

MILL SPRINGS ACADEMY Matters



FALL 2017



Alumnus Billy Moultrie (center) along with James Sampson (L) and Headmaster, Robert Moore (R).

Alumni News

Emily Elkind (2009) | Congratulations to Emily who recently finished her Masters in Library Science at University of Kentucky.

Billy Moultrie (1987) | Billy recently stopped by the campus for a visit. It turns out he works for Choate Construction, who managed the Lower/Middle School building project. He fondly reminisced with Robert about the old campus in Sandy Springs. Great seeing you Billy!

Elizabeth Richardson-Quist (1985) | Elizabeth has enjoyed an 18-year career in teaching Regular Ed and Inclusion in the public-school system. She wrote to us in the spring saying, "Tweetie Lewis Moore changed my life!!! In 1983 I was attending public high school but I knew I was not learning." Elizabeth's mother, who was also a teacher, knew Tweetie through working with her to get LD programs and awareness into the public-school system. "My mother contacted Tweetie and the next year I attended the New School," said Elizabeth. "The teachers she had on staff were incredible! They taught me the best coping skills and helped me to become a straight A student." After I had my son I went back to Mercer University and earned a second undergrad and master's degree in Early Childhood Education, focusing on teaching reading and LD." She is currently a member of Phi Kappa Phi, an invitation only honor society established in 1897. Phi Kappa Phi honors "students with integrity and high ethical standards and who are ranked scholastically in the top of their class, regardless of field of study: the top 7.5 percent of second-semester university juniors and the top 10 percent of seniors and graduate students."



Elizabeth Quist

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Michael Palmer (2012) | Michael graduated in the spring of 2017 from Georgia Southern University with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science. He will be continuing his education at Georgia Tech in their Masters of Computer Science program. Way to go!!

Gregory McKenna (2009) | Gregory recently graduated from Georgia State with a master's degree in education. He plans to teach history and is particularly interested in Russian history.

Paul Jarvis (2013) | What a treat it was to see Paul who stopped by the Founder's Day program in October. He's doing great and on track to graduate next May from the University of the Ozarks with a degree in Social Work.

Allison Ashlock (2011) | Congratulations to Allison who recently graduated from Georgia Tech.



Sam Lynch runs in his first Cross Country meet for Belmont College.

Sam Lynch (2017)

| Sam is currently a Freshman at Belmont College in North Carolina and represents his new school on their Cross Country team. In early September, Sam competed in his first race finishing 19th overall but first for his new team. Please stay in touch Sam. We look forward to hearing more about your college experiences in the near future.



Paul Jarvis (L) and MSA Band Instructor, Elizabeth Regas, enjoyed catching up at Founder's Day.

Andrew Carson (2008)

| Drew recently checked in with us on Facebook where he wrote, "Nearly 10 years since I graduated from MSA and I use the techniques and strategies I learned there every day...as a University professor, I have taken Tweetie's principal of, 'if you don't learn the way we teach, we will teach the way you learn,' with me into my work in higher ed." After graduating Magna Cum Laude from Savannah College of Art and Design with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Production Design, Drew held a position as graduate teaching assistant at the University of Texas in Austin where he earned a Master of Fine Arts degree in theatrical design – lighting design in 2016. Upon graduation, Drew was appointed Assistant Professor of Lighting Design at Shenandoah Conservatory in Northern Virginia.



Drew Carson as pictured on the Shenandoah University website.

Caroline Berman (2016) | Caroline is currently taking classes at Kennesaw State University and is busy writing her first novel, a young adult fiction titled "Flight". After completing an internship, she was offered a paid position with Kennesaw State's Writing Center, and was recently recognized with a Mentorship Award from



Caroline Berman (center) receives her award with WellStar College of Health and Human Services Dean Mark Tillman (left), center coordinator Milya Maxfield, GVRA Executive Director Sean Casey (second from right) and Ibrahim Elsayw (right).

the university alongside center coordinator, Milya Maxfield. In her work, Caroline maintains the center's social media promotions. She creates weekly postings for The Write Place, a creative writing club that meets Tuesday evenings where she receives feedback on her writing.



Lauren Worley (nee Crowley) and her husband, Mike, in a family portrait with their children, Austen and Bridger.

Lauren Crowley-Worley (2006)

| Lauren and her husband Mike live in Knoxville, TN and have two beautiful children - a 2-year-old daughter, Austen, and a son, Bridger who was just born in the spring of 2017. And before you start thinking about how busy (and exhausted) she must be from having two children within two years, you should know that she also completed her bachelor's degree in May, 2017 from the University of Tennessee (UT) from their college of social work. "I became attached to social work after volunteering in South Africa with children who needed adult advocates," she said. Lauren plans to pursue a Master of Science degree in Social Work from UT and wants to eventually earn her licensure as a clinical social worker for practice in crisis care with adults and families.

