



January 21, 2010

weekly announcements

COMING UP ...

...ALL SCHOOL

- ◆ STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING
Mon Jan 25, 6:30pm
- ◆ TEACHER CONFERENCE WEEK
SCHOOL CLOSED - NO CLASSES
Mon Feb 15 - Fri Feb 19
(Please note: the high school has an additional No Classes day on Monday February 22.)

...FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL

- ◆ SAT PREP CLASS FOR JUNIORS BEGINS (NEW START DATE!)
(6 Tuesday evenings on campus,
5 Saturday mornings off campus)
Tue Jan 26, 6pm
- ◆ HIGH SCHOOL BLOOD DRIVE - HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS
Fri Jan 29 - Register online now! See page 3.
- ◆ HS FACULTY-STAFF IN-SERVICE DAY - HS CAMPUS
HS STUDENT SERVICE DAY
Mon Feb 22

...FOR THE GRADE SCHOOL

- ◆ 2ND GRADE PARENT EVENING
Thu Jan 21, 7pm
- ◆ KINDERGARTEN PARENT EVENING
Tue Jan 26, 7pm
- ◆ 6TH GRADE MOTHERS OF DAUGHTERS MEETING
Tue Jan 26, 7:15pm
- ◆ PIANO RECITAL (DUKHOVNY) - MAIN HALL
Sun Jan 31, 2pm
- ◆ GR 1 PARENT EVENING
Mon Feb 1, 7:15pm
- ◆ 4TH GRADE PARENT EVENING
Tue Feb 2, 7pm
- ◆ 6TH GRADE PARENT EVENING
Mon Feb 8, 7:15pm
- ◆ 3RD GRADE PARENT EVENING
Tue Feb 23, 7pm
- ◆ FUTURE 1ST GRADE (2010-2011) ORIENTATION MTG # 3
Wed Feb 24, 7:30pm
Visit the calendar pages at www.sfwaldorf.org and
www.sfwaldorfhighschool.org for more.

San Francisco Waldorf School Association. www.sfwaldorf.org
 Grade School: 2938 Washington Street, SF, CA 94115; tel. (415) 931-2750; info@sfwaldorf.org
 High School: 470 West Portal Avenue, SF, CA 94127; tel. (415) 431-2736; highschool@sfwaldorf.org
 Comments regarding these Announcements or requests for e-mail pdf copies can be sent to cpowers@sfwaldorf.org

This Weekend Only!!



San Francisco Waldorf High School presents
The Crucible
 BY ARTHUR MILLER
Friday, January 22, 7pm
Saturday, January 23, 7pm
Sunday, January 24, 1pm & 6pm
Performed at the grade school Main Hall

Tickets \$8 in advance through brownpapertickets.com
 or at the high school office. \$10 at the door.

Parental advisory: "The Crucible" explores adult themes and may not be appropriate for children under 12.

◆
STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING - ALL ARE WELCOME!
Mon Jan 25, 6:30pm, grade school campus
 Community-wide participation in determining the long-term plans for SFWSA

◆
The San Francisco Youth Eurythmy Troupe presents
Wings
Friday, February 12, 8pm
Saturday, February 13, 2pm
 at the Cowell Theater
 Tickets (\$22/\$15) available at the
 Cowell Theater Box Office - 415-345-7575 or www.fortmason.org/boxoffice, SFWHS front desk, or at the door.

ALL SCHOOL NEWS

◆ SF Waldorf Speakers' Series:

Daniel Pink Explores 21st Century Education and "Drive" with Michael Krasny

SF Waldorf community members were treated to an entertaining and enlightening conversation between author Daniel Pink and "Forum" host Michael Krasny at the JCCSF last Saturday afternoon. Pink addressed the need to create authentic motivation in education and business through meaningful and engaging curriculum/tasks, while denouncing "carrot and stick" approaches such as grades that result in short term compliance, but not a long-term inner drive toward mastery.

