



Summer Music includes “Cool” Jazz

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Once again the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake schools offered a four week summer music program for instrumental students in the district. This four week program which ran from July 5th to July 29th concluded with a final concert at the Middle School on July 29th, 2011 at 12:00 pm.. Students in this program were able to participate in a wide variety of instructional offerings. This includes group lessons,

band, orchestra, jazz instruction, switch classes, and small ensemble lessons. The final concert featured small ensembles, Jazz Ensemble and a full concert band and orchestra. Many students learned or perfected a secondary instrument such as oboe, bassoon and cello and were able to show of their new skills playing a recently learned instrument in the final concert. Our music student’s were instructed by our own staff of Mrs.



Russell on strings, Mr. Tetlak on brass/ percussion, and Mr. Giroux on woodwinds. The summer program was held at the middle school. 🎵

NYSSMA Majors Results—Unprecedented!

- Orchestra wins GOLD
- Concert Choir wins GOLD w/ Distinction
- Concert Band wins GOLD w/ Distinction

All three of the major high school performing ensembles participated in the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) Major Organization Evaluation Festival this past spring. For the first time in school history all three ensembles received a rating of gold or gold with distinction at level

5 and 6, the two most difficult levels of music performance. The Orchestra under the direction of Mrs. Russell received a Level 6 Gold marking the first ever Level 6 Gold for any BH-BL string ensemble. The Concert Choir under the direction of Mrs. Derrick received a Level 5 Gold with Distinction, another

first, and the Concert Band under the direction of Mr. Giroux kept its record setting string of top awards intact with yet another Level 6 Gold with Distinction. Congratulations to all the students and their directors for reaching this unprecedented level of performance. 🎵

Friends of Music Awards



This spring the BH-BL F.O.M presented awards to deserving students at the elementary, middle, and high school level. The elementary and middle school awards in the form of a gift certificate to Schenectady Van Curler, Northeast Music, or John Keal Music. Awards were presented to:

Charlton Heights-Band-Tyler Doherty, Orchestra-Dayton Kenneally, Chorus-Matthew Zoller

Pashley-Band-Jessica Landry, Orchestra-Lauren Carr, Chorus-Seth Gully

Stevens-Band-Camille Sirianni, Orchestra-William Halm, Chorus-Bradley Albright

Middle school-Band-Mary Schneider, Orchestra-Michael Batzinger, Chorus-Ashley Fugal

High School-Kevin DeLeonardo was the recipient of the high school F.O.M scholarship. 🎵

Three Students chosen for Mini-grants

“Ah, music. A magic beyond all we do here!”

J. K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*

Each year the Friends of Music invites students to apply for grants for purchase of an upgrade instrument, private lessons, or summer music camp attendance. This year

mini-grants were awarded to Alaina Boschi who will use her grant for summer violin lessons with a private teacher and to both Gigi and Alana Picozzi who will apply their

grants toward Crane Music camp this summer. 🎵

BH-BL Students apprentice with Albany Pro Musica

Two BH-BL music students, Marie Andrew and Erin Kilmer were selected to participate in the Albany Pro Music High School Apprentice program this school year. Both students rehearsed and performed with Albany Pro Musica this fall and spring. Marie joined the chorus for its fall performance of *Voices of Light* November 6, 2010 and *The Verdi Requiem* on January 22, 2011 at the Palace Theater. Erin sang the *Voices of Light* November 6, 2010 and *Faure Requiem* on March 27, 2011

at the Cathedral of All Saints in Albany. Now in its 9th year, Pro Musica’s apprentice program encourages high school choral students to bring their ensemble singing to a higher level by participating in a Pro Musica performance. These performances, accompanied by a professional orchestra allow students to explore fine choral works and perform with talented adult singers with similar interests. Each year students are accepted to this program by application and competitive

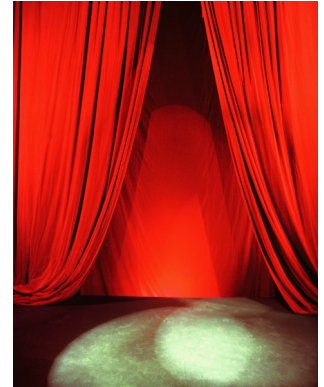
examination. This year only 16 students were invited to perform in one of the four major works performed by Pro Musica. Some past participants in this program have gone on to make music a career while many others have continued to make choral singing a favorite recreational activity and life long passion. 🎵

It's Curtains for the High School!

