Fall 2014 newsletter

HSPVA PTO NEWSLETTER



A Letter from Dr. A.

November 2014

HSPVA Families,

It seems like our kids were not out of their amazing Halloween costumes and the holiday commercials had already started on the television! Can you believe that we are already at Thanksgiving break? I hope it is a good time of reflection and rest for your family.

In traditional HSPVA fashion, things are fast, furious, and magical on campus and with our students. The Theatre Department just closed *Summer and Smoke* and the fall Dance Concert. The Black History Production, *The Wiz* is beginning rehearsals and Visual Art, Music, and Theatre all have upcoming events and activities before the winter break. Be sure to check the school website for dates, times and locations (www.hspva.org).

After a few years of observing friends being "thankful" on Face Book, I decided to spend a month reflecting on social media. Day three of my thankfulness read, "Today I am thankful for a job that is rewarding and fun. Sure there are frustrations, but to hang out with kids making magic through art, and teachers who love those kids and are passionate about education, is remarkable. Not sure how I ended up as principal of HSPVA, but today I am thankful it happened!" Truly, I have the most amazing job of any person I know. It is because of students, parents, and teachers who *are* HSPVA.

Another reason to be thankful is that construction is about to start on our new building. Don't miss our Ground Breaking on Sunday, December 14th at 2:00 pm. This short ceremony will feature special guest speakers, student performances, and a final shovel moment. The address for the new building, which will open the fall of 2017, is 790 Austin Street, 77002. I hope you will join us for this meaningful celebration as we begin a new chapter in the rich history of HSPVA.

Thanks you for the role YOU play in making HSPVA a premiere fine arts high school...and the best place in the world for a Principal to work! Happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

R. Scott Allen, Ed.D.

of Scott allen

Principal

Ground Breaking for our new building – Sun Dec 14th

Hartt School of the University of Hartford - dance auditions on Sat, Dec 6th

Off the Page – Fri Dec 5th

To order tickets for all Theater shows:

www.onstagehspva.org.

Symphony Orchestra – Thurs Dec 11th

Vocal Winter concert – Tues Dec 9th



A Word from our PTO President

Greetings HSPVA Parents!

The HSPVA PTO Board would like to welcome all of you to the 2014-2015 school year. We are off to a great start! For those of you who have already joined the PTO this year, thank you. For those who haven't, it's never too late to join! I encourage each of you to become a part of our team. The PTO works hard to help make the school year both enjoyable and exciting for our students, teachers, and parents. I inspire you to not only join the PTO, but get involved as well! One of the many volunteer opportunities is in the PTO School Store. If you are able to give about an hour and a half of your time during the day, to help serve our children in the morning, lunch or after school, we welcome your involvement. The PTO School Store is our primary fundraiser and provides significant monetary resources to support all departments at the school.

The PTO board normally meets the third Monday of every month (except December) at 6:00 PM and is open to all members. I invite you to join us and help make a positive imprint in the lives of our children. Also, this is a wonderful way to find out what is happening at our school from the PTO's perspective. Furthermore, we welcome your ideas, questions and concerns at any time. I look forward to working with all of you to make this the best 2014-15 school year ever!

With warmest regards,

Yolanda Cunningham President

PTO meetings Board Meetings At 6pm

1/26/15 2/16/15

3/30/15* 4/20/15

5/12/15 **

*General
Meeting with
speaker,7:00
** Brief meeting
to elect Board for
2015-16

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE IS ONLINE AT: <u>WWW.HSPVA.ORG</u> JUST CLICK ON THE LINK

