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 eight awards by Montclair State University at its “Theatre Night Awards”, which recognizes excellence in high school plays. The fall production of *Metamorphoses* received three awards, including “Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role” for Jesse Zimmermann, “Outstanding Achievement in Stage Direction” for Mr. Devlin and “Outstanding Overall Production”.

**WHS Seniors Recognized**

CHARLES ADDAMS MEMORIAL ART AWARD: Bridget Barber
DIRECTOR’S AWARDS FOR BAND: David Gruskin
DIRECTOR’S AWARD FOR DRAMA: Fraser Weist
DRAMA ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Jack Venezia
JEAN MCDERMOTT SCHOLARSHIP: Alexa Derman
JOHN PHILIP SOUSA BAND AWARD: Alex DiFabio
RACHEL MATHER SULLIVAN SCHOLARSHIP: Jared Ellner
LOUIS ARMSTRONG JAZZ AWARD: Zachary Birkenthal
MADELEINE WILD-BRISTOL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: Fraser Weist
NATIONAL BAND ASSOCIATION OUTSTANDING JAZZ MUSICIANS:
Philip Chapel, Samuel Krause, Victor Magierski
NATIONAL BAND ASSOCIATION OUTSTANDING MUSICIANS:
Shea Fitzpatrick, Edwin Gee, Matthew Nuzzo
THESPIAN OF THE YEAR: Samantha Gruskin
WHS BAND SENIORS CONTINUING IN A MUSIC FIELD:
Zachary Birkenthal, Alex DiFabio
WESTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT CHOIR AWARD: Kimberly Roth
WESTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL TECHNICAL THEATER AWARD: Hannah MacKenzie
WESTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL ESPRIT DE CORPS: Catherine Bruno

**Westfield Students Earn Honors**
Meanwhile, at the Bucks County Theatre Festival in New Hope, PA, the students performed two one act plays, *For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls*, by Christopher Durang, and *Little Duck*, by Billy Aronson. Both shows were excellent and received the following recognitions: “Outstanding Performance by an Actress” - Lauren Echausse (Amanda - *For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls*); “Spotlight Production” - *Little Duck* and “Outstanding Student Directed Production” - *For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls*. Additionally, the WHS spring musical production of *Anyone Can Whistle* continued the season of excellence as it received two awards at the 2014 Paper Mill Playhouse “Rising Star Awards” ceremony. This year's recipients were Alexa Derman for “Student Achievement in Hair & Make-up Design” and Samantha Gruskin for “Student Achievement in Stage Management”. In addition to these two awards, Mr. Brzozowski was recognized with an “Honorable Mention” for musical direction. Congratulations to the entire cast, crew and pit orchestra for their continued outstanding work.

**Cast of Little Duck**
Stephen Bubniak, Lisa Morgan Simon, Maddie Hudelson, Rebeca Plotkin, Mr. Devlin, Michael Poyntz and Daniel Coelho

**Cast of For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls**
Elena Arida, Colin Barry, Lauren Echausse, Mr. Devlin, Samantha Gruskin and Connor Wynne

The WHS Choral department is proud to announce that we had 11 singers accepted into the 2014-15 NJ All State Mixed and Women's Choirs. Congratulations to the following students who were accepted:

**2014 All State Mixed Chorus**
- Noah Bram
- Alex Cestero
- Katherine Ko
- Julian Mone

**2015 All State Women’s Chorus**
- Lauren Echausse
- Lucy Hale
- Erin Hanlon
- Hasitha Kakileti
- Laura Surace
- Jesse Zimmerman
- Emily Holtzman

These students were selected from almost 2000 high school singers from across the state of New Jersey. In November and February of next school year, these talented students will have the thrill of performing at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center alongside other selected high school students from around the state of New Jersey.

**Westfield High School Art**

After the District Art Show, Drawing students finished working on value studies of historical sculptures. They then learned how to find basic proportions and scale of the human face. Students are wrapping up the
year incorporating everything they have learned into their final projects. They are creating full value portrait drawings of classmates, done in profile.

**COMPOSITION** students have really internalized historical compositional concepts this year and had some impressive works displayed at the District Art Show. In class they are finishing up acrylic paintings, experimenting with color mixing. At home they are working on writing their first drafts of an Artist’s Statement. They will edit and fine-tune this *living document* next year in Portfolio Preparation.

This year’s District Art Show was another huge success. In these photographs, you can see samples of various projects created by **Ceramics, World Crafts Sampler** and **Crafts Exploration** students. The 3D table this year was jam-packed with student art based off of various cultures and time periods. Bowls, vases, plates, batiks, masks, pillows, a knit scarf, hand-sewn creatures, macramé, and baskets were all on display.
Arts a la Carte
June 2014

Just because the show is over, doesn’t mean we have stopped creating art! Mrs. Schwarzenbek’s Crafts Exploration classes are ending the year with tapestry paintings, mosaics and koinorobi fish kites.

