



CONNECTIONS

BERLIN'S FINE ARTS NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2024



The Berlin Public Schools Fine Arts Department is committed to fostering a community of creative, innovative, and passionate learners who value and celebrate diversity in a global society through shared experiences in the arts. All learners will be provided with meaningful opportunities in the arts to further develop a deeper form of self-expression, empowering them to become lifelong participants, appreciators, and advocates of the fine arts.

Supervisor's Note



Dear Berlin Public Schools Community,

I hope this message finds you well and filled with the joy that comes from experiencing the arts. I am delighted to share with you the latest highlights from our visual and performing arts programs in our quarterly newsletter, Connections.

Our students have been immersed in a world of creativity, where their talents have grown into remarkable artistic achievements. From captivating visual arts exhibitions to breathtaking performances, our artists continue to develop and refine their skills and passion for the arts.

The influence of an arts education on a child's educational journey cannot be overstated. Beyond the strokes of a paintbrush or the melody of a musical performance, arts education plays a vital role in the holistic development of our students. It fosters creativity, critical thinking, and emotional intelligence, providing a well-rounded foundation that goes beyond the confines of traditional classroom learning.

We invite all families to be a part of this enriching experience by attending our upcoming performances and art galleries. Your presence not only supports our talented students but also contributes to the vibrancy of our community. The magic of the arts is best experienced when shared, and we encourage you to bring your family and friends to witness the extraordinary talents within our schools.

To our students, I extend a heartfelt encouragement to continue participating in our music and art programs. Your dedication and passion are the driving forces behind the success of our fine arts community. Whether you're a visual artist, musician, or actor, your contributions make a lasting impact on our collective artistic journey, and our community.

Let us come together as a community to celebrate the boundless creativity that resides within the walls of the Berlin Public Schools. Thank you for your unwavering support, and we look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

Best,

Mr. Tyler A. Boyle

K-12 Fine Arts Supervisor
Berlin Public Schools

Classroom News



LEFT: Willard and Hubbard Kindergarten, first, and second grade students are working on completing their self portraits.

BELOW: Griswold third grade students are creating mixed-media Cityscapes inspired by the book "Tar Beach" by artist and author Faith Ringgold. Born and raised in Harlem, Ringgold had an extensive career as an artist and teacher, and as an activist for artists from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups.



Classroom News



ABOVE: **Hubbard 5th Grade** students performed in their Winter Chorus Concert in December and did a beautiful job singing, playing instruments, and sharing seasonal songs with their classmates, teachers, and families.
BELOW: **Hubbard 4th and 5th Grade Band Students** performed their Winter Concert in late January, delighting audiences with their wonderful talents!



Classroom News



ABOVE: **The Willard 5th Grade Chorus** opened their December Winter Concert with a beautiful candle song, and finished it with a song called “No School Tomorrow If It Snow!”

BELOW: **Willard 4th and 5th Grade Band Students** performed several pieces in their January Winter Concert, showcasing their talents and passion!



Classroom News



The Griswold 4th and 5th Grade Band performed their Winter Band Concert in mid-January. Students demonstrated newfound musical skills and performed with precision and excitement!



Classroom News



ABOVE: **The McGee Sound Express & BHS Madrigal Singers** performed at the town's annual Swearing-In Ceremony for newly elected officials in November.
BELOW: **The McGee 7th & 8th Grade Spartan Band** performed a diverse and entertaining winter concert for a packed house in the McGee Auditorium.



Classroom News

BHS Band and Chorus students presented their annual Holiday Pops concert to a captivated audience in late December. Students delighted audiences with favorite hits and exciting sounds of the holiday season.



Classroom News

Scenes from the
BHS fall
production of
"Puffs."



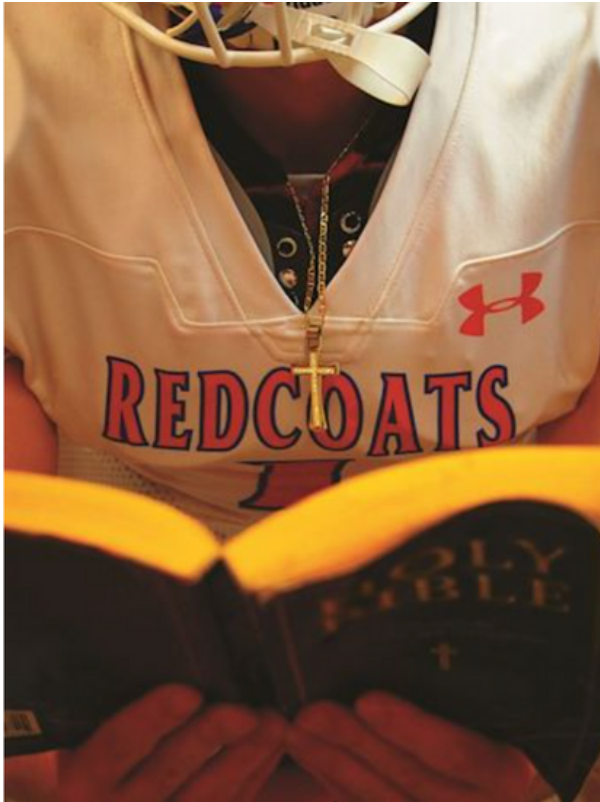
"Puffs" told the story of
a certain boy-wizard at a
certain school of magic.

BHS students delighted
audiences in this hilarious
comedy production!



Student Accolades

Congratulations to BHS students Maddie Lazzara and Cal Constantine who were both awarded Gold Keys in this year's Scholastic Art & Writing Statewide Competition for the Arts! *Connecticut Regional Art Awards Exhibition will take place at Hartford Art School January 17-February 3, 2023, M-F — 8:30am - 4:30pm S-S — 12:00 -5:00pm.*



Purpose, Passion, Prayer
Maddie Lazzara



Celestial Earrings
Chloe (Cal) Constantine



The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards are the nation's longest-running, most prestigious recognition program for creative teens. Jurors look for works that exemplify the Awards' core values: originality, skill, and the emergence of a personal voice or vision. The BHS Art Department has recently installed their new "Wall of Fame" to honor students who have placed with either a Gold Key, Silver Key or Honorable Mention in the annual competition.

Upcoming Events

BHS presents "The Addams Family, A New Musical"

March 7-9 @ 7PM, March 10 @ 1PM

Visit SingingRedcoats.Ludus.com to purchase tickets.

McGee Drama Club presents "Fairy Tale Courtroom" by Dana Proulx

March 22nd & 23rd at 6:30pm in the McGee Auditorium

Tickets will be \$10, sold online and at the door

Come join in on some fractured fairy tale fun! See your favorite characters take the witness stand as students put the Wicked Witch and Big Bad Wolf on trial with you, the audience as the jury!



ABOVE: McGee Drama Students rehearse for their upcoming production.

BHS Spring Band Concert

April 3rd @ 7PM, BHS Auditorium

Berlin Public Schools District Art Show

April 24th-April 28th, New Britain Museum of American Art

Opening Reception on April 24th @ 5PM

Berlin Public Schools

K-12 Fine Arts Department

Tyler Boyle, Supervisor

tboyle@berlinschools.org | 860-828-6577 x2155