Donations from a number of community groups have enabled the school district to purchase a new main curtain for the district auditorium. This new curtain replaces a badly rotted main curtain that had suffered a number of tears and was no longer repairable. The new burgundy curtain was hung in late February and was used for the first time at the March musical and concerts. Donations were made by: The

High School PTSA (pie sale), Pashley PTSA, Burnt Hills Rotary Club, Theater for Children and The High School Economics club. Many thanks to all these organizations who helped out with this replacement project in our own community auditorium. Additional funds are being sought to continue upgrades to the sound system that include moving of the backstage board to

a better backstage location, upgrade of wiring, and purchase and installation of rear speakers in the auditorium to help fill up the entire auditorium with amplified sound. Currently there are only speakers in the front of the hall. Please consider buying a pie next spring when the High School PTSA plans to continue with this fundraiser dedicated to auditorium upgrades and equipment purchases. 🎵



"The destination is undetermined at this time but will be at a warm weather location"

Upcoming Music trip

Plans are being formulated for a high school music trip next March. The destination is undetermined at this time but will be at a warm weather location and will involve

Concert Band, Concert Choir, Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble and Select Choir. Friends of Music has in the past supported these trips through generous donations to overall

expenses as a way to help all of our student musicians participate in these incredible events. More information to follow as it becomes available. 🎵

BH-BL To Host NYSSMA in April 2012

Burnt Hills –Ballston Lake schools will be hosting the early NYSSMA Solo and Ensemble festival on April 20/21 2012. Approximately 1200 students from the Capital/Saratoga Region of New York will come to Burnt Hills this weekend to perform a prepared NYSSMA solo for an adjudicator. Students will also be competing for selection to Conference All-State ensembles at this festival. Hosting a solo festival is a large undertaking requiring help

from all members of the music department, students and parent to ensure that we have a successful festival. In past years Friends of Music has used this NYSSMA Festival as a fundraiser running a concession for participants and providing food for judges for which NYSSMA will pay FOM.

In addition to the regular solo festival, NYSSMA will be using Burnt Hills as a site to train new NYSSMA judges from all over the state. 🎵

Please consider helping out by cooking a dish, baking some snacks, or working as a volunteer in the concession or judge's meal room. Volunteers will be needed for both Friday and Saturday and times are flexible. Students will also be asked to help out by being room monitors and runners. Community service credit and extra credit is available in addition to the pizza served to all student helpers.

BH-BL Students participate in local Festivals

Section Leader/1st Chair

Andrew, Marie
 Armstrong, Jordan
 Baker, Tess
 Boschi, Julia
 Bradley, Stacie
 Brehm, Sarah
 Cawley, Aidan
 Charles, Brendan
 Guzzi, Michaela
 Keyes, Jimmy
 Kirsty, Michael
 Kirsty, Robert
 Kirsty, Steven
 Lawrence, Samantha
 Neumann, Danielle
 Pearce, Emily
 Pelton, Sam
 Picozzi, Alana
 Piel, Michaela
 Port, Jessica
 Rousseau, Erin
 Sammons, Elizabeth
 Simpson, Natalie
 Spiewak, Shawn
 Terbush, Kevin
 Wilder, Ketryk