Scott Collins (2017) | Best wishes to Scott as he began his college career this fall at Reinhardt University. We look forward to hearing more from you and how things are going at RU.



Scott (second from right) is pictured here with his family in August.

Sam Sigman (2015)

| Sam attends Georgia State University where he is majoring in Philosophy. He made the Dean's List for the summer, 2017 semester. To be eligible for the Dean's List during the summer semester, degree-seeking students with a minimum Georgia State cumulative GPA of 2.00 must earn a 3.50 GPA for the semester

and complete at least 6 semester hours of academic credit with no incompletes.

Sophia Davis (2016) | Sophia is a foreign language major at Georgia State University and also made the summer Dean's List. Congratulations!

Emily Mather (1989) | Emily attends UGA where she is majoring in Health Sciences. She was named to the President's List for both the 2017 spring and summer semesters. To be eligible for the President's List during the summer semester, students must earn a 4.0 GPA for the semester and complete at least 6 semester hours of academic credit with no incompletes.

Megan Young (2008) | Megan also attends UGA and was named to the President's List during the summer semester.

Adam Bramski (2010) | Adam recently graduated from UGA in the spring of 2017 with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology.

Yakov Drukman (2012) | Yakov is currently working toward a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice at UGA and was named to the President's List for the spring 2017 semester. He is also working at Hurley Roberts Service Company as a Shipping and Customer Service Manager.

Andrea Carlos (2014) | Andrea has been accepted into a study abroad program with Beacon College in Tuscany. She will travel to Italy for her Spring 2018 semester.

Rachel Fisher (2017) | Rachel checked in with our Fine Arts department and is settling in well at Savannah College of Art and Design. She said, "I'm unbelievably happy also working non-stop!"



Eli Musgrave holds his model of the island from the novel, "Lord of the Flies" by William Golding.

A Fabulous British Literature Project

Tracy Schutz's 11th grade British Literature class recently finished reviewing *The Lord of the Flies*. "Students were given several choices for the culminating project," said Tracy. "Everyone worked hard and showed tremendous effort. For example, Eli Musgrave did an amazing job recreating the entire island from the novel." Upper students were given the opportunity to visit Tracy's classroom and view all the projects on display. 📖

National Art Honor Society

Congratulations to all the student artists who were inducted into MSA's chapter of the National Art Honor Society. The national group began in 1978 as a way to inspire and recognize high school students with an outstanding ability and interest in the visual arts. Our MSA chapter was started this year to give our art students more opportunity to create art, collaborate with each other, explore art in our city, and prepare for possible careers in the field. 🎨

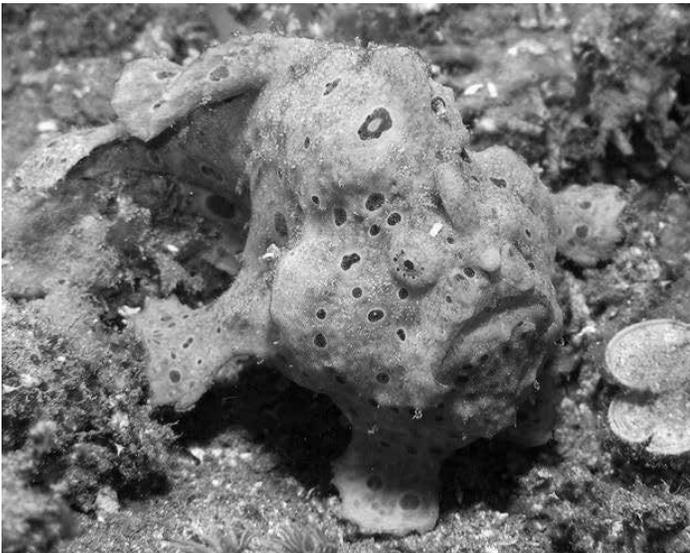
2017 INDUCTEES

Nic Allen (10)
Sophie Bonds (12)
Jin Butler (11)
Elena Cardozo (11)
Cameron Carr (10)
Grace Gersack (10)
Maddie Hahn (11)
Shevy Hightower (11)
Drew Horton (9)
Ella Jensen (9)

Emily Kane (11)
Amy Lamp'l (11)
Griffin Middleton (9)
Addison Monette (11)
Paige Norris (12)
Steffi Schneider (11)
Ethan Turnquist (10)
Reese Urban (9)
Emily Van Aken (11)
Max Woods (11)



The 2017 inductees into MSA's chapter of the National Arts Honors Society (see alpha list for all members).



The longlure frogfish, one of MSA's newest additions to our Coral Lab program, is reported to be the fastest animal alive and can move and suck in prey at speeds as quickly as 0.006 seconds.

