The Fine Arts Department and the Highland Park High School PTO
Proudly present...

**FOCUS ON THE ARTS 2015**

The mission of FOCUS is to increase the appreciation and understanding of the arts and of art professionals through more than 250 workshops, performances, and lectures, all free of charge. We seek to educate and entertain people of multicultural and diverse backgrounds by exposing them to the many facets of the arts. The three-day and four-evening celebration of the arts has been the impetus for careers and the inspiration for lifelong interest in the arts. This is evident by the more than three dozen alumni who are returning to present their talents. It is our goal to continue this tradition at Highland Park High School.

We sincerely thank the hundreds of community volunteers who have generously given their time and talents with enthusiasm and grace. It has been a pleasure to work with the parents, students and staff at Highland Park High School in preparing FOCUS 2015. This year we are extremely proud to present to you the 25th celebration of FOCUS ON THE ARTS!

FOCUS HPHS Coordinator . . . . Jody Weinberg
PTO Coordinators . . . . . . . . . . . . Susan Humerick
Colleen Kelley
Nancy Mills
Mindy Sterns

**HISTORY OF FOCUS ON THE ARTS**

In 1964, Highland Park High School through the visionary efforts of Dr. John W. Price, Shirley M. Hartz, and Ruth Esserman, developed a program that would expose students and the community to quality visual and performing arts. The goal was to build an appreciation and understanding of the arts and art professionals by the students and the community of Highland Park. Thanks to the twenty years of leadership by retired coordinator & HPHS visual art teacher, Ann Slavick, FOCUS has grown to include communication arts and more cutting edge artists. By showcasing the talents of our own high school students, FOCUS has created the opportunity for students to work side by side with professionals in their field of expertise. FOCUS is clearly a collaboration of the city, school, students, staff, and community members. It is our hope that your discoveries at FOCUS 2015 will ignite a spark in you that will fuel your lifelong journey in the arts – whether it be as an artist or arts supporter!
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**A special thanks for all the support given to FOCUS by**

Superintendent, Dr. George Fornero  
Assistant Superintendents, Barry Bolek, Sue Hebson  
Principal, Tom Koulentes  
Assistant Principals, Eileen McMahon, Patrick Sassen, Casey Wright  
Deans, Claudia Lopez, Brian Rome, Patrick Sassen  
Fine Arts Department Chair, Amy Burnetti  
Activities Director, Lesa Friedrich  
PTO Co-Presidents, Susan Humerick, Amy Small

**District 113 Board of Education**  
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Julie Gordon, Debbie Hymen, Stacey Meyer, David Small, Michael Smith
Our Sincere Thanks

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Ravinia
YEA! Highland Park

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Judith Nan Joy
Jack Miller Family Foundation

Platinum Angel
Nancy and Andrew Mills
Cari and Michael J. Sacks

Golden Angel
City of Highland Park
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Lois and Jon Mills
Moraine Township
Mary Jo Papich
Felicia and Michael Perlman & Family
Rosenblum Family
David and Robin Small
Sodexo
Mindy and Jay Sterns
Jody and Dean Weinberg
Focus on the Arts is proud to once again host **Focus Night at the Movies** on the Friday prior to the official start of Focus 2015. Movie Night is dedicated to student film work and a tribute to the power of film. With an Academy Awards theme, the night will feature student films of all kinds. Students in filmmaking classes or working independently submitted their short films. A student/faculty panel then selected films to premiere on this special night in front of a live audience. Movie night is free and open to the public.
Focus on the Arts invites you to celebrate our 25th biennial event with a spectacular evening of jazz, featuring Chicago’s own Ramsey Lewis.

We open this year’s Focus with a tribute performance to Ramsey Lewis, a living jazz legend who has created his own unique sound. Emceed by former HPHS Fine and Applied Arts Chair Mary Jo Papich, the evening begins with our talented Jazz Ensemble and Chamber Orchestra performing works arranged by Duke Ellington and Count Basie, followed by new orchestral arrangements of Ramsey’s greatest hits by Andrew Chukerman. Act One ends with participants from Ravinia Festival’s REACH*TEACH*PLAY education programs and its Steans Music Institute presenting an original piece that pays tribute to Ramsey’s style.

Join us between acts for a short video celebrating 50 years of Focus on the Arts. Created by HPHS alums Nicolas DeGrazia and Daniel Kullman of Bitter Jester Creative, the production highlights the vision, commitment and love that has gone into creating Focus and the impact Focus has had on students and the community.

Then in Act Two, the man himself takes over, with Ramsey Lewis performing with the Ramsey Lewis Quintet. Known as an innovator in the world of jazz and a jazz icon, Lewis continues to explore new artistic opportunities. In celebration of his 80th birthday, Ramsey Lewis will make his Chicago Symphony Orchestra debuts both as composer and piano soloist this summer at Ravinia, the oldest and most diverse musical festival in America, right in our own backyard.

After a brief Q&A with Ramsey, the evening concludes with a bring-the-house-down rendition of the hymn “Oh Happy Day,” uniting the evening’s musicians with the HPHS Chorale.

This is an evening not to be missed!

This evening is generously sponsored by Ravinia

The video is generously underwritten by
the City of Highland Park Cultural Arts Commission
Ramsey Lewis, Piano
Lifelong Chicagoan Ramsey Lewis began taking piano lessons at age 4, and by age 15 he had joined a fellow church musician’s band and began to learn the language of jazz. That seven-piece group, called The Cleffs, provided the roots for his first trio, which would include bassist Eide Young and percussionist Redd Holt. The Ramsey Lewis Trio became a fixture on the burgeoning Chicago jazz scene and was soon signed to Chess Records, which issued the group’s debut album, *Ramsey Lewis and the Gentlemen of Swing*. In 1956, Lewis earned his first Grammy Award in 1965 for his rendition of Dobie Gray’s “The ‘In’ Crowd,” and continued to top the charts with his versions of “Hang on Sloopy” and “Wade in the Water.” He teamed with Earth, Wind & Fire for the 1974 crossover hit *Sun Goddess*, on which he first experimented with electric instruments. Lewis has since joined forces with such artists as Nancy Wilson for *The Two of Us* (1984) and London’s Philharmonia Orchestra for *A Classic Encounter* (1988). Between 1997 and 2009 he hosted WNUI’s *The Ramsey Lewis Morning Show*, which spawned the nationally syndicated radio show *Legends of Jazz with Ramsey Lewis* in 2006. Currently artistic director of jazz at Ravinia, Lewis has had a long partnership with the festival that has included the formation of the Jazz Scholars and Mentors program and several commissioned works, including the symphonic poem *Proclamation of Hope* for Lincoln’s Bicentennial, the song *Quiet Moments* for the 25th anniversary of Ravinia’s Steans Music Institute, and his first piano concerto, which he will premiere this summer at Ravinia as he simultaneously makes his Chicago Symphony Orchestra debut. His 2010 album, *Songs from the Heart: Ramsey Lewis Plays Ramsey*, featured a collection of songs that received their premiere at or were commissioned for Ravinia by Welz Kauffman. Lewis’s latest album, titled *Ramsey, Taking Another Look*, was released in 2011. In 2007 he received the National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Masters Award.

HHPH Chamber Orchestra
The Highland Park Chamber Orchestra is the top string ensemble in the school. For years, the group has been performing in and around the community. Along with the classics, the group, under the direction of Remington Clark, emphasizes new music like recent performances of the Shostakovich Piano Quintet and Steve Reich’s *Different Trains* with tape loop. Many students in the ensemble also play with some of the finest youth orchestras in Chicago, including Midwest Young Artists and MIC’s Academy. HPHS’s Chamber Orchestra has performed concerts in Costa Rica and this year will be traveling to Ireland and Scotland.
HPHS Chorale

As the premiere large choral ensemble at HPHS, Chorale has had the opportunity to perform in amazing locations throughout the world. In 2011, following a thorough audition, they were selected to sing at the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. In 2004, Chorale was invited to sing with the Czech National Symphony in Prague, at an international benefit concert for disadvantaged young people. In 2001, they were selected to sing at St. Mark’s Basilica in Venice. Chorale also remembers with great fondness a performance in Cuzco, Peru, for orphaned children. Other international tours included performances in Sweden, Norway, Denmark, England, and Hungary. Chorale is an 80-voice advanced choir, which has been under the direction of Mrs. Sheri Owens for 20 years.

HPHS Jazz Ensemble

The Highland Park High School Jazz Ensemble is one of the premier music performance organizations at HPHS, and is in constant demand to perform at school and social events throughout the community. The Jazz Ensemble consists of 22 of the finest instrumental music students, selected by audition, who study and perform a variety of jazz styles. Several internationally known jazz artists have performed with the Jazz Ensemble and have also served as clinicians, including Doc Severinson, Jon Faddis, Marvin Stamm and Michael Vax. The Jazz Ensemble has performed internationally in our Sister City of Puerto Vallarta and also in the Prague Proms Concerts with the Czech National Symphony Orchestra. The Jazz Ensemble is under the direction of Joshua Chodoroff.

Mary Jo Papich

Mary Jo Papich, known for her avid support and leadership in arts education, is co-founder of the Jazz Education Network, which is now in every state and 22 countries. Serving public school education for more than 35 years, she was the Fine and Applied Arts Chair at Highland Park High School and a past coordinator of Focus on the Arts. Other leadership positions include: founder of the Puerto Vallarta Jazz Festival via HP Sister Cities Foundation, Artistic Access to Excellence Panel for the National Endowment for the Arts, member of the Grammy Music Educator of the Year Selection Panel, The Art Center HP Board, Bravo Waukegan Board of Directors and past member of Highland Park Cultural Arts Commission. Papich has received many honors such as Lifetime Jazz Achievement Awards from DownBeat magazine, the Arts Inspiration Award from The Art Center, Superintendent’s Recognition Award, and the Prestigious Women in Jazz Award from the Chicago Jazz Ensemble. HPHS Patrons of the Arts awards a Leadership Scholarship in her name annually. Her vision is for all children to know and appreciate the musical heritage of jazz in the US and as a global music.
ART NIGHT
Wednesday, April 15, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Cafeteria, Student Commons, and Walkways

Experience the excitement of Art Night, showcasing an eclectic selection of professional local artists. Take the opportunity to interact with the artists as you enjoy seeing their work displayed and watch as they work on pieces in progress. Talented HPHS visual art students also present their work. We are delighted to have you join us for this exciting evening that is free and open to HPHS students, families of all ages and community members.

