



Shead National Honor Society welcomes new members

On Tuesday evening, April 5th, with an audience of family members and faculty, Shead's Passamaquoddy Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) inducted new members in a candlelight ceremony.

The program was hosted by NHS President Matthew Harris. Four NHS members each spoke on one of the four characteristics that define NHS. Drew Greenlaw spoke about leadership, Ryan Eyler about scholarship, Cierra Seeley about leadership, and Katelyn Mitchell about service. Each then lit a candle to signify the light of the four qualities.

The new members signed the NHS register, lit candles, and were presented with NHS pins, stoles, certificates, and membership cards. Principal Paul Theriault, NHS advisor Bobbie Mitchell, and faculty advisory council members Sharon Cook, Chrissy Greenlaw, Catherine Lee, and Damon Weston presented the inductees with their articles of membership. After Harris led the new members in the Oath of Membership, Theriault led the receiving line and refreshments were served.

New members inducted are seniors Dynesha Lank, Stephen Morrison, and Kendra Murray, and sopomores Mary Bartlett, Audrey Bradbury, Jakob Klentzman, Laura Lane, Ethan Lank and Hailey Lee. Continuing members are seniors Heaven Auger, Brooke Clark, historian Ryan Eyler, vice-president Drew Greenlaw, Kaylah Kilby, Taylah Kilby, treasurer Hannah Lank, Cierra Seeley, and Ian Sullivan, and juniors MacKenzie Hansen, president Matthew Harris, Katelyn Mitchell, secretary Knevia Newcomb, Holly Preston, Kaylie Robertson, and Dalton Theriault.



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Elizabeth Ostrander finishes term as master art teacher

Elizabeth Ostrander is a local artist and sculptor who works with EES and Shead students through the Eastport Arts Center's Master Artist program. Ms. Parsloe's seventh and eighth grade students interviewed Ostrander while completing an art project using plaster of paris and mason jars.

What inspired you to do art?

My father was an artist and my grandfather was an artist. There was lots of art in my home. In school we did drawing and painting, but I actually got mono at one point in my late teens and had to stay in bed for a long time. My father bought me self-hardening clay, and out of that I modeled a little harlequin. I fell in love with sculpture and clay. Because I'd been ill, my parents let me go into New York City and I went to an art studio and studied with Jose DeCreaf. That's how I found my favorite medium.

What is your favorite piece of your own art?

That keeps changing. That's a hard question to answer. Sometimes you change and you like them in different ways. Usually it's the one I've just done. Then it just recedes.

Is it hard to make a living as an artist?

Yes, it's very competitive. Commercial art has a lot of new forms of artwork that are very important but were not in my studies, like animation and computer-generated imagery. They employ tons of people. After you've seen such a film, you can see the credits for such a project. There's the rise of graphic novels and comic books that are much more sophisticated and appeal to an adult audience as well as children.

How did you end up in Maine?

I started visiting because of a friend. I was living in New York and was a hippie, part of a group of friends who moved here as part of the "back to the land" movement. We came here to build our utopia, grow our own food, and pursue our art.

What's a hippie?

Hippies came about in the reaction to a lot of conformity in the 1950's. There was a lot of regimented thinking. Everything started to become very commercial. Hippies wanted more choices in their lives. They started appreciating hand-made items in their lives. They were making their own rules for their own lives. We were asking a lot of questions that we thought needed answers. We wanted to see what we could create on our own. We wanted to create our own lives. We made handmade clothes. If they were not handmade, they were put together in different way. It had to do with being hipsters, which was from the Beats, and the whole Buddhism thing, and [the writer] Jack Kerouac, and jazz.

What made you want to work with kids?

I've taught art in this area on and off for several years. Growing up in the time of Sputnik, there was a lot of emphasis on the sciences and I felt like an odd duck. I like to let students know that there are people who enjoy art. If students are drawn to the arts and they're not finding a lot of attention given to their artwork, I bring them hope that there are other like-minded people.



Mixed Nuts compete in festival

On the weekend of March 4th, Shead's Mixed Nuts drama troupe traveled to Mount Desert Island High School to compete in the Eastern Maine Regional One-Act Competition sponsored by the Maine Principals Association.

The Mixed Nuts, under the direction of long-time coach Caryn Vinson, performed *Caution: Politricks 2016* by Alan Haehnel, a humorous look at how political ideas develop and divide people until the original point of the disagreement is lost in name-calling and judging. 15 students had roles in the play, and two others managed lights and sound.

Each troupe has 35 minutes for performance and five minutes each for putting up and striking their set. A variety of other technical requirements must also be met.

Shead placed sixth, competing mainly against Class B schools. Senior Heaven Auger was awarded All-Festival Cast honors for her role as Emily.



Jazz band scores well at festival

The Shead Jazz Band under the direction of Eastport music teacher Robert Sanchez traveled to South Portland High School to compete in the High School Jazz Instrumental Festival on March 11th and 12th. The Festival is sponsored by the Maine Music Educators Association.