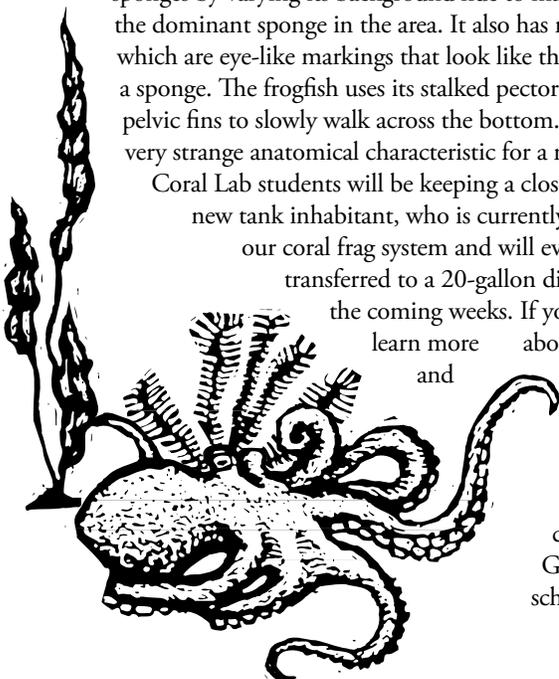
The Ocean's Awesome!

If you keep up with any of MSA's weekly or print news sources, you've undoubtedly read about the Coral Lab in our PreUpper School. This hands-on Marine Biology program, which is centered around the study of coral reef ecosystems and oceanic awareness, recently lost several of its long-term aquatic inhabitants due to the power outages experienced during Hurricane Irma. However, thanks to tremendous support from our families, we were able to raise enough money to replace our lost livestock and are now the caretakers of several intriguing new specimens.

"One of the animals is quite a rarity," said PreUpper Science Teacher, Michael Griffith. "It's a Frogfish, or *Antennarius multio-cellatus*. In the wild, this bizarre reef dweller mimics surrounding sponges by varying its background hue to match that of the dominant sponge in the area. It also has multiple ocelli, which are eye-like markings that look like the openings in a sponge. The frogfish uses its stalked pectoral fins and its pelvic fins to slowly walk across the bottom. These fins are a very strange anatomical characteristic for a reef fish."

Coral Lab students will be keeping a close eye on their new tank inhabitant, who is currently residing in our coral frag system and will eventually be transferred to a 20-gallon display tank in the coming weeks. If you would like to

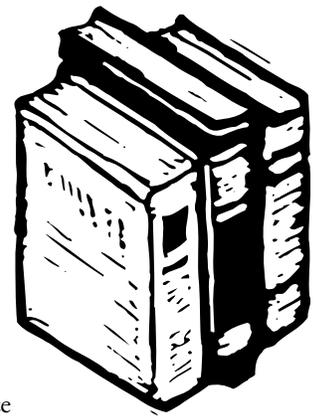
learn more about this unusual and fascinating animal, or about MSA's Coral Lab program, please contact Michael Griffith (MG) to schedule a tour. 📧



Lower School students sit on some of the new library chairs.

Library Gets Makeover

A huge thank you to Mill Springs' PVA for supporting the library with new furniture! All of the furniture was in place by late August and the students love it. "The tables and chairs have made the space more flexible and accommodating for classes that want to utilize the library," said Librarian Brittany Emge. "The comfy "Big Joe" chairs have created a cozy space to browse and read, and the wobble cushions are great additions to our seating. I also want to thank Jay Hudson and his 6th period Biology class for helping me put together a lot of the new furniture. The new tables and wobble cushions were assembled in record time, and they even handled my overflowing recycling bin. Our MSA family rocks!" 📧



2017-2018 MILK Staff

This year's MILK (Mustangs, Issues, Lifestyle, and Knowledge) staff led by Advisor Shilpee Kathuria, includes Upper students Casey Purser, Connor Samsky, Noah Terpstra, Jack Abram, and contributing writers Emily Kane and Matthew Dalluge. This energetic and inquisitive group aims to create a series of student publications that is entertaining, informative, and relevant to MSA's student population. To check out what's going on at MSA from the perspective of our students, log onto the school's website at millsprings.org/news and click on the link for "Student Led Publications" in the sidebar. Happy reading! 📧

Solar Eclipse 2017

On August 21, the majority of MSA's students, staff, and faculty joined millions nationwide in seeing one of the most awe-inspiring sights known to man — an eclipse of the sun. The last time the contiguous U.S. saw a total eclipse was in 1979. And while the students and staff who were on MSA's campus did not see a total eclipse, a subset of students and teachers from the Communication Arts department ventured up to Dillard, GA where they were able to experience totality. The group braved the long bus ride to and from the north Georgia mountains where they joined a large group who were viewing the event at the Rabun



Lower School student, Aidan Burris (left), observes the phases of the eclipse with his mom (center) and sister (right) here at MSA.

Gap-Nacoochee School. But regardless of where students viewed the eclipse, the entire event served as a catalyst for some very valuable learning. "Students were really intrigued with studying the eclipse and why it happens," said CommArts Principal, Chelsea Michelson. A great big thanks to PreUpper Science teacher, Martha Muir, for procuring hundreds of eclipse glasses so everyone could safely enjoy the phenomenon. 📷



The PVA Amphitheater proved to be a great spot from which to see the eclipse as many gathered there to view the event.