ART NIGHT EXHIBITORS

Tony Armendariz ............................... Watercolor
Chris Baker ................................. Bonsai
Nancy Pochis Bank .......................... Mural
George Berlin ............................ Interactive Projection Art
Roberto Bermejo ............................. Painting
Tom Burtonwood ............................. 3-D Printing
Amy Butts .................................. Jewelry/Metalsmithing
Chicago Mosaic School ................... Mosaic
Chicago Woodturners ........................ Turned Wood Art & Craft
Hyangsook Cho ............................ Fabric Collage
Pate Conaway ................................. Sculpture
I. Gayle Farbstein & Toshiko Kalback .......................... Ikebana
Deirdre Fox ................................ Recycled Art
Carol Gildar ................................. Silk Dyes
Lisa Goesling ............................... Scratchboard
Iris Goldstein ............................... Plaster Relief Sculpture
Michelle Graves ............................. Digital Projection
Joe Greenberg ............................... Glass
Allison Halver ................................ Bodypainting
Joan S. Holleb ................................. Patina/Oil on Copper
Beth Kamhi ................................ Woven Steel Bead Sculpture
Elkana Keter ................................ Architecture
Jill King .................................. Mixed Media Sculpture
Jenny Learner ................................ Encaustic
Ellen Lustig ................................ Live Digital Caricatures
Peter Mars ................................ Silkscreen Printmaking
Susan Messer McBride .................. Ceramics
Robin Ann Meyer .......................... Performance Painting
Margoth Moreno .......................... Silversmith
Kristoffer Neumann ....................... Effects Makeup
Rodney Owens ............................. Woodworking
Jacquy Pfeiffer ............................. Sugar
ART NIGHT EXHIBITORS CONT.

Tim Pfiffner ................................................................. Ceramics
Jonathan Plotkin ...................................................... Mixed Media Illustrations
Caren Helene Rudman .............................................. Mixed Media
Nancy Schwartz ......................................................... Beadweaving
Mary Seyfarth ............................................................. Ceramics
Ian M. Sherwin .......................................................... Origami
Tami Snow ................................................................. Printmaking
Kay Thomas ............................................................... Sumi-e
Nina Weiss ................................................................. Oil on Canvas
Bev Zadikoff ............................................................... Beadweaving

STUDENT EXHIBITORS

Dylan Behun
Shahar Dahari
Celia Echt
Noah Elder
Juan Estela
James Franks
Tilly Freedman
Drew C. Gaines
Jorge Garcia
Bernadette Garcia-Vela
Lili Griffiths
Veronica Kriss
Michelle Lencioni
Kate Lewis
Dani Lewittes
Grayson Lichtenstein
Juan Marban

Rachel McKeag
Anne Mendes
Guy Modlin
Fiona Patera
Kaitlyn Peddle
Paulina Pulido
Josh Rivlin
Anali Ruiz
Keili Ruiz
Lui Sanchez
Alexie Titiyevsky
Caleb Viti
Kendall Werhane
Cara Wren
Alex (A.J.) Zasky
Zoe Zirlin
Dance Night

DANCE NIGHT
Thursday, April 16, 7:00 p.m.
Highland Park High School Auditorium

A magical evening of dance awaits as Focus on the Arts presents four of the top Chicago dance companies: Chicago Repertory Ballet, Giordano Dance Chicago, Hubbard Street 2, and Thodos Dance Chicago. Highland Park High School’s very own dance troupe, Collage, will also present a signature piece.

**Chicago Repertory Ballet** is Chicago’s contemporary dance company dedicated to the ideology of ballet – telling stories through dance. CRB seeks to innovate on what we know according to its mission: Through pushing the boundaries of what is presented in choreography or storytelling, Chicago Repertory Ballet seeks to inform emerging artists, and the community at large. With its dedication to the contemporary choreographic voice, Chicago Repertory Ballet will stand at the forefront of dance in the next generation.

**Giordano Dance Chicago (GDC)**
America’s original jazz dance company, captivates audiences worldwide with dynamic performances and the diversity and wide appeal of its repertoire. The mission of Giordano Dance Chicago is to create and present new and innovative jazz dance choreography, often redefining and expanding the very definition of jazz dance, and to bring this invaluable American art form to audiences and students of all ages and from all ethnic backgrounds. GDC is also dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the Giordano Technique. Whether on the stage or in the classroom, GDC strives to enrich lives through high-energy, high-impact dance and promises to connect deeply with its audience.

**Giordano Dance Chicago: “Feelin’ Good Sweet”, 2014**
Choreography: Ray Leeper; Photo: Gorman Cook Photography
Hubbard Street 2 prepares young adults for careers in contemporary dance, in a dynamic environment that fosters artistic growth while allowing them to hone multiple techniques. To date, 14 members have advanced to Hubbard Street’s main company, with numerous others joining top dance companies worldwide. HS2’s dancers reach thousands annually with diverse programming that provides valuable outreach in schools, site-specific work for museums and cultural institutions, and evening-length performances of mixed repertoire. 

Hubbard Street 2: Dancers: Andrea Thompson and Jules Joseph, foreground, and Adrienne Lipson in Changed in its Affection by 2014 International Commissioning Project Choreographer: Bryan Arias; Photo: Todd Rosenberg

For over two decades, Thodos Dance Chicago has performed with captivating style described as “breathtakingly athletic” and “powerfully beautiful.” TDC was founded in 1992 by Artistic Director, Melissa Thodos, as a hub for dancers to grow, not only as performers, but as well-rounded dance artists through a unique mission of inspiring expression through dance education, dance creation, and dance performance. The company’s artistic vision features the American voice in contemporary dance and is nationally acclaimed for its story ballets, unique collaborations, and innovative repertoire. 

Thodos Dance Chicago: Photo: Christopher Williams

Collage is Highland Park High School’s Fine Arts performing dance troupe. These talented dancers are devoted to presenting a variety of modern dance choreography for the school as well as the community. They have performed at the National High School Dance Festival, Dance Chicago, Puerto Vallarta, the HPHS Country Club for senior citizens groups, Focus on the Arts and other events. They have hosted two High School Dance Festivals at our school and several neighboring High Schools have participated. The Festivals featured dance and nutrition workshops and culminated with a performance by each school. Collage meets as a class and is under the direction of Dia Fornasiero.

Collage
Artists in Residence at Focus 2015

Nancy Pochis Bank & Eric Orner

Nancy Pochis Bank is an HPHS alum and a Chicago-based artist who specializes in large-scale art installations. She works in paint and chalk, using realistic and illustrative styles, as well as custom hand lettering and typographic elements. She often creates work for the public sphere, recently completing two giant fire hydrants and a horse exhibited on Michigan Avenue to honor Chicago’s firefighters and police officers. She also created four giant globes for the international environmental art exhibit, “Cool Globes: Hot Ideas for a Cooler Planet.” Nancy has been commissioned to create artwork for corporate clients such as Nike, Starbucks, Kraft, Jim Beam, Crains, Navistar, Nestlé and Pepsico, as well as many private portrait clients. She has been honored with the “People’s Choice” and “Best in Show” awards in two national chalk festivals, and is the recipient of two Neighborhood Arts Grants from the City of Chicago. HPHS students enjoyed her Pavement Art workshop during Focus 2013.

Eric Orner is an HPHS alum and a cartoonist currently based in New York. His comics and graphic stories have appeared in many newspapers, magazines and fiction anthologies, including the 2011 edition of Houghton Mifflin’s Best American Comics, the New Republic, the San Francisco Chronicle and The Washington Post. For years Eric’s comic strip The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green was published in the San Francisco Bay Times. Ethan Green has been anthologized in 4 books from St. Martin’s Press, and was adapted as a feature film starring Daniel Letterle and Meredith Baxter in 2006. Eric’s most recent cartoons are about life in Jerusalem, and can be viewed at 3200stories.org.

In honor of the 25th biennial Focus on the Arts, Nancy and Eric will collaborate with students to create a permanent indoor mural for the school. With a highly visible location near the H entrance, the mural will celebrate the unique aspects of HPHS and our community for all to see. We thank the HPHS Class of 1964 for their generous grant, which will fund project expenses.

Pinqy Ring

Marisol Vélez, known by the stage name “Pinqy Ring”, is an honors graduate from the University of Illinois at Chicago, a poet, proud Puerto Rican, journalist, educator, speaker and philanthropist. Ms. Ring’s most important achievement, however, has been chasing her dream as a female rapper and dedicating her artistic career to creating social change through music. Pinqy has been featured on DNAInfo, Vocalo Radio, Microphone Bully, Power 92, Fake Shore Drive and CANTV. In 2013 Pinqy Ring was given the cover of The HYPE Magazine, and in 2014 was highlighted within the pages of her alma mater’s UIC Alumni Association Magazine. In 2014 Pinqy Ring became a grant recipient of the City of Chicago’s Department of Cultural Affairs and Services Individual Artist Program, propelling...
Artists in Residence at Focus 2015

her music dreams forward and granting her the funding for her album *Herstory: The Lost Chapters*, which will be released in the Spring.

Pinqy Ring will be working with the Highland Park High School Poetry Club to develop content, refine performance technique and prepare individual and group poems for the Louder than a Bomb competition as well as Focus on the Arts Student Showcase performances. Pinqy Ring is excited to work with Focus in helping young poets project their stories to the world in a powerful, lyrical and melodic way. YEA! Highland Park has generously sponsored this residency.

