The 2011-2012 school year has been a busy one for many Westfield Fine Arts students. Throughout the year, students have performed in concerts all over the state, displayed artwork at numerous art shows, and put on award-winning dramatic performances. All their hard work has brought many awards and honors to the district and many students.

Students at WHS were nominated for several awards by Montclair State University at its “Theatre Night Awards”, which recognizes excellence in high school plays. The fall production of Stage Door received three nominations including “Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role” for Michaela Tropeano, “Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role” for Annie Oldakowski and “Outstanding Achievement in Stage Direction”. Although they did not win any 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 Newtown Theatre festival in Newtown, PA, the students performed two one act plays, Baby with the Bath Water, by Christopher Durang and Little Duck, by Billy Aronson. Both shows were outstanding and received the following recognitions: “Best Actor” - Jack Mustard; “Best Actress”; “Outstanding Performance by a Featured Performer” - Will Cary; “Outstanding Performance by a Featured Performer” - Matt Lynn; “Outstanding Performance by a Featured Performer” - Isabel Smelkinson; “Outstanding ‘Spot Light’ Scene” - Hannah Hargolin, Isabel Smelkinson and Nicole Zimmermann - Baby with the Bath Water; and “Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble” - Little Duck.

Additionally, the WHS spring musical production of Pippin continued the season of excellence as it received 10 nominations, 2 student achievement awards & 1 honorable mention in the 2012 Paper Mill Playhouse “Rising Star Awards”. The nominations
include: “Outstanding Overall Production of a Musical”; “Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role” – Matt Lynn; “Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role” – Geoffrey Ko; “Outstanding Performance in a Featured Role” – Rebecca Skowron; “Outstanding Performance by a Chorus”; “Outstanding Performance by an Orchestra”; “Outstanding Achievement in Graphic Design” – Asher Horowitz; “Outstanding Achievement in Hair & Make-up Design” – Alexa Derman; “Student Achievement Award for Costume Design” – Alison Antonelli; “Student Achievement Award for Stage Management” – Bernadette Hopen; “Outstanding Achievement by a Teacher or Outside Director” – Daniel Devlin; “Outstanding Achievement in Choreography” – Samantha Hahn; and Honorable Mention: “Outstanding Lighting Achievement” – Michael Kimmel and Lisa Weinshrott. The winners of the “Rising Star Awards” will be announced at a ceremony held at Paper Mill on June 5 at 7:30 pm. Congratulations to all of the WHS theatre students for their outstanding work, both in and out of the classroom.

Eighth grade student Alex Gold and Seventh grade students Dale Beyert and Michael Hague were all selected to perform in the Region 2 Concert Band. Alex and Dale were selected from over 80 trumpet players and Michael from over 100 clarinet students who auditioned for the band. They performed with the band, in concert, at the Monroe Township Middle school auditorium on March 4th. Alex, Dale and Michael all sit as first part players in the EIS Concert Band.

**Westfield High School Art**

Art students have reaped the benefits of hard work, the flow of creative juices and artistic license with the culmination of the District Art Show. The variety of the mediums occupied the viewers’ eye for the duration of the exhibit. The Show was a great success; eager families, students and members of the Westfield community were able to absorb the artistic talents of the student body.
The 2011-2012 District Art Show was a huge success for Lauren Schwarzenbek’s World Crafts Sampler and Crafts Exploration classes. Over 40 students’ work was on display covering projects such as knitting, macramé, mask making, polymer clay, sculpture, up-cycled books, embroidery, hand sewn creatures and so much more.

Foundations of art classes are beginning the planning for their Independent Final Projects. Students chose an established artist, researched the movement and period of art they were associated with, and then created an original work of art using their chosen artist as an influence. The final projects are displayed, along with an oral presentation to the class, at the end of the school year.

The Graphic Design I class collaborated with Mr. Hickey’s fourth graders at McKinley to create trading cards. The fourth grade students gave the high school students images and information about their interests and hobbies, and the high school students used the information to create trading cards. The fourth grade students met their high school “buddies” at the district art show, where they were presented with their trading cards and viewed a display with the entire classes images.

Graphic Design II classes created silkscreen prints using original images, photographed or hand drawn, which illustrate a controversial subject that has impacted them. These images were symbolically displayed on a large column at the end of year district art show as a reminder of the weight that controversial issues can carry, and when not faced can sometimes threaten the stability of our society.

This spring students in Mrs. Hatzikyriakou’s Foundations of Art classes worked from a variety of subject matter - fresh fruits, vegetables, and flowers were captured as realistically as possible using acrylic paints, watercolors, and chalk pastels. The results were beautiful and art show worthy!! Many had the opportunity to hang in the District Art Show. To finish off the school year on a high note, the students will be working in the spirit of a great artist in history, creating a “master reproduction” of a painting of their choice on canvas.

All Drawing students had work represented in the District Art Show. Beautiful Watercolor paintings and small Artist Trading Cards of their own design were brought down to be displayed in the show. Other works by Drawing students included mixed media pieces and an assortment of works focusing on line quality and classical techniques. Large gestural pieces were also on display. After the art show Drawing students will be working with Value and Portraiture.

Composition students had a wide variety of work on display at the Art show. All pieces focused on the intentional composition of space but the media and subject matter were diverse. Charcoal portraits, acrylic paintings, mixed media collage and photography were at the show. After the show, Composition students will be working on Artist’s statements and creating a Careers in the Arts display,
investigating a chosen art field and designing/composing a standing display board for classmates to learn from. In class students will be finishing up their acrylic trompe l’eil paintings.

Composition student and Junior John “Jack” Campbell was selected to participate in The Stickley Museum Invitational Architecture Competition. It is for students interested in Interior and exterior Architecture. Jack was chosen, after a portfolio review, to attend the one day seminar and competition. Meeting with professional architects and caretakers for the Stickley Museum, Jack attended lectures and was given his assignment. Participants needed to create an architectural structure which was sight specific to the museum grounds. Students needed to design and create a mock-up of an on-site theater, within a very limited time frame. This was Jack’s first architectural challenge and his design and structure won him praise from the architects and earned him a second place finish! We are very proud of Jack Campbell’s accomplishments. It is fantastic that his incredible work ethic and commitment to every detail has been recognized by professional architects!

