

Fifth Issue

June 2011



IHS Word **2010-11**

IHS Word is the Ithaca High School Newsletter, jointly funded by the PTSA and IHS.

It serves all IHS parents, caregivers and staff.

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Welcome to IHS WORD, the PTSA newsletter!

While we have mailed this copy to families of incoming freshmen, the WORD is now available electronically through the **IHS PTSA website:**

http://ihsptsa.clarityconnect.com/IHS_PTSA/Welcome.html

and through the PTSA listserv:

email IHSPTSA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Join the PTSA listserv now to get up-to-date announcements and information, as well as electronic copies of the WORD.

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Get important IHS and PTSA news by email: sign up for the IHS PTSA listserv (usually one email per week)!

Send an email to: IHSPTSA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

To join the discussion listserv, send an email to:

IHSPTSA-discuss-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Visit IHS and PTSA on the web:

Ithaca High School: <http://www.icsd.k12.ny.us/highschool>

PTSA:

http://ihsptsa.clarityconnect.com/IHS_PTSA/Welcome.html

PTSA News

From the PTSA President

This is a time of year for sending out good thoughts and best wishes—to our outgoing graduates and our incoming 9th graders. I would like to thank those families who are leaving IHS for all their support over the years, and encourage new families to get involved. The Ithaca High PTSA has been very active.

One of our goals is to improve communication between the high school and families. Throughout the year we manage a discussion list serv and send out weekly E-News, as well as maintain a web site (see link at bottom of article, and on the front page of newsletter). At the beginning of each year we publish and distribute a Directory of Students and a Guide (the “how to” and “where to go” for families). We publish 4-5 editions of the school newsletter, the IHS WORD, each year. This year we made the WORD available electronically and at drop off places around the community.

With the dedicated help of Amy Doonan Cronin, we provided a number of informative programs through the year. In September Principal Mills introduced his leadership team, who talked about their goals for the coming year. In October, Madeline Estill and Danyel Logevall organized our Open House. In November, members of the leadership team explained their plans to address the School In Need of Improvement (SINI) status of IHS. In February, Sharon Gublo (Student Services Department Leader) and Leann Donnelly (College & Career Counselor) explained services of that department. In March, Principal Mills and Board members Brad Grainger and Rob Ainslie explained how the different budget scenarios would affect IHS. In addition, Jarett Powers, Samantha Little, and Claudette James reported on progress at IHS as a SINI. In April the PTAC and EILC hosted a Community Conversation with Dr. Brown. And in May, all PTAs held the annual meeting on the budget. On June 21, the IHS PTSA will offer our third annual IHS Alumni-College program.

Just as the FABG supports the arts, and the Sports Boosters support athletics, the IHS PTSA supports academics. We contributed to the school Sunshine Fund, which provides support for students in need. We presented the end-of year Student Achievement Awards for Underclassmen. This year, we supported

the academic success of students through our Mini-grants in Support of Learning program. The award winners were: Janet Abowd (World Languages), Nan Bell (Library), Laurie Willick (Student Services), Angela Affronti (Global Studies), Leslie Kurzweil (Intervention Center), Christene White (Special Education), Astrid Brueckner, (Student Services), Shawn Goodman (Student Services); Tot & Teen Pre-K program. To provide additional support to the IHS library, we instituted what we hope will be an annual event—the IHS Library Book Drive, during which hundreds of books were collected. Look for this again next fall!

And of course we support our staff in a number of ways. In appreciation of staff and teachers, Penny Romantic and many helpers and food donors have been providing a Monthly “Munch” throughout this entire year. Penny also organized an Opening Day Brunch, and the open house volunteers (led by Madeline and Danyel) hosted an Open House Brunch.

Laura Andolina coordinated a fabulous Staff Appreciation Lunch in May, with a lot of helpers. Lynn Miller did the bulbs and Audrey Norberg donated beautiful flowers. Lisa McCutcheon handed out the invitations. Thanks also to volunteers Corinne, Madeleine, Margaret, Janine, Debbie, Barb, Liz, Vicky, Donna, Di, Fran, Alice and Nora, just to name a few! Over 25 parents donated delicious desserts, a parent donated some lilacs in vases, and special thanks to Sam Schuepbach for providing all the yummy food at a very reasonable price!