Middle School students, Tom Lueder and Evan Khoo (L to R), learn the difference between a total solar eclipse and a partial solar eclipse by making a model in science class. They used an orange standing on a toilet paper roll as the Earth, a cherry tomato on a toothpick held up by clay as the moon, and a flashlight as the sun.



Upper teacher, Brad Smallwood, was very thankful when Senior CJ Espinosa presented his "favorite teacher" creation.

Special Gifts for Favorite Teachers

Ever had a favorite teacher? Ever wish you had told that teacher he/she was your favorite? Ever wish you had created a special gift for him/her? Well the students in Janet Ford and Jamie Fambrough's Creativity Class did! The project was designed to allow the students to choose a favorite teacher and reflect on what characteristics the students appreciated most. The teachers were photographed and told that the reason for the photographs would be revealed later in the semester. The students used the photographs for visual reference as they created small, clay busts of the teachers. Then they created 'environments' for the clay sculptures using various materials in the art studio. The 'environments' were to reflect the teachers' likes and positive characteristics. The students then presented each favorite teacher with the art work and reasons for choosing them. 📷



A close-up of CJ Espinosa's sculpture of teacher, Brad Smallwood, and his take on Brad's 'environment'.



Lower School student, *Oliver Healey*, holds *Chipper* — one of the chicks that was incubated as part of his class's "life cycle" unit.



Evan Eisenstat (L) and Jackson Wallace (R) identify the different parts of an egg.

Life Cycles

This fall, 4th graders in Jodi's science class learned about the life cycles of different animals, which included incubating and hatching live chickens from eggs. Students began by observing and labeling the yolk and germinal disk of the chicken egg. Then over a 21-day incubation period, the class candled the eggs to look for growth. Candling is a method used in embryology to study the growth and development of an embryo inside an egg. The method uses a bright light source behind the egg to show details through the shell, and is so called because the original sources of light used were candles. 🐣



A collage of photos showing how the MSA community celebrated Creativity Week.

Creativity Week 2017

Creativity is expressed in many forms here at MSA — from the creative problem solvers to the inventive thinkers. Albert Einstein said it best, "Creativity is intelligence having fun." And FUN is what we had last week during our Mill Springs Academy Annual Creativity Week. All students and staff participated in various creative endeavors including but not limited to decorating rocks and streamers with positive images and notes to display on campus; creating original hats; playing an instrument in a music circle; and performing in a Shakespearean stage reading of *Star Wars*. 🎨



Duncan Bear's mobile based on the book "Because of Winn-Dixie," a story about a dog who changes the dynamics in a family.



Olivia Wallace showing the wardrobe she created from Narnia.

Making Books Come Alive

Middle School students in Gretchen Beck's Language Arts class completed some very impressive projects based upon a book they chose to read. After learning about the concept of narrative arcs, which is the chronological construction of plot in a novel or story, each student wrote a paper summarizing the book's exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution. "For my book, I chose *House of Robots: Robots Go Wild*, the second book in the popular series called *House of Robots*," said 5th grader, Ward Sutlive. "The third part of the project was the most fun. I got to act like I was a news reporter at the local playground, reporting on a scene in the book where the robot was throwing eggs at everyone. I was videotaped while I reported! When I presented it in class, my friends said that they highly suggest that I become a reporter. I was very expressive on the video and I used my drama experience. I ended the video saying 'Back to you, Mrs. Beck!' Everyone thought it was really funny." All students were afforded the room to be as fun and creative as they wanted with their presentations, with other projects including things like making pizzas and cakes, to constructing 3D models and shadow boxes. 📺



Students in MSA's Chinese program enriched their learning by visiting the country over the summer. Pictured left to right: Jake Martin, Matthew Dalluge, Peter Capponi, Eli Musgrave, and Ethan Turnquist stand in front of the Nan Pu Tuo Temple — a famous Buddhist temple founded in the Tang Dynasty (618–907 AD).

Chinese Program Continues to Grow

After completing a second successful trip to China last Summer, MSA students in Chinese 1, 2, 3, and 4 are off to a great start. “The program is bigger than ever,” said Chinese Instructor, Chas MacNeill. “This year we have over 15 new students in Chinese 1 alone.” Students in Chinese 1 concentrate on pronunciation as well as learning how to recognize basic Chinese characters, while those in Chinese 2 begin building a strong foundation in the language.

“I’m also happy to announce that last year, nine students passed the HSK, the Chinese National test.” The Chinese Proficiency Test (HSK) is China’s national standardized test designed and developed by the HSK Center of Beijing Language and Culture University to assess the Chinese language proficiency of non-native speakers (including foreigners, overseas Chinese and students from Chinese national minorities). HSK is divided into three categories: beginning level (HSK Basic), elementary to intermediate level (HSK Elementary-Intermediate), and advanced level (HSK Advanced). “Chinese 3 students are starting on the road to taking the first HSK exam later this year,” added Chas. “And our Chinese 4 students are off the charts. These kids are really talented. They are learning complex Chinese and getting ready to take the second level of the HSK.”