Conference All-State

DeLeonardo, Kevin
 Kirsty, Steven-alternate
 Spiewak, Shawn

Empire State Youth Orchestra

DeLeonardo, Kevin
 Kirsty, Michael

Albany ProMusica Apprentice

Andrew, Marie
 Kilmer, Erin

Saratoga All-County

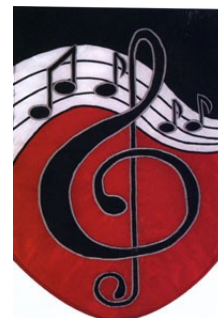
Andrew, Marie
 Benwell, Kent
 Bacchus, Morgan
 Baker, Tess
 Baumbach, Abigail
 Bradley, Stacie
 Brenon, Allie Rose
 Brooksby, Lauren
 Cowley, Hannah
 DeAngelis, Christina
 DeLeonardo, Carly
 Doherty, Casey
 Fieldhouse, Erin
 Fugal, Ashley
 Garing, Paul
 Gohl, Christine
 Hale, Natasha
 Halm, Megan
 Hartfield, Grace
 Hunziker, Erin
 Jerry, Marina
 Kilmer, Erin
 Kirsty, Michael
 Kirsty, Robert
 Kislowski, Shelby
 Manly, Kalliyon
 Martin, Caroline
 McCarthy, Marcy
 Messare, Joseph
 Morse, Natalie
 Pantalone, Caley
 Phelps, Rachel
 Picozzi, Alana
 Putman, Geoffrey
 Rockwell, Zoe
 Roehl, Emily
 Schneider, Mary
 Simpson, Natalie
 Spiewak, Steven
 Streifert, Jordan
 Taylor, Abby
 Thurber, Lauren
 Van Nostrand, Kris

Suburban Council

DeLeonardo, Carly
 Evans, Isaiah
 Evans, Sam
 Fugal, Ashley
 Gagnon, Camrin
 Gigliotti, Alexander
 Jerry, Marina
 Kirsty, Steven
 Law, Gwenda
 Mains, Emily
 McKeone, Cory
 Mooney, Brandon
 Schneider, Mary
 Sinnenberg, Nicholas
 Spiewak, Shawn
 Taft, Allison
 Tama, Alexis
 Werblow, Samantha

Area All-State

Andrew, Marie
 Bradley, Emily
 Bradley, Stacie
 Brehm, Sarah
 Evans, Sam
 Foster, Colin
 Garing, Paul
 Kilmer, Erin
 Kirsty, Steven
 Putman, Geoffrey
 Roehl, Emily
 Spiewak, Shawn
 Putman, Geoffrey



NYSSMA Solo Festival Participants

Adams, Brooke
 Albright, Bradley
 Albright, Natalie
 Baumbach, Abigail
 Becker, Jamie
 Boschi, Alaina
 Boschi, Julia
 Bradley, Marisa
 Bradley, Stacie
 Brenon, Allie Rose
 Brooksby, Lauren
 Cuddihy, Meredith
 DeLeonardo, Carly
 DeLeonardo, Zachary
 Doherty, Casey
 Drexinger, Sarah
 Dunn, Aubrey
 Evans, Abigail
 Evans, Isaiah
 Evans, Sam
 Fernandez, Allison
 Foster, Colin
 Garing, Paul
 Gohl, Christine
 Hale, Natasha
 Hale, Nolan
 Hartfield, Grace
 Hatfield, Maeve
 Hunziker, Erin

Isaksen, Kate
 Jerry, Marina
 Kilmer, Erin
 Kirsty, Michael
 Kirsty, Robert
 Kirsty, Steven
 LaMere, Ashley
 LeBel, Luke
 Madden, Hannah
 Mains, Emily
 Manly, Kalliyann
 Manly, Lien
 McCabe, Cassidy
 McCabe, Julianna
 McCarthy, Marcy
 Messere, Josette
 Mooney, Brandon
 Moore, Natalie
 Morse, Natalie
 Neumann, Danielle
 Panetta, Nicole
 Pearce, Emily
 Picozzi, Alana
 Picozzi, Gigi
 Piel, Michaela
 Port, Jessica
 Prosper, Anthony
 Prosper, Emily
 Rapitsky, Larrissa