Visual Arts

The Visual Arts Department has been so busy we haven't had the time to sit down and reflect on how lucky we are! Because of the support of HSPVA Friends and the School Store, as well as our awesome Art Guild, we have been able to invite an impressive list of guest artists to visit our classes. As many of you know, Burning Bones celebrity printmaker, Carlos Hernandez talked with students about the colorful history of screen-printing in September. And Katie Schon, Director of Design Strategy for Tellarts was our guest in October. She showed students the importance of collaboration and crossover in industry, and showed them examples of design and technology crossovers that went way beyond their experiences with animation, video and gaming. Tellarts process is called "Interaction Design," and they work on projects all over the world. One of particular interest is installed at the Walker Art Center and is sponsored by Target. It allows the audience to interact with jars of "fireflies" and as they do, "fireflies" on the top of a distant building also become activated. It is particularly beautiful in the evening. Here is a link to check out: this one for Target. They have also worked on exhibitions, like this one for Google and the Science Museum of London, and advertising stunts, like this one for BluDot. Ms. Schon inspired the students and I think they inspired her as well. She has offered to mentor and support HSPVA in anyway she can! Ideas?

We are so proud of art freshman Ilona Altman. She is this year's winner of the annual Via Colori event. Her design will be drawn in chalk at the festival, which benefits The Center for Hearing and Speech and attracts over 30,000 attendees. Hooray Ilona! Go see her drawing at City Hall, Hermann Square in Downtown Houston on November 22 and 23rd. The admission is FREE!

Mr. Glover's General Sculpture class met at the **Keen Foundry** in north Houston to cast aluminum molds. The patterns for these sculptures were prepared in the classroom at HSPVA during sculpture class. A total of 12 students made patterns (the sculpture form) using oil clay attached to a plywood board to create unique relief sculptures. At the foundry, the students were given expert instruction from foundry-man Donnie Keen. There were 4 students in attendance, including **Vinay Roy, Maggie Merrill, Nuri Craig and Robert Bellomy**, for this hands on experience. It was a unique experience for these students and they were able to run every step of the process including pattern prep, molding and casting the molten aluminum at 1200 degrees. Castings were a complete success and are currently on exhibit in our gallery. We are very grateful to Donnie Keen for hosting this event.

A really generous and exciting new partnership with the **Watercolor Arts Society, Houston** is creating opportunities for our young artists. We are so thankful to them for their outreach and invitation to events. Our students are now able to participate in workshops and lecture/demonstrations, helping them to learn about watercolor painting. The first event HSPVA participated in was a Saturday "Paint-In" led by Reva Powers. Two students from HSPVA Miyani Clark and Darion Greggs, both seniors in Visual Arts, are the first young artists from HSPVA to benefit from this partnership. Both of them thoroughly enjoyed working with and learning from members. They said that they became more confident in their skills because of the experience. Darion particularly appreciated that members reached out to him and were inclusive and generous in offering painting tips. Miyani loved the Members' Exhibit in the gallery and hopes she can attend more workshops to learn more techniques. Both said they "felt right at home."

When Eileen Montgomery, Chair of the Visual Arts Department at HSPVA, asked the students for feedback, both said simultaneously, "It was perfect! Don't change anything!" WAS-H members were so happy, they voted to extend their help in the form of more scholarships to workshops (2 each month), 2 - \$500 scholarships for summer programs and 1 - \$1000 scholarship for a graduating senior. What an amazing offer of support! Thank you WAS-H!

Mr. Waddell's Sophomore Art Criticism class and Ms. Fowler's Senior Social Practice Class collaborated with the Blaffer Art Museum recently, in conjunction with the Buildering Show. Blaffer's education director, Katherine Veneman visited HSPVA to discuss work by these professional artists. Students then took a field trip to see the exhibition at Blaffer. HSPVA students were invited to present their own proposals for ideas that involve the community and site-specific places in regards to Houston. Proposals by sophomores including: Michael Cortez, Uyen-Phuong Dong, Elizabeth Bomba-Bloom, Kimani Hogan, Arely Mancia, Cameron Chargois, Alex Sara, Aurora Calvin and Jessica DeBoe were on display during October, including Saleri Saturday. Seniors will display proposals in a few weeks.

