From the SUPERINTENDENT

Ferndale Family,

This week, we received some exciting news from our FHS Orchestra Director, Mr. Ben Moy. Mr. Moy and the Orchestra commissioned an original piece of music earlier this year to be composed for our students to perform at their Spring Concert. I think it’s best if I let Mr. Moy share the rest of the good news. Take it away, Ben!

“It is with great excitement that I share an update on the Ferndale Orchestra’s commissioned piece. Commissioning an original composition is a unique opportunity for a performance group. Thanks entirely to private donations and the help of OrchSupport and Ferndale Schools Fine Arts Boosters, the Ferndale Orchestra program was able to commission composer Costas Dafnis to compose an original composition for the orchestra to be performed at the Ferndale High School Spring Orchestra Concert.

I received delivery of the piece on Monday, May 6th and Tuesday, May 7th was the first ever play through of the piece. I tried to impress upon the symphony orchestra students what a unique experience this was: the very first time that this piece of music had ever been realized into existence as it was conceived by its creator, played by actual instruments, was what they played in class today. Before then, it had existed only as a collection of dots and lines on a page, as an idea in the composers head, or as an electronically generated sound file from a computer. I wonder if they truly grasp how cool that is. Or maybe I’m just geeking out as a music teacher. :)

The piece is entitled “Like Planted Hearts,” and composer Costas Dafnis drew inspiration from the wedding poem that J.R.R. Tolkien (author of The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings trilogy among other things) wrote for his wife Edith on their wedding day.

Lo! Young we are and yet have stood
like planted hearts in the great Sun
of Love so long (as two fair trees
in woodland or in open dale
stand utterly entwined and breathe
the airs and suck the very light
together) that we have become
as one, deep rooted in the soil
of Life and tangled in the sweet growth.

The students will continue to rehearse the piece in preparation for its public performance debut at our spring orchestra concert on May 21st at 7 pm in the FHS Auditorium. We invite everyone to come be a part of this special, once in a lifetime, opportunity. If you would like to be a part of this project in a more tangible way, we are still in need of donations to go towards the cost of the commission. Donations of $15 and above will be thanked personally in the program. For more details on how to donate, please contact me at benjamin.moy@ferndaleschools.org.

- Mr. Moy”

Thank you, Mr. Moy, and all of the generous donors for making this once in a lifetime opportunity for our students possible!

In Education,
Dania H. Boggi, PhD
Superintendent
Ferndale Schools
Do you love great musicals? Do you love supporting the Ferndale Education Foundation? If your answers are yes, then do we have a show for you! The Ferndale Education Foundation is teaming up with the Royal Oak Schools Foundation and the Berkley Education Foundation for a special fundraising performance of the Stageagerlettes production of Oklahoma! Tickets are now on sale for a special performance of Oklahoma on Tuesday, May 14th at 8PM to benefit the foundations.

Special VIP tickets are also on sale now! VIP tickets ($75) include a reception at Lily’s Seafood starting at 6:30PM with hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar.

General Admission tickets are $25.00 per Adult and $10.00 per Student.

Tickets can be ordered online through Brown Paper Tickets. After clicking the link, you will be given the opportunity to select your tickets and which Foundation you would like to support.

HELP THE FHS PTSA HONOR OUR GRADUATING SENIORS

Each year, the Ferndale Secondary PTSA honors our graduating seniors by posting pictures and brief bios on its Facebook page. This is a way for our community to express congratulations to the students and their families, to learn more about each senior, and to let the students highlight their memories of high school.

If you are interested in having your senior honored, please submit the form below: Fill out the form. Pictures and bios will be posted as they are received. Please note, this is a completely voluntary submission, and when you click submit, you are granting permission for your information to be shared on the Ferndale Middle and High School PTSA Facebook page.

Thank you, and congratulations to all our graduates! If you have any questions, please email fhsseniorsurvey@gmail.com.

CASA DANCE AND ART SHOW

Please come support our students of the Center for the Advanced Studies and the Arts and enjoy the showcase of amazing student talent.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15TH
7:00 PM
FHS AUDITORIUM
DANCE PERFORMANCE IS $5
ART SHOW IS FREE
Save The Date

MONDAY, MAY 13TH
6:00 PM
Board of Education – Special Meeting
Committee of the Whole
FHS Main Conference Room

MONDAY, MAY 13TH
6:30 PM
FUEL 4th Grade Spring Music Concert
FUEL Gym

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15TH
Early Release Wednesday

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15TH
7:00 PM
FHS/CASA Dance Concert
FHS Auditorium

THURSDAY, MAY 16TH
7:00 PM
FMS Spring Orchestra Concert
FHS Auditorium

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