

# ALEXANDER MACKENZIE HIGH SCHOOL

## A Message from Your Principal

As the school year is coming to an end, it is exciting to see how much students have accomplished in both academics and co-curricular activities. I recognize how fortunate I am to work with the wonderful staff and parent community of AMHS.

Our staff members are passionate and committed to increased student achievement and well-being. We work collaboratively to create a wide array of opportunities in all areas of school life for our diverse learners to reach their individual level of excellence. AMHS is a wonderful school where students, staff, and parents/guardians are dedicated to creating an environment that fosters student success. Critical to student success is a strong partnership between the school and home. I strongly encourage our new parents/guardians to take part in their student's education by joining our School Council. The first School Council meeting is on Monday, September 18, 2017. It is an opportunity to learn more about the school, chat with the Principal and other staff members, and speak with other parents/guardians who have similar concerns, interests and questions about their child's education.

As we are well on our way with our preparations for the start of the new school year, please note that in August, the "registration confirmation" will continue to occur through School Cash Online. Rather than coming into school to collect timetables and pay fees, you can do it online from the comfort of home. Families who complete the "registration confirmation" by August 17, will be sent their timetable electronically via your student's GAPPs account by August 21. For additional information about registration, please check the school website: <http://alexandermackenzie.hs.yrdsb.ca/>

AMHS will be offering the International Baccalaureate (IB) program beginning in September 2018. In preparation for the IB program, we will be offering AMHS pre-IB starting in September 2017 for students in Grades 9 and 10. The IB Information Night is scheduled for October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 for families interested in joining our program in September 2018.

We will continue to offer the Arts program. For students interested in joining the Arts program in Dance, Music (Strings, Instrumental and Vocal), Theatre or Visual Arts in September 2018, please join us for the Arts Information Night on October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts.

It has been a pleasure working with the students, parent/guardians and staff this year at AMHS. I look forward to the next school year, which promises to be an exciting one. Thank you to everyone for contributing to the caring and positive learning environment at AMHS. On behalf of the AMHS staff, I wish you a safe and healthy summer.

*Mrs. Otilia Olteanu*

### Administration

Otilia Olteanu, Principal Ext. 407

Jay Perri, VP Ext. 405

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Tel: 905-884-0554

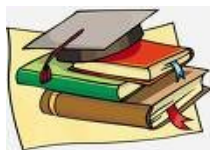
Fax: 905-884-4694

Website:

[www.yrdsb.ca/schools/alexandermackenzie.hs](http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/alexandermackenzie.hs)

### Looking Ahead...

First Day (Grade 9 only)	Sept. 5
First Day (Gr. 10, 11 & 12)	Sept. 6
Photo Day	Sept. 11
School Council Meeting/Elections	Sept. 18
Gr. 9 Green Acres Day Camp	Oct. 6
P.A. Day	Sept. 25
Thanksgiving Holiday	Oct. 9
Interim Reports	Oct. 12
P.A. Day	Oct. 20
ARTS Mackenzie Information Night	Oct. 25
Parents Night	Oct. 26
Take our Kids to Work Day	Nov. 1
Pathways Evening	Nov. 1
Grade 8 Open House	Nov. 9
P.A. Day	Nov. 24
Graduation Photo Days	Nov. 20-28
School Musical (Beauty and the Beast)	Dec. 7-8
Christmas Break	Dec. 25-Jan. 5
EQAO Math	Jan. 22-23
Exams	Jan. 25-31
Exam Review Day	Feb. 1
P.A. Day	Feb. 2



## Library / Resource Centre

Department Head: D. Wilson

**The bad news:** The AMHS Resource Centre will be closed for the summer.

**The good news:** Students can still access our subscription e-books all summer long. The usernames and passwords are the same as always. Drop by the library if you have forgotten them.

Here are just a few great finds from the EBSCO e-book collection. Have a great summer!





## Business Studies Department

*Interim Department Head: M. Chinniah*

The Business Department was proud to host numerous activities connected to student achievement and learning throughout the course of the semester.

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, seven Grade 10 students competed in the York Regional Mock Trial Tournament. Our team had an opportunity to role-play the case for both the Defense, as well as the Prosecution, in a case of *R v. Steems*. This case involved the charges of dangerous driving causing bodily harm and assault with a weapon. Students role-played their parts before Superior Court judges at the Newmarket Court House. Our Lawyer Coach, Don Carter, and Law Teacher, John Petrone, were extremely happy with their level of performance throughout the trial and their preparation in the months leading up to the tournament. Special mention goes to Joshua Kiliminik who received a Judge's Cup Award and plaque from the referees at the tournament for his outstanding advocacy skills during the tournament.



