of art class created Intaglio prints by etching images into plexiglass and then running them through a printing press. Students created multiple black and white and color prints as part of their “edition” of prints. Several were featured in the District-Wide Art Show.

Graphic Design I classes created original App Icons using Adobe Illustrator. The icons, which are an extension of logo design, were made to mimic the look or style of icons on smart devices with multiple gradients and reflections. Each icon had its own original design and description. Many were grouped together on an image of an ipad to see how they worked visually at a small scale. They were also featured at the District Wide Art Show.

Mr. Chambers’ Graphic Design II classes collaborated, along with help from Ms. Spring, Ms. Singhbaba, and Ms. Muir, to conceptualize and build an installation for the District Wide Art Show based on the controversial subject of “Guns and 2nd Amendment Rights”. The period 6 and period 9 Graphic Design II classes decided to take on the subject, first independent of one
another, and later as a group with the creation of the installation. Students were encouraged to express any viewpoint they had on the subject using silkscreen with images only. They also created artist’s statements to describe the meaning of their silkscreens and any opinions they had on the subject. The finished installation was a testament to their individual bravery with a very sensitive subject and to the collaborative work with not just like-minded individuals, but also with people that may have differing opinions.

Music

The WHS Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Mr. Raymond Wojcik ended its season on May 22nd with a program of music by Benjamin Britten – “Simple Symphony” and Mozart-“Sinfonia Concertante”. Between these two major works was Norman Dello Joio’s “Arietta”. Seniors Alexandra Tinfow and Edmund Han were soloists in the Symphonia Concertante. Original compositions by Kristin Hauge and Liam Keller were featured after the Chamber Orchestra’s performance.

Mrs. Hatzikyriakou’s Foundations of Art classes learned fundamental watercolor techniques and expanded their color theory knowledge through the painting of a vegetable still-life. Fresh peppers, onions, radish and more were the subjects of beautiful natural lit paintings. Several were matted and proudly hung at the District Art Show! World Crafts Sampler students are ending the school year with two very colorful activities - tie dye clothing and mixed medium mosaics. New life is being brought to old white pillow cases and t-shirts via tie dye and glass containers and tin cans are being turned into decorative vases.

This year’s District Art Show was another huge success. In these photographs, you can see samples of various projects created by World Crafts Sampler and Crafts Exploration students. The “crafts” table this year was jam packed with student art based off of various cultures and time periods. Batiks, masks, pillows, a knit scarf, a crocheted blanket, hand sewn creatures, macramé, and baskets were all on display.

Congratulations to Junior Alto Saxophonist Zachary Birkenenthal for being accepted to a 2013 NJAJE Region II High School Jazz Ensemble.

The WHS jazz bands traveled to Phillipsburg High School on May 11th to participate in their final jazz
festival of the school year. The stage band received an award for having the best saxophone section of the day while the jazz ensemble received awards for best trumpets and rhythm sections. Zachary Birkenthal also received an award for being a top soloist of the day. Both bands performed in the final WHS Music Department Concert of the year on Wednesday May 29th featuring three high school ensembles, the percussion ensemble, and the winter guard.

The WHS Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and Wind Ensemble presented their 2013 Spring Concert on May 15th. All of the performing students did an outstanding job preparing a program in the midst of AP testing and a very busy spring schedule. A portion of the night was devoted to recognizing the WHS Band graduating class of 2013! Thank you to the following students for their contribution to the WHS Band Program over the past 4 years.

- Michael Aronson, Trumpet
- Oria Alexander, Flute
- Clayton Beyert, Trumpet
- Alexander Breakstone, Euphonium
- Andres Chang, Alto Sax
- Jonathan Clancy, Percussion
- James Criscuolo, Bari Sax
- David Cui, Clarinet
- Peter Fagan, Oboe
- Kevin Galasso, Trombone
- Alexandra Kapadia, Flute
- Liam Keller, Bass
- Geoffrey Ko, Bass Clarinet
- Alexander Laitamaki, Trumpet
- Steven Lee, Bari Sax
- Paul Lizzo, Tenor Sax
- Jeffrey Marino, Clarinet
- Eric Mikalauskas, Clarinet
- Gregory Nielsen, Percussion
- Scott Pass, Trumpet
- Joseph Salmon, Trombone
- Anna Simon, Oboe
- Austen Thien, Percussion
- Ryan Tormey, Percussion
- Alex Ying, Bass Trombone
- Rebecca Zhang, Flute

