



Photo by: Liam Coffey (class of '13)



Speaking of inspiration, you may have noticed a bold, new logo around campus. With the help of Preparatory parent Kenn Fine and his talented team at Fine Design Group, we have created a logo and color scheme that pushes the boundaries and assumes a prominent place in Portland's creative community. We want our students to push their own boundaries of creative and academic expression and learn to color outside the lines. In Scott Kerman's passionate essay, "The Perfect Marriage" (page 2), he captures the Northwest Academy spirit and the reason we work so hard to provide a place for each student to develop their own talents and passions.

Together and individually, our students strike out into the larger community to forge connections and create relevance to what they are learning in the classroom. Our high school students head to Ashland each fall to embrace the world of the Shakespearian Theater. On page 6, our Humanities teacher, Paul Martone, captures the excitement and bonding that took place on the streets of Ashland.

Our middle school students also had a chance to bond off-campus at the Preparatory retreat focused on team-building, community involvement, and food awareness all tied into their study of *The Grapes of Wrath*. Read more

NORTHWEST ACADEMY

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HEAD OF SCHOOL

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WORDS FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

The new school year is off to a great start with a dynamic group of faculty, students and families. After 15 years, Northwest Academy still offers one of the only programs in the city focused on a rigorous college preparatory program balanced with discipline and immersion in the arts. We are thrilled to start the new school year with 138 students -- 75 middle school and 63 high school students. Students crave exposure to the arts and a curriculum that challenges them to think, create and be inspired.

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Preparatory students at Camp Adams

Continued from front cover.

about their adventures – chickens and all – on page 7. The Exploratory students trekked north to Mt. St. Helens for a geology and team-building retreat where they went spelunking in the Lower Ape Cave and visited the fossilized “Trail of Two Forests.” Our Fundamental students will take part in Outdoor School in Spring 2012.

We also take this time to thank our generous donors in the enclosed 2010-2011 Annual Report. Without all the support from parents, staff and faculty, as well as from community members and foundations, Northwest Academy would not be able to continue offering arts and academic programs to so many talented and motivated students.

And last, we applaud the group of individuals who work tirelessly to create daily lesson plans that teach, excite and inspire. Where else do students make s’mores in science class to observe chemical changes, or delve into college-level topics and texts in their high school English and math classes? Where else are students exposed to tap dancing, art history, theatre, digital art, photography, and jazz band – some for the very first time?

We are off to a great start this year! Thank you for being part of our community and for helping us grow, create and inspire!

Mary Vinton Folberg

The Perfect Marriage

by Scott Kerman, Dean of Curriculum

One definition of a paradox is an idea that on its face seems absurd, but after closer scrutiny reveals itself to be quite reasonable, maybe even profound. Northwest Academy may seem paradoxical to those who do not know us very well; an arts school that provides diverse yet intensive training in a variety of artistic genres and mediums, and a rigorous academic institution that prepares students to succeed at high levels in high school and college.

Many might question how we can do this, believing that you can’t expect artsy kids to buckle down in academic subjects and you can’t expect college bound, studious kids to thrive in arts classes. As Head of School Mary Folberg has said, the combination of arts and academics is “organic and very human.” The premise that there are two types of students ignores the fact that students have great potential to discover and develop both their creative and intellectual interests and abilities.

Governor Kitzhaber plans to remodel the public school system after a proficiency-based model like ours. Even the vaunted AP system is coming under scrutiny as both the quantity of AP classes offered and the amount of material tested has ballooned, leaving scant time for deep inquiry.

The absence of inquiry and creativity in education are not just an American phenomenon, but also a global one. Last year, I heard John Jay, executive creative

director at Wieden+Kennedy, speak on “The Crisis of International Talent.” He explained how schools expertly develop students who can think, gather and organize information, memorize what’s supposed to be memorized, and follow directions well. These schools, he suggested, are not doing a very good job developing students who can create something innovative and imaginative with information.

Jay touted a program dealing effectively with this crisis -- STEM to STEAM at the Rhode Island School of Design. Its objective is to bring artistic sensibilities into the worlds of science, technology, engineering, and math (stemtosteam.org). As a former Northwest Academy teacher and current member of the staff, I got chills hearing about this program. It was a challenge not to shout out, “Hey, you’re talking about us! We’re doing this right here in Portland!”

