Students Excel at Cleveland Theater One-Act Play Festival

Saint Joseph Academy students showed themselves to be talented thespians, as proven by their award-winning performances this past week in The Cleveland Theatre Conference 59th Annual One-Act Play competition. Six high schools were represented at the festival, including Saint Ignatius, Benedictine, Padua Franciscan, Magnificat and Gilmour Academy high schools. The annual competition was sponsored by the Cleveland Theatre Conference and leaders in Northeast Ohio's theater community. The SJA students were accompanied to the festival by Visual and Performing Arts Department drama director Mrs. Amanda Jaronowski, who directed students in an act from "10,000 Cigarettes," and Maggie Baughman '12, who directed students in an act from "A Chocolate Affair."

Junior Karianne Stanton was one of the standouts at the competition. Karianne, who is also a member of SJA's famed a capella group Cecilia's Song, was awarded Best Female Performance of the Festival. Here are the award-winners: Karianne Stanton '14 - Best Female performance of the Festival; Bridget Egan '13 – Gold; Erin Wiemels '14 – Silver; Marley Yarian '14 – Silver; Katie Hutchinson '13 – Silver; Emmy Ernst '14 – Bronze; and Clare Panek '14 – Bronze. Congratulations to all!

Students Reach Out to Spread Their Faith, Support of Social Justice

This past week, I was honored to attend the "Catholic Schools for Peace and Justice" summit titled "Breaking Barriers" held at Saint Ignatius High School. Some 40 SJA students attended the summit in which 21 area Catholic schools were represented. Our young women took front and center in both planning the event and ensuring its success. Once again, I am struck by the faith and social awareness of the students at Saint Joseph Academy! You can read the full story about the event in this newsletter, but I had to mention my Jaguar pride!

Have a great week! ~ James M. Cantwell, Ed.D.
Field trip to Museum of Art helps students developing artwork

The Drawing and Painting class last week visited the Cleveland Museum of Art and found inspiration at every turn. The students currently are reading "The Girl with a Pearl Earring" to learn about the enigmatic portrait of the same name painted by the celebrated 17th century Dutch painter Johannes Vermeer. Students are applying their knowledge from the book and their experience from the CMA visit to create "figurative" works of art. "The figure will become a vehicle for ideas that will become a narrative on canvas or paper," shared Visual and Performing Arts Chair Mrs. Shelly Ahern.

Mrs. Ahern, Intervention Specialists Mrs. Courtney Koz and Mrs. Becky Goede McNulty ’96 accompanied the students throughout various CMA galleries. Discussions included investigating Egypt’s funerary portraits, analyzing medieval "Donor" portraits, discussing symbolism with American portraits such as "George Washington at the Battle of Princeton," and exploring the transition from European to Modern to Contemporary Art.

Mrs. Ahern used Andy Warhol's "Marilyn x100" in the contemporary gallery to spur student discussion of the processes involved in artwork. As a follow-through, students will create a work of art and write a research paper using their collective experience from the book and the field trip.

"The Cleveland Museum of Art is truly inspirational," shared Nicole Morino ’13. "At every turn we found something that stopped us in our tracks."

"Catholic Schools for Peace and Justice" Meeting Inspirational

The group Catholic Schools for Peace and Justice, an organization composed of representatives from Catholic high schools and colleges in the Diocese of Cleveland, met last week for a summit titled "Breaking Barriers" at Saint Ignatius High School. The event was attended by 40 SJA students, as well as representatives from the 21 area Catholic high schools and colleges, and dignitaries as Bishop Richard Lennon and Sister Helen Prejean CSJ, inspirational speaker and author of "Dead Man Walking." It was a day of presentations on intense social justice topics such as poverty, human trafficking, violence, homelessness and incarceration. Discussions were also held on ways to enable students to become advocates for justice.

"We hope to someday establish a culture in all Catholic schools that actively engages students in our common vocation of working for justice and peace," shared CORE Ministry teacher Mrs. Cathy Knittel '67. The CSPJ Summit Planning Committee included students Caroline Mills ’14 and Melissa Drapac ’14.
Spring Mixer Is Coming Soon!