The Marching Blue Devils have begun preparations for the 2013 season! Their 2013 production, entitled “DREAM,” features the music of Mark Camphouse, John Lennon, Joseph Curiale, and the rock band F.U.N. The production will celebrate the 50-year anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s “I Have a Dream” speech. In November 2013 the WHS Marching Band will travel...
to Annapolis, MD to compete in the US Bands Mid-Atlantic State Championships. The show will be held at the historical Navy-Marine Corps Stadium on the campus of the Naval Academy. Most recently, the band was seen performing at the Annual Westfield Memorial Day parade. The band would like to thank the Westfield Band Parent Association for providing breakfast for the students at 8 am on Memorial Day morning as well as for the purchasing of the bands’ Memorial Day T-shirts that were worn for the performance.

Westfield High School, in collaboration with Edison Intermediate School and Roosevelt Intermediate School, presented its second annual Jazz Night on Friday, May 3rd. This event featured performances by five Westfield district jazz bands. We look forward to continuing this new Westfield tradition next spring!

**Drama**

As the year winds down to a close, the WHS Theatre Department finds itself as busy as ever, both in class and out. In the Drama 1 class, the students have begun working on their final performance scenes from All My Sons, by Arthur Miller. The Drama 2 students are also preparing their final projects. They are exploring their comedic sides as they work on scenes from the Neil Simon comedies The Prisoner of Second Avenue and California Suite. In Drama 3, the students are examining the actor’s approach to Musical Theatre by analyzing and performing songs as monologues. In Stagecraft, the students are working on their final Scenic Design projects, which will culminate with the building of scale models representing their original scenic designs.

In addition to these various projects, the students have been actively planning the Third Annual “International Thespian Gala”, which will be held at The Westwood on May 24th. This marks the third year that WHS has been involved with the International Thespian Society, the National Honor Society representing high school theatre students. At the Gala, the students will be recognized for their participation in WHS theatre as well as their overall academic accomplishments and community service.

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**Roosevelt Intermediate Art**

Mrs. Cohen’s 6th graders are creating bookmark weavings. They are incorporating a minimum of 4 stitches, horizontal, vertical, diagonal, and either a square within a square or an initial.

The 7th graders are finishing up their Elements of Design and are starting on scratch board creations.

One 8th grade class is working on a large version of weaving, while the other class is doing their plaster hand project. They create a background interpreting a famous artist’s piece or create in the style of that artist. They use a variety of medium, than they mold their hand in plaster gauze and incorporate it into their creation. The 8th graders also just finished painting ceiling tiles for the cafeteria- with a “food” theme!!

In preparation for this year’s District art Show Mr. Greenwood’s 6th grade classes completed a graphic design project creating tessellations, multiple interlocking repeating patterns. Before this the 6th grade students designed and made “Fantasy Houses”. Students were shown architecture from around the world and were challenged to create their own fantasy design. After the conclusion of this phase, the students formed groups and created 3D models of their fantasy houses. Next week students will be introduced to product design and marketing concept while designing soda and drink cans. After the design phase,
models of their own soda can designs will be completed.

Mr. Greenwood’s 8th grade students recently completed a project where they discussed the artwork of contemporary artist Jenny Holzer and the impact of words and text in art. Students were to design an art piece that contained words, symbols or song lyrics. This was a mixed media artwork of drawing and painting. Prior to this students created multi-layered construction paper cutouts. Students recently completed 3-dimensional dodecahedrons. Each of these 12 sided paper sculptures is to be decorated with black and white ink designs. Preparing for the District Art Show the 8th grade classes completed 6 large scale drawings of famous artworks. The Great Wave, Light House at Two Lights, The Starry Night, Venice at Dusk, Campbell’s Soup, The Creation of Adam. These class drawings were then transformed into a 3 Dimensional revolving Billboard. After the District Art Show the 8th grade students will be working on plaster sculpture.

This year’s sixth grade class worked very hard all year long, and Mr. Doyle is extremely excited about their future at RIS.

The seventh grade band will also be performing a John Edmondson march, followed by selections from the opera “Carmen” by George Bizet, and a challenging piece called “Highland Legend”. Mr. Freeman will be conducting the group for “Carmen” and Mr. Steir will be conducting “Highland Legend”. The seventh grade has been lucky enough to work with THREE different teachers this year!