Graphic Design II classes created an installation for the end of year art show. The four classes chose four controversial topics as inspiration for a silkscreen design (see photo). The installation has four walls for the four topics. The silkscreens express the students’ opinions visually, along with a written artists’ statement to give more detail and clarify their position.

The Graphic Design II classes are also in the middle of a collaborative project. They are creating animations to visually represent audio stories created by Project 79 English classes. Music Composition students are also creating soundtracks for each of the five chosen stories. The stories will be screened at the end of the school year.

On May 20th, the students in the Choral department presented their spring concert. Some highlights included a medley of Beatles songs arranged and staged by the students in Choraleers, and a variety of choral music selections that ranged from the classical to contemporary. Of note was a performance by the Concert Choir of an original choral composition by WHS senior, Fraser Weist entitled, Musica Donum Optima. Fraser was the winner of the 2014 Harmonium Society composition contest two years in a row and a finalist for the National Young Art U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts.

The WHS Winterguard, in it’s third year of existence, attended the Mid-Atlantic Indoor Association championships held at South Brunswick High School on Saturday April 12th. This was the Guard’s first year in competition and they placed 7th in the Scholastic Novice Class! We look forward to many more years of growth and success for the WHS Winter Color Guard.

The WHS Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and Wind Ensemble presented their 2014 Spring Concert on Monday June 2nd. In addition to the performing ensembles that evening, a portion of the night was devoted to recognizing the Senior Band Class of 2014!

Grace Aronds, Clarinet
Jane Aronds, Trumpet
Anna Bauer, Flute
Zachary Birkenthal, Tenor Saxophone
Philip Chapel, Trombone
Tyler Debbie, Percussion
Alex DiFabio, Percussion
Shea Fitzpatrick, Flute
Edwin Gee, Clarinet
David Gruskin, Trumpet
Samantha Gruskin, Clarinet
Andres Guasp, Percussion
Patrick Harris, Alto Saxophone
Belle Hutchins, Flute
Suzie Kozlowski, Clarinet
Samuel Krause, Tuba
Matthew Latowsky, Trumpet
Agatha Magierski, Flute
Michael Magierski, Trumpet
Victor Magierski, Tenor Saxophone
Jake Mastronardi, Trumpet
Charles Mulrooney, Percussion
Matthew Nuzzo, Bass Clarinet
Conor Sheridan, Alto Saxophone
Caroline Tanis, Flute
Amy Wang, Percussion
Tiffany Youssef, Flute

Music

The special MASS-BAND performance of all of the 150 WHS Band students was a great ending to this very special evening!

The Marching Blue Devils have begun preparations for the 2014 season! Their 2014 production, entitled “INDUSTRY,” features the music of Regina Spektor, Karl Jenkins, Mozart and Edvard Grieg. In November 2014 the WHS Marching Band will perform at the Yamaha Cup held at MetLife Stadium, home of the New York Giants! Most recently, the Marching Blue Devils performed at
the Annual Westfield Memorial Day parade.

The **WHS Jazz Bands** traveled to Phillipsburg High School on May 3rd to participate in their final jazz festival of the school year. The Jazz Ensemble received the award for the best trumpet section at the festival. Albert Chen received a best soloist award and Zachary Birkenthal received the award for being the top soloist of the festival. Both bands also performed at the Annual Jazz & Percussion concert as well as at the Annual Westfield Jazz Night. This year, the Westfield Jazz Night was held outdoors in the WHS Courtyard and featured acclaimed trumpet soloist Al Chez, formerly of the Late Show with David Letterman.

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 comic sides as they work on scenes from the Beth Henley comedy *Crimes of the Heart*. In **Drama 3**, the students are examining the actor’s approach to Musical Theatre by analyzing and performing songs as monologues. In **Stagcraft**, 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 Fourth Annual “International Thespian Gala”, which will be held at The Westwood on May 28th. This marks the fourth year that WHS has been involved with the International Thespian Society, the

**Congratulations** to Senior Trumpet player David Gruskin for being selected to the 2014 NJAJE Region II High School Jazz Ensemble.
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 Intermediate Art**

All of Mrs. Cohen’s art students have just received their Square 1 squickers - a sheet of stickers called squickers! Square 1 is our annual art department fundraiser held in all classes. They now have the opportunity to order various objects with their own art creations on them!

The 8th grade classes are working on their plaster hand creations incorporating the interpretation of a famous artist into their artwork. Two 7th grade classes are working on clay projects while the other 6th grade class is creating a large weaving. Their next project will be a 2 point perspective cityscape project. The 6th graders in Mrs. Cohen’s class are finishing up bookmark weavings incorporating 4 different stitches.