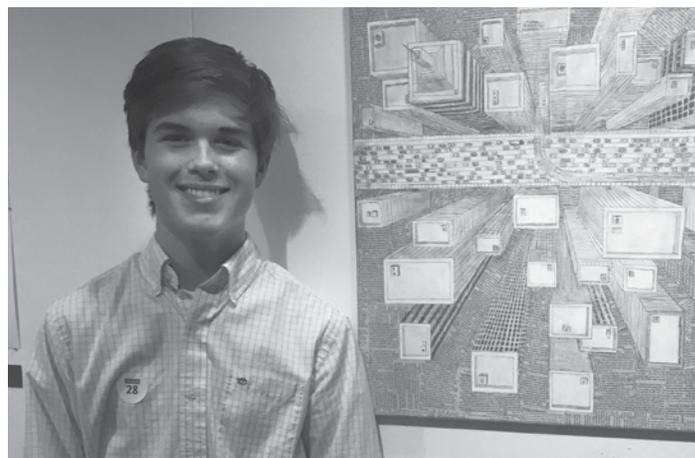


MSA College Fair, 2017

MSA Hosts College Day Fair

Mill Springs hosted a College Day Fair in early November, which was put on by MSA’s Counseling Department. In addition to MSA students, the event was also open to other schools in the area. “Students and their parents were able to meet with representatives from over 35 colleges from Georgia and states near and far, including but not limited to Texas A&M, Jacksonville State, and Auburn,” said MSA Counselor, Susan Day. The event offered a great opportunity for high school students to speak directly with admissions counselors about academic programs, admissions criteria, as well as financial aid and scholarship opportunities.

millsprings.org

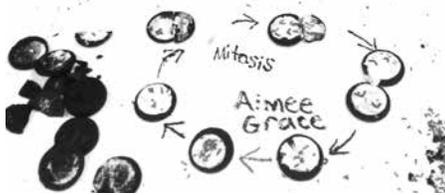


Griffin Middleton proudly stands next to his artwork, “Rush Hour”, which displayed at the High Museum this past summer.

Student Art Displayed at the High Museum

Upper School Freshman, Griffin Middleton’s artwork, “Rush Hour” was selected by the Teen Team at the High Museum for their exhibit, The Factory, which was on display through August 13th. The Factory is a take-off of Andy Warhol’s Factory back in the day. They had over 150 submissions from Georgia high school students and selected approximately 25 artists. Griffin was especially honored to be selected, as he was one of the youngest student artists to be a part of the exhibit.

Mill Springs Academy Matters 7



Freshman Aimee Grace Murray looks like she had a great time learning about cells and how they divide.

Splitting Cells

Upper School biology teacher, Keith Muma, used a sweet and creative way to teach the anatomy of a cell as well as the stages of mitosis (cell division). Keith began the lesson by teaching students the acronym, PMAT, which stands for the steps involved in mitosis – prophase, metaphase, anaphase, and telophase. Each student was then given several Oreos with which to construct models of the cell during each phase. “The Oreos were used as the cell and sprinkles were used in constructing chromosomes,” said Keith. “Afterwards, milk was supplied and every cell eaten.” Yummy! 🍪



Todd and Jack Hecker created blind contour drawings during Creativity Class.

Mini Day

On September 15th, parents of students in PreUpper, Communication Arts and Upper flooded the Mill Springs campus to spend the day with their child and their community. Parents followed their child’s schedule; attended their classes; learned about point sheets; and had an opportunity to meet and experience their child’s teachers and classmates first-hand.

“In the Fine Arts department, parents were also able to stand in their students’ creative shoes,” said Fine Arts Director, Janet Ford. “We prepared several activities such as teaching parents a couple of painting techniques and got them involved in singing exercises in chorus, and incorporated the use of puppets in band class.” The event ended with families congregating at outdoor tables to enjoy the beautiful sunny day while eating lunch. 🍪



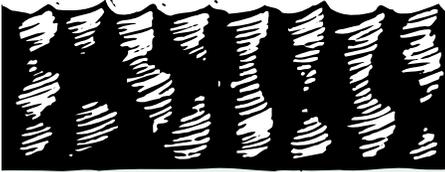
Collins Losson led parents and students in warm ups during an Advance Performing Arts Class on Mini Day.