Jack also has strong interests in photography. Some of his photo essays were on view at the District Art Show.

Many of our Drawing and Composition students will be attending a variety of summer art programs to continue the development of their portfolios. More about their experiences in the fall!

Westfield High School and Middle Schools have been asked by the Westfield Art Association to participate in their juried show in June. At the High school 20 works will be selected to represent the best at the high school level. Selection will occur at the Art Show and works will be delivered on June 2 to the Westfield Art Association.

**Music**

The WHS Wind ensemble and Concert band gave their 2012 Spring Concert on May 10. Both groups did an outstanding job preparing a program in the midst of AP testing and a very busy Spring school year. A portion of the night was devoted to recognizing the WHS Band Members who will be graduating in June as part of the class of 2012. Thank you to the following students for their contribution to the WHS Band Program over the past 4 years.

*Rusty Browning, Baritone Saxophone*
*Maddie Chandler, Trombone*
*Ryan Don, Oboe*
*Nick Ertman, French Horn*
*Rory Fitzpatrick, Alto Saxophone*
*Alexa Geltzeiler, Flute*
*Joe Handy, Percussion*
*Tyler Knighton, Tenor Saxophone*
*Brandon Levin, Alto Saxophone*
*Eddy Lu, Tenor Saxophone*
*Lauren Mathisen, Flute*
*Megan Poyntz, Flute*
*David Verchick, French Horn*
*Tommy Wolski, Trumpet*
*Chris Walsh, Trumpet*

The WHS Choral Department busily prepared for their spring concert that included outstanding performances from all of the choral groups. A highlight of the concert included a medley from the songs from *Rent*, complete with choreography, staging, costumes, and lighting. The students were accompanied by a 5-piece rock band, comprised of students and teachers at the high school. The Choraleers also performed at the Intermediate schools for the 8th graders on May 29.

The Bella Cora and Concert Choir students returned in early April from a very successful 7 day European Tour where they visited the cities of Vienna, Melk, Salzburg, Venice, and Florence. They performed in several magnificent venues including St. Stephen’s and St. Peter’s Cathedral in Vienna, Melk Abbey in Melk, Austria, and Maria Santa De’ Ricci Church in Florence, Italy. It was a trip the students will not soon forget.

The choral department is proud to announce that 9 students were accepted into the 2012-13 NJMEA All State Mixed and Womens Choirs. Jon Clancy, Liz Griesmer, Allison Hecht, Michael Kirkland, Geoffrey Ko, Matthew Lynn, Jack Mustard were accepted into the NJMEA All State Mixed Chorus and Hasitha Kakileti was accepted into the NJMEA All State Womens Chorus. Both groups will perform next school year at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center. Michael Kirkland and Matt Lynn
scored the highest in each of the sections or Tenor I and Tenor II, respectively, ranking them first in the state in these sections out of the more than 60 students who auditioned for each voice part. Impressively, Michael Kirkland had the highest score out of the over 1000 students who auditioned for the All State Chorus. Congratulations also to Matt Lynn who was selected for the NAfME National Honor Choir. Matt will be representing Westfield in this prestigious choir, which includes students from all of the United States. The performance will take place at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. at the end of June.

The WHS jazz bands have concluded their festival season performing at the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Jazz Festival, South Brunswick High School Jazz Festival, and the Montgomery High School Jazz Festival. The WHS Jazz Ensemble will be performing at the annual Fine Arts Awards Night on Wednesday May 30th.

Congratulations to the following students for being accepted to a 2012 NAJJE Region II High School Jazz Ensemble: Zach Birkenthal, Alto Saxophone; Jeffery Marino, Tenor Saxophone. Both students performed as part of Region Jazz Ensemble at a concert in April at Princeton High School.

Westfield High School, in collaboration with Edison and Roosevelt Intermediate Schools, presented its first annual Jazz Night on Friday, May 18, at 7:30 p.m. This event was open to the entire community and featured performances by five bands, comprised of the Jazz Ensemble, Stage Band and Jazz Combo from WHS, as well as the EIS and RIS Jazz Bands.

The program for the evening was formulated to appeal to listeners of all ages and will consist of standards by Duke Ellington, George and Ira Gershwin, Dizzy Gillespie, Benny Goodman and Glenn Miller, as well as more recent tunes by Gordon Godwin, Sonny Rollins and Santana. A casual jazz club atmosphere was set up in the WHS Cafeteria B for this special evening, complete with individual seating closer to the stage and tables for socializing in groups.

On Saturday, March 31 the Guard traveled to Somerville, NJ to compete in their first competitive show. The guard received 2nd place in their group and a rating of Outstanding. The guard is currently recruiting new members for the Fall marching band season. Interested students should email Mr. Vitale at cvitale@westfieldnjk12.org or go to the band website for upcoming rehearsals. www.westfieldhsbands.org

The Marching Blue Devils began rehearsals for the Fall 2012 season on Tuesday May 15 from 7-9 pm in the WHS Auditorium. Additional rehearsals were held on May 22 and will be held on June 7, also from 7-9 pm. The band will begin working on their 2012 production “We Remember” featuring music by John Philip Sousa, Antonín Dvořák, Hans Zimmer, and the Rolling Stones. The production will pay tribute to those who have served time in the US Armed Forces. In November 2012 the WHS Marching Band will travel to Annapolis, MD to compete in the USBands National Championships. The show will be held at the historical Navy-Marine Corps Stadium on the campus of the Naval Academy. Memorial Day is just around the corner and the Marching Blue Devils once again will be participating in the Westfield Memorial Day Parade. For more information on the Marching Blue Devils or to inquire about membership please contact Mr. Vitale or visit the Band Website. cvitale@westfieldnjk12.org www.westfieldhsbands.org

The WHS Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Mr. Raymond Wojcik finished what was a banner year for the ensemble. Having distinguished itself with a "Superior" rating at the J.P. Stevens HS orchestra Festival the chamber orchestra achieved an unprecedented artistic level throughout the year. Westfield's Choral Art Society invited the ensemble to perform with them at their Fiftieth Anniversary concert on May 19th in a program which included Haydn's "Missa Brevis , St. Joannis de deo" . The performance was conducted by Mr. James Little in his last performance as director of CAS. The chamber orchestra's spring concert on May 9th included a performance of Bach's "Brandenburg Concerto No.5 with Oria Alexander, flute, Francis Wong , violin, and Kristin Hauge piano as soloists. Alexandra Tinfow, violin and Edmund Han, viola gave a touching performance of the theme from "Schindler's List" , John Williams'
score to the Steven Spielberg film. "A Festive Night on the Isle of Skye", an original work by WHS junior, Eric Mikalauskas, received a long and enthusiastic ovation from the audience. Eric who has been a composition student of Mr. Wojcik this year wrote this work specifically for the chamber orchestra. The concluding work was "Ancient Airs and Dances, Suite III, by Ottorino Respighi.

