

Dear Parents,

I would like to give you an update about performing arts and TCGIS performances. Let's start with recent performances and events:

-At the end of March, 2A performed the German fairy tale "Hans im Glück". I enjoyed working on this collaborative project with Frau Grimm, and students did their best during the performance.

-On March 23 most of the classes joined a performance by the visiting artist Asha Carroll. She took our students to the world of the opera and demonstrated the history of the opera through her performance. Thank you Asha! And also thank you to Lisa Erickson for this connection.

-On April 13 we had the band instrument "petting zoo" where children could explore wind instruments. Thank you to Gina Vader and Krista Johnson for organizing this event! As you know, our school has instrument groups such as the band and senior and junior strings. In order to maintain their consistency and high quality, these groups need the support of our community. I think Gina and Krista came up with a great idea how the band can work at our school. I encourage TCGIS students and parents to consider playing in one of the groups next year.

-On April 15 our community participated in the Capstone Benefit Event at the GAI. I think I can speak for all participants in saying that it was a splendid event with a very special atmosphere. It certainly fostered our community and reminded me personally of how valuable this feeling of community is. Thank you very much to the family Oxenham for bringing up the idea and for organizing this event!

Ongoing performing arts projects:

-1st grade is working on fairy tales. 1A is staging the "Sleeping Beauty" story and 1B will be performing the "Seven Ravens" play. Again, I am very pleased that we were able to schedule collaborative projects with classroom teachers, and you will be able to see the results later in spring.

-2B is working on the "Three Musketeers" story, and I am thankful to Herr Stephenson for involving me in this project.

-3rd graders decided to work on drama pieces. 3A choose the story about König Drosselbart, and 3B is working on the "Romeo and Juliet" story. Although time is tight, the students are working hard to accomplish their projects by the end of the school year.

-4th grade is working on a unit about modern and contemporary music. We started our journey with jazz, continued with Rock 'n' Roll and are working now on rap music.

-Students in the middle school are working in three groups. Two of them choose a modern German grotesque play to perform. The third group is writing their own play.

-This year, the middle school decided to give the Poetry Olympics a try. April is National Poetry Month, and we are celebrating with a poetry slam and artistic recitation. All middle school students are highly encouraged to participate. Please join the poetry contest "Be a Muse(d)" on April 27 from 1:15 to 3:00pm on the second floor.

Please check performing arts updates online at <http://sites.google.com/a/germanschool-mn.org/music/>.

And one more update about the Blumenkranz: our dance troupe is representing Germany and Austria at the Festival of Nations. Please join our short program on Thursday May 3. It is my honor to announce that both Blumenkranz Senior and Junior passed the audition and will perform their full program on Saturday, May 5. More details are coming soon. Updates online are at <http://sites.google.com/a/germanschool-mn.org/blumenkranz/>.

Please contact me with any questions: vsolakhau@germanschool-mn.org.

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