Redmoon Theater

Over the past 24 years, Redmoon Theater has become a valued Chicago institution with its high profile collaborations, vibrant outdoor performances, and dynamic community and educational programming. Redmoon’s site-specific performances have opened in Millennium Park, animated the façade of the Museum of Contemporary Art, commemorated the groundbreaking of the Modern Wing of the Art Institute and brought tens of thousands of spectators to the banks of the Chicago River. Redmoon has also brought its work to the parks and streets of Chicago’s most underserved neighborhoods, using spectacle to bridge differences and transform the ways that people see and understand public spaces. Since 1990, Redmoon has performed for more than 380,000 people in 49 different neighborhoods, and around the globe in Holland, Ireland, Australia, Brazil, China, Japan and France. In its 57,000 square foot facility in Pilsen, Redmoon conducts large-scale indoor spectacles and private events, and offers structured, skills-based internships and mentoring opportunities to emerging young artists.

A Redmoon Teaching Artist/Professional Percussionist will lead a residency for student percussionists. The workshop will illustrate the process of composing music that serves as a spectacle device, helping to create a moment that is visually entertaining. The session will culminate in a fully immersive opportunity for students to climb the Drum Crane Tower and experience a professional-caliber rehearsal with amplified sound, spinning motion and more.

A Redmoon professional DJ will work with student DJs, teaching them how to perform from the Mobile DJ Unit. These students will then be given the opportunity to build a set list, learn new electronic manipulation techniques, and ultimately perform as the “pre-show/post-show” DJ for the culminating Focus 2015 Redmoon performance.

A Redmoon Master Engineer will lead technical theater students through the process of assembling this enormous custom spectacle performance contraption. Their day-long session will include a short presentation outlining the object’s design and development, including sharing sketches and blueprints. Students will then be led safely through portions of building the Drum Crane Tower for the Focus performance and will be given the opportunity to assist in the strike after the performance.

YEA! Highland Park has generously sponsored this residency.
Stef Skills

An artist, graffiti writer, mother, educator, curator, and DJ, Stef Skills has been painting graffiti, street art, and murals for over 20 years. Stef has also organized and curated the longest-running graffiti art showcase in Chicago for the past seven years.

From an early age, Stef developed a love of handwriting and hip hop. She eventually combined her two passions, making flyers for shows and becoming a pioneer for women in Chicago’s graffiti scene beginning in the early 90s. Still an active graffiti “bomber” - she was among those featured in the Cultural Center’s recent survey “Paint Paste Sticker: Chicago Street Art” - the 42-year-old single mom teaches Chicago Park District art classes as she plans for the day she’ll travel the world as a full-time artist.

Stef Skills will be working with students throughout the days of Focus on a mural for our outdoor graffiti wall. Stop by and see this original work of art come to life. After Focus, the mural will be on display in our school for all to see. YEA! Highland Park has generously sponsored this residency.
Daily Focus Schedule

The following schedule will show you when you are to attend your regular classes and when you will attend FOCUS events. Refer to this schedule throughout FOCUS 2015. Attendance will be taken at each session. Have a wonderful time exploring the arts!

**Wednesday, April 15**

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**Thursday, April 16**

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**Scheduling Terms to Know**

**Double Period (DP)** A Double Period is a two-period workshop, usually in a subject where more time is needed to get into the activity at hand or to complete a project. If you choose a Double Period workshop, you will have fewer workshops in other areas, but spend more time on an individual subject.

**Master Class (MC)** A Master Class is designed for students with prior experience and/or a special interest in a particular field. In all master classes, your active participation will be expected. You don’t have to be a “master” actor, artist, creative writer, dancer or musician; but you must be very interested and willing to take part and be challenged! Limited space is available.

**Open Master Class (OMC)** An Open Master Class is open to all students. The class will demonstrate the art through students who have prepared for the workshop. Please be courteous to your performing peers.
### Wednesday, April 15

**3rd Period 9:25-10:10**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Chicago Woodturners</td>
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<td>Victoria Marchio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erika Tuke</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Dia Fornasier</td>
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<td>Erica Daniels</td>
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<td>Improv Playhouse</td>
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<td>Mark Bartelstein</td>
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<td>Frank Fontana</td>
<td>A328-330</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allan Loeb</td>
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<td>Horizon - Navy Band Great Lakes</td>
<td>Music</td>
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<td>Jeff Libman</td>
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<td>Spektral Quartet</td>
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<td>Chuck Gniewch</td>
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**4th Period 10:20-11:05**

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<td>Garage, DP 1 of 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tim Piftliner</td>
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<td>Stef Skills</td>
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<td>Jasmine Quintana</td>
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**5th period 11:10-11:55**

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<td>Peter Rudman</td>
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<td>Adam Busch</td>
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<td>Groundswell Films</td>
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6th Period  12:00-12:45
Roberto Bermejo ..................... Art ..................... C211, DP 2 of 2 ..................... 26
Chicago Woodturners ............... Art ..................... C106 ..................... 29
Jan Lewis .......................... Art ..................... C109 ..................... 47
Mary Schmich ........................ Creative Writing ..................... A325 ..................... 58
Hip Hop ConnXion .................. Dance ..................... IM Gym ..................... 37
Muntu Dance Theatre ................ Dance ..................... Bodyworks ..................... 50
Mr. Krist .......................... Drama ..................... G114 ..................... 43
Jimmy Jellinek ..................... Media ..................... A342 ..................... 41
Brian Levant ....................... Media ..................... A222, MC ..................... 46
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Incognito by Michael Sidney Fosberg ......................................................... Social Justice ..................... Auditorium, DP 1 of 2 ..................... 40

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Eikana Keter ......................... Architecture ..................... A322, DP 1 of 2 ..................... 42
Nancy Pochis Bank & Eric Orner .... Art ..................... H Entrance - Inside ..................... 24
George Berlin ........................ Art ..................... A327 ..................... 26
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Daniel Libman ....................... Media ..................... A328-330 ..................... 47
Mancow .......................... Media ..................... A343 ..................... 49
Alliance Brass Quintet .............. Music ..................... E113 Band Room ..................... 23
Adam Busch ....................... Music ..................... E117 Choral Room, DP 2 of 2 ..................... 28
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Eikana Keter ......................... Architecture ..................... A322, DP 2 of 2 ..................... 42
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Chris Baker ......................... Art ..................... E102 ..................... 24
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Stef Skills ........................ Art ..................... Courtyard, DP 2 of 2 ..................... 59
Karen Weiss ........................ Art ..................... B100, MC ..................... 64
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Wednesday, April 15
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Wendy Levy                               Art            A322          47
Kit Paulson                              Art            C109          56
Todd Rosenberg                           Art            C109          56
Stef Skills                               Art            Courtyard, DP 1 of 2  59
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Jazz Project & Latin Street Dancing      Dance            Auditorium  66/41/45
DanceWorks Chicago                       Dance            Dance Studio   30
Studio Mangiameli Flamenco              Dance            IM Gym          62
Lookingglass Theatre                     Drama            B100, MC           48
The Performer’s School                   Drama            E117 Choral Room, OMC  53
Steve Dolinsky                           Media           A316-318      31
Dean Reynolds                            Media           A342          55
Adam Rudman                              Media           A240          56
Bobby Talamine                           Media           A343          63
Guitarra Azul                            Music           Exhibition Gym  36
HPHS Chamber Ensembles                   Showcase        Studio Theatre  67
Playback Theatre                         Showcase        E113 Band Room  66
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Nancy Pochis Bank & Eric Orner           Art            C211, DP 2 of 2   49
Victoria Marchio                          Art            C211, DP 2 of 2  49
Kit Paulson                              Art            Garage, DP 2 of 2  53
Stef Skills                              Art            Courtyard, DP 2 of 2  59
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Robert Kurson                            Creative Writing A327          44
Q Brothers                                 Creative Writing A325          55
Anne Shimojima                            Creative Writing A222          59
Latin Street Dancing                     Dance            Dance Studio   45
Lookingglass Theatre                     Drama            B100, MC           48
Mark Silverman                           Media            Auditorium     59
Chuck Swirsky                             Media           A226          63
Bobby Talamine                           Media           A343          63
Kevin Tibbles                             Media           A342          64
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Kaberon, Mintz, Rudy                      Showcase        E106 Orchestra Room  67/68

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Jill King                                 Art            C109          42
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Q Brothers                                Creative Writing A325          55
DanceWorks Chicago, Graffiti Dancers,    Inaside Chicago Dance  55
Inside Chicago Dance                      Dance            Auditorium  30/36/40
Hubbard Street 2                         Dance            Dance Studio, MC  39
Maxwell Street Klezmer Band              Dance            Exhibition Gym  49
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Ryan Baker                                Media           A342          24
Lou Canellis                             Media           A343          28
Dana Hughes                              Media           A240          39
Danny Chaimson                           Music           E106 Orchestra Room  29
Nathan Laube                              Music           E117 Choral Room  45
Roth Mobot                               Music           E102, DP 2 of 2  56
Dedé Sampalo                             Music           Student Commons  57
Young Chicago Authors                    Social Justice  A328-330  64
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<td>Nancy Pochis Bank &amp; Eric Orner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roberto Bermejo</td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>C113, DP 1 of 2</td>
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<td>Kit Paulson</td>
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<td>Jonathan Plotkin</td>
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<td>Inside Chicago Dance</td>
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<td>Special Gifts Theatre</td>
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<td>Phillip Koch</td>
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<td>Steve Kriozere</td>
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<td>Bolaji Susan</td>
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### Period 7 1:25-2:20

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<td>Susan Merdinger</td>
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25TH CELEBRATION
### 4th Period  10:05-10:50

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<td>Carlos Ortiz</td>
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<td>Rebecca Makkai</td>
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<td>The Neo-Futurists</td>
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<td>Nick Sandys</td>
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<td>J.P. Anderson</td>
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<td>Corinne Ness</td>
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<td>Noah Plotkin</td>
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<td>Jessica Berens</td>
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<td>AJ Goehle</td>
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<td>Karen Springen</td>
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Friday, April 17
Focus on the Arts Welcomes
South Shore Drill Team

Wednesday  Period 3  9:25 - 10:10  Auditorium
Wednesday  Period 4  10:20 - 11:05  Auditorium

They’ve performed in the 2013 Presidential Inaugural Parade, and at such venues as Walt Disney World, Soldier Field and the Indy 500; now they’re coming to HPHS!