The chamber orchestra is graduating ten seniors this year: Stephanie Tepper, Melissa Diep, Jason Qin, Brandon Eng, Geena Gao, Sabrina Greene, Jason Isbit, Alexandra Jason, Marilyn Kowalski, and Peter Mebane.

The WHS Symphony Orchestra concluded the school year with a program of music written for drama, opera and film. The orchestra's portion of the concert on May 9th started with the Overture to "Egmont" by Beethoven, then to the world of 19th century French opera with "Danse Bacchanale" from Saint-Saens' "Sampson and Delilah" and concluded with a six-movement suite drawn from John William's score to the "Star Wars" films in celebration of the composer's eightieth birthday. The symphony orchestra was made a full orchestra with the generous contribution of time and talent from members of the wind ensemble and concert band. The Symphony Orchestra graduates the following seniors: Tori Bonsall, Audrey Peterson, Alex Rothfelder, Jake Vergara, Keith Peterson, Jack Santangello, and Pilar Martinez.

**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 Picnic, by William Inge. The Drama 2 students are also preparing their final projects. They are exploring their comic sides as they work on scenes from the Ken Ludwig comedy Lend Me a Tenor. 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 Second Annual "International Thespian Gala", which was held at The Westwood on May 22. This marks the second year that WHS has been involved in the International Thespian Society, which is 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 the overall academic accomplishments and community service.

**Roosevelt Intermediat**

Eighth grade students are working on their plaster hand creations!!! They first create a background interpreting one of their favorite artist's work using various different mediums (cray-pas, paint, colored pencils, and many embellishments like feathers, buttons, fabric, cork, ribbons). Next, they write a short report on their artist, and why they chose him/her and this particular piece to recreate-then they mold their hand in plaster gauze and have to figure out how they are going to incorporate it into their creation- the outcome is outstanding!!!!

The 7th grade students have done a wonderful job on their perspective city drawings- some imaginary while others are interpretations of "real" cities!!! Now they will begin their clay creations- making something utilitarian. The 6th grade students have finished up their colored pencil name kaleidoscopes and have started their clay projects!!!

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 with pencil and marker. Before this the 6th grade students designed and made models of their own soda can designs from concept to finished product. Sixth grade students are currently working on fantasy locker designs. The concept is the students are to illustrate their lockers using a realism technique and then inside the locker is a hidden doorway to a fantasy work. 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 lyrics. This was a mixed media artwork of drawing and painting. Prior to this 8th grade students created multi-layered colored construction paper cutouts. The most current project the 8th grade is working on is a 3 dimensional dodecahedrons. Each of the 12 sides of this small paper sculpture is to be decorated with black and white ink designs. After the District Art Show the 8th grade students will be working on mask making and the 6th grades working on 3 dimensional game boards and inventions based on Leonardo DaVinci.

Roosevelt’s Art Dept. has an incredible and vibrant display of student work at this years’ District Art Show. We have had an extremely exemplary year of creative activity from out 6th, 7th, and 8th grade classes. Especially prevalent at this years’ show is the wide array of three dimensional art, including “deconstructed” books, painted bottles, Giacometti figures, and “fiber fusion” vessels. Our selection of two dimensional projects is, as always, outstanding and impressive.

Mr. Thompson’s 6 grade classes have just finished up designing “Henna Hands”, where they learned about the ancient art of mendhi- using henna dye to paint designs on skin. Students traced their hands and filled them with designs using a variety of sources for inspiration. The hands were then cut out and placed on a water color wash background, for very striking results.

Mr. Thompson’s 7th grade classes have just finished a very successful Celtic knot design project. Celtic culture and art was viewed and discussed, then students worked through several practice knot designs, getting more and more complex until they were able to draw extremely detailed final version. The students really enjoyed this project and it is an excellent connection with the Social Studies curriculum.

Finally, Mr. T’s 8th graders are working on a mandala design project tooled in metal. We studied mandalas (circular designs usually with some spiritual significance) from several cultures, then students drew their own designs focusing on layered shapes and symmetry. A demonstration on the metal tooling process was given, and students pressed their designs in a sheet of heavy gauge aluminum foil.

The Roosevelt Art Dept. is also very pleased to announce this year’s outstanding achievement award in art: 8th grader Diana Wu. Her talent, studious dedication, and her willingness to take risks, to learn and grow as an artist, has made her an obvious choice. Congratulations Diana!

Music

The RIS Vocal Music Program has had a wonderful year. Their annual trip to Hershey Park was great fun. The Sharps and Flats performed and received a superior rating with scores of 98 and 93 out of 100 points. We are all very proud of this group and look forward to their Spring Concert performance on June 11. The Eighth Grade Chorus is also sounding outstanding preparing for their Spring Concert and Celebration Night Performances. We will hate to see this group leave us and we wish them well. Our Seventh Graders have been getting ready to show their talent by sing a mix of selections at their concert. All groups are sounding great and we look forward to seeing everyone at the concerts. 6th and 8th chorus Thursday June 7th Seventh Grade Chorus and Sharps and Flats June 11. All concerts start at 7 PM

It is hard to believe that the end of the school year is upon us, and that it is spring concert season once again! The Roosevelt Bands have another exciting concert line-up this year, beginning with the first annual Westfield Jazz Night. The Accidentals and Morning Jazz will be performing at Westfield High School alongside the EIS Jazz Ensemble, The WHS Stage Band, and the WHS Jazz Ensemble performed on Friday May 18.
On May 31, the 6th and 8th grade bands will perform their spring concert with the 6th and 8th grade orchestra. This concert will feature works by John Edmondson, Ed Huckeby, and Karl King, among others. The 8th graders will give a special performance of works from Leonard Bernstein’s “West Side Story”. Don’t miss it!