Student Costume Design Wins 1st Place at Dragon Con

Congratulations to senior Paige Norris who won Best Original Character at the Masquerade Costume Contest at Dragon Con on Labor Day weekend. The character’s name is Kyoto, like the Japanese city, and is of the species Avali. The judges were very impressed with the craftsmanship of the costume, which was made of all inset pieces, as well as the fact that she stayed in character throughout the entire contest. Judges were professionals in the industry, including Disney Pixar. Dragon Con is an annual Sci-Fi (SF) and Fantasy convention held in Atlanta over Labor Day Weekend. Dragon Con started in 1987 as an outgrowth of a local SF and gaming group, the Dragon Alliance of Gamers and Role-Players. Growing in size from the 1,400 people attending the inaugural 1987 event to over 46,000 at recent events, Dragon Con has a long history of being the greatest Sci-Fi and Fantasy convention. 🍪

Paige Norris’s winning costume design, Kyoto.



MSA Staff Trained in Suicide Prevention

The entire MSA staff recently completed training in a suicide deterrence tool called QPR. QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer — the 3 simple steps anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide. Everyone learned how to interview potentially suicidal persons, determine immediate risk of suicide, and help reduce the risk of a suicide attempt or completion through a safety planning and referral process. “Ask a question, persuade that person to seek help (go with them if you have to), and refer them to a competent professional who can help them,” said MSA Counselor, Angela Davis in describing the program further. Just as people trained in CPR and the Heimlich Maneuver help save thousands of lives each year, people trained in QPR learn how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to question, persuade, and refer someone to help. 📌



The members of MSA’s Tri-M chapter (L to R): Emma Harris, Band Instructors Eva Lewis and Elizabeth Regas, Matthew Cowart, Garrett Cutchin, Bryce Zimmerman, Jack Hurtsellers, Collins Losson, Kiyah Sherman, Andrew Jones, and Fine Arts Instructor, Kate McElliott. Not pictured, Drew Maichle.

Tri-M Inducts New Members

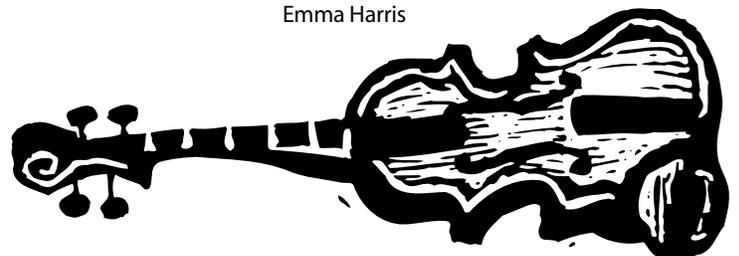
This fall, MSA inducted seven new student musicians into its Tri-M chapter. Tri-M is a high school and middle school music honor society and is a program of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME). It is designed to recognize students for their academic and musical achievements and to provide leadership and service opportunities to young musicians. 📌

2017/2018 NEW INDUCTEES

Garrett Cutchin
Jack Hurtsellers
Andrew Jones
Collins Losson
Drew Maichle
Kiyah Sherman
Bryce Zimmerman

CURRENT MEMBERS

Matthew Cowart
Emma Harris



Trey Stormont (L) and Lexi Murphree (R) were determined to win the BINGO prize.

Learning Phonics by Playing BINGO

MSA’s teachers are always incorporating fun and interesting ways to help students learn various concepts. For example, in the Lower School Carolyn Shapiro used the game of BINGO to help teach her 4th graders prefixes and suffixes in phonics. “In learning about prefixes and suffixes, we discussed how they completely change the meaning of a word, said Carolyn. Then the whole class played a game of BINGO, where students had to figure out the meaning of each word with a prefix or suffix attached.” When you can have fun learning, that is the best sponge for hanging onto the information. 📌



The large crowd enjoyed the beautiful weather along with a free lunch of Chick-fil-A.

Founder's Day 2017

This fall's Founder's Day celebration was another huge success! Over 300 people came out to the annual event which honors Mill Springs' Founder, Tweetie L. Moore. This year's program was kicked-off with an invocation from Junior, Cole Reed; followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and MSA's chorus singing the Star Spangled Banner. Several alumni were also in attendance including but not limited to Amy Spiller (1990), Maritza Silva (2015), Paul Jarvis (2013), and Sam Lynch (2017). Everyone enjoyed the beautiful sunny day, yummy Chick-fil-A lunch, and games and bouncies for the kids. The program concluded with a benediction by Senior, Casey Purser. 📷



A group of Middle School students lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance on Founder's Day.



Students enjoy a friendly game of laser tag.



MSA's Grandparents' Day program draws another record crowd with over 250 in attendance.

Grandparents' Day 2017

Each November, hundreds of grandparents descend on MSA's campus for a special Grandparents' Day program. This year was no exception with over 250 grandparents in attendance. The special event started at 9:00 a.m. with a delicious, catered, hot breakfast that grandparents enjoyed as they took in a full program of student performances including MSA's chorus, concert and symphonic bands, the cast of this year's Junior Theater Festival, as well as a number by Lower School students. Grandparents particularly enjoyed a testimonial given by Senior Casey Purser, who shared with the entire crowd how MSA has changed his life. Another highlight of the program that morning was a special display of student artwork which was used as centerpieces on the tables.