Please welcome South Shore Drill Team and enjoy their unique combination of athleticism, dance and pageantry as they kick off Focus with color and flair. Hailing from the South Side of Chicago, SSDT has been entertaining audiences throughout the country for over 30 years while providing a positive and creative outlet for at-risk youth. As the winners of the 2011 Winter Guard International World Championships, SSDT beat out hundreds of groups from across the country and around the globe with their professional-level percussion and dance performance.

Come and experience an exciting production by South Shore Drill Team as they bring music to life through high-energy precision drilling, color guard events and graceful dance routines.
Elijah Aaron

Elijah Aaron is a national touring one-man band: a singer/songwriter/beatboxing percussionist. With the help of a looping pedal, he plays many different instruments and builds them up in front of the audience. By the time he's done, it sounds like a full band is playing on stage with him. He is also the Resident Musician at The Ohio State University Department of Dance in Columbus, Ohio. Come hang out and see a little bit of everything. You'll learn some beatboxing and you will also help build musical loops right along with him! ‘Twill be chill.

Friday  Period 4  10:05-10:50  E106 Orchestra Room

About Face Theatre

About Face Theatre creates exceptional, innovative, and adventurous plays to advance the national dialogue on gender and sexual identity. In Checking Boxes, an original play devised by the About Face Youth Theatre, characters explore the often overlooked intersections of immigration, undocumented, and the LGBTQIA experience. Through storytelling, spoken word, and slam poetry, these talented young people share experiences of coming out, growing up, and pursuing the American dream. After the show, you will be encouraged to ask the actors about their stories and to share your own experiences.

Thursday  Period 5  11:25-12:20  Studio Theatre
Thursday  Period 6  12:25-1:20  Studio Theatre

Brian Adler

Lights, camera, data! Today’s movies showcase more elaborate and convincing animation and visual effects than ever. When executed properly, the digital wizardry is invisible to the viewer, the results virtually indistinguishable from real life, enabling filmmakers to tell stories never before dreamed possible. Meet HPHS alum Brian Adler for a look behind the scenes at some of the most stunning visual achievements in modern cinema, television and video games. You’ll learn how art, engineering, and creativity collide to turn movie stars into super heroes and how the digital data created is exploited far beyond the silver screen.

Friday  Period 5  10:55-11:40  A328-330

Jill Alberts

Design and make your own beaded bracelet under the eye of professional jewelry designer Jill Alberts. Sold in her Ravinia boutique, Jill’s beautiful creations are based on one-of-a-kind gemstones that are hand-selected by the artist herself. The inspiration comes from Jill’s love of fashion and her personal design aesthetic. Jill has been successfully designing her jewelry for over 15 years and has clients all over the world.

Thursday  Period 6  12:25-1:20  G114
Thursday  Period 7  1:25-2:20  G114

Alliance Brass Quintet

Hailing from Chicago and comprised of the finest young musical talents, the Alliance Brass Quintet is the perfect blend of virtuosity and vitality. Come see for yourself how Alliance Brass dazzles audiences with a repertoire ranging from early Renaissance to jazz and beyond. Alliance Brass engages audiences with both excitement and insight, offering a fascinating and rich musical performance. Their infectious enthusiasm will inspire your passion for music!

Wednesday  Period 7  12:50-1:35  E113 Band Room
J.P. Anderson

So you want to be a writer? Learn about life in publishing from *Michigan Avenue* magazine editor-in-chief J.P. Anderson, whose 20-year career has ranged from travel writing in the French West Indies to covering Chicago’s restaurant scene as the restaurant critic for citysearch.com. Anderson will share stories from his career and lead a discussion about getting started in the business, from landing an internship to pitching successful story ideas.

Friday  
Period 4  
10:05-10:50  
A342

ArtBeat Live

Elliott From, founder of ArtBeat Live, has taken performance art and made it his own. Each performance is an explosion of music and color that ignites energy and passion through the subjects he paints on his canvas. Come and watch Elliott’s entertaining technique as he creates a painting with explosive brush strokes, vivid colors and an expressionistic style.

Wednesday  
Period 8  
1:40-2:25  
IM Gym

Chris Baker

Bonsai is the art of beautifying plants, in a variety of styles. Now you can design your own bonsai tree with Chris Baker, curator of the bonsai collection at the Chicago Botanic Garden. Chris will give you a small tree that you will repot in a bonsai container and prune according to the principles of bonsai. You will leave with a freshly repotted tree and basic understanding of its care.

Wednesday  
Period 8  
1:40-2:25  
E102

Kyle Baker

HPHS alum Kyle Baker will show you how he makes silkscreen concert posters and fine art prints for a living, using examples of work made for both local and internationally popular rock bands. Then you will get a chance to pull a squeegee and make your own screen print using specialty acrylic inks.

Thursday  
Period 8  
11:25-12:20  
C106

Ryan Baker

Ryan Baker is the lead sports anchor for CBS-TV Chicago. He has served as host of Sports Sunday, Chicago Bears pre- and post-game shows, and The Bruce Weber Show. Ryan has reported on the Olympics, the White Sox’s World Series win, and the Bears’ Super Bowl run, and has interviewed both Michael Jordan and Tiger Woods. Join Ryan and learn about his exciting career in sports media.

Thursday  
Period 5  
11:25-12:20  
A342

Nancy Pochis Bank & Eric Orner

Create a bit of HPHS history with artists and HPHS alums Nancy Pochis Bank and Eric Orner! With content inspired by HPHS students, Nancy and Eric will lead workshop participants in creating a permanent indoor mural on a brick wall near the H entrance. Working with acrylic and latex paints, you will gain hands-on experience in all aspects of creating a large-scale art installation and gain exposure to Nancy realistic and illustrative styles as well as Eric’s comic and graphic techniques.

Nancy Pochis Bank:

Wednesday  
Period 5  
11:10-11:55  
H Entrance – Inside

Wednesday  
Period 7  
12:50-1:35  
H Entrance - Inside

Thursday  
Period 4  
10:25-11:20  
H Entrance – Inside

Thursday  
Period 6  
12:25-1:20  
H Entrance – Inside

24 Focus On The Arts 2015
Barrelhouse Chuck & Erwin Helfer

Music

Authentic Chicago blues stand-outs Barrelhouse Chuck and Erwin Helfer will excite and delight you with their authentic, fun and low-down Chicago blues and boogie woogie. They are the last living links to some of the most influential creators of Chicago blues: Jimmy and Mama Yancey, Sunnyland Slim, and Little Brother Montgomery. Barrelhouse Chuck and Erwin Helfer will perform solos and duets in this must-see, must-hear workshop.

Friday Period 8 1:25-2:10 Student Commons

Mark Bartelstein

Media

Driven by his dream of becoming a sports agent, Mark Bartelstein took a chance and started Priority Sports. Today, it’s one of the largest independently owned sports agencies in America representing many well-known NBA and NFL athletes. Join Mark to hear about everything that goes into building a world-wide sports representation business. The discussion will include all of the components that make up a successful business beyond the actual negotiation of a contract.

Wednesday Period 3 9:25-10:10 A343

Patti Bartelstein & Jason Houston

Art

Join visual artist and HPHS alum Patti Bartelstein along with photographer Jason Houston for an inspiring open forum dialogue and brief workshop on how to turn your creativity into a force for change that becomes the spark for creative activism. Patti will share how Connectivity, Creativity and Collaboration are the driving force behind THE PROJECT ROOM, a gallery and multi-disciplinary space she founded to inspire action to positively affect the world. Participate with Patti and Jason in a PROJECT COLLIDER experience where you will see how collaboration and new perspectives affect the strength of cause-driven work.

Thursday Period 7 1:25-2:20 A236

Benjamin Historic Certifications

Architecture

Board the bus and take an exciting tour of some of Highland Park's most interesting architecture. Join architectural historian Susan Benjamin to see buildings that you’ve passed by for years through a new lens. Learn about some of the people and architects that helped put Highland Park on the map since the turn of the 20th Century! At the close of the tour, you will have the chance to see what’s inside one of Highland Park’s significant homes.

Wednesday Period 4 & 5 DP 10:20-11:55 H Entrance

Bent Fork Bakery

Art

Meet Chef Ashley Serdar of Bent Fork Bakery to discover the art of cake decorating. Ashley will explain the use of fondant, gum paste, disco dust and other tools of the trade to make professional-style occasion cakes. The icing on the cake will be when you get to try it for yourself!

Wednesday Period 5 11:10-11:55 B100 - Kitchen
Jessica Berens

In this hand-on glass fusing workshop, artist Jessica Berens will teach you how to cut and layer glass and create interesting designs. Your design will then be turned into a magnificent pendant, keychain, or magnet that you can take home.

Friday

Period 5
10:55-11:40
C113

Matthew Berk

Meet HPHS alum Matthew Berk and discover what it’s like in the fast-paced entertainment world from the perspective of a recent college grad. Learn about the path Matthew has taken to find his place at the largest talent agency in the world, the excitement and dread that’s part of his daily existence, and the big picture of talent agencies and their place in the entertainment industry.

Friday

Period 7
12:35-1:20
A316-318

George Berlin

“Creative Genius” George Berlin animates in the real world with a super-cool demonstration and discussion of projection mapping. Light travels all over real things in ways you just have to see to believe! Great for anyone interested in video, animation, interactive art or design.

Wednesday

Period 7
12:50-1:35
A327

Joel Berman

No artistic experience is necessary for this entertaining workshop, where Joel Berman will use his trademark blend of warmth and humor to teach you how to sketch like an architect. Joel will provide a formulaic approach to creating freehand sketches of the built environment. Draw while you learn about composition, contrast, and contour lines, among other drawing techniques.

Friday

Period 4
10:05-10:50
C113

Roberto Bermejo

Focus welcomes Roberto Bermejo of Highland Park’s Sister City, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. Roberto is a well-known painter who has worked closely over the years with Puerto Vallarta artists Javier Niño and Ada Colorina, both past participants of Focus. Roberto’s paintings capture Vallarta and its people through beautiful, colorful scenes. Roberto will be sharing his talents and working with students to create their own urban landscape painting. This workshop is recommended for students who have some background in art and painting. We thank the HP Sister Cities Foundation for sponsoring Roberto’s participation in Focus on the Arts.