On June 4, the 7th grade band and the jazz ensembles will give their spring concert, the last of the band concert season. The 7th graders will be performing works from Louis Prima and Leroy Anderson, and the jazz bands will feature compositions from George Gershwin, Antonio Carlos Jobim, and Rodgers & Hammerstein. It will be a fun way to wrap the 2011-2012 school year!

On May 11, the RIS audition groups (Sharps and Flats, The Accidentals, Morning Jazz, and Early Morning Orchestra) performed at the Trills and Thrills Music Festival in Hershey, PA. It was a beautiful day, and the groups all performed exceptionally well before heading to Hershey Park for the day. The Accidentals took home a "Superior" rating, and Morning Jazz followed closely with a rating of "Excellent". After a morning of work and performance, the students had a well-deserved day filled with roller coasters, rides, and chocolate! Can’t wait for next year!

This year, students in the RIS bands have been recognized for their hard work and excellent performance with the RIS "Performer of the Month" award. Each month, two students in each grade are selected and recognized for their dedication and commitment to improvement - both as musicians and overall students. Congratulations to the following students who have demonstrated their commitment and work ethic on a daily basis!

6th Grade
Kurt Gerckens
Daniel Shenker
Danny Russo
Samantha Fritz
Lucy Ritter
Matthew Canabarbo
Alan Wagner
Kenneth Meyer

7th Grade
Shannon Pyle
Chris Hoernner
Evan Latowsky
Justin Elbert
Samantha Greenaway
Pamela Burke
Sonya Peregrin
Coston O’Brien

8th Grade
Alex Frisch
Sarah Morton
Steve Fasciale
Drew Russo
Olivia Loggia
Maddie Hudelson
Isabella Salerno
Kevin Frega

It has been a wonderful, productive, and exciting year at RIS. Have a great summer break, and we’ll see you in the fall!

Drama


Edison Intermediate Art

Mrs. Frees, along with all other art teachers, is excited to have set up the District Art show and have the work of her students on display. It gives her a great sense of pride to see the hard work that the students have put into a variety of projects throughout the year on display. The art show is a wonderful way to celebrate the great work that the district art teachers put into the Fine Arts program.

Mrs. Frees was excited to receive a grant from the WEA to have two sewing machines in her room. She is planning to use them with her Art and Sewing club after school, as well as part of the curriculum 6th –8th grade. The 8th graders are beginning their sock creature, “ugly doll” soft sculptures and they will get to use the sewing machine to make neat edges on their finished products. The kids are excited overall to use a machine in the art room. Mrs. Frees
hopes to teach the children in her classes her new found love of quilting and sewing.

Students in 8th grade crafts classes finished a project where they had to incorporate the reflective beauty of a mirror into sculpture. One particular student came up with the idea of setting the mirror into an apple, the project turned out wonderfully. The student plans to give his mom the apple as a gift. We had a nice discussion on how gratifying it is to have a work of art have a purpose as a gift. Another student worked incredibly hard to create a three dimensional word "dream" and beautifully add the mirror into the letters, as well as create clouds. The students in Mrs. Frees class never cease to amaze her.

Students in 8th grade also finished up a unit on mask making, one particular student spent a great deal of time studying the intricate work of African Artists from Baluba people. The students had a great time making their masks and seeing them on display in Mrs. Free's room and comparing the ideas and types of masks that their peers created.

8th Grade students in the crafts classes are completing a Unit on clay. They are learning how the coil was used in many different cultures from Native America to South America to create clay vessels. Students also created Storytellers in the spirit of the Navajo Artists. Students are using the technique of slab building that they learned in 6th grade to create a box from clay.

Students will then be moving onto another form of soft sculpture with felt. Mrs. Frees has had several bake sales to raise money to buy Alpaca felt from a local shop to create soft sculpture faces.

Sixth grade students learned about slab building and molds as they created a functional work of art. They are making mugs and learning about Bas Relief in sculpture. They learned about how the kiln works to fire the clay and turn it into bisque ware. They then learned about the way that glaze is applied and how the ceramic work is fired a second time.

Students are also in the process of making still life sculptures of desserts in the style of Wayne Theibaud. They are going to complete an oil pastel resist painting from the still life objects that they created. Students in 6th grade are also going to work on Mexican Bark paintings. Mrs. Frees has a real same of a Bark painting, which the students enjoy observing. They then make their own work from a similar material, a recycled paper bag that is then colored and ironed. The students get to apply fluorescent colored paint to the final product.

Students in Mrs. Frees seventh grade classes finished last marking period making Georges Braque inspired charcoal collage paintings. They learned about the work that both Picasso and Braque did together and their love of music. Students were then asked to look at instruments and draw them. We then practiced making their more in the style of the cubist artists. Students enjoyed working in charcoal and then at the completion of the project matting their work for a final touch. Students also worked in oil pastel on landscape paintings inspired by the Impressionist Artists. They worked from photographs that Mrs. Frees has been collecting over the years. She welcomes anyone who has old calendars with images that she can use. Mrs. Frees likes to used recycled products in her classroom and also welcomes paper bags, plastic grocery bags, yarn and fabric.

Mrs. Frees and her students were able to raise funds to help the art program and to donate to charity. Because of the money raised Mrs. Frees was able to teach glass lessons to both her 7th and 8th grade students. Through another generous grant from the WEA more glass was bought as well as molds to create beautiful dishes and plates for the students. These molds will be able to be used over and over providing students with a great opportunity to learn a new medium. Two more saws were also bought for the glass working program. The glass is currently on display at the art show. Mr. Black built a table (using our fundraising money) that lights the glass from underneath, it really gives the artwork the display it deserves.

