



Performing Arts Department

(Theatre ARTS, Drama and Dance)

Department Head: C. Clarke



NOTES FROM THE STUDIOS



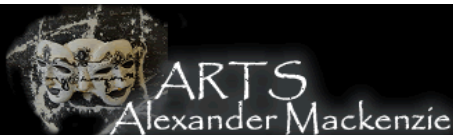
A Semester Full of Inspiration! Performances, professional workshops, and field trips support a semester of creative activity in the Performing Arts Department.

The Performing Arts students had an opportunity to work with many different artists and classes to hone their performance skills over the semester.

The semester was full of performance opportunities for the Performing Arts students. In Theatre ARTS, the performance season started in February with the award winning performance of *Hedges* at the Sears Drama Festival. The performances continued throughout the semester with the *One Act Festival* in March, *An Evening of Theatre* in April and *Alice in Wonderland* in May. The Theatre ARTS students celebrated a successful year of creativity with the Excellence in Student Theatre Awards in June.

On May 5, 2014 the Dance Department put on it's annual gala entitled *Dance Expressions* at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts. The show consisted of faculty and student choreography that varied from The Performing Arts students had an opportunity to work with many different artists and classes to hone their performance skills over the semester.





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Some Additional Notes from the Drama Studios

Fun From the Yellow School Bus

We love field trips and workshops! Highlights include:

- Workshop with Ryan Boorne from the National Ballet of Canada
- Performance of Coleman Le-meux's *AllOneWord*
- Instructional classes at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts
- Film Acting Workshop with Kevin Alves
- Guest Choreographers and Artists Jordana Deveau, Colleen Snell and Stephanie Bergeron
- YRDSB and Ontario Arts Council *Artist in Residence* Project with Melanie Siegel
- Shaw Festival *A Philadelphia Story* performance, workshop and backstage tour

Grade 9 Drama

This semester saw our grade 9 Open drama students working on a varying number of different types of performances in class. From scripted and unscripted mimes and movement pieces, to mask and ritual performances, our students were able to experiment with different styles of dramatic presentations. Students completed fairy tale tableau storytelling, as well as performances of short comedic scripts. They ended the semester by creating their own Anthology performances commenting on people who have made a positive difference in the world. The class performed admirably, and were a pleasure to work with throughout the semester.



Partnerships

The Theatre ARTS students were fortunate to work with the staff at the *Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts* to design, develop and execute their performances in April and May. In addition to our partnership with the *RHCPA*, the grade 12 students worked with *Shadowpath Theatre* to learn the business side of theatre for their *Alice in Wonderland* performance. We are thankful for the "real world" opportunities and look forward to many more partnerships in the future.



Congratulations to the Theatre ARTS graduates for a fabulous four years! We wish you great success for your next adventure!

It has been yet another fantastic semester for the Alexander Mackenzie High School Dance Department. The past few months have flown by with many great achievements! While working diligently on their daily assignments, students had the opportunity to participate in workshops, fieldtrips as well as developing their own choreography and performances.

Next September already looks to be an exciting start to the school year as we will have a full program of dance classes being offered from grade 9 through to grade 12. The dance department is looking forward to welcoming the new grade 9 students to the program as well as possibly participating in workshops at the National Ballet of Canada as well as *Knees and Toes*.

It has been yet another outstanding year for the dance program. Thank you to all of the students, parents and community members for their continued support. AMHS Dance faculty would like to send a huge congratulations to the dance students who truly commit themselves to the program and make the department what it is! **The department would also like to wish the very best to the Graduating Class of 2014!** We wish you the very best as you embark on a new chapter in your lives. Thank you for contributing and helping to build the family that we know as the Dance Department. Have a safe, healthy and happy summer.



Department Head: C. Clarke

Music Department

Department Head: E.