Wednesday

Period 5 & 6 DP
11:10-12:45
C211

Thursday

Period 6 & 7 DP
12:25-2:20
C113

Jacqueline Bevan

From fine art to memory books, mixed media collage can be used to create anything from sophisticated compositions to simple assemblages. In this hands-on workshop, you will view professional collage examples, learn the technique, and make your own work of art. Magazines will be provided, but students are encouraged to bring wrapping paper, letters, maps, photos, etc. to add a personal touch.

Thursday

Period 7
1:25-2:20
C109
The Artists

Brad Biggs
Creative Writing
Get the inside scoop on football from sports writer Brad Biggs. Brad has been covering the Chicago Bears and the NFL for 15 years, beginning at the Sun-Times in 2001 and moving to the Tribune in 2009. An award-winning beat reporter and columnist, he is also a contributor to 670 The Score and has contributed to the National Football Post, Sporting News and many other publications.

Thursday Period 6 12:25-1:20 A226

Bitter Jester Creative
Bitter Jester Creative (BJC), HP’s four-time Emmy® winning production company, was formed in 2001 by HPHS alums Nicolas DeGrazia, Charles Turck, and Daniel Kullman. BJC produces documentaries, web series, and commercials as well as the Bitter Jester Battle of the Bands (in its 10th year!) and The Comic Thread sketch comedy troupe. Nic and Dan will showcase the creation of their latest short film promoting a site in Chicago for the hoped-for Obama Presidential Library. They'll show you behind-the-scenes footage of helicopter filming, working with actors in L.A., and using cutting-edge motion graphics to create a pitch for the President of the United States.

Thursday Period 7 1:25-2:20 A343

Ellin Blumenthal
Art
What makes a dog look like a dog, and how can I learn to draw one? Drawing dogs can be fun and easy when you understand their basic anatomy. Pet portrait artist Ellin Blumenthal will help you look at diagrams and understand how the parts fit together. Using charcoal, you will explore furry surfaces and shiny noses. Bring a photo of your favorite dog or work from photos supplied by the instructor.

Friday Period 8 1:25-2:10 C109

Boomshaka
Music
Boomshaka is Northwestern University’s premier drum, dance, and rhythm ensemble. Their percussion instruments of choice include trashcans, their metal lids, and five-foot poles, to name but a few. They’ll perform for you and teach you a bit of how it’s done. Boomshaka connects the worlds of dance, music and percussion to form a unique performance ensemble driven by a love of rhythm! They are also glad to talk about their college experience and the arts community at Northwestern.

Friday Period 7 12:35-1:20 Auditorium

Stuart Brodsky
Architecture
Join architect Stuart Brodsky and “hack your classroom”! In this highly engaging and interactive design competition, you will be challenged to create the classroom of the future! Work with some of the best professional designers of educational facilities to understand how classrooms and schools are designed, and test your creativity and ability to innovate. Your project will be evaluated by a team of architects from Cannon Design, and the top three designs will be featured on The Third Teacher+ blog site, an internationally recognized site for school design.

Thursday Period 4 10:25-11:20 A217
Marion Brooks

As an award-winning news anchor for NBC-TV Chicago, Marion Brooks has covered everything from major natural disasters to politics, crime and courts to health, consumer issues to two Olympic games. Now Marion is coming to Focus to discuss the subject of sex trafficking in the Chicago area. After showing some videos of her work, Marion will lead a discussion to help raise awareness of this steadily increasing form of sexual exploitation.

Wednesday  Period 8  1:40-2:25  A343

Building Better Spaces at HPHS

Come and get a behind-the-scenes look at recent and future improvement projects at HPHS. Learn about the various phases of work, architectural considerations, facility requirements and challenges. Then take a brief tour of the construction site to see all the great changes at your school! You will have an opportunity to share input and feedback about the construction efforts.

Thursday  Period 7  1:25-2:20  H Entrance - Inside

Adam Busch

Come work with Adam Busch, a local director, writer, composer, performer, and educator.

1) For this interactive session, bring a prepared musical theatre song, and work to make it the perfect performance piece! You'll discuss vocal technique as well as lyric interpretation and performance tips. So come in and grab a front row seat to this fun and informative workshop! This is an open master class.

Wednesday  Period 5  11:10-11:55  E117 Choral Room

2) Explore the fun and funny, the sad and serious, the hummable to the humdrum, world of "The Musical". Join Adam for a fast-paced creative process that will include conceptualizing an original story and composing original songs, which will culminate in short performances from your original musical - all in 90 minutes! Impossible? Never! No experience required, just bring your creativity and your voice.

Wednesday  Period 6 & 7 DP  12:00-1:35  E117 Choral Room

Dean Bushala

Have you ever wondered how they got that shot of hunters in the Amazon or the frozen wasteland of the Arctic on Ice Road Truckers? How about the crazy rednecks making moonshine in the Blue Ridge Mountains? Well, there was a cameraman there first. Come hear director and cinematographer Dean Bushala tell wacky and crazy stories of how he directs the shots that no one thinks about. Dean has been taking the Reality out of Reality TV for over a decade.

Friday  Period 7  12:35-1:20  A240

Lou Canellis

Calling all sports fans! You’re sure to enjoy hearing from Lou Canellis, who is “living the dream” as the principal sports anchor on Fox 32 News. Hear about Lou’s career and his lifelong love of the Chicago Bears and gain insights on how to get into the media business. Lou will also discuss how TV news stays relevant in an era of instant information through social media and the internet.

Thursday  Period 5  11:25-12:20  A343
The Artists

Melissa Carlson  Drama
Join Melissa Carlson, HPHS alum and current actress on NBC’s drama, Chicago PD, for an interactive workshop. Melissa will discuss her work as a professional actor on stage and screen and will do some acting exercises with you.
Friday  Period 8  1:25-2:10  A217

Danny Chaimson  Music
Playing keyboards for artists like O.A.R., Mike Posner, Solange Knowles, and many others, HPHS alum Danny Chaimson has rocked stages from Bonnaroo to Wembley Arena in London. He's also been a renowned singer-songwriter in his own right, having earned honors from Esquire magazine and helping pen songs for artists as diverse as Tyga, Kelis, O.A.R. and Orgone. Danny’s workshop/performance will focus on the songwriting process, and the stories behind how some of his most successful songs came to be. Get the inside take on what really goes on in the music industry and great tips to help young songwriters get the most out of their ideas.
Thursday  Period 5  11:25-12:20  E106 Orchestra Room

Chicago Mosaic School  Art
Create your own beautiful mosaic art project using glass and mortar! Mosaic artist Karen Ami, founder and director of Chicago Mosaic School, will first demonstrate and explain some of the classical and contemporary techniques of this ancient art form. Then with assistance from CMS instructor Andryea Natkin, you will have the opportunity to use these techniques to make your own one-of-a-kind mosaic piece.
Wednesday  Period 8  1:40-2:25  G114

Chicago Repertory Ballet  Dance
Join company member Kate Goddard Vandivere for a challenging investigative workshop in contemporary dance, incorporating Chicago Repertory Ballet’s hallmark contemporary and free movement style. Take this opportunity to work on not only the technical aspects of movement, but also artistry, in this wonderful workshop. This is a master class.
Thursday  Period 6  12:25-1:20  Dance Studio

Chicago Woodturners  Art
Get turned on by the Chicago Woodturners! Watch as their members demonstrate the basic techniques for turning part of a tree into a usable object or piece of fine art, then view an intriguing selection of wooden objects created on a lathe, a machine used for wood shaping. You may even get a chance to use the tools and produce an object like a pen or spinning top to take home!
Wednesday  Period 3  9:25-10:10  C106
Wednesday  Period 4  10:20-11:05  C106
Wednesday  Period 5  11:10-11:55  C106
Wednesday  Period 6  12:00-12:45  C106
Wednesday  Period 7  12:50-1:35  C106
Wednesday  Period 8  1:40-2:25  C106
The Artists

Gloria Bond Clunie
Drama

“For the first time in my life, I felt like I could see! See me!”--Dempsey, LIVING GREEN. Gloria Bond Clunie is a founding member of the Playwrights Ensemble at Chicago’s Tony awarding-winning Victory Gardens Theater where her plays North Star, Shoes and Living Green premiered. Join this award-winning playwright in a dynamic exploration of race, culture and diversity. A supportive environment, theater techniques plus an awesome playwriting secret reframe questions about who we are and how we fit into society. In this interactive workshop, gain powerful new perspectives and discover your own “I see me!” moment! This is a master class.

Wednesday  Period 5  11:10-11:55  A236

Cliff L. Colnot
Music

Audition to win, not to learn to play auditions! Cliff Colnot is a distinguished conductor and musician of uncommon range. In addition, he is a master arranger who has written for rock-and-roll, pop and jazz artists Richard Marx, Leann Rimes, Hugh Jackman and SheDaisy to name a few. Cliff will teach you all of the steps to prepare for, follow proper protocol of, and win your audition.

Thursday  Period 7  1:25-2:20  A217

John Connolly
Architecture

How would you design your own dream house? Come to this workshop led by HPHS’s John Connolly and you can do just that! After a brief introduction to the 3D architecture program, you can unleash your creativity by designing and printing the plans for your perfect home.

Friday  Period 8  1:25-2:10  E102

DanceWorks Chicago
Dance

Celebrating unique individual voices and finding harmony in collaboration, DanceWorks Chicago is dedicated to creating an environment conducive to nurturing experiences of significance for everyone from artist to audience. Under the inspired leadership of Artistic Director Julie Nakagawa and CEO Andreas Böttcher, an exceptional family of six hand-picked dancers brings integrity, passion, and excellence to performances. We are proud to return to Focus on the Arts for its 25th celebration!

1) DWC is proud to offer a class specially tailored for Focus 2015. DWC welcomes all interested students to this high energy workshop taught by company dancers. The session will begin with a warm-up and then you will have the chance to learn official DWC moves. No prior training is required, just bring your curiosity and enthusiasm!