Mrs. Frees is running the New York marathon as many of her parents know. She extends her heartfelt thanks to all the parents and children who have supported her endeavor to raise awareness and funds for Cystic Fibrosis. So far she has raised $7,638.50. She is glad that she can bring her passion for charity into the art classroom.

Mrs. Frees has been keeping her website updated with photos of student work, she will be taking photos at the art show and putting those up very soon.

At Edison Intermediate School, Ms. Wolff is continuing to teach a diversity of lessons, so that the students are introduced to a wide range of materials. This year at Edison, the sixth graders have made clay rattles using the double pinch pot technique, self-portraits using oil pastels, watercolor paintings, cartoons using color pencils, paper mache animals, and much more. The seventh graders made clay facades, Keith Haring inspired color pencil drawings, tessellation paintings,
gestures sculptures out of paris craft, etc.

The eighth graders also used a wide range of materials. Some eight grade projects include, clay coil pots, portraits made using the students choice of medium, paper mache mirrors, landscape paintings , ugly dolls using fabric sewn together, oil pastel still life drawings, and much more. 8th grade student, Nova Qi, had her ugly doll, a doll made of various fabrics sewn together, chosen for the Union County Teen Arts Festival Tour. It was a great year, in art, at Edison, and the art department wishes that everyone has a terrific Summer.

Music

The 6th grade band is preparing for its’ Spring Concert on June 4th. They are excited to perform a lighter program consisting of pieces in a popular style. They will play the Beach Boy’s ”Kokomo”, the love theme from the movie Ghost, ‘Unchained Melody”, Herb Alpert’s “Tijuana Taxi,” and a medley of Cole Porter tunes. The 7th Grade Band is also working on pieces of a popular nature including “Under the Sea” from The Little Mermaid, Paul Desmond’s ”Take Five”, “Ease on Down the Road” from The Wiz, and “Your Mama Don’t Dance” from Footloose.

The Concert Band has already played before judges and audiences this year wowing them with their superior performances. They received top scores at the CJMEA Band Festival in April and are now preparing to play at the High Note Music festival in June as well as their own public performance on June 13th at EIS. They will be performing The English Folk Song Suite (which they performed in festival) as well as selections from the movies Titanic and Chicago.

The EIS Jazz Ensemble has already made several appearances in public as well as receiving the Top Middle School Jazz Ensemble at the Union County Teen Arts Festival with a perfect judging score. They were selected to perform at the Union County Performing Arts Center for the Union County Arts Showcase on May 16. They also performed at Westfield High School’s Jazz night on May 18 and end their season with their public performance at the EIS Spring Concert on June 13th. The band has been singled out for their ability to perform in various musical styles to perfection. They play Rock, Jazz, Swing and Latin styles in pieces such as “Proud Mary,”
“Mercy, Mercy,” “Take the “A” Train,” and “Caliente.”

There is still time to catch their amazing performance along with the award winning Concert Band on June 13th at 7:30 in the EIS Auditorium.

The EIS Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, Eighth Grade Strings, and Sixth Grade Strings concluded their school year with a challenging and rewarding spring concert on June 14th. The Symphony Orchestra made up of 7th and 8th grade string, winds, brass and percussion performed the Overture to Wagner’s opera “Rienzi”, followed by a tribute to John Williams – “Raiders March”, Across the Stars and the Main Title from “Star Wars”, and concluding with “Bizet’s “Farandole”. The Chamber Orchestra consisting of string players from grades 6, 7 and 8 performed Eric Ewazen’s “Four Royal Dances” and the first movement of Bach’s “Brandenburg Concerto No. 3”. The eighth grade strings played two pieces from the Baroque period: Handel’s Allegro from the Concerto Grosso No.1, and the first movement of J.S. Bach’s Concerto in D Major. The Sixth Grade Strings were featured in three works: Canon in D by Pachelbel, Spring Breezes, and “Rickshaw” by Yamada.

"The 'Creating Original Opera' class at Edison Intermediate school, under the direction of instructor Ken Horn, presented their original work, "A Pretty Little Murder", to the student body on May 22 and 23. They also held a performance for the general public on Tuesday, May 22 at 7:00 PM. The students in the class have been working since October on developing all aspects of the production, from creating the original script and score to the costumes and sets. They are excited to finally be presenting their work.

Highlights of the year have included workshops with WHS Vocal instructor Sharon Reynolds and EIS Art instructor Daniel Black. Ms. Reynolds held a voice clinic with the twelve performers, helping them to become confident and comfortable with the score. Mr. Black worked with the set designers on the skills necessary for scenic design and detail painting. Both the students and their classroom teacher are grateful to both of these professionals for being part of the success of the program."

Franklin Elementary

Under the direction of Mrs. Coveney, her First Grade students continued with an interdisciplinary creation using Model Magic. A penguin was sculpted using 4 pieces of this compound. They had studied these animals and were aware of its shape and texture. After assemblage, mouths of these sea birds were opened using scissors and sheer delight could be heard from all students. A black pearlized paint was used to give it a finished slick coat. All First Grade students worked and enjoyed many a lesson.

Her Second Grade students used Model Magic and they created a dragon or dinosaur. This was a continuation of their studies of these prehistoric creatures. Bodies, necks, heads and legs were connected and tails were added for balance. Pearlized paint was applied for color and personality. Art vocabulary was learned and the total creative being was developed.

The Third Grade students worked with many a pattern. They viewed Aboriginal Art and their X-ray drawings. A contour drawing was done and “inners” were placed. Positive and negative space could be seen. Patterns and color proved to be a challenge but all had success. Permanent sharpie was the medium of choice.

The Fourth Grade students developed their sense of detail and imaginations. Through technique and medium, a new experience could be seen and explored. The school year was fun and looking forward to September.

Music continues to flow throughout the halls of Franklin and hopefully into the summer months. For the fifth grade spring concert, the students wrote their own skits, acted them out, and combined it with music to tell the story of a boy trying to make it into the London Summer Olympics. The title of the musical was “We Go For the Gold” which featured songs by Teresa Jennings, Wicked, Van Halen, and The Beatles. There were even songs sung by the Glee Club that were weaved into the plot. The students did an excellent job in combining their musical talents with their creative writing skills which really showcased the tremendous talent in this grade.