Unfortunately, as I write this, we are in the midst of difficult budgetary times. This past year, the Board of Education found state support for education greatly reduced. Thanks in part to our reserve funds, and to the leadership of our new superintendent, Dr. Luvelle Brown, Ithaca was able to maintain much of our programming. However, it is in times like this when support organizations like the PTA-Council, PTA, SE-PTA, the Fine Arts Booster Group and Sports Booster Club are in a position to have a huge impact on the kind of experiences our children will have in school. ***Your support of the school district is needed now more than ever.***

As this year comes to an end, consider what YOUR ROLE will be to ensure that all students

are nurtured and encouraged to learn, so that they can achieve their dreams. At the very least, become a PTSA member. Be informed through the various list serves and websites. Give as much financial support as possible. Donate your time, energy and talents-- volunteer as an officer or to help with a project. There is much to do, and it's a marvelous way to better know the place where your child spends at least half of his/her day. There are many opportunities to become involved, both over the summer and next fall.

Please see our website:
http://ihsptsa.clarityconnect.com/IHS_PTSA/Welcome.html or contact me, Sue Merkel,
 (smerkel@twcnj.rr.com) to find what's right for you.

Sue Merkel
smerkel@twcnj.rr.com

IHS PTSA - Parent Teacher Student Association.
http://ihsptsa.clarityconnect.com/IHS_PTSA/Welcome.html

IHS Student and Class Activities - Activities Director, Karl Mellander. Email:
kmelland@icsd.k12.ny.us

FABG - The Ithaca Community Fine Arts Booster Group
www.fabgithaca.org or email:
president@fabgithaca.org

IPEI - The Ithaca Public Education Initiative.
www.ipei.org or call 256-IPEI.

Sports Boosters - The Ithaca Sports Booster Club
<http://sports.dir.groups.yahoo.com/group/IthacaSportsBoosters> or email:
SportsBoosterPrez@yahoo.com.

Ithaca SEPTA - Special Education PTA For more information, email Samantha Preston, Secretary, at: Slp59@cornell.edu

Link Crew

Link Crew is entering its 6th year with this incoming freshman class! We have hired over 90 new and returning leaders to facilitate the program for the 2011-2012 school year and we think we've found a terrific group of strong and caring students. We had our first training day together on May 25th. On June 17th, we celebrated the end of the year and welcomed our new leaders with a banquet. We love this event as it gives us a chance to thank our leaders for all the hard work they've done over the course of the year. Our program is as good as our leaders, and we believe this group has had a strong and positive impact on our school this year.

The Link Crew Leaders will be all ready to go on the first day of school next year. Our leaders will be calling freshmen to invite them to orientation in the days just prior to the start of school. School begins for freshmen on September 7. You'll get a packet in the mail over the summer with lots of important information about the start of school. In that packet will be specific information about the Link Crew orientation, including what to bring, the cost of lunch, etc... Please be sure to read it.

Link Crew will celebrate the beginning of the new school year with a picnic at Stewart Park. The date will be in your summer packet and all 9th grade families are invited. This will be a dish to pass supper. We really hope you will be able to attend. It's a great opportunity to meet other IHS families as well as your student's Link Crew Leaders.

Throughout the year, Link Crew will organize about one social event per month for freshmen. Leaders are also always available to tutor freshmen that are having trouble with academics, so please, keep us in mind if your child is struggling in any of his/her classes. You can contact either of us, the program coordinators, to set this up. Our leaders are also trained to help with some social/emotional concerns and are well-versed in how to access the many resources we have available for students who need assistance. If you have any questions about the Link Crew program, please feel free to contact Judy Cogan at jcogan@icsd.k12.ny.us or 257-1326 or Kelly Metzler at atkmetzler@icsd.k12.ny.us.

Judy Cogan and Kelly Metzler, Link Crew Coordinators, Ithaca High School

From Ithaca High School Family Liaisons

NEED TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION?

For information on local transportation call Information & Referral at 2-1-1 or if online, visit www.way2goinfo.org. The above website gives you information on carshare and rideshare, volunteer ride services, City Van, Car repair assistance, etc.