Building on collaborative efforts in the school, the visual arts students hosted the **Dia De Los Muertos Show**. The opening celebration was festive and featured an energetic performance by the Mariachi Department, and a set of traditional folklorico dances by senior Aimee Llerena. Individual and community offrendas filled the gallery and Papel Picados, created by freshman artists welcomed the spirits of the celebration.

Upcoming events include a presentation by Inversion artists Dan Havel and Dean Ruck, a visit by Jamal Cyrus of the artist collective, Otabenga Jones & Associates fame.....stay tuned for more.

Dia De Los Muertos Show





Miyani Clark and Darion Greggs attend Saturday "Paint-In" led by Reva Powers.



Blaffer Art Museum



Vocal Department

Forty-three HSPVA vocalists were selected by audition for membership in the Region 23 Honor Choirs which had their Clinics and Concerts at Taylor High School (Katy) and Westbury Baptist Church on November 14 and 15. Twenty-three of the singers and two alternates were selected for the pre-area audition on December 2.

Six vocalists were selected for the American Choral Directors (ACDA) High School Honor Choir. Over 3300 audition uploads were submitted for four honor choirs which will perform at the National ACDA convention in Salt Lake City in February. Over 1500 auditioned for the high school choir. The HSPVA students are: Sarah Andersen, Ariel Branch, Keaton Brown, Ryne Paez, Shilpa Sadagopan and Emily Wolfe.

Senior Vocalist Tyler Resto placed first in the high school boys division of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) at the regional TEXOMA competition on November 8. Senior Shilpa Sadagopan placed fourth in the high school girls division.

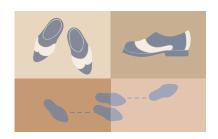
Sophomore vocalist Brooke Caballero was selected to be one of the three geniis in the Houston Grand Opera winter production of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*. Performances are in February. Sophomore vocalist Sofia Botti and freshman vocalist Olivia Manning were in the children's chorus of the Houston Grand Opera fall production of Verdi's *Otello*.

Sophomore vocalist Erayle Amacker was in the chorus of the Opera in the Heights fall production of Verdi's *Rigoletto*. Erayle also was a gold medal winner in the NAACP ACT-SO completion in May and represented Houston at the national convention in Las Vegas in July.

The Vocal Department Young Performers sang the national anthem, patriotic medleys, and the military service anthems medley for the annual Rotary Club Salute to Veterans on Thursday, November 13 at the Junior League. A highlight of the performance was the presence of veteran Colonel George McDowell who served in World War II under the command of General George Patton. The singers were able to be in a photo with Colonel McDowell.



Business Professionals of America (BPA) students hosted HSPVA's first blood drive of the year and it was a great success. BPA members signed up 66 students and teachers to donate blood, and 48 were able to complete the donation process due to strong iron levels. BPA wishes to express thanks to all, especially to the 34 that were first-time donors, including many 16-year-old students. All together, we saved 144 lives! BPA's next blood drive February 10, 2015. We expect to have the biggest turnout in PVA's history! By Courtney Ashby, Class of 2015.



Dance Department

The HSPVA Department of Dance has had a very busy Fall.

In June well-known New York choreographer Jessica Lang and members of her company were at HSPVA setting a beautiful work titled PIECE D'OCCASION, which will be featured on our Fall Dance Concert. The Concert Dancers performed the work for Society for Performing Arts on Saturday, September 20th. SPA helped make this wonderful exchange with Jessica Lang possible. HSPVA Concert Dancers were also treated to HSPVA Dance graduate Michele de la Reza and her husband Peter Kope the week before school started. Michele and Peter have a very successful dance company in Pittsburgh, PA and they set two choreographic works on the Concert Dancers, which will also be featured on our Fall Dance Concert. Nina Watt, former soloist with the Jose Limon Dance Company and presently with the Hartt School of the University of Hartford returned to HSPVA last week to rehearse the classic Jose Limon work Psalm, which will also be featured on our Fall Dance Concert.