By partnering rigorous academics with intensive arts instruction, we are developing thinkers who are imaginative, innovative and intellectually courageous – and who respond to questions and dilemmas with individuality and passion rather than with formulaic or simplified answers. By partnering intensive arts instruction with rigorous academics, we are developing artists who bring intellectual curiosity and depth to their work.

What we do may appear counterintuitive to those who don’t know us. But Northwest Academy puts into practice its mission and values each day. And we are successful because, to quote Mary Folberg again, “Arts and academics is the perfect marriage in nourishing and developing human potential.”

2011-2012

Events are added regularly... for complete updated information, visit www.nwacademy.org.

DECEMBER

ANNUAL FUND CAMPAIGN

December 31st is the last day to make your 2011 tax-deductible contribution to Northwest Academy.

Donate online to support the Annual Fund or Scholarship Program at www.nwacademy.org/support.html.

JANUARY

COMEDY AND IMPROV

January 5, 7 p.m.

Northwest Academy's Bluebox Theatre

FEBRUARY

CLUB CABARET

Live & Silent Auction,
Dinner and Performance featuring
puppets by Michael Curry
February 25, 5:30 p.m.

Portland Art Museum Ballroom
Tickets: \$150; Sponsorships start at \$1,500
Contact Laurel Keppy, 503-223-3367 x103
or lkeppy@nwacademy.org for tickets and
sponsorship opportunities.

MARCH

NORTHWEST ACADEMY MUSIC PROGRAM

March 7, 7 p.m.

Northwest Academy's Bluebox Theatre

HAMLET

March 13, 7 p.m.

Northwest Academy's Bluebox Theatre

APRIL

AN EVENING OF IMPROV

Northwest Academy High School Improv Group
April 26, 7 p.m.
Northwest Academy's Bluebox Theatre

MAY

NORTHWEST ACADEMY ARTS WEEK

Middle School Showcase

May 14-15

ESPRIT

May 17-18

JUNE

NORTHWEST ACADEMY GRADUATION

June 10



Katie Murphy (Northwest Academy Class '12)



Doug Cornett,

*English/
Humanities 3*

Doug has experience in teaching English and Composition at the high school and university levels. Prior to moving west in 2007, he worked in the publishing industry in New York, as both an Executive Assistant with The Penguin Group and as a Literary Scout. He is an award-winning newspaper writer, and his fiction and poetry have appeared in various literary magazines. A member of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, Doug's particular areas of academic interest include world mythology, American History and Literature, and fiction writing. He completed his B.A. in English from Skidmore College, where he was awarded the Denise Marcil Prize for Fiction, and went on to earn his M.F.A. in Creative Writing from Portland State University.



David C. Froemke,

*Calculus/Algebra
1 & 2/Advanced
Calculus*

David has eight years of experience teaching at the college level, and is excited to combine his love of teaching with his ideas about what a mathematics curriculum should look like in the 21st century. His previous positions were in the wild world of Internet start-ups as a Software Engineer (his business card said 'Metaphor Adjustor') and as an editor/writer for an educational publishing company. Outside of work he's renovating a house in St. Johns, writing a non-linear novel, disproving the Riemann Hypothesis, and making sure to carve out enough time to spend with his wife and children. He received his M.S. in Mathematics from Western Washington University and a B.S. in pre-med from Michigan State University.



Aaron Hampshire,

*Physics/Engineering/
Mathematics*

Aaron is passionate about science education, particularly engineering and computer science. He was recognized in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area for his role in developing curriculum and affecting institutional change in regards to technology in the classroom. He enjoys reading European Theology and camping when he's not building robots. Aaron received his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Washington, and his M.A. in Theology from Dallas Theological.



Emily Hein,

*Physical Science/
Introductory Spanish/
Learning Lab/Math*

Born and raised in the Midwest, Emily moved to Oregon to be a Science Educator at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI). This job, combined with a research position at OHSU on diabetes prevention in middle schools, confirmed Emily's interest in following her passion and becoming a teacher. Emily became well-versed in differentiation, backwards design, and creating a positive classroom community during graduate school at Lewis & Clark College. During her undergraduate years, Emily guided outdoor leadership programs, conducted sustainable agriculture research, and lived in the rainforest of Costa Rica. Emily loves to live, work, and play in the Pacific Northwest. She especially enjoys bike commuting, practicing yoga, climbing rocks, canoeing, reading for enjoyment and is beginning to sew and quilt. Emily received her B.A. in Biological Aspects of Conservation, Geography, and Environmental Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and her M.A. in Teaching from Lewis & Clark College.