In preparation for this year’s District art Show Mr. Greenwood’s 6th grade classes completed artworks based on the artist, Romare Bearden. Students completed collages of street scenes in a Bearden style a graphic design project creating tessellations, multiple interlocking repeating patterns. This was followed by students designing Fantasy houses. Students were shown architecture from around the world and were challenged to create their own fantasy design. Next students were introduced to commercial art and 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 Romaro Britto and the impact of color in art. Students were to design an art piece in a Britto style. This was a mixed media artwork of drawing and painting. Prior to this students created multi-layered construction paper cutouts. Students recently completed 3-D dodecahedrons. Each of these 12 sided paper sculptures was decorated with black and white ink designs. Preparing for the District Art Show the 8th grade classes completed 6 large scale drawings of black and white pattern designs. Currently fine arts students are working on collages based on artist Robert Rauschenberg and current events. The 8th grade crafts class is working on a group project designing hot air balloons.

**Music**

The **Audition Music Groups** did our annual trip to The Trills and Thrills Music Festival on May 9th. All groups scored Superior rating and the students had a great time in the park. The **Afternoon Ramble Club** run by Mr. Doyle and Mr. Losco played at Jazz Night at WHS and had a blast. The group played three tunes and the audience loved it. Jazz night was fantastic and our group enjoyed their experience. The 8th grade **Chorus** class is sounding fantastic and worked very hard preparing for their concert in June. They will also perform at their Celebration night in June. Seventh graders finished their British Invasion projects and are working on a British Invasion concert on June 5th.

All in all it has been a great year for vocal music at RIS and we are very proud of all of our students!

It is hard to believe but the year is coming to end. Mr. Doyle and the Roosevelt Bands are excited to end the school year on a high note with a concert Monday, June 9 at 7PM. This concert will feature all three concert bands and all three jazz bands!

Our concert bands will be performing the works of Gustav Holst, Richard Saucedo, Elliott del Borgo, David Holsinger, Percy Grainger, and Ludwig van Beethoven. This is one of the most challenging programs to date for our students and they have worked extremely hard to prepare. Mr. Stier and Mr. Freeman will also be conducting at the June 9th concert and they have helped immensely with the development of our 6th and 7th graders!

The jazz ensembles will be performing pieces by Antonio Caroles Jobim, George & Ira Gershwin, Michael Jackson and the rock band, Chicago! The Naturals, our beginner jazz band, will be performing on the RIS stage for the first time! Mr. Stier and Mr. Doyle are extremely proud of all the extra work our jazz students have put in and we hope you can make it out on the 9th to show your support!

Speaking of the RIS jazz ensembles - they have been a very busy bunch! On May 2, all three jazz ensembles performed as part of the District Jazz Night at WHS. RIS ensembles performed under the stars and shared the stage with jazz ensembles from EIS and WHS. It was a very
special night and guest trumpeter Al Chez brought the house down!

All three jazz ensembles also performed on May 9 at Hershey Park, along with the Sharps and Flats and Early Morning Orchestra. The Accidentals took home a “Superior” rating from the judges, and the combined Morning Jazz/The Naturals super-group was rated “Excellent”. It was a great day, filled with great music and a great time was had by all!

The Afternoon Ramble rock club also performed on May 2 at the District Jazz Night. Mr. Doyle, Mr. Losco, and Ms. Laskey had a blast jamming along with our students on tunes by Credence Clearwater Revival, The Rolling Stones and the Allman Brothers Band! Their next performance will be on June 3rd, opening up for the 6th and 8th grade choirs. Come check it out, and don’t be afraid to sing along!

Mr. Doyle is extremely proud of all the students who participated in the new Chamber Music program. Chamber music is a term used to describe small-group playing, usually without the aid of a conductor. This year featured three chamber ensembles: the RIS Chamber Winds, The RIS Percussion Ensemble, and Seven-Thirty Sharp (the RIS Woodwind Quintet). Chamber Winds and Seven-Thirty Sharp will be performing on Thursday June 5th, prior to the choir and orchestra performances. The Percussion Ensemble will be performing on the morning of June 13th prior to the start of school in the RIS auditorium. Joining them will be the Period 7 Percussion Ensemble and the Period 8 Percussion Ensemble both 8th grade ensembles. Playing without the aid of a conductor can be very challenging and these students deserve a bunch of credit for their outstanding work this year!

Drama

Twenty seven 8th grade Drama students from Roosevelt Intermediate School attended the 47th Annual Bucks County Playhouse Student Theatre Festival on Thursday, May 15th 2014. Students performed America’s Next Top Model and Other Comic Sketches by Rachel and Leah Solomon.

There were over 150 students and 6 schools from New Jersey and Pennsylvania. After the 7 One Act Play performances students were able to attend workshops that included working with the Broadway performer/choreographer and Lee Wilkins.

Two performers Julian Mazzola and Eve Crandall received awards for Outstanding Solo Performance.

Bravo!
The teachers were proud to display the hard work of their students this year at the District Art Show. It is such a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the art.