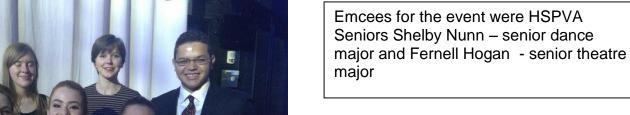
Our Fall Dance Concert was Thursday & Friday, November 20th & 21st in the Denney Theatre. Additional choreographic works featured were two new ballets by HSPVA Dance Department adjuncts Denise Smokoski Williams and Fara Scuilli Bowen. Modern dance works will be by adjuncts Courtney Jones, JoDee Engle and Mrs. Carter. Mrs. Carothers has choreographed a new jazz work and the HSPVA Jazz Septet will be featured performers accompanying that work under the direction of Mr. Warren Sneed. Our Fall Middle School Dance Workshop was on Saturday, November 22nd.

Master classes included California Institute of the Arts on Monday, November 24^{th,} two master classes by George Smallwood of the New York based Paul Taylor Dance Company, two days of master classes/auditions by Southern Methodist University Department of Dance, Texas Tech University Dance Department master class and the Hartt School of the University of Hartford will be holding dance auditions on Saturday, December 6th from 1 – 6 p.m.

DNV GL Gala at the Hobby Theatre Thursday, November 6th, 2014 featuring the HSPVA Concert Dancers, Musical Theatre majors, Creative Writing majors, Band and Instrumental majors.

Photo of the Concert Dancers: Shelby Nunn, Matthew Smith, Riley McShanog, Erin Hollaman, Adele Carlson, Deshawn Prescott, Ben Rose and Halle Purdom





Also featured were HSPVA students from Creative Writing, Instrumental and Dance Departments that performed a collaborative work titled "Sustained" written by the Senior Creative Writing students and performed by: (pictured) Emily Robison - dancer, Jessica Heflin – flautist, Erika Fawcett – dancer, Audrey Rytting – creative writing, Taylor Walters – dancer, Andre White - creative writing.

Additional opportunities this Fall have been master classes by: Iyun Harrison from Cornish College of the Arts, David Justin from the University of Texas Department of Dance, two of the New York City Rockettes taught a master class in September along with the Momix Dance Company master class in collaboration with their performance at Society for Performing Arts. Most recently the Concert Dancers performed for the DNV GL Convention at the Hobby Center.

Additional news senior dance major Kirby Townsend had a photograph published in the November issue of Dance Magazine on page 69. The photo was taken during the Dance Photography course that we offer in the Dance Department. The New York Times Arts section on Sunday, November 16th featured the Complexions Dance Company of New York with a photo of HSPVA Dance graduate Ashley Mayeaux, class of 2007.

In January the Concert Dancers will be performing at the Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center's Dance Month as part of Tapping Away on Saturday, January 31, 2015. The Concert Dancers will also be performing at the HISD Dance Montage at Lamar High School that evening as well.

Upcoming guest choreographers for the Spring semester include: HSPVA Dance graduates Vincent Sandoval & Zach Tang, as well as Dominic Walsh along with numerous Spring semester master classes.

Creative Writing

The Creative Writing Department has been busy this fall. First, fifty students and eight chaperones attended the Texas Book Festival in Austin, TX in October. The students attended many panels, including ones led by Joyce Carol Oats and Jericho Brown. Jericho Brown was so impressed with the students that he visited campus to give a short reading and Q and A the following week. In November, the department hosted its second Middle School Workshop. This day is designed and taught by upperclassmen, with underclassmen serving as group leaders. In all, 37 creative writing students hosted 180 middle school students! It was a great day. Coming up in December, the Creative Writing Department invites everyone to Off the Page, our biannual reading series. This event takes place on Friday, December 5 at 7:00 pm in the Alessandro Recital Hall. Tickets are free, but donations are always welcome. The department is gearing up for an exciting spring semester, looking forward to our first round of senior shows and graduating our inaugural class.