Ratchford, Jessica
 Roberts, Maggie
 Roehl, Emily
 Rousseau, Erin
 Schneider, Mary
 Seaman, Cara
 Short, Jared
 Singleton, Roberta
 Sinnenberg, Nicholas
 Slade, Rachel
 Smith, Kimi
 Spiewak, Shawn
 Spiewak, Steven
 Strait, Hannah
 Taylor, Abby
 Thurber, Lauren
 Widrig, Klara
 Winters, Colin
 Winters, Luke
 Young, Sam
 Zatt, Emily
 Ziskin, Erica
 Ziskin, Natalie



POPS for a Piano Program is Sweet

Our Pops for a Piano long-term fundraiser is “popping” along nicely under the competent direction of Cheryl Zatt, our Pops Chairperson. The yummy gourmet lollipops have been well received following concerts. The proceeds from this fundraiser will eventually be used to purchase a much-needed new or gently used baby grand piano for the high school stage. The pops are being sold at the end of concerts for .50 cents each and there are many flavors to choose from.

A reminder: Pops will only be sold to those who are not returning to the auditorium for the concert.



Budget cuts significantly impact BH-BL Fine Arts Programs

“These cuts have resulted in the loss of Select Chorus at the Middle School, Choirchimes at Pashley Elementary, 10 weeks of 8th grade art, and the loss of the Theater class at the High school.”

This past year saw significant budget/staffing reductions impact the Fine Arts Department. In the 2009-10 Mrs. Reeves, long time middle school choral teacher retired and was not replaced resulting in a 1.0 staffing cut. Mrs. Buckley long time art teacher also retired in 2010 but .7 of her position was maintained. For the 2011-12 school year all of that art position will be eliminated. In addition, a .2 instrumental music cut was added to the cuts for 2011-12. The district did restore some of the 1.0 cut of the Mrs. Reeves choral position for next year by adding a .4 vocal music position to teach 7th grade chorus. Additional monies

and secretarial time were also cut from the department. These cuts have resulted in the loss of Select Chorus at the Middle School, Choirchimes at Pashley Elementary, 10 weeks of 8th grade art, and the loss of the Theater class at the High school. Additionally, lesson groups will swell, traveling will increase, and elective opportunities will continue to shrink. As we go into the 2012-13 budget season the future is very uncertain as short term federal monies run out and the new property tax cap goes into effect. Please continue to let your school board member know how much we value the arts and how necessary they are to the development of the whole child. ♪

“Please continue to let your school board member know how much we value The Arts and how necessary they are to the development of the whole child!”

NEW Membership Levels Announced!

We all feel the strain of increased expenses and the Friends of Music is no different. Though we try to stretch our volunteerism and our resources to the limit, the cost of everything keeps going up. With that in mind, and after much thought, we have decided to address how to cover rising costs in a couple of different ways. First, we reluctantly decided it was time to

raise the basic membership from the \$10 per year that it has been for many years to \$15 per year. We also decided to look to our wonderful supportive community to help us continue to keep our children enjoying music in our schools. This Fall we will be visiting our local businesses to enlist their financial support in return for everything from a mention to a small advertise-

ment in our concert program. If you are a business owner and would like to show your support or know someone who is, please contact any one of our FOM officers. We are also in need of members who are willing to canvas the business neighborhood. 🎵



Conference All-State coming in December for 3 BH-BL Students

The Conference All-State festival will be held in Rochester December 1-4. Three very talented students were chosen to represent BH-BL in 3 different groups. Steven Kirsty, Tenor Sax will perform with the All State Jazz Ensemble, Samuel Evans, Trombone, will perform with the All State Symphonic Band, and Brandon Mooney, Trumpet, will perform with the All State Symphony Orchestra. All three groups will perform at the Eastman Theater in Rochester, NY. 🎵

Concert Clothing Closet makes concert-wear available to everyone.

Friends of Music collects gently worn, clean and used concert clothing. We accept black pants/skirts, white shirts, neckties and appropriate black concert shoes that have been outgrown. It is important that all items be in good shape, so they can be worn again. Students can request items from the "Concert Clothing Closet" when needed.



All items can be found at the Fine Arts Office in the High School.

