

May 2015

harding
FINE ARTS ACADEMY

From the Desk of Mr. S~

A Year in Review

The 2014 – 2015 school year began with six new teachers and increased space for students with the addition of 3 new spacious classrooms. The girls volleyball team's season was in full swing and the HFAA cheer squads were off to their first competition! We learned that HFAA had received an A+ on the State Department of Education Superintendent's Report Card and that we were included in the top ten high schools in Oklahoma by the U.S. News & World Report newspaper. Students and teachers alike were taking the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge; the HFAA Martial Arts team won 8 first places, 8 second place and the Grand Champion award at their first competition. The student newspaper "The Beat" went completely digital.

In October, the drama department performed the play "Icarus's Mother" by Sam Shepard to the OS-SAA 4A One Act Play Competition. HFAA played HCP in the first ever faculty basketball game and Show Choir & Show Band did the Time Warp!

Two elderly ladies (played by HFAA's Veronica Bryant and Emily Johnson) poisoned their suitors in Arsenic and Old Lace in November. The Firehawk basketball teams had amazing seasons and we watched Queen Miles perform in Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Junior Rhea Brown-Bright was named Oklahoma's first Youth Poet Laureate.

In December, the students of HFAA showed that it is better to give than receive as the National Honor Society donated 237 pounds of canned goods to the Regional Food Bank and Student Council adopted a Salvation Army Angel Tree. The Classical Guitar ensemble took a trip to Austin and we were treated with performances by our vocal, instrumental and dance programs.

HFAA has been granted charter membership in the National Speech & Debate Association & competed in Marlow in March and our annual fundraising campaign exceeded the goal of \$12,000 and our Leadership in Arts & Education Dinner raised over \$50,000!

In February, HFAA students Keegan Kinniburgh and Jasmine Johnson were named Oklahoma Regional Gold and Silver Key winners in the Scholastic Art and Writing competition and HFAA completed an intensive year-long reaccreditation process with AdvancED.

The annual Ignite Arts Festival and Youth Art Contest took center stage in March and the speech & debate team competed in the Oklahoma regional competition. The incredible talent of our students were showcased at the Student Talent Show and martial arts students broke boards during P & E in March.

In April, HFAA students Carlie Preskitt, Veronica Bryant, Taylor Fitzsimmons, Jasmine Johnson and Keegan Kinniburgh received an Award for Arts from the State Superintendent. Samantha Basave (violin), Zachary Edwards (viola) received Excellent ratings and Jamie Drew (violin) and Hayden Linse (bassoon) received Superior ratings at the OSSAA District Solo and Ensemble Contest. HFAA drama students wowed audiences in Dreamgirls and the HFAA Speech & Debate team received a 2nd Place Sweepstakes State 4A win. Construction began on new dance and drama rooms.

In May, we will say goodbye as our 2015 seniors graduate. On behalf of the HFAA faculty and staff, we wish all the best in what lies ahead!

state
OF
the
ARTS

Preparing students
for college in an
academically
challenging,
arts-integrated
environment.

Finals Week Schedule

Note: If students are exempt from a final(s), they do not need to attend school that day. (If an exempt student does attend school that day, they must report to their classes even if they are not going to take the final.)

Monday, May 11th

10:00 – 11:00 am - HFAA Award Ceremony (Aud.)

Open to the public.

7:00 – 8:00 pm – HFAA Guitar Concert (Aud.)

Open to the public.

Tuesday, May 12th

8:00 – 12:05 am – Semester Finals

12:05 am – 2:30 pm Field Day in the Big Gym (Lunch Provided)

Students need to take all of their possessions with them to the Big Gym as they will not be able to get back into the school for the remainder of the day.

12:05 noon – 2:30 pm – Study Hall in Ms. Crismyre's room for those not attending Field Day. (Students must be in Ms. Crismyre's room and will not be allowed to roam the building.)

Wednesday, May 13th

8:00 – 12:05 pm – Semester Finals

12:05 pm – Students Dismissed (**Parents: All students MUST leave the school grounds unless they are in Study Hall.**)

12:00 noon – 2:30 pm – Study Hall in Ms. Crismyre's room. (Students must be in Ms. Crismyre's room and will not be allowed to roam the building.)