Students in the sixth grade with Ms. Hooper just finished a traditional cartooning project and are now moving onto Molas. The Mola is a craft of the native people of Panama. Teachers at EIS do variations of the project with paper. Dr. Ruggieri also finished a paper Molas project as well as an animation unit, creating a traditional animation cel along with a zoetrope. A zoetrope is a cylinder with a sequence of pictures that when rotated, creates the illusion of a moving image. The individual drawings are rotated at a slow speed to produce a short cartoon animation.

Mr. Black just finished up paper Molas and did a wonderful job making use of the scraps from their work to create a layered effect that was very successful. Mrs. Frees is doing Molas inspired by the work of Keith Haring. Keith Haring was inspired by cultural art, and this seemed like a wonderful tie in to the project.

Seventh grade students in Ms. Hooper’s class are working on Optical Illusions and wire baskets. They are using the element of art form in both 2-D and 3-D. Students in Mrs. Frees class are finishing up a Unit of Medieval art that included stitching techniques, charcoal gargoyles drawings, clay figures, and finally Illuminated Letters. Mr. Black finished oil pastel landscapes with his students that were truly beautiful. They are now working on engravings.

Eighth grade crafts students in Ms. Hooper’s class are creating batik mandalas on paper with crayon and paint. This tied in nicely with a project on tye dye. They are then studying the culture of the Pueblo Native American people and making Storyteller figures. Mrs. Frees is finishing up a unit on sewing with a tye dye pillow, where they were able to use the sewing machine from a grant we received. They are using hand sewing techniques and also are making their own ugly dolls or sock monsters. They are moving onto a project with wire that will create a class wire quilt. Mr. Black’s Class is working on a mirror project and then both Mr. Black and Mrs. Frees will be working with glass fusing.

Westfield Artist, Lara Wolf, on still life. Dr. Ruggieri’s students are also finishing up Arabesque drawings and will be moving on to a painting unit in the near future. Students in Mr. Black’s just finished water based oil based paintings of animals and favorite pets. They are now working on watercolor landscapes.

Eighth grade Fine Arts students in Ms. Hooper and Dr. Ruggieri’s classes are finishing up Pop Art portraits. They are then moving onto a lesson that is being assisted by a visiting music teacher.

The entire EIS department is looking back on a fantastic year with our students.

Music

The 6th Grade Band is busy rehearsing their pieces for the upcoming spring performance on June 9th. They will be performing the Black Forest Overture by Michael Sweeney, Brian Balmages Images of Ireland and John Edmondson’s American Heritage March.

The 7th Grade Band will also be performing on Monday, June 9th.
They will be performing Frank Erickson’s *Blue Ridge Overture, Prairie Songs*, a collection of Midwestern folk songs arranged by Pierre LaPlante and *Normandy Beach*, a British style concert march by John Edmondson.

The **Concert Band** is preparing for an exciting spring. They will be participating in the High Note Music festival on June 6th and also their final spring performance on June 10th. This year’s performance will feature two exciting works. The “Guadalcanal March” by Richard Rodgers from the famous *Victory at Sea* television series will be the opening number for the band’s final performance of the year. The *Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*, by Howard Stone and arranged for the EIS Concert Band by Dr. Shapiro is a powerful selection depicting all the drama and power of the famous trilogy. The band will conclude with *Andrew Lloyd Webber: A Symphonic Portrait*, a medley of pieces from Webber’s Broadway shows including *Superstar, Evita and Cats*.

EIS’ award winning **Emerald Jazz** has appeared in several performances this spring. After a stellar performance at the WHS Jazz night on May 2nd, they will next perform at the High Note Music Festival on June 6th. They will end the year by performing in their final concert on June 10th. In the past, this group has impressed audiences and judges by their ability to perform various styles of jazz and pop music. This year they will continue by performing “Swing” with Duke Ellington’s *Take the A’ train*, “Blues” with *Kansas City*, “Latin” with Santana’s “Black Magic Woman,” “Soul” with Isaac Hayes’ *Soul Man* and several other styles.

The **6th Grade Orchestra** students at Edison Intermediate School had the opportunity to create a short video for the current 5th graders who are taking Orchestra in 6th grade next year. The video answered many of the most common questions that incoming 6th graders have such as, "Is Orchestra hard?" "What if I don't think I'm good enough to be in Orchestra?" "What is Smart Music?" and the most important one, "Do I have to carry my instrument all over the school?" The video was a success and the 5th graders felt much more at ease about joining Orchestra at the middle school level.

The Edison School **Orchestra** students are also feverishly working on their pieces for their Spring performances. The 6th and 8th grade Orchestra students are performing on Tuesday, June 3rd at 7:30PM along with the 7th grade Chorus. Some of their selections include "Conquistador," "Habanera," "Arabian Dreams" and "Rolling in the Deep." The 7th grade Orchestra students are performing on Thursday June 5th at 7:30PM with the 6th grade Chorus. Their program includes Georges Bizet’s "Farandole" and "Themes from the Hunger Games." The EIS Chamber Orchestra will be performing on Monday June 9th at 7:30PM along with the 6th and 7th grade Band. They will be featuring "Dotonbori Dash" and an arrangement of Georg Phillipe Telemann’s "Concerto for String Orchestra". The Chamber Orchestra will also be performing the following evening, June 10th, in the lobby of EIS prior to our last concert series. The final concert features the Concert Band, 8th Grade Chorus, EIS Emeralds Jazz Band and the Broadway Singers. This is a very special event because it will be the last concert conducted by beloved Director, Dr. Shapiro, who is retiring at the end of this year. Please join us for an evening filled with beautiful music!