Headmaster, Robert Moore, addressed the group about MSA's new Lower/Middle School building which was completed in the spring of 2016. He encouraged them all to visit the new building and stop by the special display there which specifically honors all grandparents who make a gift to our Annual Fund. After the program, grandparents were transported via golf carts to join students in their classroom buildings for additional programs and displays of student work and art. Two photo stations were also set up on campus where students could take a professional photo with their grandparent as a special keepsake. 📷



This is what love looks like! A full trailer as well as two pick-up loads of supplies were gathered in support of the people of Puerto Rico.



Pitching in for Puerto Rico

In the aftermath of natural disasters, many people want to help by making donations to aid those directly affected. Such was the case after the recent hurricanes that ravaged the island of Puerto Rico. Mill Springs has a family connected to the island that made an emergency appeal for much-needed supplies. Late on a Tuesday afternoon, a simple email was circulated to let everyone know we would be gathering and sending items to Puerto Rico by that Friday. Despite the short time frame, supplies came pouring in. Moms, dads, kids, neighbors, and staff brought in bags of food (people and dog), diapers, tents, sleeping bags, deodorant, water, underwear, etc. Some came with a grocery bag full, some came with trash bags full, some came with a car packed full, front to back. Although MSA is a small community compared to other schools, we often accomplish very big things. The outpouring was very heartfelt and heartwarming. 🙏

One-Act Play

Congratulations to this year's drama students who participated in the One-Act Play regional competition at Oxford College of Emory. Over 150 students competed this year with MSA performing "Art", by Yasmina Reza. The comedy, which raises questions about art and friendship, concerns three long-time friends, Serge, Marc, and Yvan. Serge, indulging his penchant for modern art, buys a large, expensive, completely white painting. Marc is horrified, and their relationship suffers considerable strain as a result of their differing opinions about what constitutes "art". Yvan, caught in the middle of the conflict, tries to please and mollify both of them. The entire team did a fabulous job, with 10th grader, Cameron Carr winning the "Best Performance" award. 🙏



Cameron Carr holds his "Best Performance" plaque, which is one of only five acting awards given out for the whole competition.

SPORTS

Cross Country | JV

The 2017 Cross Country Season was record breaking for Mill Springs Academy and our JV Cross Country Team contributed in a big way. The ten boys that comprised our team made each and every practice interesting, exciting, and always filled with laughter. They participated in three meets, coming in second place as a team on their first of two home meets! They worked hard on their long run days and fought through the muscle cramps on their core workout and sprint days - each improving their times substantially from the beginning of the season. It was heartwarming to see faces of defeat turn into smiles of achievement after each and every meet. Their hard work was paying off, and they could see the results! One of the results of this dedication and raw natural talent came in the form of Aiden Weaver, a newcomer to the Mill Springs team this year, who is now the current record holder for our school's 3200 meter and 2 mile! It was a fantastic season with a wonderful set of athletes. We look forward to seeing what they can accomplish next season.



MSA's 2017 Cross Country Team pictured after the AAC championship meet. Bottom from left: Tyler Goodwyn wearing his 2nd place medal for the boy's race, Jack Sheridan, Grace Gersack wearing her 1st place medal from the girl's race, Anthony Papisidero, and Robert Papisidero. Top from left: Jody Cleveland, Max Woods, Griffin Middleton, Zach Smith, Nick Kiely, Drew Maichle, and Mat Campbell.

Cross-Country | Varsity

The Cross-Country team ended the season with a 2nd place AAC Championship and some amazing performances and personal records by the entire team. We had a lot of new athletes on the team this year, many who had never done any running before, but were running a full 5k by the end of the season! "It was absolutely amazing to be able to coach this team and watch them gain endurance, speed and confidence," said Coach Angela White. "Coach Astrid and I were also truly blessed with some absolutely amazing parent volunteers who helped our home meets run smoothly and supported our runners both at home and away meets! We are looking forward to next season where we can continue to work with these young athletes and grow as a team."



Ethan Stroup makes another key defensive stop in the AAC.

Soccer | Varsity

Congratulations to the 2017 Varsity Soccer team for capturing their 5th straight AAC regular season championship, ending the season with a 5-3-1 record. "Each season has a personality and life of its own," said Coach Phil Hanson. "After stumbling out of the gate, we are very proud of how this team regrouped and got back in the mix." Offensively, the Mustangs were paced by Jocobi Garrett's 19 goals, Yates Smith's 11 goals, and Brendan Nemes's 5 goals. With the return of their top offensive scoring line, a solid core of young players, and the best goalie in the AAC, the Mustangs will be saddled up and ready to go in 2018.