Mrs. Massenzio’s fifth grade students at Franklin School were introduced to the works of contemporary American painter and printmaker, Frank Stella. He is noted for his Protractor Series (1967-71) of paintings, in which arcs are arranged to produce full and half circles, painted in rings of concentric color. After discussing and analyzing Stella’s paintings, the children experimented with various positions of how to place the protractor on their paper, to create a pleasing geometrical design. The results were spectacular- the students were amazed how different each one looked! They learned that repetition of shape, color, and line, are all elements of good design.
The Art Students at Franklin School certainly had a very creative and productive year. Various media was explored and experienced through a wide scope of projects.

As summer quickly approaches us, the students are singing brighter and cheerier songs that will get them in the mood for the beach and for some well-deserved R&R. They might even catch a wave with some music from The Beach Boys. Our upper grades will get away with our island getaway as they explore the music of the Pacific such as Hawaii. Get those grass skirts ready as we shake our hips to some hula dancing. The fifth graders will have to watch their ankles and feet as they avoid the poles in the Tinikling dance. They’ll even learn a cup game that they can teach their friends during those summer camp meals.

**Jefferson Elementary**

It’s all about creative freedom in First Grade at Jefferson School. They have been enmeshed color inventing during their caterpillar projects in art, while learning about overlapping, making something flat look 3-D, and general color mixing. They are learning about the life cycle of the butterfly in their general education classrooms. They will end the year with pinch pots, and finger puppets.

Any day now, the Second Graders will be seen parading through Jefferson halls in their Chinese parade DRAGONS, as an end to their Chinese units in their general education classrooms. The dragons are THIRTY FEET LONG! The bodies are covered in colorful hand-made scales and streamers. The heads are three feet across, and have sharp, gnarled teeth that the children made. Some have horns, some have ears, some have crazy eyes, but they all have great creativity! The students who scored the best on their China test, will get to work the head and mouth of the dragon during the parade. In the last month of school they will become little graphic artists and learn about different lettering styles, creating their own "font" to write their names on posters.

The Buddhist Mandalas were just completed in Third Grade, and the children have begun their multi-media bug sculptures. Their wings will be made of copper and aluminum metal sheets. The children will learn about pressed tin tiles and the techniques for making them, than use those techniques in designing their wings to make pressed tin designs. We will use air dry clay for the heads and bodies, but the children will learn how to infuse color into the clay (rather than painting their sculptures afterwards).

In Fourth Grade, science and art was combined in their Op-Art unit where they actually learned how the eye works, how it sees color, and how it sometimes gets tricked. They used 3-D glasses and prisms, after working on a lesson about complimentary color; and got to see, first-hand, how the spectrum of light works. They will end the year with a project that will focus on paper construction, pattern, and bas relief sculpture.

Fifth Graders are finishing up their fabric mache sea monsters and starting the favorite 5th grade project, Picasso People, where they transform a block of wood and a hanger into and abstract multi-media sculptural portrait.

First, Second and Third graders at Jefferson School have been working on note recognition, note duration, rhythmic movement and note durations. The first graders have especially been enjoying their work on the metallophones! All grades will assemble once more in June for an assembly of singing and wrapping up of this year’s CAPED CRUSADERS school theme, devoted to teaching children about the importance of embracing human differences!

**McKinley Elementary**

Mrs. Hooper-Korkuch’s first grade students were using finger paint to paint a realistic figure in an action pose. They learned about proportion and how to draw the faces of their people by using proper facial feature placement. Most importantly, no more stick figures! The children in the second grade worked cooperatively in small groups to design the background scenery for the McKinley spring concert. They designed larger than life patterned flowers as well as colorful garden murals filled with birds, butterflies and bees. The scenery was such a wonderful addition to the walls of the gym and created the perfect backdrop for our McKinley performers.

The children in the third grade worked on building clay animals indigenous to Australia. Using model magic clay, each student designed a realistic bas-relief animal and painted it using patterns used by the Aboriginal artists. Our fourth grade students used one point perspective to draw their initials in 3-D block
letters. The initials were decorated with bold abstract patterns to create an interesting and eye-catching surface design. The fifth grade students each had their 'fifteen minutes of fame 'during their final concert at the McKinley school. To complement their amazing singing, an art exhibit was installed in the gym foyer creating a miniature McKinley Museum. Each fifth grade child had at least one piece of art work displayed. The Art Show created the perfect opportunity to show case the student's artistic efforts throughout their fifth grade year.

The fourth grade students at McKinley have had an exciting last few months preparing a song to sing for the Wax Museum and writing their own blues song. Throughout the year, the students have reinforced their sight reading, singing with solfege, and matching pitch individually and with others. The students have written and performed their own raps, played rhythm games, learned about the different instrument families and written songs.

The fifth grade students at McKinley have been preparing a wonderful Spring Concert for the last few months. Students have worked all year on singing with dramatics while still using their singing voices. Throughout the year students were given opportunities to play various percussion instruments, sing solos, improvise, compose, and sing a variety of songs. The students also had the opportunity to see an Opera in New Brunswick this year after studying opera in January. All in all, the 5th graders have had a very busy year full of music making and learning.

Tamaques Elementary School will, yet again, be holding its annual end of the year Art Show displaying at least one art work from every student in the school. This event is run by parent volunteers who do an amazing job mounting, labeling and hanging all of the work in the Gymnasium. This year, the art show is set for June 13 and 14 and will be open from 9-3 and 7-8 on both days. Please stop by to see what our talented students are creating!

What happens when Jackson Pollock meets George Segal??? The fourth grade students at Tamaques School found out first hand when they splatter painted their life-size plaster sculptures!! Many of the exciting sculptures were on display at the District Art Show.

The third grade students have just completed a unit that studied the artwork of Louise Nevelson. Inspired by her style, they constructed assemblage sculptures with wood and cardboard. After construction, the students each painted their masterpiece.

