

The Spotlight

Westborough Fine Arts

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Issue 17 | JUNE 2024

Brought to you by:



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

Dear Fine Arts Family & Friends,

It is hard to believe we have reached the final days of school. Each school year seems to go faster and faster, and this year was no exception.

The Fine Arts Department presented over 75 events throughout the year and we are so proud of each student in grades PreK-12. Their hard work, dedication, and creativity consistently impresses me and I am optimistic about the Arts in Westborough for years to come.

To the Class of 2024: Thank you for your kindness, laughter, empathy, and commitment to excellence. You will always be remembered fondly and I wish you the best in all of your future endeavors.

Thank you to each and every member of the Westborough community for their support throughout the year. Our program could not be where it is today without you.

On behalf of the Fine Arts Department Faculty, we wish you a safe and enjoyable summer and we will see you in September!

Sincerely,

Christopher Martin

Director of Fine Arts



Attend a Meeting!
STAY TUNED AND JOIN US IN THE FALL
Email us at info@wfaea.org to receive
Zoom link info

WHS CHORUS



CONGRATULATIONS!

**to our senior singing
Rangers! We will miss
you all!**



Chorus seniors last day of school

On May 24th, audiences at Westborough High School enjoyed a concert featuring the school's a cappella groups, including Chamber Singers, Harmony in Heels, Don't Panic, Double Take, and Members Only.

Click on the link below and enjoy the show!

WESTBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL
FINE & PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT PRESENTS...

A CAPPELLA LOOZA!

DIRECTED BY: ALYSON GREER ESPINOSA

MAY 24, 2024

WFAEA's 3rd Annual Pops Night: A Magical Evening of Music and Community

On May 16th, the Westborough Fine Arts Education Association (WFAEA) hosted their 3rd annual Pops Night at Westborough High School. The evening began with a delightful array of appetizers and entertainment from small ensemble groups in the high school lobby, setting the tone for a memorable night.



WHS Choral Students

Guests filed into the auditorium and were treated to captivating performances by the talented WHS orchestra, band, and choral groups. The musical selections, featuring beloved Disney songs and highlights from the musical "Mean Girls," entertained the audience and showcased the remarkable skills of our students.

The evening's success was bolstered by our generous sponsors, whose donations of food and funds allowed WFAEA to provide refreshments for attendees. Nearly 300 students and community members gathered to enjoy the event, celebrating our students, especially the graduating seniors, and marking the end of the school year in a fun and festive manner.

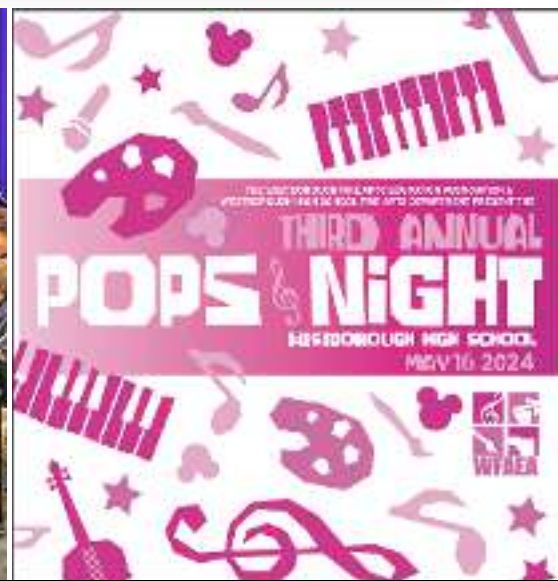
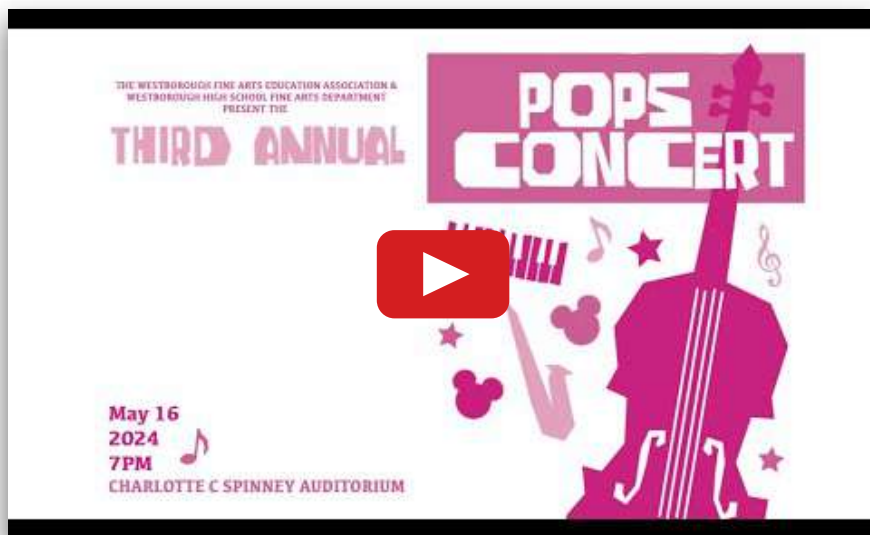
Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this evening unforgettable.