This will be the last concert for the 8th graders at RIS. To mark the occasion, the band will be performing a piece called “Count Not the Hours” by Patrick Burns. Mr. Burns visited RIS and spent a rehearsal working on this piece with the 8th grade band, and they are extremely excited to play it. They will also be performing a concert march titled “The Flying Tigers” and a very challenging piece, “Anthem for Winds and Percussion”.

Music

RIS Bands Concert June10

Mr. Doyle and the RIS bands are looking forward to another wonderful performance to wrap up the 2012-2013 school year. On Monday June 10 at 7PM, the concert bands and both jazz ensembles will be taking the stage at RIS for the last time this year, showcasing the music they have been working on for the past few months. The sixth grade band will start the concert off with a march by composer John Edmondson, music from “Harry Potter” and a beautiful setting of the Scottish melody “The Rowan Tree”.

The Accidentals and Morning Jazz will perform on the second half of the program. They will be performing works by Miles Davis, Hoagy Carmichael, Duke Ellington, Victor Lopez, Antonio Carlos Jobim, and Big Bad Voodoo Daddy. Eighth grade flutist Shannon Pyle will be featured as a soloist on “Girl from Ipanema”.

Please come out and support all of our students and recognize them for the hard work they have put in this year!

Hershey Park 2013 - This year’s trip to Hershey Park was another success! The weather was PERFECT, and the ensembles were fantastic as well. Morning Jazz and The Accidentals both brought home “Superior” ratings from the judges! Ensembles are given a rating of “Superior” when they score a 90 or above. Mr. Doyle could not be more proud of the work that the students in the jazz program have done, and how well they have performed. Hopefully students will continue to study jazz as they begin their high school careers.
The Vocal Music Program is preparing to close out another great year. On May 17th the Sharps and Flats sang a three piece performance at the Trills and Thrills Music Festival and received a Superior rating. It was a great day for the RIS audition music groups who all scored very well. The eighth grade chorus is preparing their final performance on June 3rd. Students have mixed feelings about their final performance but are looking forward to their High School experience. They will also sing a selection on their June 19th Celebration night at WHS. Seventh Grade chorus student are doing a six piece Beatles set for their concert. We studied the influence on music and the impact on pop music of the Beatles and decided to tie it in with our concert. It should be fun! It is great to see young students excited to sing this great music! The Vocal Music Concerts are June 3rd for Six and Eighth Grade Chorus and June 4th for Seventh Grade Chorus and Sharps and Flats. All concerts start at 7PM.

Drama

On May 6th, 2013 the 8th Grade Drama Classes attend The 46th Bucks County Student Theatre Festival. RIS presented Spoon River Anthology by Edgar Lee Masters. The play is a collection of poems, monologues and songs by many characters. The Epitaphs reveal the secret lives of Americans in a small town. Directed by Mrs. Jonny and Assistant Directors Meagan O’Connell and Sara Frankel. Stage Manager- Emma Cravo.

There were 8 middle and high school productions with over 100 students in attendance from New Jersey and Pennsylvania. One of the many highlights of the competition was being able to meet one of the adjudicators of the program Justin Guarini from the debut season of American Idol. After performing and the feedback session students attended workshops lead by Nicole Baker a Radio City Rockette and John Tartaglia from Avenue Q.

Congratulations

The production won Outstanding Middle School Ensemble and special awards were given to Meagan O’Connell for Outstanding Actress and Samantha Greenaway for the Spotlight Award.

It was a fantastic day! Congratulations to the entire cast!

Spoone River Anthology

Cast

Emma Cravo as Mrs. Williams
Joelle Ballerver as Dora Williams
Jack Neward as Walter Simmons and Hamilton Greene
Jacob Cullen as Knowit Hoheimer and Rosco Purcapile
Juliana Yang as Lydia Puckett
Haley Farella as Ollie McGee
Meagan O’Connell as Elsa Wertman
Sara Frankel as Russian Sonia
Gabrielle Dunn as Mrs. Kessler
Claudia Dougherty as Mrs. Purcapile
Esther Nam as Zilpha Marsh
Charlotte Rule as Searcy Foote
Franki Colucci as Mable Osborne
Rose Parker as Flossie Cabanis
Samantha Greenaway as Hortense
Liam Kudlick as Frank Drummer
Pam Burke as Lucinda Matlock
Violin- Sara Frankel and Emma Cravo

May is an exciting month celebrating the beautiful work of our students this year with the District Art Show. The art show displayed works from grades 6th through 8th both three dimensional and two dimensional work.