Pink, author of SFWSA's recommended summer reading — *A Whole New Mind: Why Right Brainers will Rule the Future* — commended Waldorf education as not only addressing the 21st century need for right brain skill development, but doing it in manner that creates lifelong motivation by de-emphasizing the reward-and-punishment, high-stakes test environment characteristic of the No Child Left Behind legislation. Sponsored by the SF Waldorf High School Lecture Series, the 450 plus member audience was regaled by Pink's banter with Krasny over a number of philosophical issues, including Krasny's contention that some extrinsic motivators are necessary to get people to perform.

Pink responded that a limited amount of feedback on performance is necessary in order to achieve mastery, but that in fixating almost exclusively on one form of feedback — high stakes tests, for example — not only are we measuring intelligence using a very narrow construct, but we are creating a perverse incentive for people not to attain mastery, according to all of the accepted research on motivation in the field of

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◆ Annual Fund Update - Reach for 100%

What does 100% participation mean for the school? The excitement of achieving such a lofty objective elevates community spirit, while also demonstrating to outside foundations and corporations that we are all committed to the mission and values represented by San Francisco Waldorf School. If we reach the goal, all grade school and high school families of 410+ students plus 76 faculty & staff will have given to our school. That is an amazing achievement, especially during uncertain economic times. Another benefit that flows from this accomplishment is the ability to approach foundations with grant requests that showcase a strong and dedicated community that will use grant funds wisely and work to enhance programs with long term objectives.

<u>Class Giving Percentages</u> as of 1/20/2010	
College of Teachers	100%
Board of Trustees	100%
K1	100%
K2	100%
K3	100%
1st Grade	100%
2nd Grade	93%
6th Grade	87%
5th Grade	80%
4th Grade	74%
Faculty/Staff	74%
12th Grade	69%
3rd Grade	63%
8th Grade	61%
Nursery	58%
11th Grade	57%
10th Grade	55%
7th Grade	47%
9th Grade	45%

Over the next two weeks, we are asking the community to reach a goal. As represented in the numbers below, we have 4 classes that have reached 100%, and many more on the way. If you have not pledged, please take a moment to consider a gift of support that will take us closer to 100% participation.

Mitch Mitchell, Development Coordinator

◆ Parents Speak: A Circle of Inclusion

What: An initial general meeting for parents
When: Thursday, February 4, 5:30 - 7:30pm
Where: High school campus

Childcare and pizza will be provided as needed. Please email Gail Gurewitz if you intend to bring your child at grosenwitz@yahoo.com.

In association with the grade school's Parents Association and the high school's Parent Council, the SFWS Multicultural Council invites all parents to a general meeting to initiate this forum.

The goal of Parents Speak is to offer a forum that can be used by all families to build awareness around their own cultures as well as the culture of the school. How these cultures come together around issues, tasks or celebrations requires awareness and an openness that needs to be constantly tended. The willingness to enter this dialogue helps service our community and promotes the mission of SFWS.

The process of Parents Speak stresses learning appreciation of differences in our families' personal locations, and how these differences have an impact on one another. Personal location is determined by such variables as language, religion, physical ability, gender, sexual orientation, class, race, ethnicity and others.

"Why should I come to a Parents Speak meeting?"

- Because the parents of the Multicultural Council would like to hear your questions, concerns and/or experiences with multicultural issues in regard to the culture of our school and community to help us inform our future work.
- You would like to be a part of an expanding circle of inclusion.

Membership in Parents Speak is open to all SFWS parents and is co-chaired by parent representatives of the Multicultural Council.

◆ Spring Night 2010

Donate Now at

www.sfwaldorf.org/SpringNight

We are gearing up for this year's Spring Benefit on **March 20th** at the SomArts Gallery and hope that all of you will be joining us! You can look forward to delicious food and wine, a silent auction, entertainment by the HS jazz ensemble, an exciting live auction and dancing to a live band. The classes have begun work on their art projects, and by now you should have all received a letter with this year's donation form. It's never too early to donate and we are ready for you now.