Theatre Department

The HSPVA theatre department has been quite busy this school year. Auditions for the fall season. Tennessee Williams' Summer and Smoke and the 3rd annual Red Studio Series, were held the first week of school. Upper-level students were asked to memorize scenes from Summer and Smoke, to bring costumes that resembled the world of the play, and make a play "pitch" to the Theatre Department faculty and guest directors Matt Hune and Dylan Godwin about why they wanted their particular work performed in the Studio Series canon. Of almost 40 shows pitched, the productions chosen were David Lindsay-Abaire's comedy *Fuddy Meers*, Nilo Cruz's Pulitzer Prize-winning drama Anna in the Tropics, and Eugene Ionesco's absurdist comedy *The Lesson*. The All School Musical production and HSPVA's entry into the 2015 Tommy Tune Awards, The Sound of Music, ran October 8 – 11 to sold-out audiences every night. The production boasted a cast and crew of almost 180 and represented all art areas. The Theatre Department's fall main stage show, Summer and Smoke, ran November 12 - 15. The production was entirely student-designed and run, and showcased a cast of 13 level three and four performance majors. Red Studio Series will run December 3 – 5 in the Black Box Theatre, followed by the Black History Production The Wiz, Theatre Department Spring main stage production *Hairspray*, and 3rd annual Gray Studio Series. To order tickets, visit www.onstagehspva.org. by Theatre Senior, **Emily Sherman**



Photosby Theatre Senior, Samuel Herrera





OUR PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE IS ONLINE AT: <u>WWW.HSPVA.ORG</u> JUST CLICK ON THE LINK

Individual Accomplishments:

The following HSPVA String players were chosen as members of the TMEA Region 23 All-Region Orchestras giving concert performances on Saturday, November 22nd at Seven Lakes High School in Katy.

- Anna Howard, violin
- Nicholas Shaefer, violin
- Samuel Molina, violin
- Olivia Kehlenbrink, violin
- Jaylon Black, violin
- Jacob Miller, viola
- Grace Howard, viola
- Cristina Micci-Barreca, viola
- Brendon Guillory, viola
- Andrew Lavelle, viola
- Nathaniel Martin, viola
- Jonathan Jalbert, viola
- Zachary Kee, viola
- Micholas Perkyns, cello
- Malcolm Gifford-Weaver, cello
- Nia Prince, cello
- Patrick Song, cello
- Phillip Shen, cello
- Andrea Escoto, cello
- Ian Donovan, double bass
- Hailey Lewis, flute
- Bethany Vaughan, trumpet
- Kennedy Cowart, trumpet
- Zachary Bergman, trumpet
- David Alexander, horn
- William Nelson, percussion
- Eric Przybyl, percussion



National Young Arts Foundation

Junior Nina Pitts (cello) was recently announced as a National Young Arts Foundation Merit Winner for 2015. There were more than 11,000 applications in all art areas, and being recognized by the National Young Arts Foundation is one of the most prestigious honors that a High School musician can receive. Nina is the daughter of Tim Pitts and Kathleen Winkler, and studies with Brinton Averil Smith, Principal Cello in the Houston Symphony Orchestra. Congratulations to Nina.

Visiting Artists

- Our string area enjoyed the expertise of Kathleen Winkler, Professor of Violin at Rice University, and Tim Pitts, Professor of Double Bass at Rice University. Both Ms. Winkler and Mr. Pitts are HSPVA parents and volunteered their time to coach our chamber ensembles earlier this semester. We appreciate their time and musical insight.
- Anton Miller and Rita Porfiris, Professors of Violin and Viola respectively, both from the Hartt School, performed a short recital for our students in November. They perform across the country as the Miller/Profiris Duo in addition to their teaching duties in New York.
- Axiom Quartet our most recent guest artist visit was a full recital performance by this Houston based quartet in residence at St. Thomas University Preparatory Music Program. Their program was wonderfully varied, featuring movements of works by Ravel, Beethoven, Philip Glass and Robert Schumann. We enjoyed immensely their energetic performance and look forward to having them back in the spring semester for a master class.