Edison Intermediate Art

Ms. Hooper’s sixth grade students are having an awesome time working on 3-D birds made from paper mache. They are working on creating the concept of form and the technique of molding and creating armatures. They will be decorating their birds with tempera paint and feathers. Sixth graders in Mr. Black’s classes are also working with the concept of form by making plaster of paris sculptures of monsters and creatures from their imagination. Mrs. Frees’ 6th grade classes are working with the idea of symmetry, shape and space. They are painting with tempera paint and creating pattern. Students are
also working on ideas for an original cartoon done in a traditional cell method.

Grade 7 students with Ms. Hooper are working on a Medieval Art unit making gargoyles from clay and creating tapestries. The Tapestries are inspired by the Bayeaux Tapestry. Students in Mrs. Frees are learning about M.C. Escher and Optical Art from the 1960’s. The students are making optical illusions, and also creating Tessellations. They are learning about the concept of repetition. The 7th graders in Mr. Black’s classes are working on oil pastel landscape paintings inspired by the Impressionist artists.

Students in 8th grade Fine Arts with Ms. Hooper are making Silhouette paintings in acrylic and mixed media collage about themselves. They are also working on Mandalas and learning about the Tibetan arts and also the idea of radial symmetry. Fine Arts Students with Mr. Black are working on their Pop Art inspired large scale portraits. They are working with various media; watercolor, pastel, pencil, acrylics and oil pastel. Students are also working on a painting with glass frit that will then be fired in the kiln.

Music

The Edison bands are preparing for their upcoming Spring Concert series. The 6th Grade Band will be performing on June 4th. They will present An American Symphony, from Mr. Holland’s Opus; Swahili Folk Hymn a traditional African folk song; The Curse of Tutankhamun; and The Greatest Generation March from the T.V. series of the same name.

The Symphonic Band is preparing to play for the High Note Music Festival on June 4th to be followed by their Spring Performance on June 11th. At the festival, they will perform for an adjudication panel the “Finale” from Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony and a medley of themes from the Pirates of the Caribbean. For their Spring Concert they will add a medley of tunes from the James Bond movies, to acknowledge the 50th anniversary of the Bond movie series.

The Jazz Ensemble performed to the rousing applause of the audience at the high school Jazz Night. They will bring their award winning performance to the High Note Music Festival and also to follow with their Spring Concert. Once again they will display their versatility by presenting several musical styles from Big Band to Rock with such pieces as Count Basie’s Jumpin’ at the Woodside and Tommy Dorsey’s Opus One to James Brown’s I Got You and Van Morrison’s Moondance. They will also feature two numbers with the addition of a vocal solo in Someone to Watch Over Me and Blue Moon with the Broadway Singers.

The EIS Sinfonia, 7th and 8th Grade String Orchestras will be in concert on Monday June 10th in a program ranging from Bach to the Beatles. The 8th Grade Strings and Sinfonia will also be performing in an assembly on June 6th and at the High Note Festival on June 7th. Eight grade student Amy Liang will be a featured soloist playing the Erhu (Chinese violin) with the Sinfonia.

Vocal music students at EIS are presently in the midst of rehearsing for the end-of-year performance opportunities that are fast approaching. The sixth and seventh grade chorus students are working to perfect their repertoire for concerts on June 3 and 4. The eighth grade chorus is also preparing for their concert on June 11th, as well as the High Note adjudication festival, to be held at EIS on Friday, June 7th. The Broadway singers are preparing for that festival as well, which is a high point in the season for them.

The Broadway Singers and the EIS Jazz Band will be joining forces for our June 11th concert. The combined groups will be performing jazz standards together, including "Blue Moon" and "Someone to Watch Over Me". It is the first time the two groups will combine for a concert, and the students (and directors) are very excited."
Franklin Elementary

Art

The Art students of Franklin School under the direction of Mrs. Coveney certainly had a creative year. The variety of projects and medium available to them proved to be a great tool for assessment of artistic growth and development.

The 1st grade students, as they finish out the year learned that texture and color can create a beautiful piece of art. These elements of Art were reviewed and experienced, as aluminum foil became the focus of their underwater scene. Sharpie markers were dragged along a textural rug backing and scales were formed in their fish drawings. Water was placed in the background and eyes on the fish were added. Their vocabulary increased and remained strong. All oohs and aahs could be heard!