**Franklin Elementary**  
**Art**

The art students of Franklin School from Grades 1-4 certainly had a productive year. In the 1st grade, they learned all about the importance of the color wheel with the primary, secondary and the warm and cool colors. Age appropriate projects were developed to enhance this learning and artistic growth could be seen. Their vocabulary has been enriched and observations generated some great discussions. A variety of medium was explored and moments of success were enjoyed.

In the 2nd grade, the color wheel played an important role in each project that was taught. Tints and shades could be seen in a painting of a skyscape. The use of warm and cool colors created a colorful background to surround their cropped animal. The students’ 3-D work let them experience the art of making a pinch pot. The word appliqué was introduced and the understanding of how it could be used added to the painting and decorating of these pots. They proved their learning by understanding the difference between symmetry and asymmetry.
Mixed media was explored and their readiness for 3rd grade is becoming apparent.

The 3rd grade students revisited the idea of symmetry. A symmetrical mask was created where crayon and a tempera wash were used on the drawing. This process had the students experience the technique known as Batiking. Batiking is when wax and paint resist one another. The end result was quite pleasing. Texture and color filled in the shapes and spaces. An ellipse assisted the students in the creation of layer cakes. Paint was the medium of choice and the American artist Wayne Thiebaud was our influence. The students’ 3-D work brought to life a 4-legged animal. They were painted and decorated with appropriate markings or whimsical color. These young artists are ready for the next year’s artistic challenges.

The 4th grade students learned all about complementary colors. The blending of these colors proved to teach them how to create values. A value scale was experienced and assisted in their understanding of the lightness and darkness in color. Each lesson tried to segue into another to enhance all concepts. The student’s vocabulary was developed and many an “aaha” moment could be heard. Regular and Irregular patterns were used throughout all their projects. Positive and negative space and shape were introduced and fluorescent paint brightened their designs.

The District Art Show displayed all levels of talent. The artist growth and the progression of their understanding could be seen. The proof of learning was experienced as you viewed the artwork from K-12.

A great year was had by all the students in grades 1-4 under the direction of Mrs. Coveney. See you all in September…. Keep on drawing!

The 5th grade students in Mrs. Massenzio’s classes learned all about how to create a successful still life composition. Many artists like to use flowers as their subject matter. Some very famous artists, like Georgia O’Keefe and Vincent Van Gogh were noted for their flower paintings. Using tempera and oil pastels, students enjoyed using more than one media! Various painting and drawing techniques were explored. Symmetry, line, shape and balance were some of the focal points of this lesson. The results were impressive and the students couldn’t wait to take them home!

**Music**

Are you dreaming of warm sunny days at the beach, seeing old friends at camp, and visiting new and exotic places? If so, then you might be ready for summer vacation. The 5th graders at Franklin couldn’t wait for these things either and presented a wonderful, summer themed, chorus concert this past month. Their choreography, mostly created by students, skits and “fireflies” delighted the Franklin students, staff and parents. Now, the chorus is tuning up for one more performance as they sing the National Anthem for the Somerset Patriots on June 11. The Glee Club will also sing another patriotic song before the game begins.

This month we’ll be discussing form and style in each grade. We will be exploring music from around the world as well as learning about various American musical genres and the structure of each piece. Also, we will be reviewing the “Star Spangled Banner”, the history of the song and the difficult lyrics that so many forget or improvise the words to. You know you’ve sat there watching a game on TV, wondering if the singer will remember all of the lyrics.

As school comes to a close, a review of this year’s musical concepts will be played through the popular website Zondle using the app on the iPads. Our 5th graders will also record their end of the year song “Best Day of My Life” by American Authors. This recording will be featured in their fifth grade slideshow which is beautifully put together by the parents. Finally, the Franklin fine arts staff wishes everyone a wonderful last month of school and a safe and happy summer!

**Jefferson Elementary Art**

Congratulations to Jefferson students who made it into the art show. Only a very select amount of artworks can be shown from each school in Westfield. If your artwork was chosen, you should be very proud.

With the year winding down, 1st graders are in the middle of their landscape tour. They will soon finish their space landscapes by designing their space ships, alien UFO’s and anything else they can think of, that could be floating out there in space. Next, we will be switching gears by going back in time and creating a landscape for dinosaurs using paint and fabric.
Second grades are all at different points in their facial proportion units. Some classes are just starting their “Bad Hair Day” paintings, where they combine correct facial proportions with abstract hair in a self-portrait. Some classes have already begun their self-portrait creature feature. They have to draw their face, in proportion, and then their bodies can be ANYTHING. Some kids choose food, creating a cheeseburger kid. Some kids make themselves into unicorns. Some students become creature inventors, combining many creature features.

