



## CREATIVITY THRIVES HERE

The Dance and Theatre Arts Mackenzie students had a busy, successful semester working in various studio spaces. Highlights include: developing new Canadian work in all grades, performing at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts, field trips to Stratford and Canadian Stage, performances at Quest, Remembrance Day, Black History Month event at Flato Markham Theatre, student leadership with Dramatic Arts Council and Dance Council, guest artists and workshops! Check out what the Performing Arts students have been up to in semester one....





# Studio Living

Staging/directing/choreography techniques, characterization studies, inquiry based work and healthy performance habits weaved through our curriculum this semester. Working with dance artists Lindsay Fell, Jen Mote, Kyle Kass, theatre artists Eli Hamm, Coco LaRain, and Ash Knight, the students applied their skills to their performances at Culture Days, Arts Information Night, Quest, One Act Play Kick Off Festival, and The Future Is Now. With critical thinking at the heart of the curriculum, students will continue to learn about historical performance practices and apply their learning to make art and connect with our community at large.



# NEXT

IT ALL STARTS IN THE STUDIO | #CREATIVITYTHRIVESHHERE

## LEADERSHIP COUNCILS

Dramatic Arts Council and Dance Council will continue to organize events that impact the whole school community. Thank you councils for all of your awesome work with Grade 9 Day, Green Acres, Halloween and AMac Gives Back!

## PERFORMANCES! PERFORMANCES!

Spring time = performance time! Stay tuned to @AMHSPA for exciting information about National Theatre School Ontario Drama Festival, Spring Theatre Arts performances and Dance Expressions!

## IB THEATRE ARTS

The Performing Arts faculty continues to prepare for AMHS' first International Baccalaureate (IB) Group 6 Theatre Course in 2019. Presentation and critical thinking skills will be the focus for grade 9 and 10 drama students.



OPEN AND ARTS MACKENZIE COURSES OFFERED  
IN DANCE, THEATRE AND DRAMATIC ARTS.

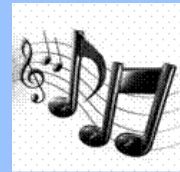
LEARN COMMUNICATION, PRESENTATION, CRITICAL THINKING, AND  
PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS THROUGH PERFORMANCE TECHNIQUES.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, DROP BY STUDIO 112 OR 121



## Music

Department Head: E. Hudspith



### Music Department

The AMHS Music Department would like to congratulate all of the music students who have worked so hard this semester and taken part in many different concerts and events.

We started off the semester in October with multiple performances at the Arts Information Night. In November, the Chamber Choir performed for Remembrance Day. Later the same month "Showcase 2017" featured 250 music students performing in concert bands, choirs, orchestras, and jazz ensembles at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts.





# Music cont...

Department Head: E. Hudspith

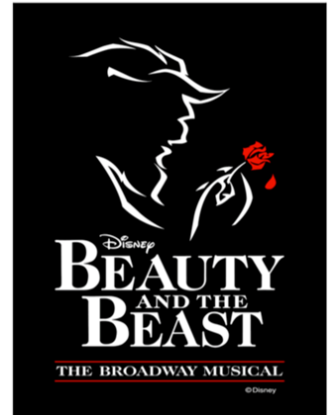




# Musical

## Music Department

The Music Department's annual musical, "Beauty and the Beast" was a huge success in December. The musical ran for five critically acclaimed, sold-out performances at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts – three for elementary schools and two public evening performances. This show featured two complete casts, a 30 piece orchestra, fantastic sets, wonderful costumes, and all the lighting and effects that one would expect in a spectacular Disney show.



# ARTS MACKENZIE

## Music cont...

Department Head: E. Hudspith



In January the senior Arts class presented their small ensembles to an intimate crowd in our cafeteria, and members of the vocal program performed at the January School Board meeting.

Finally, our Music Council hosted successful events for the music students, including a grade nine barbeque, a movie night, and the annual Holiday Party.





We are looking forward to another busy performance schedule including concerts, music festivals, and two extended trips this year. Below are some upcoming dates:

March 22-25, 2018 – Extended trip to Quebec City and Montreal

April 25-29, 2018 – Extended trip to Calgary and Banff

May 10, 2018 – *Fanfare 2018* at Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts (Band, Jazz, small ensembles)

May 16, 2018 – *Spring Celebration 2018* at Richmond Hill United Church (Strings, Vocal, small ensembles)

May 31, 2018 – Music Banquet

June 7, 2018 – Arts Recital

June 11, 2018 – Pops Concert featuring the Symphonic Band at AMHS





# Visual Arts



Department Head: A. Bhaitia

## Visual Arts Department

Once again, it's been an eventful first semester in the visual arts department. Many new works can be seen on the walls around the school as well as in the foyer display cases. One of the most notable of the semester one projects was the grade 11 class' sets for our school's production of *Beauty and the Beast* at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts. Our team of artists did a fantastic job of helping to create the magical atmosphere of the musical. Another very memorable occasion this fall was our school's competing in the OCADU *Markt'd* sneaker design competition where 2 of our students made it into the finals. It was a day of challenge and excitement! As always, a highlight of the semester was our annual AGO field trip. This year we took all grades of visual arts to see the Guillermo del Toro exhibit: *At Home with Monsters*. Students were awed by his works and enjoyed seeing insights into his creative process. While the weather was warm, several art classes went on walks up to Mill Pond to do some *plein air* sketching. A tradition that is enjoyed every year when the weather permits. We often forget how lucky we are to have such a great source of inspiration so close to home!

Currently our film students are in the process of creating films for the *Vaughan International Film Festival* and several media arts, photography and traditional arts students are gearing up for the *York Region Skills Challenge* which takes place at Seneca College in March. We look forward to what is sure to be a fantastic and creative second semester!



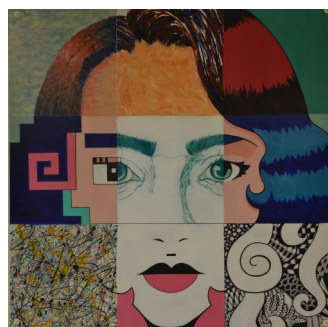
Please follow us on Twitter for updates and upcoming events @amhsvisa



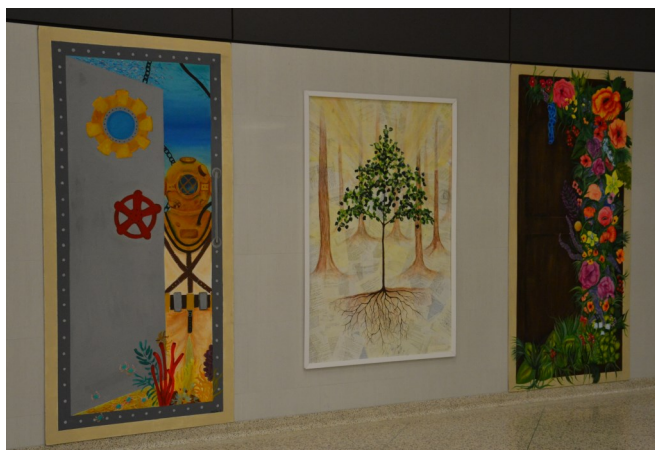
Shoe designs by Jenna Zaitchik and Imara Belch at the OCADU Markt'd sneaker design



Castle set from AMHS's production of *Beauty and the Beast*



New artwork on the school walls....



Alexander Mackenzie High School  
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 Richmond Hill, Ontario  
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