The 2nd grade students saw how pattern and repetition developed a radial design. A sun face with its symmetry and brilliant rays transformed a simple circle into Art. A review of warm and cool colors assisted them with the patterns and style of their piece. Measurement and placement helped them with their total presentation.

The 3rd grade students became aware of the placement of one little point and how its vanishing qualities can create depth and distance. Vincent Van Gogh was their inspiration through the whole drawing as we referred to his famous painting “Bedroom at Arles”. We viewed a 2-D surface and saw how 3-D could be accomplished. A many “I see it now” moment could be heard.

The 4th grade students viewed a night at the gallery. A self-portrait project was revisited and taught as their portraits of 1st grade were compared. An evening of observation was experienced as their drawings hung side by side to see growth and understanding. Interpretation was apparent and success could be seen. In the halls of Franklin school, many a drawing could be seen.

The District Wide Art Show was an evening of success. Artistic growth could be seen and witnessed. Progression from our artists from Kindergarten to High School is always enjoyed. Have a wonderful summer and see you in the fall.

Music

It has been an exciting Spring here at Franklin School. The fourth and fifth graders rehearsed and performed for their band, chorus, and orchestra concerts and did an excellent job at each. All of the faculty, students, and parents thoroughly enjoyed each of the ensembles. However, concert season isn’t over yet. Many of the fifth graders and a few fourth graders are putting the finishing touches on their songs as they prepare for the annual All City concert. This year’s All City Chorus will be directed by Mr. Geyer and Mr. Hendricks again. Songs such as “I Can Feel the Rhythm” and “The Happy Wanderer” will have your toes tapping, while others such as “Riversong” and “The Ash Grove” will touch your heart through their lyrical lines.

As the school year begins to wrap up, the students are traveling to different states and countries as they learn about jazz, multicultural, and other genres of music while learning about musical form. The fourth graders will get to study how jazz music developed in America while learning about something called a record player. The second graders will come home singing about a man with an unusual name, and the third graders will begin the instrument selection process for fourth grade. All of these exciting lessons and events will hopefully send the Franklin students home this summer singing, playing, and dancing on the beach, at camp, or wherever else you may be going.

In addition to all of the school performances, the fifth graders had the opportunity to sing the National Anthem for the Somerset Patriots while the Glee Club led the stadium in “Take Me Out to the Ballgame”. Everyone had a wonderful time as they represented Franklin School and Westfield with pride. As an added bonus, the evening concluded with a spectacular fireworks display.
Arts a la Carte
June 2013

Jefferson Elementary
Art

We draw close to the end of the year, some grades are finishing up projects and some are starting new ones. In Fifth grade, the cloth-mache fish continue to get an incredible amount of compliments. Some were displayed in the art show, many are being displayed in the office and still more are being displayed in the second grade showcase. Congratulations to the 5th graders that worked so hard on this multi-level process. They are beautiful, and scary, and wonderfully monster-like....

The fifth grade is now applying skills that they have learned throughout their Jefferson careers to make masks based upon one of the seven design principles (picked out of a hat).

The fourth grades are finishing up their one-point perspective cities and will be starting their 3-D spheres, which builds upon their knowledge of color theory.

Third grades are just finishing up their weaving unit. In two weeks we will be bringing all the weavings together, measuring them, and figuring out which grade, 3rd or 4th, has won the "Battle of the Grades" weaving contest. The grade that wins will receive a party during their last day of art.

The first and second grades are working with clay. The first graders making pinch pots with designs inspired by Ancient Greek pottery, and the second graders are making animals from looking at toy models.

It has been a wonderful year and I hope that the children continue with their artistic pursuits during the summer.

Music

The 1st graders continue a multi-cultural exploration of song, singing repertoire in English, Spanish and Japanese! They are experiencing rhythm, form and tempo through movement and being drilled on music signs and symbols of the printed page.

The 2nd graders are moving forward with recognition of the lines and spaces on the G Clef staff and of written rhythms. When exploring a song, we identify the country with which it is connected and discuss some of that country's cultural aspects. Most recently, we have enjoyed watching portions of the Sound of Music, a piece filled with lessons in musical and cultural awareness!

Yarn hair, wings and a glittery wand were some of the fun things added to their miniature creations. The tooth fairies accompanied the 3-D Model Magic molar shaped containers that they previously made.