Thursday, May 14th (Last Day of School)

8:00 – 9:30 am – Semester Finals

10:00 – 11:00 am – Senior Robing Ceremony (Aud.)

Open to the Public.

11:00 am – 12 noon – Senior Showcase (Aud.)

Open to the Public.

12 noon – Students Dismissed (**Parents: All students MUST leave the school grounds.**)

12:00 noon – 1:00 pm – Senior Lunch for Sr. Students only (First Christian Church on 36th & Walker)

1:00 – 3:30 pm – Grad. Rehearsal – Sr. students only (First Christian Church on 36th & Walker)

Friday, May 15th

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Graduation at the First Christian Church at 36th & Walker.

HFAA Speech & Debate State Award Winners

Harding Fine Arts Academy Speech and Debate team, which has only been existence for 4 years, went to the Oklahoma state competition in April.

- 3rd Place Dramatic Interpretation, Sean Smith
- 3rd Place Humorous Interpretation, Je'Nell Tyson
- 3rd Place Standard Oratory, Whitney Clear
- 3rd Place Poetry, Lacey Pierson
- 7th Place Cross Examination Debate, Carter Anderson and Tori Anderson
- 6th Place Cross Examination Debate, Lacey Pierson and Celeste Baca
- State Champions, Dramatic Duet, Lacey Pierson and Je'Nell Tyson

2nd Place State Sweepstakes Winners Firehawk Forensics!



Oklahoma City Community Foundation Scholarship Winners

Congratulations Sandra Ortiz, Catelynn Wood and Ngoc Ta! These three HFAA seniors received college scholarships from the Oklahoma City Community Foundation and were presented with their awards at a luncheon earlier this month. Great job ladies! We are proud of you!



Sandra Ortiz, Catelynn Wood & Ngoc Ta

HFAA Class of 2015



On Friday, May 15th at 7:00 pm., we will bid the class of 2015 farewell as we celebrate their graduation from Harding Fine Arts Academy. The ceremony will take place at the First Christian Church at NW 36th & Walker. We wish these fine young men and women great success as they continue their education, military and work journeys. Below is a projected list of our graduates and their post high school plans.

Robert Allen- UCO; Carter Anderson- Travel; Austin Artus- USAO; Miah Baker- USAO; Alexis Ballard- OCCC; Kathya Borjas- OCCC; Rachel Brock- Northeastern OK; Veronica Bryant- USAO; Harold Bufford- Northeastern OK; JonBonae Carey- Langston University; Lynn Carter; Anthony Clark- SWOSU; Raygan Cox- Arkansas Tech.; Christina Cravatt- OU; Joy Douglas- OU; Dunn Edwards- UCO; Erica Edwards; Angela Ellis; Taylor Fitzsimmons- OCU; Ozella Frazier- UCO; Kaylie Germany- Langston University; Shandrick Griffin- UCO; Baschon Hahn- OCCC; James Hankins- OCCC; Taylor Hanska- OBU; Ashley Harrington- OCCC; Alexis Harvey- SNU; Aysha Harvey- SNU; Hannah Hatch- UCO; Grace Hawkins- USAO; Kiley Hoff- Navy; Spencer Houston- SNU; Ian Hughes- OCCC; Jasmine Johnson- USAO; Kelsey Jordan- OCCC; Hannah Ketch- USAO; Taylor Kilgore- OCCC; Monique King- UCO; Triston Lightner- UCO; Nieko Ligons- OCCC; Lauren Martin- OU; Galilea Martinez- OCU; Amber Maxwell- OCU; James Mayfield- OU; Kayla Maynard- SNU; Connell McBride- OU; Matthew McLead- Air Force; Joselin Mendez- OSU; Graciela Mendoza- OSU; Paige Mitchell- Rose State College; Thomas Mosley; Cassadie Oglesby- OSU-OKC; Sandra Ortiz- OSU- OKC; Ester Par- OCCC; Andrew Pham- OCCC; Lacey Pierson- OU; Caroline Preskitt- OU; Htoo Red- OCCC; Donye' Robinson- UCO; Isabel Rodas- OCCC; Vanessa Rodriguez- OCCC; Victoria Rogez- OCCC; Chloe Ruiz- OCCC; Nichole Septier- UCO; Austin Smith- OCCC; William Smithers- OCCC; Magethsi Soria- UCO; Amanda Stark- Humanitarian Work; Ngoc Ta- OCCC; Jaquel Thompson- OCCC; Alyssa Torres- OSU; Je'Nell Tyson- OU; Bianca Wagner- OCCC; Brandon Walker- Air Force; McKenna Walker-Hirzy- UCO; Destiny White- OCCC; Kristian White- Columbia College Chicago; Jordan Whitmore- OCCC; Catelynn Wood- OSU; Anastasia Woosley- OCCC.

