



Newsletter

2nd Edition, 2016-2017

Welcome to 2017 from Applause, the parent booster organization for the Music Department. Enjoy the 2nd edition of the Music Department newsletter as it shares interesting and exciting facts of past and present musical events, as well as showcasing special honors many of our students have received. As always, all are welcome to attend any and all of our concerts and shows. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Joyce Allen
Applause President.

IIMEA All State

This year, four LFHS music students qualified for IIMEA All State!. Congratulations to Will Johnson, who qualified in Choir, placing in to the All State Honors Choir singing as a tenor; Alex Banta, who qualified in Jazz Band, playing vibes; Sean Curran, who qualified in Orchestra, playing bass; and Megan McCabe, who qualified for the Future Music Educator Symposium (FMES). January 25th through 28th in Peoria, these talented students will join others from through out the state to rehearse and perform.

Spring Musical – Urinetown

Auditions for the spring musical, Urinetown (to be performed April 27th, 28th, 29th) will be held January 30th, 31st, and February 1st. Northwestern University will also be performing Urinetown this year, and the music department will be taking a field trip February 12th to see NU's performance.

Honors Competition

The Honors Competition will be held Sunday March 5th. This is a great opportunity for the students, since the school brings in outside judges to score and provide feedback. The competition attracts mostly Honors music students, but auditions are open to all music students. Auditions are currently being held for both vocal and instrumental. The tops scores from auditions are selected to play in the March 5th recital.

Music Trip to Italy

Each year, the music department takes a trip to Europe during Spring Break. This year, the band and orchestra will be traveling to Italy. The students will travel throughout Italy, and will perform in Rome and Florence, and will perform for a high school in Venice.

Citrus Sale

Late last fall, LFHS band & orchestra students planning to perform in Italy during Spring Break this year sold citrus to help offset their travel costs. It was a successful fundraiser, with 60 of the 76 "traveling" students participating. in the sale.

Collectively, these students sold an impressive 900 cartons, or approximately 21,000 lbs, of citrus to family, friends and community members! Many thanks to our band & orchestra directors, Mr. O'Connor and Mr. Bassill, for overseeing the entire operation, and to our parent volunteers who helped distribute the citrus.

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Similar to the Postman's Pledge, "Neither rain, nor sleet, nor snow..." could stop the 30th Annual Applause Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser. Approximately 500 students and families came to the dinner and enjoyed delicious sauces and pasta provided by the Demet Family (owners of Graziano's). Lake Forest Sunset Foods contributed the salads, and we thank the many parents who contributed desserts to the dinner. The red tablecloths and decorations were stunning! Friends and families enjoyed entertainment provided by: Jazz Band, Madrigal Singers, Bel Canto Singers, Holiday Strings, Holiday Winds, and Holiday Brass.

This year's dinner raised approximately \$9,500 for Applause. Funds raised through prior Spaghetti Dinner Fundraisers have enabled Applause to do many things for LFHS music students. In 2016 Applause awarded four Senior Recognition scholarships (\$500 each), awarded seven music camp scholarships (\$250 each), donated \$100/student towards the cost of the 2016 Chorus trip to Greece, purchased dresses for Choir and uniforms for Band & Orchestra, provided scholarships for music lessons, purchased shalom candles, for choir, and much more.

The Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser could not be held without the support of The Applause Board, the Music Department Faculty, the Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser Committee members and parents who were so generous to volunteer their talent and time to make this event so successful.

2017 Applause Senior Recognition Scholarships

The Applause Senior Recognition Scholarships are awarded to LFHS Senior music students who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in music and who plan to continue with music in college, either as a field of study or as an extracurricular. Four scholarships are awarded each year, one in each of the following categories: Band, Orchestra, Chorus, and Composition/Other.

This year, the scholarships will have a value of \$1,000 each. Applications are due March 15th, and are currently available on Naviance and the APPLAUSE website. Winners of the scholarships will be announced in the spring, during the Senior Awards ceremony.

Dr. Holland Announces New Fine Arts Offerings Coming to LFHS

"Lake Forest High School is pleased to announce the establishment of a new Theater Department. Students have the opportunity to choose from three classes: Theater 1, Theater 2, and Stagecraft and Theater Tech Design. We are excited to make the vision of the community a reality. Through the study and production of theater, students will work not only on performance and technical skills but also on building skills such as team - work, dynamic presentation, problem-solving, time- management, and many other skills valued across all professions. Through our classes, we hope to build and nurture creative expression and individuality among our students. As a department, we hope to develop individuals who are aesthetically aware, artistically disciplined, and adept in the performing arts while also promoting creative thinking, building cognitive skills, and boosting self-confidence.

We hope your students will consider these new theater offerings. More detailed course descriptions are available in the Guide to Courses

http://www.lakeforestschoools.org/data/files/gallery/ContentGallery/FINAL_LFHS_Student_Guide_to_Courses_2017201832.pdf

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Band News

Welcome back Janene Kessler! Janene has returned this semester from maternity leave. She would like to thank Brian O'Connor for stepping in and doing a tremendous job in taking on the band director responsibilities over the past year. It was so reassuring to Janene to know that the students were in good hands while she was out. She is excited to be back and is transitioning back into her original role as band director.