Any questions concerning your child or IHS, please give Barbara, Mary or Oscar a call at 274-6843 and leave us a message.

Welcome to the Student Services Department!

The goal of the Student Services Department and its programs at the high school is to assist each student in making sound educational, career, and personal decisions. School counselors monitor each student's progress toward graduation, and the plan that is developed in 8th grade is modified, as necessary, throughout their years at the high school. The school counselors work closely with the school social workers and psychologists and refer students for services to further support student learning and achievement. You may find more detailed information about their services in the Student Handbook that is distributed in September.

Q: How can my child meet with his/her school counselor? The student can simply come into the Student Services office, located in J-18, and speak with Mrs. Sgrecci, the secretary, who can arrange an appointment with the school counselor.

Q: How can I set up a parent/teacher conference? If you have a question for one or two teachers, it may be easiest to contact them directly. If you would like to meet with all of the teachers, please contact the school counselor who can arrange it.

Q: What do I do if my child is ill and I would like to request homework? If your child is out two days or less, they can get their assignments either by using the emails of the teachers that are provided at the beginning of the year, by accessing the Blackboard site, or by contacting other students in their classes. If the student is absent **more than two days**, please contact the Student Services office (either by calling 274-2157 or emailing Mrs. Sgrecci at msgrecci@icsd.k12.ny.us) and request the homework assignments. Teachers will be notified and assignments can be picked up at the end of the day. If the student is out for an extended period of time due to illness, you may, with doctor's verification, be eligible for tutoring.

These are just a few questions that might come to mind as you think about the upcoming year at Ithaca High School. Please contact us with any of your questions or concerns, and we look forward to seeing you in September! Our number (again) is 274-2157, and you can contact Marilyn Sgrecci, the Student Services secretary, at that number, or by emailing her at msgrecci@icsd.k12.ny.us.

IHS School Counselor is a prize-winning author!

Did you know? Shawn Goodman, IHS School Counselor, won the Delacorte Prize for his YA novel, *Something Like Hope*, which was published earlier this year. (Available in local bookstores and libraries) See his website for more about the book: <http://www.shawngoodmanbooks.com/>

A Note to Families of the Class of 2011,

As the end of our high school experience draws near, we would like to thank all of the people who have supported us throughout our education. IHS students have been lucky to attend a school with so many resources and opportunities at their disposal. As students, we would like to thank our teachers for inspiring and motivating us every day and for preparing us for the future. Parents, your seniors would not be as successful or as well educated without these teachers. Here's where you can help us thank our teachers:

Previous Senior Classes started an endowed fund which awards \$150 to an outstanding non-tenured teacher – selected by each year's senior students (and grants \$150 in the teacher's name for IHS Library resources). There is also a \$250 gift which is given to a different school club every year. The awards were presented at the Senior Awards Convocation in June. Plaques recognizing all past recipients hang at the high school.

We want to carry on this tradition and grow the fund so we ask you to help us achieve this. Your contribution will be fully tax deductible and the Ithaca Public Education Initiative (IPEI) is generously handling the fund for the senior class. Every cent of your donation will go to a deserving teacher or club.

Last, but certainly not least, we would like to thank our parents/guardians for the endless support that made high school manageable for us. The rides, the homework help, and of course your parental words of wisdom have been invaluable.

Please fill out the gift form sent in the Senior Class mailing and return it with your contribution to IPEI, PO Box 4268, Ithaca, NY 14852, by June 30. Credit card gifts can be made by calling IPEI, 607-256-4734 or using the online form at ipei.org. **All contributions are tax deductible.**

We thank you for all of your support.

The Class of 2011 Officers:

Mary John, Kelvin Kim, Annelise Schuepbach, and Caroline Fleischauer

YES -- Youth Employment Service

YES is a program of the Ithaca Youth Bureau that assists Teens with finding jobs. 14 and 15 year olds who live in the city of Ithaca and are looking for work for the first time are especially encouraged to apply.

A few of the places our Teens have worked in past summers are the Ithaca Journal, GIAC, Cass Park, City Hall and Cornell University.

You can pick up an application weekdays before 5 pm at the Ithaca Youth Bureau. You can also reach us by calling 273-8364 and asking for YES!