Third grades did a great job on their tissue paper flower bouquets for Mother’s Day. Their next project will be based on a book called, "The Dot" by Peter Reynolds. This is a wonderful book about a child who thinks she can't do art. Taking little steps, she finds her creative voice and through exploration and practice, she becomes a great artist. They will be using this book as a creative stepping stone for a pen and ink project. Some classes may get to add color, depending on schedules.

Students in 4th and 5th grades are still finishing up large projects. In fourth, they are working on their simulated 3-D op art projects and in fifth, most kids still need to finish their fabric mâché fish. The students that finish early can choose to help other students finish their projects or start one of two new projects, dream catchers or leather key chains.

**Music**

It is almost the end of the year, but Jefferson 1st graders are not showing any signs of slowing down. In our 1st grade classrooms, you can hear the sounds of classic recordings, discussion about instruments and practicing of solfege syllables. The past month gave all of our 1st graders a chance to use their best listening ears to identify, categorize and determine what instruments were playing in a number of different ensembles including the orchestra and concert band. It is impressive, as we reflect back on the beginning of the year, to see how far we have all come as musicians and how much more we understand and appreciate music.

In an effort to show just how important it is to become familiar with instruments, ensembles and different styles of music, the Jefferson 2nd grade class has become dedicated to learning about concepts that constantly challenge our already strong music curriculum. Students have been exposed to a number of different textures in music and have started to become aware of distinguishing characters of instruments and their respective families. Much of the success of this objective can be directly attributed to the student volunteers that have been bringing in instruments to class. This “hands on” approach to teaching has allowed us all to have a more meaningful connection with what we have been learning and reminds us that beginning practice on an instrument at a young age can be life changing.

**Jefferson & McKinley Strings**

The wait is officially over! Both 4th and 5th graders kicked off the Spring concert season with performances that featured solos, small ensembles, and the full orchestra. Our 4th graders at McKinley and Jefferson performed for parents, family, and friends on May 15th at Edison Intermediate School. The concert was a great success, and featured an impressive 125 student full orchestra that performed selections from the method books, Essential Elements 2000, as well as some challenging repertoire from String Time Joggers.

The Westfield elementary string students also performed live on May 28th, 2014 at Edison Intermediate School. This concert highlighted 5th graders from all six elementary schools and was another great concert! Additionally, the All-City Orchestra had its concert on Wednesday, June 4th, 2014 at Westfield High School. It was great to see many friendly faces in attendance for our final concerts. Thank you to all the faculty, staff and families that have been so supportive throughout the concert season!

**McKinley Elementary Art**

First grade artists’ are working hard creating a mixed media Egyptian hieroglyph painting. Students construct their own language by painting symbols to send their messages of advice to incoming first graders. These works will be displayed throughout the summer and hopefully pass on some words of wisdom for the incoming McKinley flying eagles this September.

Second grade artists’ will be ending the year full circle as they broaden their earlier understandings of negative and positive space through a new project utilizing a repetitively stamped abstract print. Each student designed their own abstract foam tile and etched their lines using a pencil. Through repetition and printing these designs side by side, the entire picture plane is covered and uncovering a unique interplay of negative and positive space. Printing white paint on black paper then lends itself to a variety of color medium like
markers, colored pencils, crayons and oil pastels to finish these patterned works.

Fourth grade students have been practicing their one point perspective and are now growing from their previously learned concepts to apply their repertoire in a surrealist profile drawing. First, each student’s profile was traced onto heavy-duty drawing paper and then the students take their contour line in new directions by turning the shape of their heads into a unique dreamlike creation. Referencing the artwork of Salvador Dali, Rene Margritte and the famous elementary art book, “It Looked like Spilt Milk”, helps the students bridge the gap from a contour line tracing to their very own creative surrealist worlds. A previously learned concept of ‘perspective’ now takes on new meaning surpassing an angular definition to the way they see their own worlds.

Fifth grade artists’ will make their very own pointillist work of art inspired by the famous movement and artist, Georges Seurat. Seurat, originally naming “Divisionism” as his way of painting, teaches optical mixing through placing dots of pure color next to one another. As the viewer looks onto a pointillist (or divisionist) work of art from a distance, the colors blend into one another. These strong works will bring our year of hard work to a close and give us one more piece to help us remember our elementary art experience in years to come.

Music

At McKinley students have been busy learning about musical instruments and their families. The 1st graders learned all about the instrument story Peter and the Wolf. Students learned which instruments played each character and did a variety of activities to identify the instrument sounds.

The 2nd graders learned about Carnival of the Animals and the instruments that they heard. Students then had to identify the animals by listening to clips of the music in Carnival of the Animals Bingo.