Rangoli is one of the most popular and traditional art forms in India. It is a design used to decorate floors, usually in front of a house or doorway. It is used for special occasions and festivals and in southern India it is common to use it daily. The designs of rangoli generally include geometrical patterns, flowers and animals. It uses different natural and synthetic mediums and colors (marble, sand, grains, sawdust, flowers etc.) Mrs. Massenzio’s 2nd grade students worked collectively to create a rangoli, using stencils. When each section was put together, it was a beautiful radial design.

McKinley artists are working on applying their new understandings of Art theories from this past year into their current works. The 2nd grade students in Mr. Roig’s class learned about radial symmetry and created their own personal designs. These artists also made prints with yarn cones and finished with watercolor for an exploration in abstract art. Their last projects will involve a multilayered lesson making a raised line drawing by drawing with glue and once dried, ink will be applied to these line drawings to create a print. Paper is pushed onto these inked lines creating a print. This print will then serve as the basis for a painting. Being able to make multiple prints, the students can experiment with various color combinations for their final step of painting.

The 3rd grade students created personality masks where instead of disguising themselves, they brought their own unique personal traits to life. Layering their projects with cut paper and using carbon paper to...
accurately trace their drawn shapes allowed for a complicated yet successful project.

Afterwards, we moved into a quicker and easier lesson where students created their own logos for their very own restaurant, company, sports team or shop. The results were highly creative and spoke to the students’ interests which allowed full artistic engagement in every class.

Observational drawing will serve as a basis for the final art classes as they prepare for their 4th grade art education next year.

Fourth grade students just completed a warm and cool, negative and positive surrealist profile using watercolors. Their silhouettes were traced and the students had to transform their profiles into something else by creating an illusion and hiding their features. The contour line of their silhouettes served to separate the warm and cool color combination.

After this unit, they focused on reviewing their negative and positive relationships through meticulous arrangement of white stickers on black paper to communicate their imagery. From here they will move into blind contour line portraits while observing themselves through mirrors. This exercise will allow them to access both sides of their brain in order to complete the drawing and help them to gain observational skills. The 5th grade students in Mr. Roig’s just finished their large format “Fifteen Minutes of Fame” pop art project guided through the work of Roy Lichtenstein and Andy Warhol. Students were prompted to bring in their own popular imagery or to transform themselves into a celebrity. Through color theory and learning of colors’ vast intensities, the neon palette gave more pop to the pop art. Students are currently creating a rubber band print by making their own stamp through gluing down a design formed of rubber bands onto cardboard. Paint or ink is applied to the dried design with a roller and then the image is pressed onto a piece of paper to print. Watercolor will be added to the prints to give them more character and make them more personalized. A fun lesson on perspective will help the fifth grade students to create large taxi cab drawings with cut paper bent to add 3D sculptural elements to their works. These taxi cabs will be showcased in the auditorium for their fifth grade end of the year NYC themed dance party!

Music

The first graders in Mrs. Krihak’s and Mrs. McGarry’s classes have been busy learning about musical instruments this month. We have played a variety of games to practice identifying instruments by sight and sound. We also read My Many Colored Days by Dr. Suess and listened to music that fit each mood. Below is a picture of the students identifying forte/piano, fast/slow and instruments in each piece.

The second graders in Mrs. Speir’s and Mrs. Tierney’s classes have also been busy learning about musical instruments. They have learned about instrumentation through the Carnival of the Animals and have been playing zondle in teams, competing against each other in a game show like smart board game. They have also learned a variety of songs including the Instrument song which is a 5 part partner song! That’s a lot of parts singing at once!
The McKinley 3rd Grade had an extremely entertaining and informative International Celebration, where students sang highlighting countries from around the world.

Likewise, the 4th Grade will perform a song along with their Wax Museum project presenting on influential people throughout history. In our last month of the school year, McKinley students can look forward to fun activities that will recap all of the various musical concepts that have been learned throughout the year.

The fifth graders at McKinley have had a busy few months!

They performed the national anthem at the Somerset Patriots game in addition to having their Spring concert on May 22nd. The students did a wonderful job and represented Westfield with pride! In class they learned about the science of sound, and built their very own instruments. We even had someone build bagpipes! We will be sad to see them go to Edison next year but wish them all the best of luck to do great things!

Miss Toulios

Tamaques Elementary

Art

These are a few samples of artwork created by Mrs. Schwarzenbek’s first and second grade students at Tamaques. The photographs were taken at this year’s District Art Show. Come to the Tamaques Art Show to see more amazing artwork by every student! Check out the Tamaques website to see the date and time.