On May 18<sup>th</sup>, the Business Department held our annual Business Student of the Month Luncheon to honour the achievement of selected business students in their senior and junior year. Congratulations to our recipients who demonstrated exemplary academic, personal management and teamwork skills this year. This event would not be possible without the direct support of our Business teachers who organized this event, and the support of the school administration.



Seneca College School of Business sent representatives to AMHS on June 1<sup>st</sup>. In their presentation to our Marketing and Organizational Behaviour classes, they examined the challenges and opportunities available to graduates of their social and digital media marketing program. An overview of the College's Marketing and Business Studies Program was discussed. In addition our students had fun enjoying the small, interactive group activities that Seneca organized. Prizes were given for the best "pitch" on how to improve a family restaurant's sales! All students who participated had a lot of fun.

Our Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) Program had another successful year in Business, Transportation and Health & Wellness sectors with many events and fun activities tied to each economic sector. We will have approximately 24 SHSM students graduating with a Red Seal Diploma this year. Special mention goes to Isaac Rosenbaum and Jessica Gamez who will be receiving a SHSM award at Graduation in recognition of their efforts to excel and promote the SHSM Program at Alexander Mackenzie High School. If any Grade 11 student is interested in applying to a SHSM Program in Business, Transportation or Health and Wellness, please visit the following website: [bit.ly/ydsbSHSMapp](http://bit.ly/ydsbSHSMapp).



Graduating students who have successfully completed a minimum of five credits in Business Studies will receive the York Region Certificates of Endorsement in Business Studies. These certificates will be included with the report cards.

We would like to congratulate Isabel Boni who will receive the Business Department Award at Graduation on June 28<sup>th</sup> for her outstanding achievement and commitment in all her Business subjects this year. Congratulations Isabel!

The AMHS DECA Award will also be presented at commencement. This year our recipient is Aida Tavana.

To all the graduating class of 2017, we wish the very best in wherever your post-secondary, apprenticeship or workplace plans take you into the future.



## News About Summer Renovations

Our neighbours to the west, Mackenzie Health Richmond Hill Hospital have asked Alexander Mackenzie High School for assistance while the new Vaughan hospital is under construction. In 2021, the new Vaughan hospital is scheduled to open due to growth in Vaughan. Until then, the Vaughan community is being served at the Mackenzie Health Richmond Hill Hospital. As additional staff has been hired by the hospital to deal with this growth they are experiencing a parking shortage. An agreement has been reached by York Region District School Board and Mackenzie Health to support the creation of a temporary parking lot until the new hospital opens. This parking lot will be located west of the school field adjacent to Trench Street. The baseball diamonds located to the north of the school will not be affected and car access to the temporary parking will not be from the Alexander Mackenzie High School parking lot. Once the new Vaughan hospital opens the parking lot will be returned to its current state.

In addition, some modifications are being planned to improve student drop off at Alexander Mackenzie High School. We will provide you more information once we know the timing of construction of the temporary parking lot and modifications to the school parking lot.

## Guidance Department

*Department Head: C. Bredin*



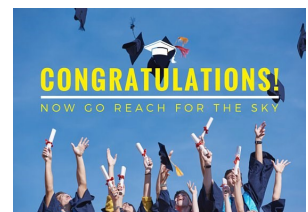
### Grade 6 & 7 Visit:

On May 31<sup>st</sup> we welcomed over 450 elementary students to AMHS for a tour of the school, to participate in our annual carnival and a variety of outdoor activities. Lots of fun was had by all.

It was a great success !

### CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

We would like to congratulate the graduating “**Class of 2017**” and wish them all the best in the future.



**Grade 11 students** are encouraged to start researching for post-secondary options. For College and University research and required pre-requisites please visit the following links respectively:

<http://www.ontariocolleges.ca/home>

<http://www.electronicinfo.ca/en/>

**All students:** It is highly recommended for all students who have not completed their 40 hours of community service to do so over the summer. The Town of Richmond Hill offers a variety of opportunities to volunteer in the summer. For more information, visit <http://www.richmondhill.ca/volunteers>



### THANK YOU

Thank you to our AMHS Ambassadors and our Leadership class students for all of their help throughout the year.