Library Lines June 2011

Sadly, it looks as if Ithaca High School Library will be losing one of its expert Library Clerks, Lori Backus. Ms Backus has been reassigned to DeWitt Middle School, where the clerk had been cut. The Library just won't be the same, in more ways than one. Aside from missing her calm, capable help with computer tangles and passwords, we will miss her book knowledge (she is a great reader) and her organization of all the library book orders.

The loss of another full time person (we have lost half our clerks in the last three years) is a big blow to the library. We will have fewer open computer labs, fewer drop-ins allowed per period, longer waits for help, and will occasionally have to close for a period or two during the day, if a clerk is out. If this should come up for a vote again at the Board level, I hope you would consider supporting a restoration of our third Library Clerk.

For Summer: as usual, the Library is not open during the summer except for specific summer programs. For books and reading satisfaction there are still lots of options: the Public Library, hooray! Every place you go to visit will have a library, too—take a look at their collections of local authors or local interests. Trading around books with friends is fun to do in summer, without so many other reading requirements.

A great alternative to carrying around stacks of paper books is a Nook® (from Barnes and Noble) or Kindle® (from Amazon): they are not terribly expensive (starting at about \$130), are very easy to use, and lots of books are free! New books, like *Throne of Fire*, by Rick Riordan (second installment of the Kane Chronicles) are only about \$9.00, much less than the hardback version. They are yours forever when you buy them for the readers, and you can make the print larger or get audio versions for many books.

Mr. Heurich and I, your two IHS Teacher Librarians, are looking forward to seeing you in the fall! Come tell us what you've read about and learned—we always get great ideas from our students. We can't wait to welcome you back!

"A Library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life." --Henry Ward Beecher

Nan Bell, Library

Free -- YA Literature into Your Earphones!

Teens and other readers of Young Adult literature will have the opportunity to *listen* to bestselling titles and reading classics this summer. Each week from June 23 - August 17, 2011, SYNC will offer two **free** audiobook downloads.

The audiobook pairings will include a popular YA title and a classic that connects with the YA title's theme. For example, Maggie Stiefvater's *Shiver*, the first book in a popular series with strong allusions to *Romeo & Juliet*, will be paired with Shakespeare's classic.

To find out when you can download titles to listen to on the run this summer, visit www.AudiobookSync.com or text **syncya** to [25827](tel:25827).

SYNC Titles, Summer 2011

6/23/11 - 6/29/11 *Shiver* By Maggie Stiefvater
Romeo & Juliet by William Shakespeare

6/30/11-7/6/11 *Little Brother* by Cory Doctorow
The Trial by Franz Kafka

7/7/11-7/13/11 *Where the Streets Had a Name* by Randa Abdel-Fattah
A Passage to India by E. M. Forster

7/14/11-7/20/11 *The Last Apprentice: Revenge of the Witch* by Joseph Delaney
Beowulf by Francis B. Gummere [Trans.]

7/21/11-7/27/11 *Chanda's Secrets* by Allan Stratton
Tess of the D'Urbervilles by Thomas Hardy

7/28/11-8/3/11 *Ashes, Ashes* by Jo Treggiari
Rescue: Stories of Survival From Land and Sea by Dorcas S. Miller [Ed.]

8/4/11-8/10/11 *Immortal* by Gillian Shields
Wuthering Heights by Emily Brontë

8/11/11-8/17/11
Storm Runners by Roland Smith
The Cay by Theodore Taylor

Brain Team

Here are the final outcomes of the Brain Team's spring tournaments.

Cornell University's Upstate New York Championship -- Ithaca sent two teams and played against teams from five other regional schools in early April. The two teams finished first and third, with a number of students winning special points-per-game awards. Our win here qualified us for the National Academic Quiz Tournament High School National Championship in Atlanta, though we were unable to attend this year.

TC3 High School Challenge -- Ithaca again sent two teams to the preliminary matches held in late April. Both teams qualified for the playoffs - the only school to accomplish this. Unfortunately, some of our members were unable to attend the playoff games in early May due to AP exams, and so our teams fell in the quarterfinals. Jeff Tokman won an All Star Team award for his high number of points earned per game.