These three framed works of art were on display at the District Art Show and then auctioned off at the Tamaques Tailgate Party. Each class created a project based on a grade level theme. Shown here are the works from Mrs. Eisen and Mrs. Shepcaro’s classes (the hearts), Ms. Fariello’s first grade (the birds) and Mrs. Gundrum’s second grade (the hot air balloons).
Music

Tamaques School’s 4th grade band concert on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 was a huge success! The 4th grade band “WOWED” the audience with “When the Saints Go Marching In”, “Old MacDonald had a Band”, Hard Rock Blues, and many traditional folk and popular songs. The finale was a band arrangement entitled Theme and Variations on Hot Cross Buns!

Tamaques School’s 5th Grade band also did a wonderful job on their portion of the May 21st program. The audience was treated to Carnival in Rio by Michael Story a festive piece which used many Latin percussion instruments. The band also played works by Brian Balmage, Beethoven and Chuck Elledge. The final was a rock tune titled, Dr. Rock which brought the house down! Congratulations to all the performers for a job well done!

At Tamaques School, the 5th Grade chorus presented songs from various different forms of media for their Annual Spring Concert. While they highlighted songs from movies (Scales and Arpeggios), television (The Pink Panther), Broadway (People), and the radio (River of Dreams), they also occasionally featured a baritone section providing 3-part harmony, as well as varied student percussion. Our 4th grade students have been enjoying Rhythm Baseball to emphasize some of the more challenging rhythmic components of sight-reading (complete with double plays and home runs). The 5th graders have also taken part in Instrument Family Feud to reinforce their knowledge of the instruments that are present in a traditional symphony orchestra. In addition, the upper grades are eager to present and debut the Tamaques School song this month, which is a composition that has been entirely student created.

Washington Elementary

It has been an exciting spring at Washington School!

The 3rd grade artists in particular have truly “blossomed” in this season. Students in this grade studied the work of Georgia O’Keeffe. Her beautiful paintings served as inspiration for a study on cropped flower paintings. New techniques with chalk were explored with some colorful and creative results. Students expanded this study by making a garden of MEGA paper flowers. These pieces were more than three feet wide and added some whimsy to our halls and gym.

In 2nd grade, students’ creative thinking was piqued with space exploration. This scientific study resulted in paintings diagramming new, undiscovered galaxies with paint, paper, and chalk; as well as the invention of painted robots that, if actually assembled, would be able to make dinner, clean up, and play games with us.

Grades 1st and 5th both finished similar projects, although years apart. As is our tradition, students draw a self-portrait when they start elementary school and also when they leave. This spring the fifth grade was highly amused to compare their work this year with that done in 2008. The stark contrast between the two serves as a remarkable visual example of the way these students have developed their artistic talents throughout all of elementary school.

Thanks to the support of local businesses, students have had the opportunity to highlight their hard work in a number of special ways.

Flower Art By Design Contempo was incredibly generous in professionally matting and framing the pieces on display during Youth Art Month. These donations have helped to start a formal gallery display at both Washington and Lincoln Schools. We also appreciate the hard and generous work of Michael Chan at the River Mill Art Gallery. He cut custom mats as a graduation gift for our fifth grade class.

Our elementary artists will forever remember these kind acts from our community. Thank you!

Art does not always have to be realistic! Mrs. Massenzio’s 4th grade students created beautiful abstract designs using complementary colors. Complementary colors are those directly opposite each other on the color wheel, and the colors appear brighter when placed next to each other. Silhouettes of people in motion...
were glued on top to complete this lesson of vibrating color!

Music

Washington School’s 4th grade band concert on Thursday: May 23rd was also a huge success! In addition to “When the Saints Go Marching In”, “Old MacDonald had a Band”, “Band Room Boogie”, the students performed “Oh Susanna” written by that great American composer Stephen Collins Foster as well as “Skip to My Lou” a classic American Folk Song, Frere Jacques a French Folk Song and many other traditional songs.

Washington School’s May 23rd 5th Grade Band Concert was equally impressive! The band selections included Carnival in Rio, Banana Boat Song a Caribbean Folk Song, Midnight Mission, The Olympians (an adaptation of Ode to Joy which was performed at the 1996 Olympics), and Wolfgang in The Percussion Box. Congratulations to all the performers for a job well done!