Scott Kerman,
*Dean of Curriculum/
PNAIS Self Study
Coordinator*

Scott has worked in education for nearly 20 years, from 6th

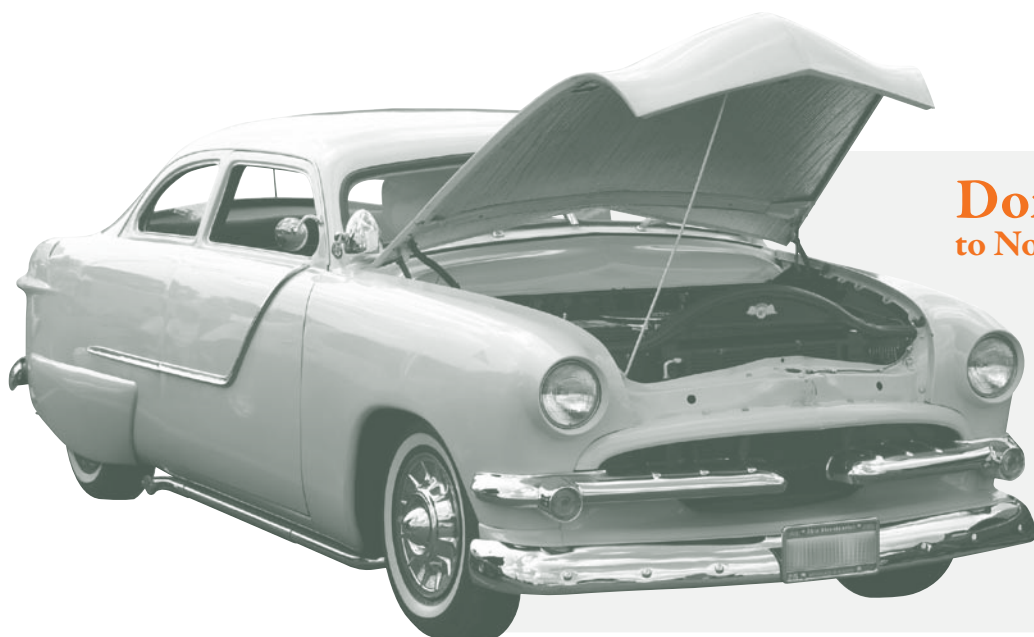
grade to college, including two years at Northwest Academy where he taught middle and high school English. Scott also brings previous independent school administration and Board of Trustees experience to his work at Northwest Academy. Recently, he served as the PNAIS Self Study Coordinator for Northwest Academy's re-accreditation project, giving Scott a detailed view of the school's program and community. As Dean of Curriculum, Scott provides curriculum oversight and supports the faculty and administrative staff in their efforts to execute and enhance the program. Scott has a B.S. in Political Science from Santa Clara University, a B.A. in English from Washington State University, an M.A. in English from Portland State University and a J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law.



Jackie Mathews,
Chemistry

Jackie has four years experience in teaching Chemistry, Integrated Science and English as a Second Language in San

Diego and Hong Kong. Growing up in Hong Kong, she is fluent in English, Cantonese, and Mandarin. After moving between Hong Kong, Australia, and San Diego, Jackie has finally found her home in Portland. When she's not cuddling with her dogs, boring her husband with Chemistry talk, and studying for the GRE, she enjoys camping, martial arts and traveling. She received a B.S. in Biochemistry & Pharmacology from the University of Sydney, Australia and a Postgraduate Diploma in Education (Chemistry & Biology) from the University of Hong Kong.



Donate your old car to Northwest Academy!

Northwest Academy can accept vehicle donations. Support the school and you also receive a tax deduction.

Please contact Laurel Keppy at 503-223-3367 ext. 103 or lkeppy@nwacademy.org for more information.

Too Much Theater? No Way!

By Paul Martone, *English Humanities 4*

October began with Northwest Academy's annual trip to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. For 13 years Northwest Academy high school students have traveled with classmates and teachers to Ashland, Oregon, to be entertained, if not edified, by one of the oldest and largest non-profit theatres in the nation.

"This trip is all about the plays," says sophomore Galatea Swart. We were strolling down South Pioneer Street toward restaurants and cafés after attending a three-and-a-half hour performance of *August: Osage County*, a darkly comedic play by Tracy Letts, the recipient of the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. The production was awe-inspiring and the dialogue rapier-sharp. The previous night we'd seen the world premiere of *Ghost Light*, and within a few hours, we would return to the Angus Bowmer Theatre for a production of Shakespeare's tragicomedy, *Measure for Measure*.