Some ideas for donations.....gift certificates from your favorite merchants or restaurants; shows,

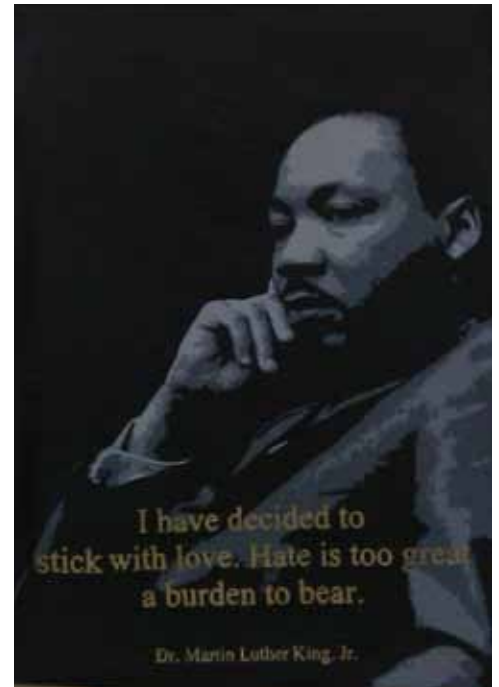
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HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

◆ Blood Drive at the HS

Friday, January 29 - Register Now!

Bay Area blood centers are experiencing critical shortages due to poor collections during the holidays and sadly a dramatic increase in traumas in the Bay Area. In response to this the high school Student Council has moved up the February Blood Drive date to January 29. You can sign up for a time online by visiting the Upcoming Events page at www.sfwaldorfhgihhschool.org.



*Above: Acrylic on canvas, 8' x 10'
Tyler Iorillo, Class of 2010*

Above: Author and civil rights activist Melba Portilla Beals with Student Council leaders Tabeetha Sun and Charlotte Markle after speaking to the high school students on Wednesday, January 20.

GRADE SCHOOL NEWS

◆ Martin Luther King, Jr. Assembly at the Grade School

On Friday, January 15 the grade school students welcomed back extraordinary storyteller Anita Jones for a celebration of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. A gorgeous, larger-than-life-size portrait of Dr. King shone on the wall, bearing the quote "I have decided to stick with love. Hatred is too great a burden to bear." This painting (see picture above) was created for us by high school senior Tyler Iorillo.

Ms. Jones's telling of stories from the childhood of MLK and of her own father Silas, and her recall of Rosa Parks' deed and of the meaning of the word "racism" inspired the children to a wide range of feelings, from deep-awe and sobering sadness to glee and sheer fun. Her artful use of gestures and body language inscribed itself in the souls of the youngest ones, who were seen later imitating her impersonation of Rosa Parks as she responded to the policeman who threatened to arrest her with a decided "You do that!" The assembly was graced with beautiful songs and verses from the 7th and 8th grade Spanish classes, and with the 8th grade speaking an excerpt from Dr. King's "I Have a Dream." The celebration ended with everyone singing together "We Shall Overcome." We are grateful to all who contributed to this celebration, first and foremost Ms. Jones and Tyler Iorillo!

◆ February Break Camp

Sign-up forms for February Break Camp for students in Kindergarten through Grade 4 are now available. Contact the GS office for more information.



Storyteller Anita Jones at grade school MLK, Jr Day Assembly

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behavioral science. "The thing that makes me, as a left-brainer, the most angry is that we are not using the evidence to inform our policy making in business and education – we are ignoring the very simple aphorism that 'the definition of stupidity is doing the same thing over and over when it's clearly not working. Carrots and sticks don't create intrinsic motivation – they undermine it."

Pink pointed to the Waldorf high school as an example of a school that gives grades along with written evaluations—more comprehensive feedback that actually enhances long term learning, and thereby motivation. Pink's newest book, *Drive: The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us*, cites the research and makes a compelling argument that human motivation rests on more than the simple biological bases of survival and procreation. What makes us unique, he says, is that we are highly motivated by the quest for meaning; this, rather than money or status or power, is what drives human achievement. And this, he claims, is severely undervalued in business and education today.

Approximately 700 people RSVP'd to the invitation, which was boosted by Krasny having mentioned the school's website while interviewing Pink on the "Forum" radio program two days before the event.

A big thank you to our high school librarian Mary Anne McGill, who put together the event with Daniel Pink's representatives, as well as Mitch Mitchell, our Development Coordinator, who provided significant logistical assistance.