**Have a safe and enjoyable summer!**

## Health & Physical Education Department

Department Head: C. Butler



We are saying good bye to an incredible person and contributor to our school/department life over the last 15 years. Kim Coats is retiring as an co-athletic director, coach and educator. Her leadership in our department has been massive, her leadership as a coach has been outstanding. Thanks for a career dedicated to the students of our school, you are truly an amazing teacher.

We are wrapping up our summative portfolios and exit interviews and our movement practical examinations. We have had an amazing semester in our department. Getting outside and playing outside has been a real highlight this spring. Have a wonderful active and safe summer, see you in September.



## Mustang Athletics

We have had an unbelievable year. Participation in our athletics program has never been more amazing. Team play has always been fun, rewarding and a great opportunity to have a great team experience. Coaches always speak about the high degree of fun that it is coaching our athletes.

Our Athletic Program has taken on some new and exciting roles in our school's life. Intramural events are a huge hit. We have something going on in our gyms every day of the week and it is the most participated in-school event. Students can do a physical activity in the gym, every day at lunch for 45 minutes. Our "Pro Shop" is our school athletic store in the main foyer, which has been selling school spirit wear, lending out equipment for students to play during lunch hours. Bikes, table tennis equipment and air hockey are also available every day in our halls.

We have added an amazing renovation of our athletic hallway... Our YRAA Champions hallway photos have been re-matted and our recent photos have been framed and put up on the walls for all to see. We have a Physical Education and Athletics television installed in the hall to illustrate the best of what we do, for all to see.

Our athletic banquet was an amazing success. The following were our yearly winners:

AWARD	WINNERS
MOST PROMISING GR. 9 BOY	DANIEL SARRO
MOST PROMISING GR. 9 GIRL	WINNEE ZHAN
GIRLS JR. ATHLETE OF THE YEAR	JILLIAN WOLFE
BOYS JR. ATHLETE OF THE YEAR	DANIEL SIROTA
GIRLS SR. ATHLETE OF THE YEAR	EMILY ASHTON
BOYS SR. ATHLETE OF THE YEAR	DAVID USSHER
BERT MORBEY	DAVID USSHER
TEAM OF THE YEAR	BOYS BASEBALL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
WALL OF FAME	EMILY ASHTON STEPHANIE ROSENBAUM

TEAM	MVP AWARD	CHARACTER AWARD
CROSS COUNTRY	DANIEL BOLTON	ATOOSA ZAREE
GIRLS JR. BASKETBALL	SELIM CHOI	SUMMER DIA-SIRCOUT
GIRLS SR. BASKETBALL	KAMRYN DEAN	STEPHANIE ROSENBAUM
VARSITY BOYS SOCCER	ALEX MCCALL	JACOB CORDEIRO
GIRLS RUGBY 7'S	MICHAELA TRAJKOVSKI	LAURA SAVIN
BOYS RUGBY 7'S	DAVID USSHER	MICHAEL PALERMO
JR. BOYS VOLLEYBALL	LUCAS BIENIAK	DANIEL SIROTA
SR. GIRLS VOLLEYBALL	EMILY ASHTON	LAURA SAVIN
JR. GIRLS VOLLEYBALL	WINNEE ZHAN	JILLIAN WOLFE
JR. BOYS BASKETBALL	JULIAN TOTHILL	MATTHEW CHEUNG
SR. BOYS BASKETBALL	JUEZ OMLI	DAVID USSHER
BADMINTON	ANDY CHEN	ANDREEA OPINCA
GIRLS RUGBY 15'S	AIDA TAVANA	LUNA ERWIN
ULTIMATE	DAVID USSHER	JAMES MUFFITT
GIRLS SOFTBALL	ANDREEA OPINCA	KAYLA WOLANSKI
BOYS BASEBALL	THOMAS WEST	JAKE BRILL
GIRLS SOCCER	EMILY LAZENBY	ATOOSA ZAREE

## History Department

Department Head: W. Shaw

*History is the witness that testifies to the passing of time; it illumines reality, vitalizes memory, provides guidance in daily life and brings us tidings of antiquity.*

Cicero (106 BC – 43 BC), *Pro Publio Sestio*

The Alexander Mackenzie High School History Department has enjoyed another activity filled semester. A wide selection of field trips, activities and speakers were experienced which served to enhance the learning of our students and to make history come alive.