Fifth grade students at Tamaques School are working on their plaster sculpture unit. The students were allowed to select their subject matter. After deciding what they would create, they constructed armatures with newspaper and tape. They are currently plastering their work and will finish their projects with paint and trims.

Tamaques School's 4th grade band concert on Wednesday, May 22 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 a duet written by George R. Poulton titled "Aura Lee".

Tamaques School's May 22 5th Grade Band and Chorus Concert was equally impressive! The band selections included "Eagle Summit March " and "Galactic Episode". Ms. Carswell a 2nd grade teacher at Tamaques School once again "wowed" the audience with her snare drum/wind chime solo performance. "Band Room Boogie" a light jazz tune was followed by "Cool It!" a band and audience favorite! A special "Thank You" to the Fernandez Family for their generous donation of a Ludwig Drum Set!
Set to Tamaques School. The final was “Expedition!” featuring Ms. Carswell on an authentic Indian drum made in North Dakota. A special "Thank You" to Ms. Carswell for sharing her special talent with the Tamaques School 5th grade band!

**Washington Elementary**

In first grade artists have journeyed through the creative styles of various ancient cultures, most notably, the designs of Egypt, South Africa, Panama, and Peru. It was great fun to put a modern twist on these traditional ideas.

Second grade students spent much of this year creating abstract paintings and interesting creatures much like those of Oceanic, Asian, and Greek traditions. It was certainly a lively experience!

In the third grade students completed their year with a study of pattern and line design as inspired by Native American cultures. They made mythical animals and geometric suns. The creativity was abundant.

Fourth grade artists grew tremendously in their landscape abilities. Throughout the course of the year they learned a great deal about showing depth by using different color, line, and size techniques. Perhaps they can use their new skills to depict the many places they will visit over summer vacation!

The fifth grade has enjoyed a year of studying modern and contemporary art styles. They have appreciated learning about art and artists that are current. In particular, they recently participated in a short study on M. C. Escher and learned how to create visual optical illusions. Perhaps the most exciting project was one that spanned five grades. This year the fifth grade artists compared their final self-portrait with one they created in first grade. It was so interesting to see the immense progress that was achieved throughout their time in elementary school. Only time will tell what kind of creative adventures await in the future.

The Washington Elementary School’s Fifth Grade Chorus’ performance of their spring musical “Dig It!” (A Musical Tale of Ancient Civilizations by John Jacobson and Roger Emerson) was performed on Monday evening, May 21, 2012 at 7:30pm in the Washington auditorium. “Remembering what we learn through music”, we traveled back in time to join two inquisitive archeologists, Taki and Tut, as they explored the truths and mysteries of civilizations from Mesopotamia to Egypt to India, China, Greece and Rome. Visit with Lucy, a chorus of skeletons, Gilgamesh, Enkidu, the Mesopotamian people, King Zoser, Imhotep, Khnum, a chorus of mummies, Confucious, Sophocles, Herodotus, a Greek chorus, Remus and Romulus...to name a few. We are sure you "dug it".

Tuesday, June 19 will be the Washington School Fifth Grade Variety Show. It will be the Fifth Grade’s final performance, beginning at 11am in the gym. There will be groups of all sizes and shapes!! Come enjoy their final moment of the year.

Washington School’s 4th grade band concert on Monday: May 14, 2012 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 tradition folk and popular songs!

Washington’s 5th Grade band also did a wonderful job on their portion of the May 14 program. The audience was treated to two selections by John O’Reilly and Mark Williams, “Eagle Summit March” and “Galactic Episode”. Mr. Cognetti a Washington School 5th grade teacher was a special guest performer playing the wind chimes in “Galactic Episode”. A special “Thank You” to Mr. Cognetti for sharing his special talent with the Washington School 5th grade band! The band also played a Jazz/Rock infusion number called “Cool It” by Randy Navarre and a selection entitled “Expedition!” “Expedition! Was written in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of Zebulon Pike’s expedition to discover the upper reaches of the Mississippi river. The purpose of this expedition was to establish a military post north of St. Louis to develop treaty relations with tribal leaders and to make a preliminary investigation of the British fur trade operations.” The final number was a combined finale of the 4th and 5th grade bands playing “Band Room Boogie” by Michael Sweeney.

**Wilson Elementary**

First grade classes at Wilson School are getting ready for a fun filled summer! Many students enjoy spending time at the shore, so this was a perfect lesson to get everyone
in the mood! Sandy Hook, New Jersey is home to the oldest operating lighthouse in the United States. There are about 340 lighthouses in the United States today. Mrs. Massenzio taught the children all about lighthouses and their interesting history. They loved painting a seascape, mixing colors, and learning new painting techniques.

Mrs. Massenzio’s second grade students worked collaboratively to create a traditional and popular art form from India, called rangoli. Rangoli 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. Groups worked collaboratively to create rangoli sections, and when put all together, they created an impressive radial design. This was a wonderful opportunity to have students work collaboratively to create a class project which involved planning, sharing, and working together as a group.

Grade three students have just completed mixed media paint and sand paintings. The students focused on color mixing, patterns and process! The results were stunning! Wilson School fourth grade students are having a blast building plaster busts!! They cast masks, built armatures and plastered everything together. They are now beginning to paint, make hair from yarn, and accessorize their artwork with hats, jewelry and glasses! The finished product will showcase an array of artistic creativity featuring both abstraction and realism.

The fifth graders are also working on their sculpture unit. Many students have chosen to create “bobble head” sculptures utilizing recycled materials, pipe cleaners, and styrofoam to create their armature. Other students are creating animals utilizing newspaper and masking tape capitalizing on techniques that they learned in the fourth grade. All armatures will be plastered and painted and accessories and trims will be added!

The Leaps and Bounds have just completed life size self-portraits, which will be featured at Wilson Portfolio Day. They used paint, fabric, yarn, scissors and glue to create unique portraits.

By folding and cutting paper in a special way, Leaps & Bounds students were amazed to see a flat piece of paper could transform into a 3-dimensional alligator, complete with a “bendable” body and tail! The children learned that alligators are reptiles. After listening to a story about alligators and their habitats, the children had fun decorating and adding colorful finishing touches.