Any questions please call 399-9141, ext. 3182 or 3183.

<i>2011-2012 Concert Schedule</i>
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All Concerts at High School

SEPTEMBER 15 (Thurs.) **FRIENDS OF MUSIC FALL MEETING** **7:00 P.M. @ H.S. Library**

FALL CONCERT

OCTOBER 26 (Wed.) H.S. SYMPHONIC BAND **7:30 P.M.**

H.S. ORCHESTRA
H.S. CONCERT CHOIR
H.S. CONCERT BAND
H.S. MIXED CHORUS

WINTER CONCERTS

DECEMBER 7 (Wed.) CHARLTON HEIGHTS **7:30 P.M.**

DECEMBER 12 (Mon.) PASHLEY **7:30 P.M.**

DECEMBER 15 (Thurs.) 7th BAND **7:30 P.M.**

M.S. JAZZ ENSEMBLE
7th CHORUS

HOLIDAY CONCERTS

DECEMBER 18 (Sun.) **3:00 P.M.**

H.S. CONCERT BAND
H.S. CONCERT CHOIR
H.S. ORCHESTRA

DECEMBER 19 (Mon.) H.S. JAZZ ENSEMBLE **7:30 P.M.**

H.S. SYMPHONIC BAND
H.S. MIXED CHORUS
H.S. SELECT CHORUS

DECEMBER 21 (Wed.) 8TH BAND **7:30 P.M.**

7/8 ORCHESTRA
8TH GRADE CHORUS

<i>JANUARY 5 (Thurs.)</i>	<i>FRIENDS OF MUSIC WINTER MEETING</i>	<i>7:00 P.M.</i> <i>@H.S.Library</i>
JANUARY 9 (Mon.)	STEVENS	7:30 P.M.
JANUARY 11 (Wed.)	6 TH GRADE BAND 6 TH GRADE CHORUS 6 TH ORCHESTRA	7:30 P.M.
<u>MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH' CONCERTS</u>		
MARCH 19 (Mon.)	7 TH GRADE BAND 8 TH GRADE BAND H.S. SYMPHONIC BAND H.S. CONCERT BAND	7:30 P.M.
MARCH 20 (Tues.)	H.S. ORCHESTRA 7/8 ORCHESTRA H.S. CONCERT CHOIR H.S. MIXED CHORUS	7:30 P.M.
<u>SPRING 2010 CONCERTS</u>		
<i>MAY 3 (Thurs)</i>	<i>FRIENDS OF MUSIC SPRING MEETING</i>	<i>7:00 P.M.</i> <i>@ H.S. Library</i>
May 10 (Thurs)	PASHLEY	7:30 P.M.
MAY 14 (Mon.)	STEVENS.	7:30 P.M.
MAY 15 (Tues)	ARTS FESTIVAL 2012 budget vote front 1/2 of gym art back 1/2 of gym	5pm -7pm on 5/15 8am - 1pm on 5/16 H.S. gymnasium
MAY 15 (Tues)	CHT.HTS. budget vote	7:30 P.M.
MAY 17 (Thurs)	7 TH BAND M.S. JAZZ ENSEMBLE	7:30 P.M.

HONORS CONCERT

MAY 21 (Mon.)	H.S. CONCERT BAND H.S. SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA H.S. CONCERT CHOIR	7:30 P.M.
May 31 (Thurs.)	6 TH BAND 6 TH CHORUS 6 TH ORCHESTRA	7:30 P.M.
June 4 (Mon.)	H.S. SYMPHONIC BAND H.S. JAZZ ENSEMBLE H.S. SELECT CHORUS H.S. MIXED CHORUS	7:30 P.M.
JUNE 6 (Wed.)	7/8 ORCHESTRA 8 TH BAND 8 TH CHORUS	7:30 P.M.