Thank you to our 2024 Donors:

- Walmart
- Cha-Cha and Beans
- Toritos
- Yummy Mummy
- Chef de Jour
- Roche Bros
- Faris Flowers
- Woodlands
- Anzios
- Red Heat



WFAEA's 3rd Annual Pops Night: Continued



MEAN GIRLS

HIGH SCHOOL VERSION



Westborough High School's performance of "Mean Girls" produced by Center Stage took the Stage for 3 performances in May. The cast delighted audiences with their talent and humor.

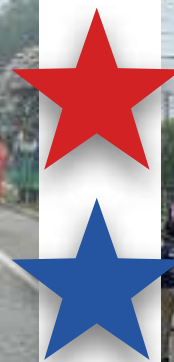
The production showcased fun choreography and impressive musical numbers performed by the talented pit orchestra as well as technical aspects such as lighting and sound.

The story of Cady moving to a new school and navigating the social world of high school and the "mean girls" that "rule the school" was not only entertaining but also thought-provoking. The ensemble cast really impressed three packed audiences with their singing and acting. Overall, Westborough High School's "Mean Girls" was a triumphant production.



MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

WHS & GMS Marching Bands marched and performed during Westborough's Memorial Day parade and ceremonies held on May 27th.





Scholarships



The Westborough Fine Arts Education Association proudly awarded over \$8,000 in scholarships to deserving Westborough High School seniors. We are delighted to announce this year's distinguished recipients.

Participation in the Arts Scholarship: This scholarship is offered to any Westborough High School student who has dedicated themselves to taking courses within the Fine Arts Department for all four years of their high school career and earned at least an "A" average in these classes. This year's recipients are:

Mason Chong	Sofia Holmes	Samantha Lasch	Sasha Sklar
Susannah Gordon	Michelle Hung	Corinne Levesque	Kaylie Strong
Kyran Trivedi	Dev Khanna	Myeisha Patnaik	Meredith Swanson
Nitya Gundamaraju	Annabelle Koshy		

Passion for the Arts Scholarship: This scholarship is awarded to any Westborough High School student who plans on pursuing post-secondary studies in the Fine Arts. The student must have a declared Fine Arts major. Student will have dedicated themselves to taking courses within the Fine Arts Department for all four years of their high school career and earned at least an "A" average in each of these classes. This year's recipients are:

Sofia Altamirano	Nason Hubbard	Kayla Niece	Sophia Winsch
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Corinne Sciarappa Memorial Scholarship: Corinne Sciarappa (WHS '19) was a cherished member of the Westborough High School creative community with a strong interest in STEAM, who passed away in 2019 due to cancer. The Corinne Sciarappa Memorial Scholarship, established in 2023, honors her legacy by supporting students who share her passions and aspirations. This scholarship helps students engage in creative activities and pursue careers in STEAM, reflecting Corinne's compassion and kindness. The recipient is someone who, like Corinne, is drawn to both creative expression and evidence-based research to make a positive impact.

Kaylie Strong

Unsung Hero Scholarships: The Unsung Hero awards recognize students who have positively influenced a music program at WHS (Band, Chorus or Orchestra) from behind the scenes with a positive attitude, a willingness to help in whatever capacity necessary, and a commitment to excellence.