Total scholarship amount offered so far is \$458,490! **We are so proud of you seniors 2015!**

Award for Arts Winners

Congratulations to the following HFAA students. Each received an Award for Arts from the Oklahoma State Department of Education:

- Caroline Preskitt (Dance)
- Veronica Bryant (Drama/Theatre)
- Taylor Fitzsimmons (Drama/Theatre)
- Jasmine Johnson (Art)
- Keegan Kinniburgh (Art)

This award recognizes high school juniors and seniors who have achieved artistic and academic excellence and have contributed service to their communities. They represented HFAA and were honored at an awards banquet on April 23th at 7:00 p.m at the Scottish Rite Temple in Guthrie.

Veronica Bryant received a 2015 Young Talent in Oklahoma Award! Young Talent in Oklahoma is an annual state-wide high school art exhibition (grades 9-12) and high school senior portfolio competition.

2015 National Honor Society Inductees

The National Honor Society honors those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

Phoebe Austerman	Gregory Samuel
Whiteney Clear	Ethan Goldberg
William Day	Justin Nguyen
Hailey Fox	Arianna Tull
Madison Gregg	Taylor Hanska
Jadyn Powell	Sandra Ortiz
Madalyn Wetmore	Amber Maxwell
Dexter Bryant	Ester Park
Adriann Crawford	Andrew Pham
Aanika Gillet	
Victoria Maxwell	

Congratulations Students!





3333 North Shartel Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73107



Board of Directors

Sally Bentley, President

Jean Hendrickson, Vice President

John Yoeckel, Treasurer

Raquel Frazier, Secretary

Rod Baker

Kelley Barnes

Joy Reed Belt, Ph.D., LPC

Barry Bergstrom

Cheryl Borelli

James M. Chaney, Esq. (Ex-Officio)

Regina Clemens Fox, Ph.D.

Susan Gabbard (Ex-Officio)

Kellena Haynes

Sandy Kent

Kelly Michal

Kenyon Morgan

Nathan Powell

Robert Spinks, Ph.D.

Stephen Vaughan

Barry Schmelzenbach, Principal

HL Watson, Board Clerk

Upcoming Events

May 4th- HFAA Instrumental Concert; 7:00 p (Aud.)

May 7th- HFAA Dance Performance; 7:00 p (Aud.)

May 8th- HFAA Show Choir Concert; 7:00 p (Aud.)

May 9th- Baccalaureate; 4:00 p (St. John's Episcopal Church)

May 9th- Senior Dinner; 5:00 p (50 Penn Place Community Room)

May 11th- Award Ceremony; 10:00 a (Aud.)

May 11th- HFAA Guitar Concert; 7:00 p (Aud.)

May 12th- Field Day Noon - 2:30 (Big Gym)

May 12th- 14th- Semester Finals (See Page 2 for full details.)

May 14th- Robing Ceremony 10:00 a & Senior Showcase; 11:00 a (Aud.)

May 14th- Last Day of School (Dismissal at noon.)

May 15th- Graduation; 7:00 p at First Christian Church (36th & Walker)

Stay connected~

www.facebook.com/hfaajokc

www.hardingfinearts.org

www.HFAATheBeat.org

HFAAFirehawks (Twitter)