As the year draws to a close, it seems like a good time to reflect on the many performances and activities in which the AMHS music students have been involved. In September, 40 students attended our annual musical theatre retreat at Kettleby Camp. In November, the senior arts students performed a musical that they wrote themselves, and the entire music department participated in Showcase 2013 at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts. December brought our Holiday Party and the musical "Kiss Me, Kate"; four spectacular performances were enjoyed by 1600 audience members. January featured our coldest performance of the year when AM Stages performed at the Richmond Hill Winter Carnival. In February A.M. Stages played at the Humber Jazz Festival and was awarded Silver. Coffee House and Silent Auction was in March—there were a variety of acts and we raised \$2000 for the music department. The same month marked the beginning of the Music Alive Music Festival—over the next eight weeks we would see the Intermediate Band win Platinum while the Symphonic Band, Mackenzie Singers, Orchestra, and Concert Band were each awarded Gold. In April, 95 students spent four days in New York City and the Symphonic Band joined Bayview S.S., Richmond Hill S.S. and the Richmond Hill Concert Band for an evening of great music. Fanfare 2014 and Spring Celebration showcased all of the wonderful musical accomplishments of our students in the month of May and we had one more party: Banquet 2014. Little Big Band and AM Stages played at the Mill Pond Splash at the beginning of June and our performance calendar finished with the Symphonic Band's 'Pops' concert and the Arts Recital.

On top of all this we have many individual students who perform with theatre groups, do solo performances all around Ontario, and have 'gigs' at various locations in the GTA.

Looking forward to next year, please mark the following dates in your calendars:

- Showcase 2014 – November 26, 2014
- "Anything Goes" (next year's musical) – December 12 and 13, 2014
- Coffee House and Silent Auction – February 26, 2015
- Fanfare 2015 – May 6, 2015
- Spring Celebration – May 14, 2015



Next year's after school rehearsal schedule is planned to be:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4:30-6:00 Symphonic Band	3:05-4:35 Concert Band	3:05-4:35 Intermediate Band	3:05-4:35 Advanced String Orch.	3:05-4:35 Trip Band/Orchestra/Choir
	3:15-5:00 Musical Theatre	3:05-4:35 Chamber Choir	3:05-4:35 Mackenzie Singers	(Feb.-Apr.)

Thanks to all of the music students for a great year!



Visual Art Department

Department Head: A. Bhatia

As another school year comes to a close, we would like to thank all of our art students for their enthusiasm and the wonderful artwork they produced. In early May, we had our second annual off-site student-run art show at Richmond Green's Boynton House. Positive comments came from the community as it was also part of 'Open Doors' Richmond Hill. The show featured painting, drawing, sculpture, printmaking, photography, film and mixed media works. A selection of works from the Boynton House show was then displayed at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts throughout June.

Student photography was showcased in early June at the "Diverse Composition" student exhibition at the Community Safety Village in Stouffville. Four students were mentored by Special Constable Layne as we worked in partnership with the York Regional Police and the Board to produce work for the show. Students from 13 local high schools submitted photographs taken during the Photo Club program.

Over the course of the year we were fortunate to have two guest artists work with our students and two guest speakers come join us to discuss their artistic process. In the fall, students got their hands wet making felt for their sculptures with guest artist Melanie Siegel. In January, we were fortunate to have National Post's "Canadian Artist of the Year", Kim Dorland visit us and discuss his work. Prior to his visit, the Arts Mack students visited his solo show at the McMichael Canadian Collection in Kleinberg. In the spring, Joanne Rich 'enlightened' us in demonstrating how to make light sculptures. Film director/producer Tony Lau spoke to our film and media arts students about his filmmaking career. We would like to thank all of the artists for sharing their talents and inspiring our students.

In the extracurricular department, the Arts & Culture Council (ACC) held our annual Java Night in May; an opportunity for students to show off their musical, dramatic, dance skills and comedic timing. We always appreciate the amazing effort put forward by the council. It was a fantastic night of performances!

We would also like to celebrate a great achievement by one of our grade 11 Arts Mack students Juno Yim. Juno was a silver medal recipient in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards which he won for his painting "Vision by Illusion". Juno travelled to Carnegie Hall in New York City this June to receive this prestigious award. Congratulations Juno!

As well, we would like to wish our graduating students all the best in their future endeavours. You have all contributed so much to the school and to the community over the past four years.

We would also like to thank all the parents and guardians of our students for being so supportive. Have a great summer!



Offspring Art Show at Boynton House



Juno Yim's award winning *Vision By Illusion*



Miri Mo'ev's *Self Portrait*



Lindsay Bond's life-size sculpture, *Sam*



Some of the Offspring Art Show organizers: Paige, Erritany & Karlce



Willow Barker Jones' sculpture *Oh Deer!!*

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