President's Message

Dear Members;

Why do we need you? Because everywhere we turn today in Education we hear about STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). Yet someone told me the other day, and I must agree, that it should really be STEAM—the “A” standing for The Arts! Without the arts, the others tend toward mere mechanics. And with our sometimes maniacal push for NCLB (No Child Left Behind) and our panic to raise test scores, we foolishly lose track of the fact that the results continue to prove that students immersed in the arts perform far *better* than those who are not...ergo, if you want test scores to go up, KEEP the arts, don't eliminate them! We must continue to be the voices for our children in educating the Board of Education and the Public at large that eliminating the arts is counter-productive to what we are all trying to achieve. Each and every one of you is a critical voice! Please help our children to be heard!

Jean Foster, President

BURNT HILLS – BALLSTON LAKE FRIENDS OF MUSIC

2010 – 2011 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I/We have chosen to support the children in the BH-BL Music Program as follows:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend: \$15 to \$24 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Sponsor - \$150 to \$199 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting member: \$25 to \$49 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor - \$200+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donor: \$50 to \$99 | <input type="checkbox"/> Alumni - \$10.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributor: \$100 to \$149 | <input type="checkbox"/> Honorary |

Name(s) as you would like it to appear in the program:

_____ NEW _____ RENEWAL
Address: _____ Town: _____ Phone: (H) _____ (C) _____
Email _____ Child's School _____

Name(s) and grade(s) of children in music program, **please specify** band, chorus or orchestra:

Child: _____ Grade: _____ Music Program: _____
Child: _____ Grade: _____ Music Program: _____
Child: _____ Grade: _____ Music Program: _____

Volunteer Interest::

- Collecting at Concert Door
 Phone Calls
 Fund Raising (e.g. Pop sales; etc.)
 Concert Flower Sales
 NYSSMA Festival Help

**Please make check payable to BH-BL Friends of Music
and send it with this form to:
Gene Boschi, 7 Hunter Hill Road Ballston Lake, NY 12019**

OCTOBER 20	CASDA CONFERENCE-College of Saint Rose
NOVEMBER 18/19	FALL DRAMA PRODUCTION
NOVEMBER 18/19	AREA ALL STATE-Saratoga Springs H.S.
DECEMBER 1-4	NYSSMA WINTER CONFERENCE—Rochester
JANUARY ?	SUBURBAN COUNCIL AUDITIONS—Shaker Jr. high school
JANUARY 27/28	SWCMEA CHORAL - SHEN
JANUARY 13/14	SUBURBAN COUNCIL H.S. FESTIVAL
FEBRUARY 1	FOUNDERS DAY DINNER
FEBRUARY 3/4	BH-BL THEATER FOR CHILDREN
FEBRUARY 10/11	SWCMEA BAND FESTIVAL—Mechanicville
MARCH 9/10	NYSSMA SOLO FESTIVAL— <u>PIANO</u> —St. Rose
MARCH 9/10	H.S. MUSICAL PRODUCTION
MARCH 16/17	M.S. SPRING MUSICAL PRODUCTION
MARCH 16/17	SWCMEA—ORCHESTRA/JAZZ FESTIVAL—Hadley
MARCH 23/24	BH-BL FOLLIES
MARCH 30/31	HIGH SCHOOL TRIP
APRIL 20/21	NYSSMA <u>SOLO/ENSEMBLE</u> FESTIVAL- Burnt Hills
APRIL 25/26	NYSSMA MAJORS—INSTRUMENTAL at BH-BL
MAY 1-3	NYSSMA MAJORS—CHORAL Bethlehem
MAY 23	HONORS NIGHT
JUNE ?	NYSSMA SOLO FESTIVAL- JAZZ
JUNE 11	INSTRUMENTAL RECRUITMENT NIGHT—7:30 H.S. AUDITORIUM

**Other
Dates
to
Remember**



BH-BL Friends of Music
c/o Jean Foster
12 Silver Lane
Burnt Hills, NY 12027

We're on the web:

[http://bhbl.org/District/Academics/
finearts/FriendsofMusic.htm](http://bhbl.org/District/Academics/finearts/FriendsofMusic.htm)

Jean Foster, President

Kelli DeLeonardo, Vice President

Gene Boschi, Treasurer

Mary Fogg, Secretary