But truly the Ashland trip is about more than the theatre itself. Not every student who attends is a performer, and while most of us would travel twice as far for this one-of-a-kind experience, the students also cherish the opportunity to spend time together in an atmosphere devoid of academic pressure.

This year our high school attendees included five seniors, four juniors, ten sophomores, and three freshmen. In small groups, they locked arms and sauntered down Main Street to explore everything Ashland: bookstores, coffee houses, specialty shops, and Lithia Park.

On Saturday morning the seniors convened for breakfast at Morning Glory, a restaurant *The Oregonian* has hailed "a must stop in Shakespeare Town." They shared plates of pancakes, waffles, omelets and home fries: a communal feast.

"Could I return next year as a chaperone?" Katy Buddeke asked me. Every year, without fail, one of the seniors poses this question.

And every year new friendships take shape in Ashland. Education, amusement, camaraderie, conversation: these words best characterize our trip. "What's mine is yours, and what is yours is mine," says Duke Vincentio in *Measure for Measure*. This year's Ashland experience—three sensational plays, two cheerful days in a charming, art-infused town—is something we will remember fondly.



SAVE THE DATE FOR
CLUB CABARET
MARDI GRAS
New Orleans

PORTLAND ART MUSEUM
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2012
Starts @ 5:30pm

New Challenge Program in Math

In addition to our Challenge Program in English, Northwest Academy is excited to extend this program to our Math Department. Through our partnership with Portland State University, Northwest Academy students can now enroll in two Challenge math courses, Calculus and Vector Calculus, and upon successful completion, receive PSU credits. Calculus students will receive four credits equivalent to Calculus 1 (Math 251) for the fall term, and four credits equivalent to Calculus 2 (Math 252) for the spring term. Vector Calculus students receive four credits equivalent to Calculus 3 (Math 252).

This brings the total number of Northwest Academy classes accepted into the PSU program to four – two English and two Math. The credits received are official University credits, transferable to almost any university or college in the country. Upon successful completion of a Challenge course, a student's grade becomes part of a permanent college record, verified by an official PSU transcript. Students enrolled in these courses have their own PSU ID cards and have access to the University's library databases and campus facilities. Beginning in the fall of the 2011-12 academic year, Northwest Academy will include the cost of the Math Challenge courses in the tuition.

David Froemke, Northwest Academy math instructor, is now considered an Adjunct Instructor in the PSU Math Department. Because David holds a Masters Degree in Mathematics and has taught Calculus at PSU and PCC, the approval of Northwest Academy for the Math Challenge Program was seamless. It is our hope that every serious college-bound Northwest Academy math student will consider this wonderful opportunity.



Photo by Rachael Torchia

Preparatory Retreat Raises Awareness of Sustainable Food Issues

Northwest Academy Preparatory students recently traveled from forests to farms to food banks during a three-day retreat that focused on team-building, community involvement, and food awareness. Camp Adams, located outside Molalla, served as a base of operations for fun activities, thought-provoking discussion, wonderful food, campfire songs and dramatic readings.

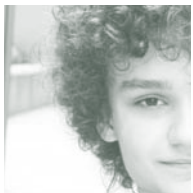


Preparatory students at Full of Life Farm

Students visited Luscher Farm where they learned about community supported agriculture, and they communed with free range chickens at Full of Life Farm in St. Paul. Parent volunteers (in addition to driving and chaperone duties) brought the theme of healthy, sustainable food back to Camp Adams. All meals were prepared by parents, locally sourced, vegetarian and gluten-free.

Students also took time during their retreat to give back to the community by volunteering at the Oregon Food Bank in Beaverton. Each student, by working together as a team, was responsible for feeding hundreds of needy individuals.

**Find out why Northwest Academy students thrive.
It's how we teach. And how they learn.**



**NORTHWEST
ACADEMY**



OPEN HOUSES

Thursdays from
10:00 am to 11:30 am

December 8, January 5,
February 9, March 8, April 12

RSVP to Lainie Ettinger,
Admissions Director
503-223-3367 ext.104
lettinger@nwacademy.org

NORTHWEST ACADEMY

An independent college preparatory
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of Portland's downtown cultural center.