As the end of the school year draws near, the First, Second, and Third Grade students at Wilson School are talking (and singing!) about Jazz! In First Grade, we learned a classic Jazz song for Spring called "Blue Skies" and how to improvise, to make something up on the spot, by using different instruments such as step bells, xylophones, and claves. The students came up with some very interesting improvisations! The Second Graders love the snappy, swingin' style of "Feelin' Jazzy." They even get to do some scat singing! Scat singing is a way for vocalists to improvise using nonsense words and syllables. They are even going to do some scat singing improvisations while singing the well known tune "Mahna Mahna" from the Muppets. The Third Graders got bitten by the Jazz bug (as well as the Muppets bug!) and had a great time learning "Life's a Happy Song" with it's swinging rhythms and catchy tune. They are also beginning composition of their very own blues song using T-Bone Walker's "Call it Stormy Monday" as a guide. The students at Wilson School have never felt Jazzier!

Honoring this year’s school theme “EVERYONE COUNTS”, fifth graders at Wilson School will present a Spring Vocal Concert featuring repertoire from various world cultures. Japanese, Spanish, Korean, Tanzanian and American songs have been selected for this special program. In addition, each singer will select a country from any of the world’s continents and dress accordingly. The chorus should be an amazing sight to behold!

**Lincoln School**

The Lincoln School children have been very busy getting in the mood for Spring! The art room has been filled with cheerful Cherry Blossoms, Rainbow Fish (photo), Colorful Kites and beautiful Butterflies. The budding artists have been practicing their skills for first grade by designing their own patterns, creating symmetry and mixing water color paints to create new colors. The students have had a wonderful year in Art with Mrs. D'Amico and Mrs. Korkuch. Both art teachers will miss the children as they graduate and move onto their home schools in September!

This has been a great year of music at Lincoln School. The preschoolers have been working all year to learn a variety of songs and dances and have been playing different instruments.
Students have demonstrated the difference between loud & soft, fast & slow, and high & low throughout the year. The preschoolers have really grown to become blossoming musicians!

The kindergarteners at Lincoln have been preparing songs for their graduation this June. The theme is Children of the World, and each class has been preparing a song in a different language along with other songs in English that talk about the world. This year has been very exciting, with the students preforming their Sing-a-Long in March, learning about musical instruments, listening to Peter and the Wolf and singing songs in other languages. They have grown so much this year and are ready for 1st grade music!

**Elementary Strings**

The All City Orchestra is very excited to be performing so many wonderful pieces at this year's concert. One of the pieces, "Concerto in D Major," by Georg Philipp Telemann, is a canon among the sections in the orchestra. The first violins begin with the main theme, followed by the second violins, violas, cellos and basses. You can hear the theme traveling from section to section during this piece.

Mrs. Gant (formerly known as Miss Samaha) also arranged one of her favorite pieces to suit the All City Orchestra. A medley from "Pirates of the Caribbean," written by Klaus Badelt, arranged by Ted Ricketts, will be a real treat. The piece features solos from our Concermaster, Juliet Duguid, and Principal cellist, Abigail Van Lokhuyzen. The excitement during this piece is contagious and is a favorite among the All City Orchestra students. All aboard the Black Pearl!

This is an exciting time to be in the All City Orchestra! Ms. Naylor transcribed & arranged one of the most popular songs out there for kids right now, for the All City Orchestra--"Dynamite" by Taio Cruz. There was no arrangement for String Orchestra to buy, so Ms. Naylor wrote it out herself. It first started as a project with her son, who is in the 5th grade & plays drum set & also percussion in his school band. He had to come up with a piece to do for his recital at RMC Studios in Garwood & he picked "Dynamite." Ms. Naylor learned the melody "note for note" on the violin & his drum teacher, EJ Gaub, played guitar & they performed with him at his recital. From that beginning, she then spent many hours writing the piece out by hand in her "free" time! Writing out the rhythm for a popular tune like this was the hardest & most challenging part of the process, so thank you to EJ Gaub for his assistance. The fun thing about the arrangement that she did, was that kids can play along with the recording because she put it in the same key as the original. Tommy "Dynamite!" Davis, who is in the All City Band & is also a drum set student of EJ Gaub's, will be performing "Dynamite" on drum set with the All City Orchestra. Miss Samaha (now Mrs. Gant), who co-conducts the All City Orchestra with Ms. Naylor, also arranged a popular piece for the Orchestra--"Pirates of the Caribbean," which the kids are also excited about performing! But, even though these 2 pieces are very popular, the kids in All City love another piece Ms. Naylor is conducting, entitled "Spartacus" by Brian Balmages. Kids in All City last

**Mrs. Sharon Reynolds Retires**

Mrs. Sharon Reynolds has been a member of our Fine Arts Family for 24 years. She has inspired and nurtured students to consistently do their best and challenge themselves. She has had former students who made it to Broadway under her direction. She’s also had students that developed a greater appreciation for music because of her passion that emanated in everything she did.

Mrs. Reynolds has been a wonderful role model; a consummate professional; a master of her trade; and a true friend. She will be missed very much!

Best wishes for a happy, safe and healthy retirement!
year did another piece by Mr. Balmages, a living, modern composer, called "Medieval Wars," which was very well received by the kids & the audience. Thank you to Mr. Geyer, a cellist himself & vocal music teacher at Franklin School for discovering these age appropriate, but very musically satisfying pieces that are both melodically, harmonically & rhythmically stimulating for the kids to play.

The numbers of kids playing in the String Orchestra program, in general, are at a record high! 140 kids from Franklin, Washington & Wilson will be performing together on Wed. May 16 at 7:30 p.m. at Edison Intermediate School. On May 17, 130 kids from Jefferson, McKinley & Tamaques schools will be performing there as well. Among the pieces they will be performing are: God Bless America, Polly Wolly Doodle, Cello Squadron (a piece featuring the cellos on the melody & also discovered by Mr. Geyer), Pachelbel's Canon, Mozart's Eine Kleine NachtMusik, a preview of "Dynamite," & of course, the requisite fiddle tune to end the program--"Bile 'em Cabbage Down."

Best Wishes for a
HAPPY, HEALTHY, & SAFE Summer!

See you in September!