Daniella Arcieri	Sofia Holmes	Corinne Levesque	Dhruv Shenoy
John Gendy	Dev Khanna	Lila Movahedi	Shaojie Zhang

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FINE ARTS SENIORS!



On May 21st, the Fine Arts Department celebrated its graduating seniors in a memorable banquet. 63 Students and their families from the band, orchestra, chorus, and journalism were honored for their achievements and contributions. The event featured a delightful spread of Italian cuisine and delicious cake.



Orchestra seniors last day of school



Congratulations!

to all of our Orchestra graduating seniors!



The Fine Arts department was busy during an exhilarating graduation season, showcasing their talents at both the Baccalaureate and Graduation festivities. Congratulations to all the Fine Arts graduates for their hard work and achievements!



Congratulations, Class of 2024!

I'm honored to have been your band director these last 4 years. You have been a wonderful group of kind, thoughtful, and musically courageous students. It has been a pleasure to make music with you! Best of luck to you all as you embark on the next steps in your marvelously bright futures!



With Pride!
Mr. Doyle



Tri-M Board

A very special thank you to this year's Tri-M board and the many members of Tri-M who worked hard this year to help make MICCA, Pops Night and all of the fine arts concerts and events a success. We will miss those who are graduating - GOOD LUCK TO YOU ALL! And we welcome the incoming board and look forward to working together next year!



SENIOR SHOUT-OUTS



**Congratulations,
Meredith Swanson**

and the Class of 2024!

We are so proud of you!
You shine on and off the stage!
We can't wait to continue to see you shine
in the future!
Love, Mom, Eric, and Ross

**Congratulations
Kayla and the
Class of 2024**



**Thank you to the
amazing fine arts faculty!
The Niece Family**



**CONGRATULATIONS
MASON**
and the
class of
2024



**Congrats
Susannah
Class of
2024**



**Thank you to
Ms. Greer
and the rest
of the stellar
WPS fine arts
staff**



**Thank you
to all of
the fine arts
staff for
all of your
support and
inspiration
throughout
the years!**



SENIOR ART SPOTLIGHT

We are excited to spotlight our amazing senior art students and their incredible talent! These students have poured their creativity and hard work into WHS art classes, and their artwork is a testament to their passion and skill. Enjoy a sampling of their artwork!

Angelyn Lopez

Etching/Print Facial Study



Daniella Arcieri

"Spots" Mixed Media Painting



Nason Hubbard

Nason Hubbard excelled in all of her artistic pursuits at WHS, including 2D art, music, and theater lighting for Center Stage.

Nason is an

incredibly skilled visual artist, working primarily in charcoal drawing and reductive printmaking. Nason was the vice president of our high school art club, and was the chapter president for the National Art Honor Society. Nason will be attending Sarah Lawrence College next year, pursuing art history, and lighting design.



Saloni Patel

Saloni Patel is an incredibly skilled visual artist, specializing in oil (and) acrylic painting, charcoal and pastels. Saloni was our Art Club president, and a member of the

National Art Honor Society. Saloni received a "Gold Key" award from the Scholastic art competition, and was also the recipient of the RIT Art and Design Book Award; both of which are incredibly high honors. Saloni will be attending Northeastern University next year where she'll be studying Mechanical Engineering.



Gianna Vasillakis

Gianna Vasillakis enjoyed a wide array of artistic pursuits here at WHS, participating and excelling in: Mixed Chorus, Art Foundations, Drawing 1&2, AP Drawing, and Pottery. Gianna was a member of NAHS, Pottery Club, and Art Club. Gianna is an incredible mixed media artist, enjoying colored pencils, printmaking, charcoal, and various paint media. Gianna will be attending Northeastern University next year, exploring Health Science and Psychology.



Julia Young

Charcoal and Pastel Facial Study

Portrait of her Grandmother-mixed media painting



Madison Pino

Madison Pino has taken Digital Photography 1 & 2, Graphic Design, and AP 2D Art & Design. In her time at Westborough she has participated in art club and is a member of the National Art Honor Society. She has been featured in the art show and lit mag six times each! Next year Maddy plans to attend Roger Williams University to major in Aquaculture and Aquarium Science on a Pre-Law Track.