During the third quarter, Band will be preparing for their March concert, in conjunction with the Orchestra, and for the Tour of Italy over Spring Break. The music programming will be a mix of Italian and American repertoire. Band students will also be playing in smaller chamber groups throughout the quarter (brass choir, woodwind choir, and percussion ensembles). The Pep Band (winds only, no drum line) is performing throughout the winter at home games for boys and girls varsity basketball.

The 2017 North Shore Honor Band concert was held at Lake Forest High School on Saturday, January 14. 182 students were invited to attend from ten area high schools: Deerfield, Evanston Township, Highland Park, Lake Forest, Libertyville, Glenbrook North, Glenbrook South, New Trier, Niles North, Niles West, and Stevenson. Guest conductors this year were Dr. Daniel Farris and Professor Shawn Vondron, both from Northwestern University. The students were led by the guest conductors in rehearsal Friday night and Saturday morning before performing Saturday afternoon. 19 LFHS students were honored with invitations this year: Alex Banta, Tommy Block, Carolyn Hammond, Katherine Jemian, Jonathan Kilmer, Sarah Larimer, Matthew LeMay, Kathryn Lotharius, Lily Mass, Megan McCabe, Parker Mercardo, Susanna Noble, Michael Park, Katie Pierce, Antoinette Pompe van MeerderVoort, Emmet Rubin, Sarah Schmider, Mark Smirnov, and Emmet Winter.

Choir News

Second quarter was a busy time for the choirs. The LFHS choirs provided many beautiful holiday performances for the larger, local community. Between November 27th and December 16th, the Bel Canto and Madrigal Singers performed 20 concerts in 11 days in 18 different locations. As is tradition, the Bel Canto and Madrigal singers began their busy holiday performance season the Friday evening after Thanksgiving with the Lake Forest Tree Lighting in Market Square. Other performances include those at Knollwood Country Club, Shore Acres Country Club, Deerpath Middle School, Lake Bluff Middle School, Lake Forest Place, Westmoreland, and for the Rotary Club at the Lake Forest Club, to name a few.

The amount of time the students and faculty committed to these mostly- outside-of-school performances must be appreciated and applauded. The North Shore Weekender magazine interviewed all three Madrigal leaders (Jonathon Panos, Will Johnson, and Sarah Curran) as well as Tim Haskett for an article published on December 23rd (https://issuu.com/jwcmmedia/docs/tnsw220_east).

Vocal Valentines are a LFHS choir tradition that began in 1996. In early February, the choirs will be selling these in the cafeteria during lunch periods. The cost is \$4 for a song, carnation, and card. These are fun to send to friends and teachers. Each year an average of 375 Vocal Valentines are sold. The Vocal Valentines will be delivered throughout the school day on Tuesday, February 14th.

The Cheesecake Sale will begin January 30th and run through March 10th. The cheesecakes will be delivered to LFHS on March 22, and from then the choir students will deliver the cheesecakes to their customers. The money raised by individual choir members will be held and used to help offset their costs for the 2018 Spring Break Music Trip.

Glee Club resumes January 24th. There were 96 members of Glee Club performing in the December Holiday Concert.

Orchestra News

Welcome to Orchestra's new student teacher, Nate Rhodes. Nate graduated from Lake Forest College in 2009 with a degree in Political Science, and will graduate in June from Lake Forest College with a Masters of Music Education degree. His time student teaching at LFHS is the completion of his masters program.

There will be a concert on March 14th, during which some selections for performance in Italy will be played. There will also be a Bon Voyage concert on March 24th during the school day (3rd period) in the RMA. The students will depart for Italy the evening of the 24th, and will return on April 1st.

Robert Bassill will soon begin working to build the pit orchestra for Urinetown. Students who are interested in being in the pit orchestra should see him.

LFHS student Grace Bentley wrote a wonderful article on LFHS music student Kimberly Han (<http://theforestscout.com/kimie-han-local-girl-international-stage/>). Kimberly plays violin in the LFHS Symphony Orchestra, and is also recognized as a highly talented and accomplished piano soloist outside of school. Kimberly has performed in Chicago's Symphony Center, the Preston Bradley Hall in the Chicago Cultural Center, the DePaul Concert Hall, the Bennett-Gordon Hall at Ravinia, and the Pick-Staiger Concert Hall at Northwestern University.

Applause Membership

Applause is the booster organization for the musical arts at LFHS and provides a wide range of support and communication for band, orchestra and chorus music activities.

This calendar year, the Applause Board is proud to have 56% of our music families as members of Applause. Your support is very much appreciated and allows us to do all that we do to enhance your child's musical experience at school and support the music department. [Click here to visit our Applause page for more information.](#) [Click here to join Applause.](#)