Spaghetti Supper Performance:

Our first Symphony Orchestra performance of the year was the Spaghetti Supper in October. The students performed Glinka's Ruslan and Ludmila Overture and the Copland, "Four Dance Episodes" from Rodeo. The concert was a great start to the year, and Dr. Smith anticipates a season of outstanding performances moving forward

Concerto Competition

- The SPVA Concerto Competition was held the first week of November and three students were selected for recognition.
 - 1st place Patrick Song, Senior cello
 - 2nd place Tyler Atkins, senior Saxophone
 - 3rd place Max Winningham, senior Double Bass

Each of these students will perform their concerto selection with the Symphony on upcoming concerts. Congratulations to these three students, and to all who participated.

Upcoming Events:

- String Chamber Recital December 4th, 6pm Quartet performances of Mozart, K.575 and Borodin, Quartet No. 2 Trio performance of Beethoven, Serenade Op. 8
- Symphony Orchestra December 11th, 7pm Dvorak, Slavonic Dances, Op. 46, Nos. 1, 3, 6 and 8 Koussevitzky, Double Bass Concerto (Max Winningham, double bass) Schubert, Symphony No. 8 (7), "Unfinished"



Connecting Lives, Sharing Cultures



Shiho (Dance, JAPAN) Koseki-Tan Family



Gayane (Vocal, ARMENIA)

Murray Family



Robert (Piano, GERMANY)
Linda Family

"The best thing our family ever did together was host AFS" J.L.

CHANGING THE WORLD COMES NATURALLY FOR **AFS** STUDENTS, HOST FAMILIES and SCHOOLS THANK YOU HSPVA COMMUNITY – YOU ARE THE BEST

Can Your Family Host a Student 2015-2016?

AFS is a worldwide, nonprofit organization that has been a leader in international high school student exchange for more than 65 years. Visit www.afsusa.org or email cmarsha@swbell.net.

And finally, INTRODUCING OUR NEW TEACHERS

Final Villame New Teachers by Joelyn Villame (with thanks to the HSPVA newspaper)

This past school year, HSPVA lost four of the most phenomenal teachers that have ever walked our beautiful, checkered black and white floors. Dr. A (instrumental/orchestra), Dr. Robbins (vocal), Mr. Sanders (government/economics), and Dr. Obenland (chemistry) added character to our beloved school, but now it's time to let the new kids (I mean, teachers) on the block show us what they have to offer. Knowing how creative our school is, I put Ms. Blanchette's (chemistry), Mr. Carter's (vocal), Ms. Chase's (geography), and Dr. Smith's (instrumental/orchestra) creativity to the test with a couple of interesting (and extremely important!) questions...

Favorite Book?

BLANCHETTE: Dune by Frank Herbert

CARTER: The Last Lecture by Randy Pausch **CHASE:** The Metamorphosis by Franz Kafka **SMITH:** The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis

Top Three Favorite TV shows?

BLANCHETTE: BONES, Teen Wolf, Royal Pains

CARTER: The Big Bang Theory, Frasier, CBS Sunday Morning

CHASE: BBC Sherlock Holmes, MASH, Psych **SMITH**: Castle, The Good Wife, Nashville

Hidden Talent?

BLANCHETTE: Is able to stick tongue to nose

CARTER: Writing short stories

CHASE: Junior national water polo player

SMITH: Pumpkin' Chunkin'

If you were a student at PVA, which art department would you be in?

BLANCHETTE: Visual Arts

CARTER: Vocal (With Creative Writing Major electives)

CHASE: Creative Writing SMITH: Instrumental

What are you are excited for in the upcoming school year?

BLANCHETTE: "The Sound of Music", Halloween, and Spaghetti Supper

CARTER: To experience each of our traditions for the first time so that I will better understand what it means to be a part of HSPVA.