Abby Mahr

Abby Mahr has taken Digital Photography 1, Graphic Design, and AP 2D Art & Design. In her time at Westborough Abby has done graphic design for school apparel, worked on the yearbook, and is a class officer. In 2023 Abby won both the Custom Ink T-Shirt design competition and the DECA program cover design contest. Next year Abby will attend the University of Wisconsin – Madison to major in Marketing.



Caroline Biddle

Caroline Biddle has taken Digital Photography 1 & 2, Graphic Design, and AP 2D Art & Design. In her time at Westborough she has been a member of the National Art Honor Society and served as the treasurer for our chapter this year. Caroline's work has been featured in the art show all four years. Next year Caroline will be attending the University of North Dakota double majoring in Commercial Aviation and Aviation Management.



WFAEA's Impact: Funding Grants, Clinicians, and Community Projects



We are thrilled to highlight the significant ways WFAEA has been using its funds to support our community.

Recently, we allocated \$450 to provide lighting and backdrops for the photography studio. This essential equipment enables students to skillfully control and manipulate light, enhancing their ability to create the desired mood, atmosphere, and emphasis in their work.

Additionally, we contributed \$400 towards the purchase of headsets for the auditorium, covering part of the \$1,000 total cost, with the remaining funds provided by a WEF grant.

These headsets are crucial for enabling backstage students to communicate effectively with those in the booth during theatrical performances, concerts, and other events.

These initiatives underscore WFAEA's commitment to enriching the educational experiences of our students.

RECORDER WORKSHOP FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

Playing the recorder is an integral part of a third grade music education in the Westborough Public Schools. This year, Armstrong, Fales, and Hastings Elementary Schools were thrilled to receive joint funding from the Westborough Cultural Council and WFAEA to invite an artist in residence. The Eine Kleine Consort, a quartet of recorder musicians presented a hands-on workshop for all third grade students on either May 29 or June 3.

The quartet showcases the talents of professional recorder players Jean Burke, Dotty Moffett, Susan Duffy, and Fales' very own Pam Yanco. The group was founded in 1992, and have been traveling to elementary schools all over New England ever since! Their performance is participatory in nature and includes improvisation, blues, and an Orff arrangement of "Ode to Joy". The musicians also take the time to feature the entire consort of recorder instruments from the largest bass recorder, down to the smallest recorder, the garklein.



SMALL ENSEMBLES CONCERT

On the evening of May 7th, four small ensemble groups performed in the lobby of Westborough High School. The performers included the String Ensemble, String Quartet, Flute Quartet, and Saxophone Quartet.



JOURNALISM

Our senior journalism students have each written a heartfelt testimonial and compiled a sign-off broadcast, reflecting on their years in the program. Click on the video to watch their broadcast and follow the link to read their testimonials.

[TESTIMONIALS](#)



Journalism seniors with Karen Henderson and the Westborough TV staff as they filmed their senior sign-off video.

Journalism class (13 seniors and 6 juniors) at their end of year celebration. All of the juniors will be continuing to work on the *Lobby O* staff next year.



MMEA School Administrator Award: Honoring Our Superintendent's Commitment to Music Education

We are thrilled to announce that our very own Superintendent, Amber Bock, has been honored with the prestigious Massachusetts Music Educators Association (MMEA) School Administrator Award. This annual award celebrates school administrators who demonstrate outstanding support and commitment to music education in their schools and districts.

Amber Bock was chosen based on the following exemplary criteria:

1. Not being a music/arts director or music/arts teacher.
2. Exemplifying how the arts should be supported throughout the Commonwealth.
3. Actively advocating for music education within our district.
4. Securing financial commitments to support music education within our school system.
5. Leading efforts that have significantly improved our music program's curriculum, budget, and enrollment.

This recognition highlights the Superintendent's dedication to music education in our schools. Her leadership has not only enhanced the quality of our music programs but also emphasized the importance of the arts in our students' education.



Congratulations and thanks to outgoing Superintendent Bock for always being a Fine Arts Supporter!

LINKS TO FINE ARTS PAGES



Seat of Recognition

It's not too late to recognize your graduated Senior by dedicating a seat in the WHS auditorium!