Soccer | Middle School

MSA's Middle School Soccer Season was filled with triumphs as well as growth experiences. Coaches Greg Bodeep and Brad Smallwood are very proud of all the improvements made by the team over the season whose main goals are to gain basic soccer skills and hone them in preparation for their transition to the more competitive, Varsity team. "Our team cooperated and were versatile in many positions," said Coach Brad. "We look forward to another great season with Aaron Breitkopf, Jake Brown, Garrett Burroway, Kai Goltze, Andrew Buchberger, John Craven, Seth Horwitz, Sarah Nettles, Alec Robinson, Brooke Steele, William Stephens, Noah Velasco."

Volleyball

The Lady Mustang volleyball team completed a very competitive season. They came in 2nd place in the AAC Championship and played both an AAC schedule and a GISA schedule again this year. The girls started out the first half of the season playing against teams with 2-3 times more players in their programs. However, they held their own on the court against teams such as Dominion Christian and Atlanta Girls School. "This was a tough season for the Lady Mustangs due to losing some key players,"



Becoming a Forensics Detective

by Emily Van Aken (Upper Student)

Forensics is a subject I have admired since my early childhood, but getting to immerse myself in the work itself has made me grow. In our class, you aren't tied to laboring lectures and exhausting assignments, but experiences that prod you to aim higher. People expect school to be restricting and stressful, but learning is not only fun in the classroom, but anticipated.

This semester, in Vaidehi's class I have been given the opportunity to become a detective myself, performing interactive experiments with my peers that teach us how to observe the unobserved. Whether it's scrutinizing hair under a microscope or assessing the details of our own fingerprints, I am never disappointed. I have learned how to identify textiles and classifications of hair at ease using procedures that made me feel like a professional, and we were even provided the chance to write our own stories about hair analysis.

Interesting and organized PowerPoint presentations test our knowledge, and teach us information we didn't think existed. We not only read about how people study fibers, but watch videos of forensic scientists explaining their strategies themselves. We have played memory games to test our observation skills, deduced unsolved mysteries to find a suspect, and even researched and presented about famous cases in the past. Every day we learn something new, and I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to apply it somewhere.

Just recently, we visited the Milton Police Department and learned how actual detectives and policemen expose fingerprints, gather the evidence, and even interrogate suspects. We were able to ask interesting questions and learn information you could not find in a classroom. Here, I know I can have a learning experience unlike any other, and I am proud to be a part of it. 📚



Students in Vaidehi's Forensic class learn how to analyze fingerprints. From L to R: Josh Drew, Addison Monette, and Trey Reid.



MSA's 2017 Volleyball Team come together for a picture after taking 2nd place in the AAC Tournament. Pictured from left to right: Coach Lisa Imsand, Emily Kane, Hope Helsper, Mia Nemes, Coach Karen Kaiser, Samantha Benjamin, Siobhan Hightower, Andie Kibler, Laura Turnbull, Megan Suarez, Aimee Grace Murray, Audrey Henderson and Mallory Mulhern (not pictured: Katherine Adair and Reese Urban).

said Coach Lisa Imsand. "But in true fashion they all stepped up and played any position we asked of them."

8th Grader Wins National Wrestling Championship

Congratulations to PreUpper student, Tyler Lillard, who recently won first place in the nation in the 136-lb. wrestling category. Earning a top spot in wrestling is not new to Tyler. Over Columbus Day weekend, Tyler competed in the I-64 National Wrestling Duals with his team (Morris Fitness, Alpharetta) and the I-64 National Wrestling Individual Tournament in Virginia Beach, VA. In the team tournament, Tyler went undefeated getting 3 pins and 2 wins for his team, which finished in 8th place out of 20 teams. In the individual tournament, Tyler pulled off 4 big wins to clinch the national championship (1st place). Tyler practices wrestling six days per week and is eager for MSA's wrestling season to begin.

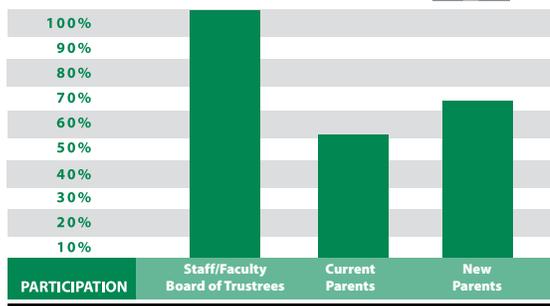


PreUpper Student, Tyler Lillard, wins first place in the I-64 National Wrestling Individual Tournament.

Annual Fund 2017–2018



*Your Participation
is vital to our success!*



ANNUAL FUND 2017–2018

The Annual Fund is the most important gift our parents, board, and faculty/staff are asked to make to the school each year.

THIS YEAR'S GOALS ARE:

- Raise \$300,000
- Receive 100% participation from our entire school family (parents, board, faculty/staff)

Please join the following list of families and individuals who have already shown their support to the school by making your cash gift or pledge today by logging onto www.millsprings.org/AF.

REMEMBER ... participation means a gift of any size!

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Matters 

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