Ms. Raia's Ancient Civilizations class delved into a hands-on approach to historical studies by simulating the archeological process of sifting through shards of prehistoric sediments to discern and illuminate dinosaur fossils.



Ms. Hatzifortis' West and the World class and Mr. Shaw's World Religions class enjoyed a field trip to the Aga Khan Museum where students were able to explore "the many ways that the Silk Routes encouraged the diffusion of goods, ideas, peoples, and cultures across Europe and Asia". The permanent collections and special exhibits offered insights into the challenges and accomplishments of Middle Eastern artists and scholars.



The Anthropology classes had the opportunity to visit the Ontario Science Centre to study the brain. Further, a variety of guest speakers from community shelters and local law enforcement served to heighten the students' awareness of social issues and community responsibilities.

The grade 10 Canadian History students were deeply moved after a field trip to the Holocaust Center in which a survivor provided sobering accounts of their experiences during that dreadful period of time.

In April, seventeen students from the History Department travelled to England and France to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the battle of Vimy Ridge. The trip encompassed a wide range of historical explorations devoted to recognizing the contributions of Canadian soldiers in both World Wars. Students had the opportunity to experience first-hand many historical marvels from St. Paul's Cathedral to Buckingham Palace; from Juno Beach to Vimy Ridge; and from the Champs-Élysées to the Arc de Triomphe.



The History Department looks forward to a successful academic year in 2017-2018 based upon the quality and commitment made by our students to the understanding of our world and by the support of their parents.



## Moderns Department

Department Head: S. Juma



During the month of April, students explored a unit on the First Nations peoples. Students learned much about their history, their philosophy and their ways of living. The culminating project in this unit was a visit to the McMichael Gallery. McMichael was chosen because it offered students the chance to explore various artistic creations inside and outside of the gallery, as well as tour works of art by First Nations and Quebec artists. Finally, students participated in an artistic technique known as Haida Manga. Super!



## VIVE LE FRANÇAIS!

During the month of June, students began a virtual museum project. In groups, students explored virtual museums and shared their discovery with peers through innovative ways by engaging in virtual museum tours, the invention of three dimensional models and the creation of a virtual museum video. As students explored the world of virtual museums, they learned how to communicate about the arts in French. Bravo!



## Math Department

*Department Head: L. Smith*

As our math courses drew to a close, students were working hard on their study guides, course portfolios, writing their inquiry exams and studying for their final exams. It was another successful semester and the math department is proud of the hard effort put forth by our students. The Grade 9 students also wrote their EQAO tests on June 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Preparation for this test also served a double purpose as preparation for the final exam. The results of those tests will be given to students in September (for both the students that wrote in the first and second semester).



We are also proud of our students' participation in the Waterloo Math contests during the second semester. We had 16 students from Grade 9 write the Pascal Contest, 8 students from Grade 10 write the Cayley Contest and 18 students from Grade 11 write the Fermat Contest. Then 7 students from grades 9 to 11 wrote the problem solving contests (Fryer, Galois and Hypatia) a little later in the semester. Finally, we had 9 students in Grade 12 write the hardest contest of them all, the Euclid contest. Of these students who wrote, 18 of them placed with distinction, meaning they placed in the top 25% of students worldwide who wrote this contest. Great job to all who participated!

We are excited to welcome the IB program to our school beginning in September of 2018 and are ready to begin this coming September with our first AMHS pre-IB classes for Grades 9 and 10.

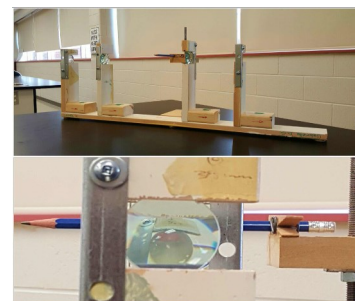
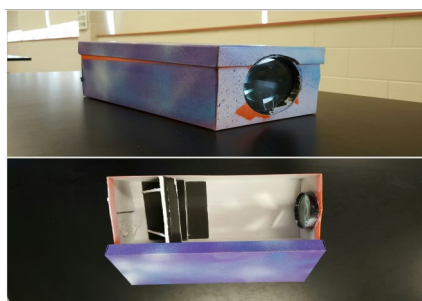
We wish all students and their families a safe and joyful summer and we look forward to seeing all the returning students back in September!