Many thanks also to Lisa Barry and Charlene Davis, who promoted the event and staffed tables; Tim Evans, who videotaped it; Jim Finn, who staffed tables and the cashbox; Amy Gregg, who designed the postcard and flyer; Lori Grey, who conceived the "One Book, One School" program and suggested bringing Pink to the school; Joan Calderera, who led the book group exploring Pink's book this past fall; Steve Hovland, who photographed the reception preceding the event; Renee Jordan, our Communications Consultant, who assisted in promoting the event; and Cory Powers, who as always, helped in a variety of ways. Also thanks to the ushers/volunteers: Sofia Alicastro, Thea Anderson, Sibilla Carini, Hannah Garrett, Karin Gierlach, Paul Gierlach, Victor Kim, Hannah Lemberg, Joshua Sondheimer, Ben Sun, Christine Sun, and Katherine Horning.

This was a wonderful event showcasing Waldorf education in San Francisco to a much wider audience than we've previously seen!

Dan Ingoglia, Head of Administration

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concerts, ballets, sporting events or experiences which you can create—pick up kids for a week, host a party, give lessons, etc. Items of all kinds and vacation time at homes or resorts are always highly valued gifts. Our silent auction at the event will feature all handmade crafts and artworks, so we are asking you to let your creative juices flow and fingers fly and make things for the auction to benefit your school and let your talent be known!

THRIVING THROUGH ILLNESS
Supporting Children and Adults through Home Health Care
CANCELLED

For more info, contact Lalla Carini at lcarini@sfwaldorf.org

◆ **Sign Up Now for ART WITH CHILDREN with Elena Forrer**

A wonderful opportunity for parents to experience the approach to teaching art in the Waldorf school!

Three Mondays, 9 - 11am, January 25, February 1 and 8.
Class fee: \$ 90, includes supplies.

This program is part of our Family Life Series. Call the grade school office at 415-931-2750

OF INTEREST

◆ **Singing, a Pathway to One's Self**
A lecture by Christiaan Boele.

Come and hear this inspiring speaker on February 4th at 7pm, at the Marin Waldorf School, 755 Idylberry Way, San Rafael, CA. Presented by the Bay Area Center for Waldorf Teacher Training. Donations welcome. More details at <http://www.bacwtt.org/curriculum-classes/community-enrichment/spring>.

◆ **Just Say No:**

A Reality-Based Approach to Teens & Drugs

Monday, February 8, 7:30pm - 9pm
Dr. Marsha Rosenbaum, director emerita of the San Francisco office of the national Drug Policy Alliance and author of "Safety First: A Reality-Based Approach to Teens and Drugs" will speak at The Bay School, 35 Keyes Avenue in the Presidio. \$5 donation requested at the door.

Sponsored by the Parents Coalition of Bay Area High Schools. For more information visit website at www.parentscoalition.net.

ATHLETICS

◆ **HS Boys' Basketball**

Fri Jan 22	4:30pm	JV HOME vs. International
	7pm	V @ International - 150 Oak St
Wed Jan 27	4pm	JV Home vs. Drew
	5:30pm	V Home vs. Drew
Thu Jan 28	5:30pm	V @ Gateway - 1430 Scott St

◆ **HS Girls' Basketball**

Fri Jan 22	5:30pm	@ International - 150 Oak St
Tue Jan 26	4:30pm	HOME vs. San Domenico
Thu Jan 28	4pm	@ Gateway - 1430 Scott St

**HS home games are at the Annunciation Cathedral Gym, 245 Valencia St.*

◆ **GS Boys Basketball**

6th Grade

Fri Jan 22	8pm	vs Stuart Hall - 699 Serramonte Blvd
Sat Jan 23	11am	vs. Holy Name - 40th & Lawton Ave
Sun Feb 7	3pm	vs. St. James - 1601 Lane St

7th/8th Grade

Fri Jan 22	5:15pm	[RED] vs. NDV - 41st Ave and Ulloa
Sat Jan 23	2pm	[RED] vs. Good Shepherd - 909 Oceana
Fri Jan 29	7pm	[RED] vs. St. Mary's - 255 Jules Ave
	8pm	[WHITE] vs. St. Paul - 255 Jules Ave