Thursday  Period 3  9:25-10:20  Dance Studio

2) Vibrant and innovative, DanceWorks Chicago is proud to share a diverse repertory featuring who is new and what is next in contemporary dance as well as showcase exciting work from established choreographers. DWC will appear with Graffiti Dancers and Inaside Chicago Dance as part of the Focus Day of Dance!

Thursday  Period 5  11:25-12:20  Auditorium
Erica Daniels
Steppenwolf Theatre Company's resident Casting Director Erica Daniels presents the ins and outs of the acting business. You'll learn about casting directors, agencies, the industry “food chain”, audition do's and don'ts, and what to expect in a casting session. Students should prepare to perform a contemporary monologue under two minutes long and to receive feedback. Erica is known for her honesty and frankness, and for bringing humor to the classroom setting. This is an open master class.

Wednesday Period 3 9:25-10:10 Studio Theatre

Mike Datz
In this interactive workshop, students will learn about the the art of voiceover and what it means to be a voiceover actor in the current entertainment industry. Mike Datz, a partner in the company Voice Forward, will cover all different types of voiceover work, from commercial and promo, to animation, video game, and narration. Students will practice and record copy from a variety of genres and will have those performances edited into actual voiceover spots.

Friday Period 8 1:25-2:10 A325

Digital Tape Machine
Digital Tape Machine is a Chicago-based band featuring Marcus Rezak, Joe Hettinga, Bryan Doherty, and Neal Wehman. The digital, yet analog force behind Digital Tape Machine produces a very modern, electronic sound. Often compared to video game music, elements of electronic dance, tech house, dance house, deep house, post-industrial, drum ‘n’ bass and hip hop are all woven into a live show. This shredding guitar filled, danceable music has been met by enthusiastic crowds who are thirsty for more. Come join the fun!

Thursday Period 6 12:25-1:20 E113 Band Room

James Dolenc & Fred Wilson
Interior designer James Dolenc and architect Fred Wilson will participate in a lively panel discussion that will explore the different approaches designers and architects each take to problem solving. You’ll be an architect - or an interior designer - as you partner with these pros to create imaginative solutions for a given design dilemma, then share those solutions with the larger group. This workshop provides a rare, hands-on opportunity for you to learn the way architects and designers think, and apply your new-found knowledge to solving the type of design predicaments they face every day.

Thursday Period 3 9:25-10:20 A325

Steve Dolinsky
What does it take to become a professional food reporter on TV? There aren't many of these jobs in the industry, but there are opportunities for people who know how to tell a story and can produce their own content. ABC 7 Food Reporter Steve Dolinsky will discuss his career, how he got to ABC and what his typical week looks like, producing content for not only TV, but for The Feed podcast, the Chicago Tribune and other outlets as well.

Thursday Period 3 9:25-10:20 A316-318
Jennifer Dotson

"How-To Poems" range from the functional to the fantastic! On a basic level, "How-To Poems" are instructional – the poet literally advises the reader on how to do something like how to play tennis or make a milkshake. But "How-To Poems" can also stretch the boundaries of reality like when writing about how to talk to cats or become Thomas Jefferson. Jennifer Dotson of www.HighlandParkPoetry.org shares published examples of how-to poems and leads students on an exploration of this poetic form.

Laura Downey

Laura Downey and current dance/movement therapy students from Columbia College Chicago, will lead participants in a workshop that is intended to teach self-care techniques, encourage body-mind awareness and connection, and enhance relationships with others through nonverbal communication. Participants will be encouraged to engage in open-minded exploration of themselves and movement while letting go of judgment. We invite you to dance and move with us! These workshops are generously underwritten by the District 113 Education Foundation. This is a master class.

Matthew Dumich

Chicago is the birthplace of the skyscraper and epicenter of American architecture. Come explore the history of iconic Chicago buildings and the innovations that helped architects shape our skyline with Matthew Dumich, senior architect at the cutting edge firm of Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture. During this fun, interactive workshop, you will use basic hand sketches and model making to imagine and create your own skyscraper design. Creativity will be rewarded for the tallest and most innovative tower designs.

Jonathan Eig

The Wall Street Journal, Esquire, Chicago Magazine and four books. What do they all have in common? Vivid characters in their stories and Jonathan Eig as their writer. In addition, in 2012 Jonathan launched ChicagoSide Sports, an online sports magazine, and he was a guest on The Daily Show with Jon Stewart in 2010. Jonathan will share with you the secrets to creating vivid characters in your writing and will teach you exercises to help hone your technique.

Elaris Duo

Drs. Larisa and Steven Elisha (violin and cello, respectively) are both internationally acclaimed soloists, chamber musicians and teachers. Together they are the incomparable Elaris Duo, whose electrifying performances and consummate artistry delight audiences worldwide.

Erasing the Distance

Erasing the Distance, a Chicago-based arts organization that uses theatre to shed light on issues of mental health, will perform two of their signature
The monologues. The monologues are taken from interviews with real people and focus on the impact on young people of issues such as eating disorders, self-injury, and sexual assault. A dialogue with the actors will follow. Performances by ETD are known for their raw emotional power and unflinching honesty.

Thursday Period 7 1:25-2:20 Studio Theatre

Kat Falls Creative Writing
From spark to story, see how young adult author Kat Falls creates fantastical, yet believable story worlds. Kat will introduce you to her action-packed science fiction novels, which include Dark Life, Rip Tide, and Inhuman, and discuss how she comes up with the ideas and goes about creating fast, fun and fresh stories.

Wednesday Period 3 9:25-10:10 A222

Kevin Fishbain Media
Nine years after writing about Highland Park Giants football for Shoreline, Kevin Fishbain now covers the Chicago Bears for ChicagoFootball.com and several suburban newspapers. Kevin will discuss his journalism journey, which has included broadcasting Northwestern football games and covering the NFL for Pro Football Weekly. Come and hear some stories about the Bears. Maybe Kevin will even know who they will pick in the upcoming NFL Draft, so bring plenty of Bears questions.

Thursday Period 7 1:25-2:20 A226

Jessie Fisher Drama
Join Jessie Fisher, lead in the Broadway musical Once, to hear (and play!) songs from the show. Participate in scenes and songs and a Q&A focused on the journey from Chicago to Broadway. Bring your guitar, violin, cello, singing voice, etc.!

Thursday Period 7 1:25-2:20 Student Commons

Tony Fitzpatrick Art
Come and hear the musings of artist, poet and actor Tony Fitzpatrick. One of Chicago’s best-known visual artists, Tony has nearly 200 prints at the Art Institute of Chicago and others at museums throughout the country. A true Renaissance man, Tony has made a living as a radio personality, construction worker, and film, stage and television actor. He has appeared in 15 major motion pictures including The Fugitive and Married to the Mob. Join this vivid storyteller and ambassador for the arts as he shares the journey of his artistic career.

Wednesday Period 5 11:10-11:55 A217

Frank Fontana Media
You’ve seen him on TV; now come and meet celebrity lifestyle expert and interior designer Frank Fontana in person! Known across the country as an Emmy-nominated TV and radio host, bestselling author and do-it-yourself (DIY) expert, Frank is coming to Focus to lead a fun and interesting DIY discussion. Learn the tricks of the trade from an expert.

Wednesday Period 3 9:25-10:10 A228-330

Melissa Forman Media
What does it take to become successful in the field of media? How do you pursue your dreams? Radio and television personality Melissa Forman has some answers for you! A 15-year veteran of the Chicago radio/TV scene, Melissa has been seen and heard on KISS FM, 93.9 WLIT-FM, WCIC-TV and more. Join Melissa as she
The Artists

shares her journey from Glenbrook North student to major market television and radio personality.

Wednesday  Period 7  12:50-1:35  A342

Dia Fornasiero  Dance
Be swept away by the magic and charm of the ancient Hawaiian dance of hula. HPHS’s own Dia Fornasiero will teach a simple hula dance where your hands tell a story, your feet keep the rhythm of the enchanting music and your hips add grace and fluidity to the dance. Hula is performed by both men and women, so all are welcome. Wear exercise clothes and be prepared to enjoy the aloha spirit!

Wednesday  Period 3  9:25-10:10  Dance Studio

Ilyssa Fradin  Drama
Have you ever been told you have a great voice? Let Ilyssa Fradin teach you what you can do with it as she leads a workshop about the production technique of voiceovers. Ilyssa has been a working professional actress for almost 20 years. While she has performed on stage, in film and in tv commercials, she now makes her living primarily doing voiceovers. She will give an overview of what voiceover is and audio examples of various types of voiceover, ranging from commercials, interactive, animation, promo, narration and beyond. Some students will be able to read copy, get direction from Ilyssa and then listen back!

Wednesday  Period 7  12:50-1:35  A217

Frank Catalano Band  Music
Saxophonist/producer Frank Catalano will be performing songs from his new recording Love Supreme Collective, which recently debuted at #1 on the iTunes sales charts. Frank will also discuss the music business and talk about his experiences recording/performing with stars like Beyoncé, Santana, John Legend, Tony Bennett, Randy Brecker and many others. Frank will also talk about what goes into producing chart-topping recordings and his recent collaboration with Smashing Pumpkins drum legend, Jimmy Chamberlin.

Wednesday  Period 8  1:40-2:25  E113 Band Room

FreeLance Studios  Art
You’ve seen it on signs, clothing and even cars; now try it for yourself! Join FreeLance Studios as they demonstrate airbrush techniques used to create works of art. Create your own work of airbrush art.

Wednesday  Period 8  1:40-2:25  C211

Marc Frost  Drama
HPHS graduate Marc Frost and his partner Alice da Cunha will lead an interactive “Physical Theater 101” introductory workshop. Physical theater pursues storytelling through primarily physical and visual means to create original and contemporary work. It includes a wide variety of styles, approaches and aesthetics, including clown, puppetry, mime, mask, dance-theater, vaudeville and circus, among others. Frost and da Cunha have both studied physical theater at the London International School of Performing Arts, and have co-founded a theater company and an international physical theater festival in Chicago. Let’s get physical!