## Science Department

*Department Head: S. Sadacharan*

The Science Department was definitely booming this past school year with our Grade 9 Science and Grade 12 University Chemistry students taking a field trip to SilverCity Richmond Hill. Here, they saw the movie "Deepwater Horizon" about the BP Oil Spill of 2010. Our Grade 9 students explored the 7 Wonders of the Universe and carried out predator-prey simulations. Our Grade 10 Science students got creative by making various optical devices such as periscopes and overhead projectors.



Our Grade 9 Applied and Grade 10 Academic Science students created board games as their culminating activity to help review for their final exams.

## Science Department cont...

Department Head: S. Sadacharan



Our Grade 11 Physics students conducted sound experiments including looking at echoes in musical theatres and noise pollution at various locations in Richmond Hill. Our Grade 12 Physics students made mouse traps and carts powered by elastic potential energy. In Grade 11 Chemistry, some students presented steps for the purification of water. They explained what the allowable concentration of metallic and organic pollutants are in drinking water and why it is important that the contents in water stays within those limits. They demonstrated to the class a simple example of how to purify dirty water using a filter made of gravel, sand, cotton and leaves from plants. And, our Grade 12 Chemistry students made fruit-smelling esters!

We also offered Grade 12 Advanced Placement Biology last semester. This was a very lab intensive course which included a variety of labs. Some examples of these labs included DNA extraction, protein purification and denaturation (breaking down proteins), identifying various macromolecules via exposing them to different reagents, bioinformatics, simulations of bacterial transformations, simulations of PCR and gel electrophoresis, yeast fermentation and simulations of cell transport through a semi-permeable membrane.



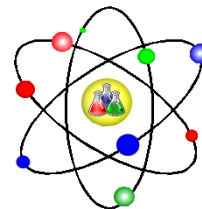
Our Grade 10 Science and Grade 11 Biology students participated in a frog and pig dissection, respectively.

May was a very busy month for the Science Department. The York Region Science Olympics was held on May 3, 2017 at York University. We had two very enthusiastic senior teams and one amazing junior team who competed in the areas of Chemistry, Biology and Physics. We ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> overall of all of the York Region schools who competed.



Also in May, three Grade 12 students (Chelsea Castor, Ashley Lear and Amber Wang) wrote the Grade 12 Biology Advanced Placement exam. We are looking forward to receiving their results in July. Also in May, we had our Chemistry and Physics competitions from the University of Waterloo. Ten students wrote the Grade 11 Chemistry Avogadro Exam, five Grade 12 students wrote the Chem13 Exam and five Grade 12 science students wrote the Sir Isaac Newton exam. All of these students did quite well. Congratulations to all of those who participated in these science competitions. We are very proud of you!

There are many opportunities for students to get involved in the Science Department. We have a Lab Assistants Club that meets on Thursdays after school. Lab assistants have the opportunity to set-up labs, organize and clean science equipment, make solutions and carry out various chemical reactions. It is an excellent way to learn some chemistry and have fun at the same time! All students will receive volunteer hours for their time. If you are interested, please speak to Mrs. Sadacharan in September. We also offer peer tutoring or extra-help sessions every Tuesday and Thursday at lunch from 11:45 – 12:15 p.m. in Room 260.



The Science department would like to wish all of the students a safe and fun-filled summer holiday. We look forward to seeing many of you back next year. To the graduating students, good luck in your future endeavors.





## Special Education Department

*Department Head: S Abramovich*

The Special Education Department had a FANTASTIC YEAR! Our Community Classes participated in various events and initiatives. They enjoyed several trips throughout the year including Rainbow Cinemas, Vaughan Mills, The Kortright Centre for Conservation, shopping at Hillcrest Mall and the annual SNAP track and field meet at Bill Crothers Secondary School. Students particularly enjoyed attending the Best Buddies Prom held at the Le Parc Banquet Hall. Congratulations goes to Ayen Gray and Alexandra Roy who were elected as Vice Presidents on Student Activity Council. Ayen and Alex developed an outstanding campaign and received a standing ovation when they shared their speech with school body.