Jazz combos are given ratings of 1 to 5, with 1 being "superior" and 5 being "needs improvement," in rhythm/precision, articulation, facility, tone quality, and intonation. Overall, the Shead band received a 2, "excellent," and three band members, guitarists Scotty Young and John Henry Mills and vocalist Audrey Bradbury, achieved 1's for superior performance.

Shead students shiver for charity

On Friday, March 11th, 15 Shead students joined a large group of dedicated dippers for the 2016 Polar Bear Dip, "Freezin' for a Reason," organized by the Student Senate at Washington County Community College (WCCC).

At final tally, this 16th annual WCCC Polar Bear Dip raised over \$15,000, which was evenly split between two very worthy charities, the Ronald McDonald House in Bangor and Sarah's House in Holden. Shead students raised \$1400 of the total.

Shead students freezin' for a reason included Trevor Fenderson, Michelle Cook, Tori Cushing, Michael Moores, Samantha Ritchie, Alexis Moore, Heaven Auger, DeAnna Moores, Halle Brown, Johnny Cox, Keegan Miller, Sierra Hodgdon, CJ Francis, Molly Moore, and Aaron Lank. They were accompanied by Shead JMG specialist Tara Poole.



Staff members attend MELMAC U

On March 8th through 10th, Leah McLean, Bobbie Mitchell, and Catherine Lee, and Shead's MELMAC coach Carol Wolf, attended "MELMAC University" at the Samoset Resort in Rockport, Maine. The conference, sponsored by the MELMAC Education Foundation, was an opportunity for "Connect Aspirations to a Plan" grantees to share their programs, network with other schools, and attend workshops and presentations on a variety of topics aimed at increasing post-secondary aspirations and planning for all students.

Topics for workshops attended by members of the Shead group included "Engaging Multiple Constituencies in College Access Programs," "Proficiency-Based Learning, Graduation, and the College Admissions Process," "Providing a Pathway for Students with Disabilities to Gain Essential Skills for Adult Life," "Strategies to Help Students Find Their Niche," "Making Use of Data: Accessing the College Board's New Integrated Score Reporting Portal," and "College Visits Nebraska Style," which included information on an age-appropriate approach to taking students in grades eight through twelve on aspiration-raising visits to college campuses. The Shead team was pleased at how many of the Nebraska strategies are already in place at Shead. In addition, schools had times set aside to meet with other College Access Teams in their regions.

Keynote speakers for the three days included Brian Langley, Chair of the Maine Legislature's Education Committee; Glenn Cummings, President of the University of Southern Maine; and Bill Beardsley, acting Maine Commissioner of Education.

In addition to the workshops and presentations, each school created a poster detailing its work as a MELMAC team in creating opportunities for raising aspirations and planning for life after high school. Posters were displayed at two poster sessions, with Shead's professionally-printed poster gaining accolades. After the session, Shead's framed poster was presented to MELMAC Executive Director Wendy Ault, who said she was going to display it in her office.



FAFSA night for juniors held

On Monday, March 21st, Shead held a FAFSA night for high school juniors and their parents. Sponsored by Shead's MELMAC grant, this event was an opportunity for students and parents to preview the financial aid component of the college admissions process.

The FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the primary instrument for gaining grants and loans for the college of one's choice.

Completing the FAFSA for the first time—or even subsequent times—can be daunting, so Shead provides informational sessions as well as assistance with completing the forms. Shead assistant principal and former business teacher Bobbie Mitchell is experienced in the process and will guide students and parents in getting their applications completed in a timely manner. Appointments for former and current Shead students can be made by calling 853-6254 and asking for Ms. Mitchell. Financial information is needed for completing the forms.

Students complete Accuplacers

On Friday, March 18th, a group of 15 Shead juniors and seniors traveled to the University of Maine at Machias (UMM) to take the math section of the Accuplacer test. The students traveled to UMM again on Friday, April 8th, to complete the English language arts section of the Accuplacer.

The Accuplacer suite of tests is used by all branches of the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College system to assess readiness for college courses in reading, writing, math, and computer skills. Created by the College Board, which also provides the Scholastic Aptitude Test or SAT, it is a computer-adaptive assessment, which means that the difficulty of subsequent questions is based on right or wrong answers to previous questions. Scores are based on a combination of the questions answered correctly and the degree of difficulty of those questions.

Providing these tests to college-bound students identifies those whose skills need further practice. These students can then receive tutoring through Shead's Title I program or extra support from their classroom teachers. This allows them to re-test successfully and enter college-level classes rather than paying for no-credit remedial classes when they reach college.

In addition to identifying skills deficits, another thing that students like about the Accuplacer is that it provides immediate scoring and feedback on how they did on the test. No waiting, as with the SAT.