Questions Unlimited National Academic Championship -- Due to Ithaca's playoff finish at last year's NAC in Chicago, we qualified to participate again this year in Washington, DC the weekend of June 3-5. We had a challenging schedule -- all of our matches were on one day and they started at 9:00 on Saturday -- but we managed a 4-2 record and made it to the playoffs again as the 19th seeded school in the nation! Unfortunately, we lost our first match in the playoffs, eliminating us from the tournament. Special thanks need to go to the IPEI and IHS administration for their financial support.

We have had a great group of students this year, including some very talented seniors who we are sad to part with. We have high hopes for next year, and will try our hardest to do even better. Please join me in thanking this year's Brain Team, the first five of whom represented our school in Washington, DC.

Jeffrey Tokman
Luka Maisuradze
Gustav Fellows
Nika Maisuradze
Irit Huq-Kuruvilla
Jensen Lo
Kevin Hilgartner
Dennis Jung
Balazs Szegletes
Aryeh Zax
Chrissy Gerding
Ofer Grossman
Simon Bohn
Teddy Morris-Knowler
Anna Gill
Dante Genova
Corey Eaton
Tracy Lai

Submitted by Benjamin Kirk, Mathematics Teacher

SCIENCE

PHYSICS

All physics classes went on a field trip to Darien Lake, performing experiments on the rides and reviewing basic mechanics through their experiences. Aside from one downpour during the lunch break, the weather was lovely.

AP Physics classes, having completed the AP exams, engaged in a series of seminars given by local physicists. Lecture topics include robotics, fluids and the Gulf oil spill, physics of insect flight, high-energy

particle physics, cosmology, special relativity, 3-D printing, the principle of least action, space science and the Mars rovers, using microfluidics in cancer diagnostics, and entanglement and multiple universes.

The Conceptual Physics classes also enjoyed the space science lecture and did a 3-day seminar with Steven Santana from the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering based on his research in cancer diagnostics using microfluidics. AP and Conceptual Physics students also made radios and rockets as final projects for the year.

Best wishes for a great summer ahead!

MATH

The IHS Math Department is pleased to announce that after the American Invitational Math Exam was given, Forest Tong qualified for the United States of America Mathematical Olympiad (USAMO) for the second consecutive year. Ofer Grossman also qualified for the United States of America Junior Mathematical Olympiad (USAJMO). This is the equivalent of going to "nationals" for math competitions. It is an exceptional achievement for these two students.

Math Awareness Week was held in April. As mentioned in the last edition of the IHS Word, the math department held a contest for students to design a t-shirt that incorporated the theme of "Unraveling Complex Systems." Kelly Martin was the winner of the 2011 t-shirt design contest. All week, a "problem of the day" was posted outside the math department office. Students were asked to solve the problem for a chance to win a t-shirt with Kelly's design on it. 36 lucky students won a t-shirt this year.

The Ithaca High School math team has had an exciting year. Periodically through the school year, the team was given a series of competition tests from the New York Math League (NYML). The math

team tied for 7th place in the state for this competition; with Anying Li as the top scorer with 34 out of 36 possible points.

The New York State Mathematics League (NYSML) competition was held in Long Island on April 2, 2011. The IHS math team was able to attend under the coaching of Frederick Deppe and Karen Seifert. The math team took first place in the Division B competition. The following students participated in this competition: Ofer Grossman, Irit Huq-Kuruvilla, Kelvin Jin, Anying Li, Yiwei Luo, Jason Setter, Jeff Setter, Mia Smith, Forest Tong, and Jo Yang. The team MVP was Forest Tong.

The math department nominated Josh Andersson as the "Student of the Quarter" for the 3rd marking period. Kyle Wilson was nominated for the 4th marking period.

As you can see, the Ithaca High School mathematics department has had a lot to be proud of this quarter. We would like to send a warm "congratulations" to each of these terrific individuals!

Submitted by Todd Noyes, Mathematics Department

Cascadilla Boat Club and IHS Habitat for Humanity Club Fundraiser

Cascadilla Boat Club (CBC) and Ithaca High School Habitat for Humanity Club joined forces for a benefit event, CBC's annual "Row For Humanity Fundraiser Erg-A-Thon," held on Saturday April 2nd. 58 CBC crewmembers and alums rowed on ergometers (rowing machines) for over 5 hours at Shops at Ithaca Mall, collectively logging 400,000 meters (250 miles)! CBC Varsity Crewmember Joey Menzenski rowed a marathon for more than 3 hours of 42,195 meters.