Recognize someone special with a brass plate on the arm of a Westborough High School auditorium seat! A perfect way to honor your graduating senior, thank a favorite teacher or leave your favorite quote behind.

Donate \$50 for a 4" x 1 1/2" plate with a message of your choice, up to 3 lines of 18 characters (including spaces). Your donation will help support arts education and fund our scholarship program. \$35 of the donation is tax-deductible. Please note, donation of a plate does not reserve seating at the auditorium events.

To order, go to www.WFAEA.org and complete the information on our fundraiser page.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Congratulations Class of 2024 you made it! On behalf of the Westborough Fine Arts Education Association Board, we are so proud of you, and wish you much future success. Please keep in touch with us as you continue your love for the fine arts at college and in the real world. Tag WFAEA on social media if you are singing, dancing, acting, playing or creating art in the coming years – we want to hear from you!

As this school year winds down, we wanted to take a moment to thank all the parents, caregivers and family members who volunteered their time, attended meetings, became members, dropped off items for concessions, and otherwise supported the fine arts in Westborough schools. We'd also like to give a big shout out of thanks to Chris Martin, Director of Fine Arts and all choir, band, orchestra theater, journalism and visual arts staff across the district for their collaboration and partnership this year.

We'd like to send a huge thank you to *Jen Niece and Kathy Swanson* who are both stepping off the WFAEA Board this year. Both Jen and Kathy have been instrumental in the success of WFAEA over the past many years and will be missed! We are so grateful for both of you!

WFAEA is thrilled to have awarded over \$8,000 in scholarships to our Fine Arts graduating seniors as well as funded many clinicians and fine arts projects this year for K-3 music, Mill Pond, Gibbons and WHS. We look forward to receiving more clinician and fine arts project requests from across the district next school year!

Keep your calendar open for our next meeting on *September 10, 2024 at 7pm*. More information to follow. We would love to have some new families join us – there are always ways to help! Even if your children are at Gibbons or Mill Pond, it's never too early to get involved.

Lisa Chace
2023-24 WFAEA President



TOWN WIDE **ART** **EXHIBIT**



The Westborough Public School art teachers hosted an art show on May 13th and 14th, showcasing an impressive array of student artwork from grades K-12. The exhibit featured a mix of drawings, paintings, collages, prints, sculptures, ceramics, photography, and digital art, highlighting a diverse range of approaches, concepts, styles, and perspectives. A standout element of the show was the portrait gallery, which wrapped around a section of the lobby. The artwork on display represented students from Hastings, Fales, Armstrong, Mill Pond, Gibbons, and Westborough High School.

The event saw a fantastic turnout, with many families and students attending both nights to admire the creative talents of our town's young artists.



ART EXHIBIT

CONTINUED



Watercolor painting by [Name]



[Name]



[Name]



[Name]



[Name]



JAZZ STOCK

Jazz Stock, an annual spring tradition, took place at Baystate Commons on a beautiful Monday evening this June and many people gathered to watch.



CLICK TO WATCH

JAZZ STOCK
July 8, 2024

PRESENTED BY
WFAEA AND THE ENTERTAINMENT DEPARTMENT



Calling All Singers!

Exciting Summer Opportunity Just for You!



Ms. Alyson Greer Espinosa has the distinct pleasure of conducting the Harvard Summer Chorus this summer and she can not wait to share the joy of music making with all who participate. High School students from around the world participate each year (most of whom study at Harvard in the summer). She would LOVE to include more high school singers, collegiate singers, and community singers from the area. The Harvard Summer Chorus is available to **everyone** ages 14 - 114+! The information is below, including a link to the website that details further information about the summer chorus and how to join. If singers have questions they can email:

harvardsummerchorus@gmail.com

Harvard Summer Chorus 2024: "To Freedom"

