



HAMILTON ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS

ACADEMIC
BALLET
MUSIC
VOCAL
DRAMA



NEWSLETTER

October—November 2011

Message From Principal and Artistic Director

In October we held two important meetings with parents. One was the meeting with all parents together where we reviewed the school's policies and discussed the importance of parents support and fundraising initiatives. On October 20 we had Parent-Teacher interviews. We would like to thank all the teachers for the hard work in preparation for the interviews and all our parents for coming on time and following the schedule. It was rewarding to hear only positive comments from both the teachers and the parents.

We noticed that more students were absent this month than in September. It is very important for students to get the class work from the teachers if they know in advance that they will miss a class.

In November our students will attend two plays at the new Burlington Arts Center and concentrate on rehearsing for the winter play "The love of three oranges". The play will be shown during the day for local students on December 5, 6, 7, and 9 as well as in the evening on Thursday, December 8. Same as last year the evening performance will be a showcase of our students' dramatic and vocal abilities and a fundraising event for the academy. We are counting on all parents to sell tickets for this evening performance.

In October 2011, Clara Rakovac received a grant from the Hamilton East Kiwanis Club. The allocated funds are being used to offset her tuition costs.

Remembrance Day

On November 11 at 10:30a.m. all students and teachers will go see the ceremony and a parade on King Street in Dundas to commemorate the Remembrance Day. We all be outside for at least one hour, therefore, students should be dressed warmly.

Anna Shkolnik
Principal

Max Ratevosian
Artistic Director



*Congratulations to Addison, Kallan, and Bella for performing a song from Annie at the Burlington Performing Art Center for Stars Academy.

*Congratulations to Marie Franek's and Studio Babette Puppet Theatre on a successful performance of CARLOS AND THE FIVE REASONS at The Staircase. We look forward to many more productions by Studio Babette.

*Congratulations to Sophia on her Opera debut singing in the chorus in Opera Belcanto productions of Cavallero Rusticana and I Pagliacci.

*Congratulations to Mr. Max who has received, on October 14th, 2011, the Lifetime Achievement in Dance Award from the Vancliffen Arts Foundation.

*Hamilton City Ballet was voted #1 dance studio for children by the Hamilton Spectator's Readers Choice Award. Thank you to all for your generous support!

Early Dismissal

Students will be dismissed at 3:40 p.m. on Thursday, November 3rd, 2011 for our monthly staff meeting.



Celebrating an October Birthday

Happy Birthday to Bella & Clara!





Report from the teachers



From Mrs. Anna Shkolnik (Mathematics)

Grade 6 and 7 students have completed a unit on Decimals and their application in word problems and a unit on Surface Area and Volume of a Rectangular Prism. In Grade 8 we finished Rates and Percents and started Fractions. In grade 9 we were working on Polynomials and now almost completed studies of Linear Function. It is very important for the parents to check if the homework assigned has been completed at home.

From Mrs. Jessica Welsh (English, History, Geography)

Over the past eight weeks, students have been working very hard in English. Students in grade 4/5 are now practicing the Reading Strategies: Visualizing and Questioning in Legends and Historical Fiction. Grade 6/7 students have begun working on the Writing Traits: Ideas and Content in Historical Fiction. Grade 8/9 students will soon be moving into our author study of Edgar Allan Poe. History students in grade 8 have finished their unit on Confederation and are now focusing on The Development of Western Canada. Students in grade 10 history are presently into unit 3: The Roaring Twenties and Dirty Thirties. Students will begin doing a variety of book reports, and should make sure they are currently reading a novel.

From Mr. Max Ratevosian and Ms. Melania Pawliw (Ballet, Historical Dance)

Students have presented their first evaluations in dance. They are continuing to progress well in their technical work, conditioning, and stretches. In Historical Dance students will start preparing dances for “The Love for Three Oranges.”



From Ms. Julie Garlisi (Modern Dance)

The students are beginning to refine the Graham based technique from floorwork to jumps. Every week they use what has been previously taught, shown, and expressed in the studio. The class has been working on musical terms and how they relate to movement. This process has helped make the students more musical. They now hear the music they are dancing to in a whole new way. Their engagement to the class and the material makes for such an enjoyable environment. They are truly learning, growing, and expanding their dancing abilities. My hope is that they continue to write in their journals every week after class. This term I have introduced choreography to the classes. Each week, we refine the previous phrase, then add new material. This process has been fantastic for the students. It gives them an opportunity to express and practice performing. It is also giving them insights on how to create choreography.

From Mr. Frank Macchiusi (Science, Math)

The students have all been working well during the last couple of months. In math, grades 4 and 5 have completed units on Number Patterns and Whole Numbers and have just started a unit on Geometry. As always, completion of homework is a good way to practice the concepts learned in class. In addition, playing card or dice games to improve basic math skills (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) will further aid in concept understanding. In science, students in all grades will be completing their first unit within the next few weeks. A review of concepts and an end of unit test will follow.



From Ms. Cindy Muller (French, Social Studies, Visual Arts)

During French class, grades 4/5 6/7 have enjoyed working at stations to the tune of the Jeopardy Think song. Different activities are set up at each station for students to practice vocabulary, reading and grammar that they have learned in class. In Social Studies and Visual Arts grade students continue to learn about Canada. Grade 6/7 students are working on representing native lore in their art.