Corporate sponsorships as well as personal donations for the rowers' efforts added up. The total amount raised was raised \$5400, of which over \$1600 was presented to Habitat for Humanity to fund their home building projects for the local community. CBC's portion will be put to use for scholarships and equipment purchases and maintenance. Also involved in the fundraising were CBC Varsity members Molly Pritz, Kelly Jirka, Samantha Granison, Sean Soules, Rehan Dadi, Kevin Ladd, and Olivier McNicoll.

On May 26, CBC Row For Humanity crew fundraisers met with members of the IHS Habitat For Humanity Club at Ithaca High School. CBC Row For Humanity Coordinator Joey Menzenski presented a check to Mane Mehrabyan, President of the IHS Habitat For Humanity Club. Also present was Damon Ferguson, representing the board of Tompkins Cortland Habitat for Humanity, and Andrea Baldwin, Habitat for humanity VISTA volunteer.

For more information on Cascadilla Boat Club, including summer learn-to-row programs and joining the fall crew team, see: www.cascadillaclub.org

Submitted by Rehan Dadi, IHS Senior

Code Red Robotics

Code Red Robotics successfully finished their eleventh year, competitions and all!

Code Red participated in the FIRST competition, a challenging global contest. FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is an organization designed to spread technology awareness. One thousand five hundred teams from ten countries compete at the high school level in regional and national events. The program creates an exciting and highly educational environment where the students work collaboratively with professional engineering mentors in the spirit of "Gracious Professionalism." Every year, the students design and build a complex, computer-controlled machine to complete a new challenge. Major funding to support the team's participation in regional competitions (this year-Rochester and Boston) comes from the generous monetary and in-kind donations of local and regional companies and individuals such as Kionix, BAE Systems, Borg Warner, CBORD, Goodrich ISR Systems, Autodesk,

Incodema, Ithaca Rotary Club, Park Foundation and the U-Haul Center. Code Red also benefits from its affiliation with the Ithaca Public Education Initiative, as well as the support of the Ithaca City School District. Team fundraising efforts include bake sales, car washes and LAN parties.

With the end of the season comes a sad time; Code Red is graduating seniors. This year, our team is losing 14 valuable members, many of whom, such as two term president Ben Krish, have had integral roles in shaping the team. However, this means that Code Red is looking to recruit new members who are excited by the technology and community that are at the core of Code Red. Code Red needs people who are interested in websites, robots, community service, and spreading the message of technology education. We are looking forward to an incoming class of excellent rookies!

Submitted by Joni Chen, Public Relations Officer

LANGUAGE

Language teachers and students have much to celebrate this year!

Caroline Estill, who studies French and Latin at Ithaca High, was awarded a 6-week summer scholarship through the National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y). The U.S. State Department program will send her to Morocco for 6 weeks this summer to study Arabic. The NSLI scholarships enable high school students to learn less commonly taught languages in immersion programs. Hannah George who studies French was awarded the same scholarship and will be traveling to China this summer.

NSLI-Y is part of a broader government-wide presidential initiative that prepares American citizens to be leaders in a global world. Now more than ever, it is important that Americans have the necessary linguistic skills and cultural knowledge to promote international dialogues, support American engagement abroad, and attain better understanding of global cultures and issues. NSLI-Y encourages a lifetime of language study and cultural understanding.

Congratulations also to Chrissy Gerding, a junior enrolled in Latin 2 and in German 4, who has been given a full tuition scholarship to study intensive elementary Greek (ancient) in the 6-week summer session at Cornell this summer.

We are very proud of these students for their accomplishments and salute their teachers who brought these opportunities to the attention of their students!

French Club members led by Janet Bowman and accompanied by a group of parent volunteers, traveled to Montreal over Memorial Day weekend to use their French.