The last month of school is already here! Can you believe it? Washington School has done a lot this year not only in the classroom, but in performance as well. Most recently, the 5th grade students performed the National Anthem at the TD Bank Ballpark. They did an amazing job on and off the field, and their performance was terrific!

The 3rd and 4th grade have been taking this a step further and are now reading rhythms and are using their understanding of steady beat to facilitate their performance. The 4th grade has been utilizing this skill combined with the use of solfege syllables to learn music using the written notation. This will better prepare them for chorus as they begin next year as 5th graders.

This year’s 5th graders practiced diligently for their spring concert. They performed a variety of pieces with soloists on flute, percussion and voice. A job well done! This month the students are working to put together a talent show. A lot of time and effort is being put into this, and I’m sure it will be well worth their time. There will be piano soloists, singers, dancers, instrumentalists, artists, comedy skits and much more!

As the year comes to end, I would like to say how much fun we have all had. I look forward to helping my students make even greater strides in their musical development next year. For my current 5th graders going into middle school, I’d like to congratulate you on all of your accomplishments this year and to wish you the best of luck as you continue on the path to your future!

Mr. Stier

Wilson Elementary

Art

Since many of Mrs. Massenzio’s 1st grade students have lost their teeth, the children were quite excited to make their own little 3-D tooth fairies! We talked about proportion, and how it has to do with the size of something in relation to other objects. Yarn hair, wings and a glittery wand were some of the fun things added to their miniature creations. The tooth fairies accompanied the 3-D Model Magic molar shaped containers that they previously made.

Rangoli is one of the most popular and traditional art forms in India. It is a design used to decorate floors, usually in front of a house or doorway. It is used for special occasions and festivals and in southern India it is common to use it daily. The designs of rangoli generally include geometrical patterns, flowers and animals. It uses different natural and synthetic mediums and colors (marble, sand, grains, sawdust, flowers etc.) Mrs. Massenzio’s 2nd grade students worked collectively to create a rangoli, using stencils. When each section was put together, it was a beautiful radial design.

Mrs. Massenzio’s 3rd grade class painted beautiful seascapes with a lighthouse. Lighthouses have been used as navigational aids for sailors for thousands of years. There are about 340 lighthouses in the United States today. Sandy Hook, New Jersey has the oldest operating lighthouse in the United States. Every lighthouse has a distinctive pattern of light. Students learned how to create a seascape, and at the same time
learn all about lighthouses and their interesting history.

**Music**

The 1st and 2nd graders at Wilson School have had a great time singing songs about Earth Day such as "Agents of Change" and "Its Easy Being Green." The 2nd graders also worked on making paper piano keys in the main hallway at Wilson. Each key, starting with "Music is the key to...", describes why each student loves music and why it is important to them. Some keys included "Music is the key to fun because it brings me closer to my family," and "Music is the key to life because when you're bored what else are you going to do?"

The 5th graders worked very hard preparing for their big concert at the end of May which included songs from the Baroque to Broadway! The choristers performed repertoire in English, Japanese and French. They were accompanied by talented flautists on two of the selections. And!! We brought out the tap dancers for Forty-Second Street!

The first and second graders sure do love music!

The 3rd and 4th graders are enjoying their repertoire, study of intervals and creation of ostinatos on the djembe drum! The latter allows students to practice the ostinato form, to be original and to be a featured soloist during our weekly session.

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Lincoln School was nicely represented in the District Art Show this May and received many compliments from visitors. This past month the students have demonstrated an understanding of symmetry and pattern found in nature by making scratchboard butterflies with matching wings. Through this scratching technique the students revealed a kaleidoscope of colors beneath the surface.

The preschoolers at Lincoln have been continuing to work on the concepts of high and low, fast and slow and playing musical instruments. This year has been full of exciting songs and dances that have helped the children grow as young musicians. As the year comes to a close the Kindergarteners at Lincoln are preparing for their graduation celebration on June 11th. The students are preparing a variety of songs based on the theme "A dream is a wish your heart makes". They even wrote their own song about their wishes for the world that they will perform. They have also been busy learning about rhythms and musical instruments preparing them for 1st grade.
DID YOU KNOW?

You can receive an electronic copy of the Arts a la Carte newsletter. To be placed on our email distribution list, please email your name to mmota@westfieldnjk12.org / Subject: Arts a la Carte and look for the fall issue in your inbox.

Best Wishes for a HAPPY, HEALTHY + SAFE Summer!

See you in September!