Grant provides vocational-technical training for area middle schoolers

Thanks to Shead High School's Partnership Grant from the MELMAC Education Foundation, seventh- and eighth-graders from elementary schools in Eastport, Pembroke, and Charlotte have been making once-a-month visits to the St. Croix Regional Technical Center (SCRTC) at Calais High School in order to explore a variety of career paths. The Partnership Grant is supplementary to Shead's "Connect Aspirations to a Plan" Grant, which focuses on post-secondary planning for all the high school's students, whether two- or four-year college, the military, apprenticeship, or work force. Current research shows that the earlier conversations about future planning begin, the better the chances are that students will identify career paths that are a good fit for their interests and abilities. The Partnership Grant allows middle schoolers to experience career pathways in culinary arts, welding, automotive, carpentry, and fire-fighting, as well as attending a career fair at the University of Maine at Machias.





JMG students win big

On Tuesday, March 29th, a group of juniors and seniors from Shead's Jobs for Maine Graduates (JMG) program and their teacher, JMG specialist Tara Poole, participated in the Career Development Conference at Thomas College in Waterville, Maine. The all-day conference, which required students to forsake their casual school clothes and "dress for success," allowed students to compete in events showcasing the business skills they learned through the JMG program. Shead students brought home two first-place trophies and two second-place trophies, which are displayed proudly in the JMG classroom.

Earning first place in "Employment Interview" was senior Heaven Auger. Auger, along with senior teammates Brooke Robinson and Samantha Wilder, also captured first place in "Online Employment Application."

Receiving second place in the "Communications Challenge" were juniors Alexis Moore and James Sapiel. Second place in "Marketplace Presentation" was awarded to seniors Heaven Auger and Philip Farrell.

JMG is a statewide program that helps students achieve their fullest potential. Their mission is "to identify students who face barriers to education, and to guide each one on to a successful path toward continued education, a meaningful career, and productive adulthood." Their vision is "to be a champion for all Maine students facing barriers to education." The program understands that "Maine's future will be a reflection of what we commit and contribute to our youth."

Eastport Elementary Panther girls win district championship

Congratulations to the Eastport Elementary Panthers girls basketball team on winning the Eastern Washington County Elementary Athletic Conference Championship at the Shedd High School gym on Wednesday, April 13th. The Panthers defeated the Perry Mustangs 21-20 in a game that was close and hard-fought from start to finish. The Panther girls are coached by Dana Bowen and assistant Erin Mahar. Players include Audrey Andrews, Ryleigh Andrews, Maleeka Barnes, Katie Bartlett, Kaitlyn Beech, Lulu Calame, Autumn Cookson, Winnie French, Allison Johnston, Rebecca Johnston, Dana Mahar, Cora Sanchez, Kiesha Scott, and Halle Sullivan.



Eastport Elementary calendar

April

- 27 Grades 7&8 to St. Croix Regional Technical Center
School committee meeting, Shead library, 6:00 pm
- 28 Step-up Day for area eighth-graders
Open house, barbecue, and ice cream social for
area eighth-graders and parents
- 29 Grades 7&8 field trip: Career Fair at UMM

May

- 4 ACES (All Children Exercising Simultaneously) Day with
area elementary schools, 10:00 am
Early release for students; teacher workshop
- 18 School Committee meeting, Shead Library, 6:00 pm

The grades 5 and 8 Science MEA will be given between April 25th and May 6th.



Freshman science students show off their honors projects.



Shead students and the WCCC polar bear

Shead High calendar

April

- 26 Science Augmentation MEA testing for juniors
Baseball/softball, East Grand at Shead, 4:00 pm
- 27 Honors assembly for seniors, 9:00 am
School committee meeting, Shead library, 6:00 pm
- 28 Step-up Day for area eighth-graders
Baseball/softball at Narraguagus, 4:00 pm
Open house, barbecue, and ice cream social for
area eighth-graders and parents
- 29 Freshman field trip: Career Fair at UMM
Sophomore-Junior Prom, Shead gym, 7:00 pm
- 30 Baseball/softball at Houlton, 1:00 pm

May

- 30 Baseball/softball at Woodland, 4:00 pm
 - 4 ACES (All Children Exercising Simultaneously) Day with
area elementary schools, 10:00 am
Early release for students; teacher workshop
 - 6 Baseball/softball, Machias at Shead, 4:00 pm
 - 9 Baseball/softball at Calais, 4:00 pm
 - 10 National Honor Society/Red Cross blood drive,
11:00 am to 4:00 pm (please call 853-6254
(for appointments))
 - 11 Baseball/softball, Jonesport-Beals at Shead, 4:00 pm
 - 13 **Fourth-quarter progress reports close**
Arts Day, Eastport Arts Center
 - 16 Baseball/softball, Machias at Shead, 4:00 pm
 - 18 Baseball/softball, Narraguagus at Shead, 4:00 pm
School committee meeting, 6:00 pm
 - 19 Senior supper, 5:30 pm
JMG closing ceremony, 7:00 pm
 - 21 Baseball/softball at Houlton, 4:00 pm
 - 22-24 NACAC College Fair trip to Boston
 - 23 XQ SuperSchool third-round application due
- Tennis schedule to be announced

The View From the Hill is published monthly by the Shead High School Leadership Team.
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