At the end of June we will bid a fond farewell to Yimei Lin who spent 2010-11 with us, teaching us Chinese and enriching our community through her many cultural pursuits this year. Not only did Miss Lin teach daily Chinese classes at LACS and the IHS, she taught an adult class at Lifelong Learning, she gave a variety of cultural presentations to pre-k, elementary, middle school and high school classes and enjoyed observing many class throughout the school district. She also volunteered her time translating and interpreting for the school district and chaperoning the junior prom. Thank you to all the teachers who made her feel welcome and thank you to Yimei for all your hard work, dedication to

your students, and positive attitude. We were so lucky to have you this year and we will really miss you!

The Latin students distinguished themselves on the National Latin Exam, taken in March of this year. Many earned gold medals: in Latin 1, Soren Schwab, David Tian, Taylah Peacock, Jennifer Stein, XiaoXiao Yang; in Latin 2, Caroline Estill, Alexander Babiak, Chrissy Gerding, Phoebe Lakin, Devon Loehr, Sasha Nicholson, Adam Laurentz; and in AP Latin, Weiwei Luo. There were many silver medals

also: James Nash, Connor Manning, Carson Denbow, Drew Walters (Latin 1); Rhiannon Bell and Brenda Imo (Latin 2); Irit Huq-Kuruvilla (Latin 3); Susannah Oberly (AP Latin). A number of students received high recognition (*magna cum laude*): Ryan Hallisey, Marcel Gremaud (Latin 1); Leslie Gil, Jen Cook, Sami Royce, Marisol Salomon, Corinne Klohmann (Latin 2); and in Latin 3, Emma Otto-Moudry and Annali Vernon received recognition (*cum laude*). Congratulations to all who won a gold or silver medal, or earned distinction!

ENGLISH

As the 2010-11 academic year winds down, there are major changes coming to the English Department. Due to the budget cuts in Albany, the NYS Education Department announced there would be no January Regents exams in 2012.

Next year the junior class will take the English Regents exam in June. Anyone needing to retake the exam will do so in August or wait until the following June.

The TC3 College Now English 101-02 class will be offered in the fall. Students successfully completing the course will earn six college credits without paying a tuition fee. Students who wish to transfer the credit are encouraged to check with the admissions office of their selected college to see how much of the credit would transfer.

The Advanced Placement English classes (both AP Language and AP Literature) will continue the successful Drama in Production series with five trips to local theaters. In September they will attend *The Cherry Orchard* at Cornell followed by *Plumfield, Iraq* at Ithaca College in October. November brings Jean Paul Sartre's *No Exit* to Cornell. In January the classes will visit The Kitchen Theater to see *Call Me Waldo*, and in April they will conclude the series at Binghamton's Tri-Cities Opera with *The Magic Flute*. Funds will be available for students who need help with tickets.

The Inklings is a new club that began this quarter and has spent time planning for a strong start in the fall. The vision of the club is to see student writers become published writers. The founder, freshman Gwen Ober, has an interest in writing radio scripts.

Already a trip has been planned for next April to the Clemens Center in Elmira to the 25th anniversary of Gary Yoggy's Old Time Radio Show.

With the addition of five new Elmo visualizers (a type of document camera projector) in the department, students can expect their work to be more on display for peer and teacher viewing and critiquing.

Of the 83 winners in this year's TST BOCES Creative Writing Contest, 36 of them came from IHS. Their trophies and certificates were presented at the annual Underclassmen and Senior Awards night.

Our Student of the Quarter for fourth quarter was freshman Tracy Lai. The department congratulates her on her fine work that earned her this award.

I made the decision at the beginning of my term as department chair that the job should be rotated. Rebecca Gergely will be the new Department Leader with a one-year term. She will begin her new duties on July 1. I wish her all the best as she begins her work and I look forward to increased student contact in the classroom.

I want to thank all of the parents and community contacts with whom I have cooperated over the past three years, as well as the staff at the school for the wise input they have given me. A very special thanks goes to Marnee Pochily and Tammy Podufalski for their guidance and patience. I could not have done this job without the great help of these people.

Shirley Kennedy, English Department Chair

2010-11 TST BOCES Creative Writing Contest Winners at IHS

All of the students in the nine school districts of TST BOCES are eligible to enter this contest.