Friday  Period 6  11:45-12:30  IM Gym
The Artists

Michael Gelick  
Architecture  
Why is grass always greener on the other side? One reason is the sustainable designs created by architects like Michael Gelick! Join Michael for a discussion of the transformative architecture and design processes that are leading the greening of the environment, and participate in a related interactive exercise.  
Wednesday  
Period 8  
1:40-2:25  
A220

Mark Giangreco  
Media  
Sports presented with pizzazz - that’s Mark Giangreco! He’s familiar to everyone as the ABC-TV 7 Chicago sports director and primary sports anchor. Giangreco has earned a reputation for being a sports anchor that even non-sports fans enjoy watching. He delivers sports with humor, wit and an always-interesting spin. He joined ABC 7 Chicago in 1994 from Chicago’s WMAQ-TV, where he was a sports anchor and reporter for 12 years. Giangreco’s broadcasting career began during college, when he joined WING-AM radio in Dayton as a news and sports reporter in 1972. He has been honored with the prestigious Iris Award from the National Association of Television Program Executives, three Emmys, two Peter Lisagor Awards and two Associated Press Awards for “Best Sportscast.”  
Wednesday  
Period 4  
10:20-11:05  
A343

Giordano Dance Chicago  
Dance  
Join Giordano Dance Chicago (GDC) for an exciting, high-energy workshop. Taught by one of GDC’s principal dancers, the workshop will be your chance to explore the foundational Giordano Technique, created by company founder and master educator, Gus Giordano. This is a master class.  
Thursday  
Period 7  
1:25-2:20  
Dance Studio

Chuck Gniech  
Social Justice  
Art can be a powerful voice for important social issues, but what makes a successful exhibition and motivates social change? In this workshop, artist and curator Chuck Gniech will show you how he uses fine art to bring attention to those in need. By utilizing nonthreatening art objects that allude to human rights issues, he encourages the viewer to consider alternative perspectives. Chuck has applied his skills with charitable groups such as Art Against AIDS and the Art of Human Rights Benefits, supporting Heartland Alliance.  
Wednesday  
Period 3  
9:25-10:10  
A236

AJ Goehle  
Art  
Ever wonder how a successful brand or company brings their stories to life in a physical environment? Luci Creative does it every day for clients like the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, McDonald’s, Microsoft, and the Chicago Sports Museum! Participate in a creative workshop with HPHS alum AJ Goehle (Merdinger) and the Luci Creative team and learn while doing... moving a brand’s story from concept to design to reality.  
Friday  
Period 5 & 6 DP  
10:55-12:30  
G114

Lisa Goesling  
Art  
Experiment with “Scratchbords” in this fun and interactive workshop. Artist Lisa Goesling will demonstrate her etching technique which is done on hard “Scratchbords” covered with clay and India ink. Materials and instructions will
The Artists

be provided for you to experiment with the boards while learning about design fundamentals such as line, contrast, texture, pattern and movement.

Wednesday  Period 8 1:40-2:25  C206

Adam Goodman  Media
How does a guy from Highland Park become a major player in Hollywood? Meet HPHS alum Adam Goodman and find out! Adam will share with you how he quickly climbed the ranks of DreamWorks Studios and Paramount Pictures to become President of Paramount Film Group in 2009. He’ll answer your questions and impart advice for your budding career.

Friday  Period 7  12:35-1:20  A343
Friday  Period 8  1:25-2:10  A343

Graffiti Dancers  Dance
Graffiti Dancers is a not-for-profit, student-run organization, and the premiere and most eclectic dance company at Northwestern University. After over four decades of performing and choreographing, Graffiti continues to use the cross-sections of modern, jazz, ballet, and hip-hop to create exciting and boundary-pushing dance, attracting large audiences to entertain and inspire. They will be performing some excerpts from their 41st annual mainstage show. Graffiti Dancers will appear with DanceWorks Chicago and Ininside Chicago Dance as part of the Focus Day of Dance!

Thursday  Period 5  11:25-12:20  Auditorium

Groundswell Films  Social Justice
How do you make a film that makes a difference? It takes a groundswell. Discover how one documentary triggered a federal investigation into environmental injustice in the Navajo Nation. Meet filmmaker & Columbia College Professor Jeff Spitz, and explore the impact of The Return of Navajo Boy. Learn how students participate in a new documentary about the ways consumers can help fix America’s broken food system. Watch clips, discuss artistic choices and social impact strategies, then pitch your idea for a documentary film. This workshop puts you in a conversation about documentary and social change.

Wednesday  Period 5  11:10-11:55  A328-330

Guitarra Azul  Music
Guitarra Azul is an exciting blend of rumba flamenco, Latin jazz and World Sounds, with intoxicating Latin percussion and fiery Spanish guitars. This performance workshop showcases the dynamic stage presence and virtuosity of Guitarra Azul’s musicians: David Chiriboga, Steve “Stefano” Edwards, Antonio Mhoon, Osvaldo Aviles, Howie Kantoff, and Javier Saume. As individual musicians they have performed internationally with many notable artists, and they have collaborated on two Grammy-nominated CDs: Mariposa and Oasis, which, with their most recent release, Lotus Flower, feature the original compositions of guitarist Steve “Stefano” Edwards.

Thursday  Period 3  9:25-10:20  Exhibition Gym

Monique Haley  Dance
Monique Haley, of DanceWorks Chicago, will be teaching a contemporary jazz class. Monique has appeared in the casts of Hair and Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, and she assisted in the choreography for productions of Aida and My Fair Lady.

Friday  Period 7  12:35-1:20  Dance Studio
The Artists

Rachel Handler  
**Media**

Do you love celebrity news? Want to learn some tips and tricks for interviewing celebrities? Then this is the workshop for you! Based on her own experience, news editor Rachel Handler will host an interactive workshop where students will learn how to wring the best quotes and anecdotes out of their interview subjects and to write an engaging story introduction. Show up with a celebrity in mind—you'll play the part of that celebrity while another student interviews you.

Friday Period 5 10:55-11:40 A236

Her Story Theater  
**Social Justice**

Mary Bonnet, co-founder and artistic director of Her Story Theater, presents a video documentary on the world of sex trafficking taken from the original play *Shadow Town II: The Johns*. The play highlights the costs of sex trafficking to both the individuals involved and the community as a whole. An interactive discussion with the audience will heighten awareness of this issue, which has been identified as the second largest illegal business in the world.

Thursday Period 7 1:25-2:20 A240

Hannah B. Higgins  
**Social Justice**

Art has a profound effect on the environment, but not always in a positive way. In a discussion entitled “From Bulldozer to Beehive,” UIC Art History Professor Hannah B. Higgins will explore how some artists and activists now produce works of art that both celebrate the environment and save it.

Thursday Period 3 9:25-10:20 A217

Highland Park Strings  
**Music**

Focus is proud to present the Highland Park Strings, our hometown orchestra, which has presented free concerts to our community for over three decades. Members of the acclaimed Highland Park Strings, Larry Block, Fran Sherman and Rachel Fisher, will be joined by pianist Susan Merdinger and special guest Charles Pikler, Principal Violist of the Chicago Symphony, in a performance of the Dvorák Piano Quintet in A Major, Op. 81. The Quintet is one of the composer's most popular chamber music works. In the richness of its tone colors, vitality of its rhythms, and rapidly changing moods, it is Slavic to its very marrow.

Wednesday Period 5 11:10-11:55 E113 Band Room

Laura Hine  
**Media**

If you love writing and design - and have topics you’re passionate about - a magazine might be the perfect place to work! Laura Hine, editor-in-chief of NS magazine, which is part of Modern Luxury publications, will talk about what jobs there are in magazines, how to get an internship, and what the publishing world is really like for freelancers, editors, publishers and everyone in between.

Friday Period 5 10:55-11:40 A316-318

Hip Hop ConnXion  
**Dance**

Hip Hop ConnXion is recognized as one of the top hip hop professional dance companies in the country. Their dancers have appeared in music videos and movies and toured around the world teaching master classes. HHC has opened for artists such as Chris Brown and performed at venues such as the United Center for the Chicago Bulls. They also host THE ONE, the biggest urban dance show in the Midwest, which will be held this year on Sunday, April 12th. They have taken top honors in major national competitions but they primarily focus
The Artists

on shows that help to inspire others. As an experienced dancer, choreographer, and teacher, Suavé is currently the Dance Director and instructor at the American Academy of Gymnastics in Wheeling. The mission statement of the Hip Hop ConnXion is, “Our Future Is Here Today!”

1) You don’t have to be an experienced dancer to get down with Suavé! Come enter the real world of hip hop and he’ll teach you its exciting high-energy styles like you’ve seen him do in the movies Save the Last Dance and Dreams.

Wednesday  Period 6  12:00-12:45  IM Gym

2) Prepare to be mesmerized as Hip Hop ConnXion performs their eclectic mix of hip hop styles under the direction of Suavé.

Wednesday  Period 8  1:40-2:25  Auditorium

Hip Hop & Shakespeare

If Shakespeare were alive today, would he be a rapper? William Shakespeare invented over 29,000 words, and over the past 450 years, no one has even come close to inventing that many English words except for RAPPERS! Hip Hop & Shakespeare is a Wordshop that engages one’s creative agility to play with language, so that we all might speak our dreams into reality - and invent some new words along the way! Doth thou wish to join us?

Wednesday  Period 8  1:40-2:25  Studio Theatre

Joan S. Holleb

Discover the fun of working with a different kind of medium: copper! Chicago artist Joan Holleb will share her techniques and provide you with copper and patinas (which create a chemical change in the copper) so you can create your own unique piece of art. Bring your creative juices and we’ll have a great time!

Friday  Period 8  1:25-2:10  C113

Rachel Holtzman

Think celebrities and chefs actually write their own books? Want to know what a "ghostwriter" really does? Learn about life as a book collaborator and recipe tester from HP graduate Rachel Holtzman, who's worked with clients ranging from actress Alicia Silverstone and Grizzly Bear's Chris Taylor to chefs Grant Achatz and Traci Des Jardins. In this interactive discussion, Holtzman will share experiences from her work at ELLE magazine, Penguin Publishing, and Gramercy Tavern; and give advice for how you too can create your own dream job in the publishing world.