The 3rd graders used Zondle Interactive, a new iPad game where the students use iPad remote controls to play along in a class wide game answering questions about the instrument families.

The 5th graders built their own instruments this month and presented them in front of the class with a song that they composed. The students demonstrated extreme creativity ranging from instruments made out of detergent containers to toilet piping! They also performed the national anthem at the Somerset Patriots game May 17th, where they hit a “home run” of their own on the field!

The 5th graders also had their Spring Concert on May 21st where they impressed the crowd with a variety of songs including one called “The Fifty States in
Rhyme” where the students named all 50 states in alphabetical order!

Tamaques Elementary

Art

Tamaques Elementary School 1st and 2nd grade artwork was proudly on display at the 2014 District Art Show. In case you didn’t get to see it, here are a few pictures of work that were hanging. There are examples of Georgia O’Keeffe Flowers, Snowmen at Night, Bas Relief Animals, Colonial Tinsel Paintings and Symmetrical Masks.

The 3rd graders in Mrs. Massenzio’s classes were fascinated as they created an alligator that had a “bendable” body and tail. By folding and cutting paper in a certain way, they were able to create a 3-D, undulating form. Students enjoyed a chance to demonstrate individual creative expression and at the same time, they learned about alligators and their characteristics. This lesson integrated science and art.

Fourth grade students in Mrs. Massenzio’s classes had fun developing innovative models of a 3-D skateboard. Using large sized cardboard, the children cut, decorated and painted their designs. They were encouraged to modify the traditional shape, add details and lots of color. The finished skateboards were quite creative and the students couldn’t wait to take them home!

Fifth grade Art classes created beautiful 3-D sculptures. Mrs. Massenzio introduced an underwater theme. Students were excited and quickly became engrossed in creating colorful tropical fish, majestic sea turtles and stingrays, to name a few. The children learned that when something is symmetrical, it is a mirror image on both sides. The final results were fabulous and the students were quite proud of their creations!

Music

Tamaques School’s 4th grade band concert on Thursday: May 22, 2014 was a huge success! The 4th grade band “WOWED” the audience with “Hard Rock Blues” and many other traditional folk and popular songs.

Tamaques School’s 5th Grade band also did a wonderful job on their portion of the May 22nd program. The 5th grade band opened their portion of the program with “Starsplitter Fanfare”, “a spirited and powerful work!” inspired by the phenomenon known as the supernova. The audience was treated to Along Came a Spider by Mike Hannickel a fun piece featuring the trombone section playing many “glissandos”. The highlight of the evening was the band’s finale “Concerto for Triangle” a novelty piece with two guest soloists! A special “Thank You!” to Mrs. Anne Marie Petriano and Mrs. Mary Montes for their outstanding performance!
Washington Elementary

Art

We are wrapping up the year at Washington School. Everyone is excited for summer!

Our 1st graders just finished their landscape paintings and African animal prints. The African animal picture was a printmaking project during which students learned about relief printing and how it works similarly to a stamp. They will be working on a large summer themed display by making collaged butterflies in groups. Students are making sure to plan and make their designs symmetrical.

Second grade has been making a lot of projects about delicious foods. They created a cake using shading and blending techniques with oil pastel. After that, they worked on a textured collage project of a hamburger. We finished a project where students learned how to turn color hues into tints and shades using paint. Students made a color scale in the form of a yummy ice cream cone. Students just finished a cup cake sculpture that looked quite realistic. We will finish up the year with a group project for the summer themed display.

In 3rd grade, we looked at Native American art and created a picture of the sun that filled the page with geometric shapes and warm colors. We just finished a big project that is on display in the lobby of the school. Each student designed and created a totem pole inspired by an animal. All pieces were stacked to create large totem poles. Students will finish up the year by creating detailed flowers for our summer themed display.

Fourth grade has learned about many important modern artists this year. Most recently, we have talked about Matisse, Frank Stella, and Jackson Pollock. Many students had unique and interesting insight into the action painting technique of Pollock’s splatter paintings. Students have used ideas they learned in the art history critiques to inform their own artwork. Students will end the year by trying out action painting for themselves. It could get messy!

Fifth grade just finished talking about pop art. They created a pop art version of their shoes inspired by Andy Warhol. Students are finishing up their optical illusion pieces and some students are working on a pinwheel project that includes all the things they have learned in art since 1st grade at Washington. They will continue to build on all that they have learned and keep making amazing artwork in middle school.

Music

Washington School's 4th grade band concert on Wednesday, May 21st was also a huge success! In addition to “A Mozart Melody”, “London Bridge Duet”, the students performed “Skip to My Lou” a classic American Folk Song and many other traditional folk and popular songs, the fourth grade band concluded their portion of the program with "Hard Rock Blues", an audience favorite!

Washington School’s May 21st Grade Band Concert was equally impressive! The band selections included “Primus” by, Sandy Feldstein and Larry Clark, “Gallant March” by Michael Sweeney, and other selections by Sandy Feldstein and Larry Clark. The big hit of the evening was “Concerto for Triangle” by Mike Hannickel. A special “Thank You!” to our wonderful guest soloist, Mr. Cognetti. Congratulations to all the performers for a job well done!