In our Grade 10 Learning Strategies students worked hard in preparation for the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test. They also learned about Cyberbullying with a visit from Officer Kaveh, a York Region Police Officer. Also, they learned about Stress Management and identified various stress management strategies that they could use to help reduce stress. We had many guest speakers including CMHA, ETA Vaughan, our Co-op Department, and Richmond Hill Volunteering. They also explored the concept of success and looked at various post-secondary pathways and careers. Lastly, they learned many strategies on how to prepare for their final exams.



Our Grade 11 Learning Strategies classes received support on a variety of workplace skills required by employers. They received help and guidance regarding their post-secondary destinations.

We wish all of our students the best of luck on their final exams! Have a great summer!



Annual SNAP track and field meet at Bill Crothers Secondary School



## English Department

*Department Head: S. Carageorgopoulos*

This spring, Grade 10 students from Mr. Eason's and Ms Ellis's English classes traveled in two school buses to Toronto to take in a production of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* at the beautiful Winter Garden Theatre on Yonge Street. The students were excited to have a "downtown" experience, and were thrilled to see Shakespeare's words come to life on the stage. The production was by the Classical Theatre Company, and had a small cast who skillfully switched into and out of the many roles in the play.



## Technological Education Department

Department Head: J. Fabrikis

### Technological Education = Experiential Learning

*Tell me and I forget. Lecture to me and I may remember. Involve me and I learn. Teach me to do it and I learn best.*

It has been a very busy and rewarding second semester for the staff and students in the Technological Studies Department at Alexander Mackenzie.

The Grade 10, 11 and Grade 12 **Technological Design** students have been busy designing and drawing by using AUTO CAD (a Computer Aided Drafting (CAD) program) to create custom designed furniture and to prepare a full redesign of our school cafeteria to make the space more student friendly. The proposed designs included lounge areas, large screen television viewing areas, personal device charging stations and an overall more appealing setting. The Grade 10 students were busy learning a new 3D CAD program in order to design and print the objects in the department's new 3D Printer. Willow Barker-Jones earned a 2nd place result in the YRDSB Architectural CAD skills competition and Burhan Ranalawala earned a top ten finish in the Provincial Skills competition in Landscape Architecture. Well done.



The students in the Grade 11 **Construction Technology** classes have been very busy designing and building a full scale wall sections that includes the pouring of a concrete footing, the floor, wall and roof framing, the installation of the plumbing and electrical systems and the interior and exterior finishing and have learned more about the high demand for the skilled trades. The Grade 10 students have improved their knowledge of the skilled trades and their ability to use machinery by designing and building a scale model of a cottage. Marcus Lechner competed in two regional competitions in Individual Carpentry and achieved the Gold medal in each and also placed in the top 10 in the Provincial Skills Competition. Daniel Bolton also earned a top ten finish in the Secondary School Provincial competition in Plumbing.

The **Grade 9 Exploring Technologies** classes have been very busy researching, brainstorming, designing and building projects such as a CO 2 Powered Dragster and a Robotic Arm powered by hydraulics.



### **News from the Hospitality and Tourism Classes!**

Our kitchen is a busy place! Over the past school year we catered 24 Staff Lunches in our student operated dining room, The Mackenzie Room; preparing five course menus for up to 30 people each week! In December we had York Region Board Trustees and the Superintendent in attendance for our Annual Holiday Turkey Dinner! In May our Grade 12 Students executed their own event, A Mexican Fiesta, serving a Mexican Meal in an edible bowl to a full house! As fundraisers we sold bakery items prior to the Winter Break and The Easter Weekend to our staff which included related holiday treats, like: themed cupcakes, apple crisp, sausage rolls, and baby quiche. In October and April we prepared large amounts and varieties of sweets for Parent Interview Nights. As well, we created our own Chili, Doughnuts, Cupcakes and Pretzel Ribbons for AMAC Fights Back! Lastly, we prepared and sold Candy Apples and Chocolate Fudge to the school community at our annual Carnival in May. As our semesters ended we collaborated and created the parts of a five course meal to share with our classmates! Delicious!



The **Hair Styling and Aesthetics** course prepared and had a big part in the seventh annual "Manicure for Cure for Cancer" at our school! It was an amazing event with a whole school collaboration in the foyer of our school. AMAC fights back and not only cosmetology services we will be providing but also ribbons, baked goods and so much more! All for an amazing cause!! The Hair Styling and Aesthetics students also helped out in the school musical.

The **Transportation Technology** students have been very busy once again servicing and repairing students' and teachers' cars all semester and learning more about the skill set needed to be successful in this trade.