CHASE: Student performances and the change of the freshmen at the end of the year

SMITH: Working with the symphony, a great season of music, and interacting with eager and energetic

students

Halloween costume ideas?

BLANCHETTE: Going to ask classes, Plan B) Superhero

CARTER: "I'm not going to let the black cat out of the bag on this one..."

CHASE: Boudica, British Celtic Warrior Queen

SMITH: Unsure, Plan B) Conductor

One word that describes you?

BLANCHETTE: Fun CARTER: Storyteller CHASE: Interesting

SMITH: Caring (Awwwwww)

What song you would be embarrassed to have people know you listen to?

BLANCHETTE: "Wrecking Ball" by Miley Cyrus

CARTER: "Shake It Off" by Taylor Swift **CHASE:** "Toxic" by Britney Spears

SMITH: "Let It Go" by Idina Menzel

If you were a vegetable, which would you be and who would you want to be eaten by?

BLANCHETTE: Potato, Hugh Jackman **CARTER**: Black-eyed Pea, Fergie **CHASE**: Broccoli, George H. W. Bush **SMITH**: Red Pepper, Willie Nelson

Gandalf or Dumbledore?

BLANCHETTE: Gandalf **CARTER**: Dumbledore

CHASE: Gandalf SMITH: Gandalf

If you were a sea mammal, which would you be?

BLANCHETTE: Whale CARTER: Porpoise CHASE: Manatee SMITH: Whale

Coffee order at Starbucks?

BLANCHETTE: Mocha Frappuccino **CARTER**: Venti Mocha, Light Whip **CHASE**: White Chocolate Mocha

SMITH: Philly order - Grande Light Roast; Texas order - Grande Mocha Frappuccino with Whip

If you could have one super power, what would it be?

BLANCHETTE: To touch things and make them turn into glitter CARTER: To slow down time and savor every moment of life

CHASE: To have omniscience, knowing everything

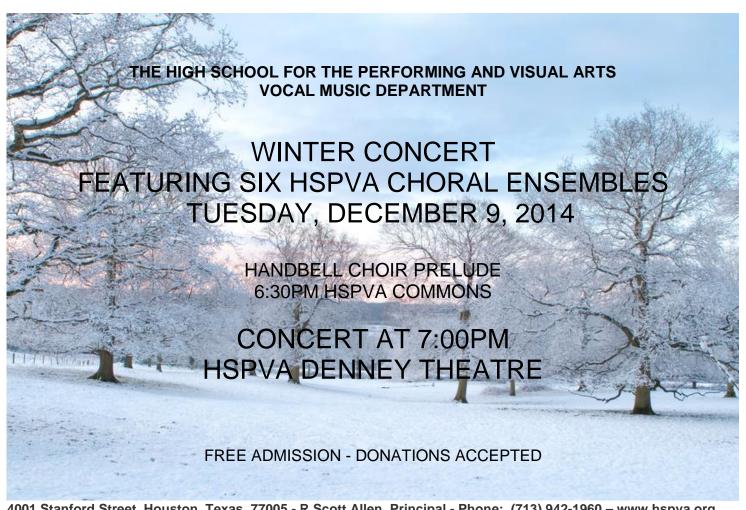
SMITH: To stretch my limbs or body to superhuman lengths

If you were a rapper, what would your rapper name be?

BLANCHETTE: Queen MAB

CARTER: SKCittles CHASE: LL Cool Red **SMITH:** Dr. Budder

Welcome them, HSPVA! They do not bite (or at least they didn't when I interviewed them)! Don't know what "Pumpkin' Chunkin' is? Curious about their vegetable choices? Eager to actually see Ms. Blanchette touch her tongue to her nose? Want to hear them spit a line or two (or is that just me)? Grab them a drink at Starbucks and get to know them more. (Also, grab one for Ms. Diaz while you're there.) Our school could not function without our devoted teachers and their coffee. Show them some love, PVA!



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