It’s amazing that the year is already coming to a close. Washington's concerts are over and the students are preparing to move on to the next grade or for some, the next school. As much as things are coming to an end, there are also other things that are just beginning.

As June approaches, we will explore our final unit. This month will focus on form and style. Form relates to how music is organized. Every piece of music has a form, or lack of form, that makes it unique. Some forms are similar to formulas that are designed for creating these works of art. Students will also explore a variety of styles or genres of music including classical, jazz, rock & roll and pop, to name a few.

The 5th Grade Chorus has had a busy month, performing both their Spring
Concert as well as singing the National Anthem at the TD Bank Ballpark. The latter turned out to be an interesting experience. We wondered that day if the weather would hold up long enough for the students to perform, but just as we took the field, the game was put on a rain delay. That rain delay turned into a rained out game, but nevertheless, our students sang their hearts out for their parents, friends and even the hot dog vendors right alongside the concession stands. The Spring Concert was a huge success! The students performed beautifully and worked very hard to get to that level. Congratulations on a job well done!

The 5th Grade still has one last show before they move on to the middle school. Their talent show will be on Thursday, June 19th at 11:00AM. It is open to all 5th Grade parents and Washington School students. We are very excited to be able to put on this show for you and I'm sure you will enjoy it.

I’d also like to take this time to thank all of my 5th Grade students for a wonderful year. We had many great memories, from Camp Eljibar to our concerts and rained out ballpark performance. I wish you all the best of luck in middle school and I hope that I inspired you to greatness. Not just in music, but also in whatever you choose to do in life. Don’t let anyone tell you that you can’t do something, because in the end, “I'd rather attempt to do something great and fail than to attempt to do nothing and succeed.”

Wilson Elementary

Art

Pop Art created by Wilson School fifth grade students!!

Wilson School “Wall of Kindness” school-wide tile art project.

Music

The 5th grade choristers at Wilson Elementary recently performed their Spring Concert to an enthusiastic audience of relatives and friends. In keeping with this year’s school theme CELEBRATE AMERICA, songs of American composers – some based on the texts of American poets – were performed. From the iconic God Bless America (which the 5th graders had recently sung at a Patriot’s ballgame) to the well-known spiritual Wade in the Water, the singers performed with great enthusiasm and ability to communicate a wide variety of messages. This last piece included choreography created by students and their teacher, Mr. Hendricks.

Also celebrating America were our 1st graders, who recorded a DVD of patriotic songs for Wilson’s Celebrate America night, officially premiered by their parents and other visitors on May 14th. Another enthusiastic performance, which we hope the parents will continue enjoying! Other musical activities at Wilson include basic improvising in ABA form, creating ostinati on percussion instruments, and composing simple songs with the help of the music teacher!
Lincoln School

Kindergarten artists are completing their colorful tissue paper piñatas with their own patterns to reveal their own unique aesthetic. Not only does this lesson build our pincher muscles that help us hold pencils, but this multidimensional art project teaches to cultural history as well too, as we learned that the Piñata originated from China and not Mexico. The final product really allows you to see the artist’s thought process and they can identify their own personalities within those choices.

At Lincoln School the kindergartners are getting ready for Kindergarten Graduation on June 12th. They are preparing songs to sing from different countries of the world. It has been a very exciting year for our kindergarteners, from our holiday celebrations, Grandparent’s day, our Sing-a-Long to the upcoming graduation day! They have been working this month on musical instruments and their families. Students have played a game called instrument pond, where they pick out a ducky from the pond which has an instrument family underneath and can tell us an instrument that belongs in that family.

The preschoolers at Lincoln have been working on musical instruments as well this month. They have been learning through the House on Melody Street an interactive iPad app that tells the story of the musical instruments and their families.
Dr. David Shapiro Retires
Dr. David Shapiro has worked in the Westfield School district for the past 42 years as a woodwind specialist, directing both bands and orchestras and musical theatre. He taught at the elementary level and at the high school before his present position at Edison Intermediate. Dr. Shapiro has shared his musical expertise with many students over the years and has been an integral part of the Fine Arts Department. You will be missed very much!

Thank you and we wish you a healthy and happy retirement!

Congratulations to Anna Qiang!
Winner of the 2014 All City T-Shirt / Program Cover Contest

All City Awards

Congratulations to all Band, Chorus and Orchestra members selected for the All-City groups. We are proud of you and your fine musical accomplishments!!

Drude Sparre Roessler All City Vocal Award
Nicholas Barbella
McKinley School

Ruth Vincent All City Orchestra Award
Kelly Eagan
Jefferson School

Ruth Vincent All City Band Award
Robert Strauss
Jefferson School

Best Wishes for a HAPPY, HEALTHY & SAFE Summer!
See you in September!