The **Woodworking Technology** students learned about the fine craft and personal fulfillment of creating and building using the machines in the technology lab small woodworking projects, such as a keepsake box, a salt and pepper holder and a coat and mitten rack.

**REAL KNOWLEDGE, REAL SKILLS, REAL WORLD, REAL JOBS**



Department Head: C. Clarke

NOTES FROM  
THE STUDIOSDANCE  
THEATRE  
DRAMASemester Two, 2016 - 2017  
@AMHSPA

## CREATIVITY THRIVES HERE

The Drama, Theatre and Dance 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 and other venues around York Region, Sears Drama Festival, field trips, 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 two....





## Notes from the Studios

Department Head: C. Clarke



## Studio Living

Musical theatre, staging/directing/choreography techniques, film studies, inquiry based work, alternative spaces and healthy performance habits weaved through our curriculum this semester. Working with dance artist Lindsay Fell, film director

Chris Di Stauro, and writer/director Ash Knight, the students applied their skills to their performances at the Sears Drama Festival, Richmond Hill Cultural Summit, Zero to Three, Dance Expressions, filming for Sean Cisterna's television show My Name is Ripley, Grade Twelve Showcase, and An Evening of Canadian Music at the Richmond Hill Public Library.







## Notes from the Studios

Department Head: C. Clarke



# NEXT

IT ALL STARTS IN THE STUDIO | #CREATIVITYTHRIVESHHERE

### INDUSTRY WORKSHOPS

Fall 2017 will bring new and exciting workshops from the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts, Stratford Festival, Studio 180, Mirvish Productions, and Ovation Performing Arts. Looking forward to extending our curriculum knowledge with Canada's top professional artists!

### SAVE THE DATE! ARTS INFO NIGHT

This year's Arts Mackenzie information night will be held on October 25, 2017 at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts. Featuring performances from across all grades, we invite you to join us for a celebration of Arts Mackenzie!

### IB THEATRE ARTS

The Theatre teachers are ready to go for our first International Baccalaureate (IB) Theatre Course in 2019. Presentation and critical thinking skills will be the focus for Alexander Mackenzie High School pre-IB Grade 9 and 10 drama students!

IT ALL **STARTS** IN THE STUDIO

**Join Us!!!**

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

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

[WWW.BIT.LY/ARTSMACKENZIE](http://WWW.BIT.LY/ARTSMACKENZIE) AMHSPA THEATREARTSMACKENZIE



## Notes from the Studios

Department Head: C. Clarke



The excitement continues fall 2017.



What artistic learning adventure will you have next year?



Check out our AMHS website for more details about programs and courses.





## Music

Department Head: E. Hudspith



### Music Department

Music students have been involved with many exciting performing activities as well as inspiring workshops and fun field trips over the course of the past few months. It's amazing to look back and see how much has been accomplished and how much each musician has grown over just a short period.



Band and Chamber Choir's "An Evening of Canadian Music" which was presented in collaboration with the Theatre Arts department.

This semester, music students were involved with two community concerts in celebration of Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Richmond Hill Northern Harmony's collaborative Choral Bonanza in February and just recently, the Richmond Hill Public Library hosted the Jazz



The Jazz Band also entertained crowds at the Winter Carnival held at Mill Pond back in February. Many Alex Mac students and alumni were in attendance to watch the performance.

The Chamber Orchestra and Chamber Choir both participated in the Kiwanis Music Festival and were awarded Gold and Platinum respectively. The feedback was invaluable and it was also a great opportunity to hear other ensembles perform. The Chamber Choir was additionally awarded a scholarship for their performance in the festival.

The Coffee House and Silent Auction in March featured many different performing groups and small ensembles. It was great to see students doing what they love and also be able to raise \$1200 for the Music department through this event.



The same month marked the beginning of the Music Alive Music Festival—over the next eight weeks, the Symphonic Band, Intermediate Band, Concert Band, Chamber Orchestra and Mackenzie Singers all participated in the festival, and the Chamber Choir performed in the University of Toronto Choral Festival with six other Ontario choirs.