Grades 9-11

Story

1. Second Prize—Gwen Ober
2. Third Prize—Haerin Lee
3. Honorable Mention—Ina V Joo
4. Honorable Mention—Siena Schickel
5. Honorable Mention—Alexandra Stagliano

Very, Very Brief Short Story

1. First Prize —Michael Wexler
2. Second Prize—Joey Augustine
3. Third Prize—September F. Johnson
4. Honorable Mention—Simon Bohn
5. Honorable Mention—Alex Y. Clark
6. Honorable Mention—Rachel Levine

Essay

1. First Prize—Medeea Popescu
2. Second Prize—Ally VanValen

Regular Poetry

1. Second Prize—Eileen Sochia
2. Honorable Mention—Elizabeth Karpinski
3. Honorable Mention—Annelise Raymond

Photo Reflection

1. First Prize—Huijun (Lucy) Duan
2. Second Prize—Julie Pesaresi

Found Poetry

1. Second Prize—Rachel Pollak
2. Honorable Mention—Darius Longmire

Grade 12

Story

1. First Prize—Avalon Bunge
2. Honorable Mention—Emily Conlon
3. Honorable Mention—James Eaglesham
4. Honorable Mention—Reanna Enslow
5. Honorable Mention—Marcel Gremaud

Essay

1. First Prize—Julia Ridley
2. Second Prize—Matthew McGill
3. Honorable Mention—Kelly Martin
4. Honorable Mention—Douglas Moore

Regular Poetry

1. First Prize—Sean Soules
2. Third Prize—Ja-Toni Telfair
3. Honorable Mention—Audrey Enzian

Structured Poetry

1. Second Prize—Jeffrey Tokman

Photo Reflection

1. Honorable Mention—Eli Robinson

Cover Art—Grades 9-12

1. Honorable Mention—Eunju Lee
2. Honorable Mention—Hyosang Lee

Fine Arts Booster Group (FABG)

The Fine Arts Booster Group is approaching year 10! And, IPEI is approaching year 15!

To celebrate, the boosters would love to hear your stories. What are you grateful for in the arts? Send a line or a story to president@fabgithaca.org.

FABG strives to foster appreciation for the arts, advocate for the arts, and improve learning opportunities for all. FABG is an affiliate of IPEI, a community based not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization that develops supportive community

and private sector relationships with the Ithaca City School District. For more information, visit www.ipei.org or www.fabgithaca.org.

Join the FABG listserv to hear about our meetings and other arts announcements. Subscribe by emailing FineArtsBoosters-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. For more information about advertising in the performance booklets, contact fabg.advertising@gmail.com.

Fine Arts Booster Group – Join as a Volunteer!

As a result of a Spring 2011 retreat, the booster group has designed a new working structure to enable volunteers to help support the arts. You can help the district arts programs and all students by giving a little time from your home computer or a lot of time in person – all depending on your interest and availability. Interested? Contact president@fabgithaca.org.

Fine Arts Booster Group Committees

- Advocacy Committee
- Play It Again, Ithaca Instrument Recycling Committee
- Performance Booklet Committee
- Funding Committee
- Publicity/Outreach Committee
- Events Committee
- Recruitment/Nominations Committee

The boosters are looking to engage new volunteers in a variety of ways, and in a "leaner" way through virtual meetings and targeted work on a committee. Join us!

Have some skills and ideas to offer? Do you have passion for one thing but not another? For example, would you like to write a blurb about what is happening in your school? Or do you enjoy thinking about larger issues, like student access? Or do you like to think graphically and are good with computer design? We will find a way to connect your interests to the booster group's vision of supporting all the arts for all the kids!

Tear off this form and mail to us or email president@fabgithaca.org

Fine Arts Booster Group, 101 East State Street, #182, Ithaca, NY 14850.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone/email: _____
Area of interest: _____



Visit us on the web:

Ithaca High School: <http://www.icsd.k12.ny.us/highschool>

PTSA: http://ihsptsa.clarityconnect.com/IHS_PTSA/Welcome.html

Get important IHS and PTSA news by email: sign up for the listserv!

Send an email to: IHSPTSA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

To join the discussion listserv, email IHSPTSA-discuss-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Interested in submitting news or articles for the next issue of IHS Word?

Please contact outgoing editor Jennifer Groff, groff.jen@gmail.com, by August 1, 2011 and she will pass your name and email on to the next editor. Thanks!