June 27 – July 28, 2024

Alyson Greer Espinosa, Conductor

<https://www.singatharvard.com/harvardsummerchorus.html>

RANDALL THOMPSON: *Testament to Freedom*

BRYAN SHARPE: *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*

WILLIAM L. DAWSON: *Soon ah Will Be Done*

TRADITIONAL ZULU SONG: *Siyahamba*

SARAH QUARTEL: *Voice on the Wind*

BOB DYLAN/ADAM POND: *The Times They Are-A-Changin'*

AHRENS & FLAHERTY: *Make Them Hear You, from Ragtime*

SOUTH AFRICAN FREEDOM SONG: *Tshotsholoza*

PASQUALE TASSONE: *Oh, Freedom*

ETHEL SMYTH: *March of the Women*

JIM PAPOULIS: *Libertatum*

Performance: Friday, July 18 at 8pm, Sanders Theatre

Rehearsals: Tuesday and

Thursday evenings

7pm-9:30pm

beginning June 27

***No rehearsal on July 4**

Sanders Theatre,

Memorial Hall

Please visit our website to learn more and how to sign up!

SING AT HARVARD THIS SUMMER

Spring Concerts

MILL POND 5TH & 6TH GRADE CHORUS CONCERT

Watch Mill Pond Students sing their way into spring at their final concert of the school year!



ARMSTRONG 3RD GRADE STRINGS CONCERT

On May 24th, the 3rd Grade Strings students showcased their talents to their fellow classmates at Armstrong School. Led by their teachers: Valerie Clemans and Theresa Jaques, the students displayed how much they have learned this past year!



HASTINGS 3RD GRADE STRINGS CONCERT

On May 16th, Hastings Elementary School held its year-end concert featuring the third-grade strings ensemble. The audience got to witness the remarkable improvement these young musicians have made since the beginning year.





Elementary Music Spotlight



3rd grade students at Fales, Hastings, and Armstrong were treated to a cello demonstration this spring!



WANT TO GET INVOLVED WITH WFAEA?

We are looking for volunteers to help!
There are many fun ways to be a part of
Westborough Public School Fine Arts.



JOIN US!

How You Can Get Involved:

- Become **a supporter for the 2024-25 school year**
- **Volunteer** to help support fine arts programs and events
- Follow us on **Facebook** and **Instagram**
- Come to our **monthly meetings** (2nd Tuesday of the month) include:
 - District updates from our Director of Fine Arts
 - Grant funds to fine arts programs and projects
 - Award senior scholarships to fine arts students
 - Meet other parents by volunteering

Anyone can **join** our email list to receive updates throughout the year about meetings, events and volunteer opportunities.

New WFAEA swag!



On sale at all Fine Art events!

THANK YOU TO WFAEA'S GENEROUS 23/24 SPONSORS!

Become a sponsor and have your logo presented on our electronic display at many Fine Arts events.



Become a Sponsor



WFAEA thanks our generous 2023-2024 supporters

Standing Ovation (\$300)

*Kathleen Swanson and Eric Fitch
Knox Family
Patrick and Jennifer Guadiz*

Encore (\$150)

*The Niece Family
The Datta/Dasgupta Family
Anna Leduc & Mark Zepf
Josh Gordon and Naomi Botkin
The Chong Family
Thadani Family*

Bravo (\$100)

*The Hammond Family
Chace Family
Crandall Family
Papaioannou Family
The Perry Family
The Hubbard Family
The Workman Family
The Fairbanks Family
Keogh Family*

Bravo (\$100)

*Anonymous
The Maule Family
The Carpenter Family*

Cheer (\$75)

Applause (\$50)

*DeCoste Family
The Burrow Family
The Heinrich Family*

Salute (\$30)

You can make a general donation to WFAEA anytime. We appreciate it!



DONATE

Does your Westborough student participate in...

Marching Band, Chorus, Orchestra, Visual Arts, Band, Theater, Tri-M, A Cappella Groups, Art Honors Society, Small Ensembles, Tech crew, Pottery or Journalism?

Consider becoming a WFAEA supporter for fine arts initiatives and events across our school district. There are many big and small ways to get involved!



Become a WFAEA Member

Special Events We Support:

MICCA
Choral Collage
Band-o-Rama
Senior Banquet
POPS Night
Center Stage Concessions

Membership funds support:

Student scholarships
Funding for clinicians
Replacing/repairing instruments and uniforms
Providing art and theater equipment
Need-based financial assistance for activity fees



WFAEA 2023-24 OFFICERS

President	Lisa Chace
Vice President	Jessica Crandall
Treasurer	Jennifer Niece
Secretary	Kathy Swanson