SJA's Spring Mixer is planned for Friday, March 22. Tickets are $8 each and will be sold in advance and at the door. Paws for Pride points will be awarded, and $1 of every ticket sold to a senior or her guest will be donated to the Senior Class prom and after prom fund. More details will be coming soon.

Watch and Pray: Accompanying Jesus on the Path to Easter

Sister Phyllis DiFuccia, SSJ, Vice President of Mission

Join us for supper and a lively discussion of what we can learn from the women who stayed with Jesus during his journey toward Easter. This evening of input, reflection and conversation is always fulfilling!

Calling all Talented Jaguars (and Wildcats)!

Do you have a song, dance, instrument, joke, skit, clever trick, or unique talent that you have been dying to perform? Well, start practicing!

The Student Council is sponsoring the first-ever joint Saint Joseph Academy/Saint Ignatius High School Talent Show on Wednesday, May 1, at 7 p.m. at SJA. Some of the talents needed include: Individuals, duets, teams, classes, teachers … all are welcome and invited to participate.

We will be partnering with Saint Ignatius for this event and hosting their talent as well, so students may feel free to collaborate with Wildcat friends or siblings for an act!

Space is limited, so informal auditions will be held the week after Spring Break if necessary

Please email Caroline Speice ’13 at cspeice@sjastudents.org by Thursday, March 28 with your name(s) and thoughts for an act.

2013-2014 Scholarship Opportunity for Students with Unity Catholic Federal Credit Union

Apply now, for the James E. Flynn Memorial Scholarship, sponsored by Unity Catholic Federal Credit Union. This scholarship awards $7,000 in funds to support Catholic Education within the Diocese of Cleveland:

- Four $500 Scholarships to students Kindergarten through 8th grade
- Five $1,000 Scholarships to students 9th – 12th grade

The student must be a member of Unity Catholic Federal Credit Union (it only takes $5 to open a new member account). Deadline for application is April 1, 2013. You can get applications by visiting any UCFCU office or on their website www.unitycatholiccu.org.
Basketball

Congratulations to the following standout Varsity Basketball players:

Katie Battaglia '13 was just named All Ohio Honorable Mention for Division I girls basketball.

Katie was also named Associated Press Second Team All District.

Here is the link about Katie's Division I honorable mention.

Seniors Sarah Schwind, Ann Conroy and Daija Jones all were named Honorable Mention All-District.

This was certainly a season for the record books.

Congratulations to all our players!

Important spring sports, rugby information

All athletes must have a current OHSAA physical on file in the athletic office. Please go to www.sja1890.org/athletics to download the form.

Rugby

Pre-season conditioning has begun and tryouts will be held on Monday, March 18, and Wednesday, March 20, from 6-8 p.m. at SJA.

For more information, please contact Head Coach Jaime Cleary at jcleary@sja1890.org.

Winter Sports Banquet

The Winter Sports Banquet for Swimming & Diving and Basketball will be held on Tuesday, March 19 at Brennan's Party Center at 6:30 p.m.

Banquet reservation forms are online. Download reservation form here.

Pi (Yeah, Pies!) Day Will Be Celebrated on Monday

The SJA Math Club will have its annual Pi Day on Monday, March 18, in the hallway across from the Dining Hall during activity blocks. Pi Day is officially on Thursday, March 14 (as in ... 3.14!), but was moved to Monday due to the OGTs. Students, faculty and staff may bone up on the “Facts about Pi” posted on the 2nd floor bulletin board in the Math hallway near Rooms 227 and 229 between now and Monday, March 18.

If you can answer the Pi Day question on Monday posed by a Math Club member, then you will earn a free piece of pie for dessert during your lunch period.

So, remember to take some time to study the Pi facts!

Athletic Boosters

Mark your calendars for the ever-popular "A Night at the Races" fundrasier, sponsored by Athletic Boosters. The events is being held from 6 p.m.-12 a.m. on Saturday, April 20 in The Academy Center. There will be sideboards, a Luck of the Irish contest, basket raffles, dancing and dual-screen music videos! Cost is $20 per person and includes food and soft drinks. A reserved table for 10 must be paid in full before April 1.

For ticket information, call parent volunteer Mrs. Patty Finau at 216.548.4485 or go to the form here.