# Music

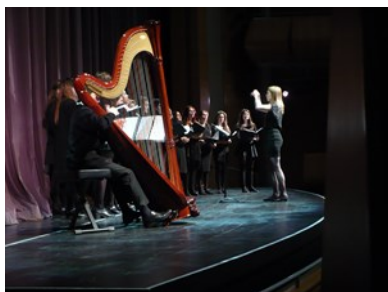
Department Head: E. Hudspith



## Music Department

One of the highlights of this year for many music students was the chance to take part in amazing workshops, including those at Disney World in April where the Trip Choir, Trip Orchestra, and Trip Band each got to learn and record a Disney song in a professional studio which was then set to a clip of a Disney film. Many great memories were made on this trip, which will not soon be forgotten.

Fanfare and Spring Celebration in May showcased all of the wonderful musical accomplishments music students have aspired to all year as they put on their final major concerts of the school year.



In June, we had one more party: the banquet and awards show, which this year was themed as

"A Night in Paris". Our performance calendar finished with the Symphonic Band's 'Pops' concert which took place on the field of Alexander Mackenzie.

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

- Showcase 2017– November 15, 2017
- Fanfare 2018 – May 10, 2018
- "Beauty and the Beast" (next year's musical) –
- Spring Celebration 2018 – May 16, 2018

### Next year's after school Rehearsal Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
198 After School	4:30-6:00 Symphonic Band	3:05-4:35 p.m. Concert Band (grade 9)	3:05-4:35 Intermediate Band (gr. 10)	3:05-4:35 Full Orchestra	3:05-4:30 Trip Band (Feb.-Apr.)
196 After School		3:05-4:35 p.m. Advanced Orchestra			3:05-4:30 Trip Orchestra (Feb.-Apr.)
Lunch	11:35-12:15 Jazz Choir	11:20-12:00 Women's Choir (Sem 1)	11:35-12:15. AM Stages	11:35-12:15 Beginning String Ensemble	
195 After school	3:05-4:05 Music Council	3:05-6:00 p.m. Musical Theatre Rehearsal (Sem 1) Women's Choir (Sem 2)	3:05-4:35 p.m. Mackenzie Singers	3:05-4:35 p.m. Chamber Choir	3:05-4:30 Trip Choir (Feb.-Apr.)





# Visual Arts

Department Head: A. Bhaitia



## Visual Arts Department

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.

Over the course of the second semester we were fortunate to have two guest artists work with our students. In February, Joanne Rich joined us for a week of creating light sculptures with the grade 9 and 10 classes. Joanne shared her wealth of knowledge and creativity with our students in helping them create their own functioning paper lights. In April, students had a chance to explore the oil medium guided by guest artist Judy Sherman. Classes concentrated on still-life painting during this week.

In March, many of our students attended a private screening of the film "Kiss and Cry" at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts. It was directed by Richmond Hill film maker Sean Cisterna. Sean and Sarah Fisher (lead actor) attended the screening and spoke to our students about the experience of creating a film and working in the industry.

In April, we held our third annual Arts & Crafts Sale. All of our Arts Mack visual arts classes participated in the creation and selling of their art and craft items during our school's annual "AMAC Fights Back" cancer research fundraiser. The sale was a huge success and we are pleased to now call this an annual Arts fundraiser for cancer.

In early May, we had our fifth 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 'Doors Open' 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 works were also displayed and toured as part of the Richmond Hill Youth Art Festival this spring.

Later in May, students saw a range of art from gallery to the street on our trip into the city. We started at Toronto's Contact Gallery with photography exhibits. We then went on a tour of, the always colourful, Kensington Market and finally finished with the Georgia O'Keeffe exhibit at the AGO.

Our Arts Mack students are currently working on their legacy pieces (artworks created for the purpose of remaining on the school walls). Our halls will look refreshed with colour when we return after the summer holidays!

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. You will all be greatly missed. Also, a thank you goes out to all the parents and guardians of our students for being so supportive. Have a great summer!



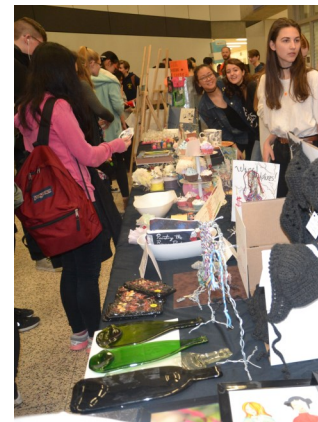
*Aruna Art Show at Boynton House*



Senior students at work on their legacy pieces



Arts Mack grads at Boynton House



*AMAC Fights Back Craft Sale*



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