Wednesday  Period 5  11:10-11:55  A222

Horizon - Navy Band Great Lakes

This will be the second Focus appearance for Horizon, a seven-piece contemporary music ensemble that travels throughout the Midwest performing and entertaining in many venues. Led by Musician Second Class Chris Kopp, their performances appeal to a wide variety of audiences with current Top 40 hits, classic rock hits, Motown, country, funk, and jazz. Horizon is an ensemble of Navy Band Great Lakes, which performs more than 550 missions each year through support for military ceremonies, student education, public performances, and recruiting engagements for the United States Navy.

Wednesday  Period 3  9:25-10:10  Student Commons
Hubbard Street 2  
**Dance**

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago’s dancers comprise two of the country’s most celebrated contemporary dance companies. Hubbard Street 2, directed by Terence Marling, performs domestically and abroad and will be doing a workshop at Focus that will draw from the active repertoires of both Hubbard Street Dance Chicago and Hubbard Street 2. **Choreography** will be taught with a specific focus on identifying and maximizing lessons imbedded within the material. The workshop will conclude with the dancers performing the excerpts learned, individually or in small groups, allowing for discussion and feedback on performance quality, pacing and interpretation. Come dance with Hubbard Street 2! **This is a master class.**

**Thursday**  
**Period 5**  
**11:25-12:20**  
**Dance Studio**

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Dana Hughes  
**Media**

**What does a TV producer really do?** From Oprah to NBC, producers like Dana Hughes make sure that television shows run smoothly in all details, scrambling up to air time, checking information, and making sure the show goes right. Having complete responsibility for all facets of on-air production can be a stressful job, and great organizational and communication skills are a must. Learn how to take your everyday life experiences and turn them into quick-thinking, producer-like skills. Get tips on how to get into the business and where to start.

**Thursday**  
**Period 5**  
**11:25-12:20**  
**A240**

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Ifficial Reggae Movement  
**Music**

Come one, come all, to the hottest dance party outside of the island of Jamaica! Ifficial Reggae Movement is an award-winning experience that takes you on a musical journey to the Caribbean. IRM is returning to Focus to play non-stop energetic sounds that will have you jumping and make you feel Irie! These captivating bass lines will have you mesmerized and moving uncontrollably like you are away in the islands. Don’t miss this one, mon!

**Wednesday**  
**Period 8**  
**1:40-2:25**  
**Exhibition Gym**

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Improv Playhouse  
**Drama**

Can you react fast on your feet and discover characters within yourself? Improv Playhouse founder David Stuart will coach you through high-energy ensemble-building games and exercises that will engage you in a laughter-filled, interactive improv workshop. David will focus on the foundations of improv performance skills, and will end with mini-performances among the participants. For over a decade, Improv Playhouse, whose roots are in Highland Park and Libertyville, has influenced core improv comedians, including Vanessa Bayer of SNL, who have gone on to the professional acting and improv communities throughout the country.

**Wednesday**  
**Period 3**  
**9:25-10:10**  
**Bodyworks**
Inaside Chicago Dance

Inaside Chicago Dance is an exciting, not-for-profit jazz dance company whose mission is to build off the foundations of the art form while leading the way for contemporary jazz dance in the present and future. The company strives to provide a supreme outlet of artistry, knowledge and growth for each of their dancers and choreographers.

1) Known for their highly entertaining annual performances, Inaside is a treat to watch! Inaside will appear with Graffiti Dancers and DanceWorks Chicago as part of the Focus Day of Dance!

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2) Participate in a jazz workshop taught by Inaside's Assistant Artistic Director, Robert McKee. Sticking with the company’s jazz base, you will get your heart rate up and experience the athleticism of jazz dance.

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Incognito by Michael Sidney Fosberg

Imagine discovering you are not the person you thought you were. That you have a family, a history, an ethnicity you never knew. Join Waukegan native Michael Fosberg when he presents his award-winning autobiographical one-man play about his search to find his biological father. Michael will lead a post-show dialogue with the audience on how each of us perceives race and identity.

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Cory Isaacson

Cory Isaacson, alongside Aaron Walton and Earvin "Magic" Johnson, is a founder of Walton Isaacson, “The Planet’s Most Interesting Agency.” A full-service marketing agency with offices in NY, LA and Chicago, Walton Isaacson helps to define pop culture with its award-winning creative work in advertising. Some recent notable campaigns include a Super Bowl XLIX television spot for the Lexus NX as well as Axe's integration into the hit movie Ted, including popular TV commercials directed by Seth MacFarlane. Cory has worked with artists including TI, Mary J Blige, Michael Jackson, Justin Timberlake, 50 Cent, the Rolling Stones and more. The agency represents iconic brands such as Samsung, The Academy Awards, McDonalds, LA Dodgers and more. Cory plans to share his experiences in marrying music, entertainment and pop culture within the advertising field.

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Melissa Isaacson

You’ve seen it on ESPN’s First Take and Comcast’s Sportstalk Live; now you can participate in the debate! Join ESPN columnist Melissa Isaacson and take part in a panel discussion of current sports topics and issues. During her award-winning career, Melissa has covered Chicago sports from the Michael Jordan-era Bulls, the Bears, Cubs and White Sox, to the Blackhawks’ Stanley Cup championship of 2010. Come and talk sports with an expert on the world of sports in Chicago!

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Branimira Ivanova  
Art

This workshop is an introduction to the art of costume design for the screen and stage, including theater, opera, dance and performance art. Costume designer Branimira Ivanova will provide a presentation of her work and lead a collaborative, hands-on project using a wide variety of materials.

Thursday  
Period 7  
1:25-2:20  
C106

Kevin Iega Jeff  
Dance

Co-founder and Artistic Director of Deeply Rooted Dance Theater, Kevin Iega Jeff has been named one of the Julliard School’s 100 outstanding alumni, and as a choreographer, he has created more than 50 works ranging from solo to large-scale company dances. Kevin will lead a class for students of all levels, in which he will share his movement vocabulary and choreographic vision.

Wednesday  
Period 5  
11:10-11:55  
Dance Studio

Jimmy Jellinek  
Media

Take a peek into the world of major media brands with Jimmy Jellinek, editorial director of Playboy’s combined print and online content. Jimmy will discuss the struggles faced by media companies as they migrate from print and television into the shifting sands of digital media with its constant disruption and ever-present creative destruction.

Wednesday  
Period 6  
12:00-12:45  
A342

Fernando Jones  
Music

American bluesman, internationally celebrated musician, music educator, songwriter, record producer and scholar, Fernando Jones taught himself how to play guitar when he was just four years old, and he has been playing ever since. Currently, he’s a bandleader with a cutting edge power trio that performs all original material across the land in festivals, classrooms and good old-fashioned house parties. As an educator, he is the proud Blues Ensemble director at Columbia College Chicago. Jones will entertain us with his “cutting edge” Blues, adding new blood and a new perspective to its legacy.

Thursday  
Period 7  
1:25-2:20  
E106 Orchestra Room

JUMP RHYTHM® Jazz Project  
Dance

JUMP RHYTHM® Jazz Project is celebrating its 25th anniversary during 2015 and to celebrate they will perform selections from their repertory. The performances by the 7-member ensemble will highlight the company’s unique, vocally generated (scat-sung) approach to vernacular-bodied (non-balletic) dancing called “Full-Bodied Rhythm-Making®.” Whole sections from two multi-section rep pieces will be shown: NO WAY OUT, choreography and vocal arrangements by artistic director Billy Siegenfeld; and MAYBE? NO. YES!, choreography by senior company member Kevin Durnbaugh. JUMP RHYTHM® will appear with Latin Street Dancing and HPHS’s own Collage as part of the Focus Day of Dance!

Thursday  
Period 3  
9:25-10:20  
Auditorium

Jake Kahana  
Media

Jake Kahana has made some of the most memorable commercials and ad campaigns in the last 8 years for Samsung, Google, PlayStation and Activision, to name a few. He is the creative director of Matter Unlimited, an ad agency in New York working on social impact projects for purpose-driven clients. Come hear him discuss the creative process, using creativity for good and finding a meaningful career in the arts.

Friday  
Period 5  
10:55-11:40  
A226
Jeremy Kahn
Music
Since his professional debut at the age of 12, HPHS alumnus Jeremy Kahn has made a career of playing the piano. He has played with jazz legends (Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Haden) and singing legends (Aretha Franklin, Joni Mitchell) and has gone from Broadway orchestra pits (Wicked) to recording studios. Jeremy will present a program of music from the standard Jazz repertoire (including Duke Ellington, Thelonious Monk, George Gershwin and Cole Porter) and will discuss his approach to performing and listening to this music. There may be even be some “surprise” HPHS student performers.

Friday    Period 7  12:35-1:20  E117 Choral Room

Len Kasper
Media
“Everybody Loves the Cubs ,” and if you’re one of those people, you’ll love this workshop! Len Kasper, the Cubs’ play-by-play announcer, will talk and do a Q&A about sports broadcasting and working for the Chicago Cubs.

Wednesday Period 5  11:10-11:55  A342

Stacy Joy Keller
Dance
Stacy Joy Keller joined the Joffrey Ballet in August 1999. She has also taught at the Sarasota Ballet School’s Venice Program and various studios throughout Illinois. Stacy will be teaching an advanced ballet technique class focusing on artistry and performance quality. This is a master class.

Friday    Period 4  10:05-10:50  Dance Studio

Elkana Keter
Architecture
Focus welcomes engineer and environmental designer Elkana Keter from Highland Park’s Sister City of Yerucham, Israel. Discover how Elkana designed and built his family’s beautiful and sustainable home in the Negev Desert using resources from the sun, wind, water and earth. By combining simple ancient solutions with modern high tech innovations, Elkana’s home demonstrates an amazing example of what can be achieved with determination and ingenuity. We thank the HP Sister Cities Foundation for sponsoring Elkana’s participation in Focus on the Arts.

Wednesday Period 4 & 5 DP  10:20-11:55  A322
Wednesday Period 7 & 8 DP  12:50-2:25  A322

Jill King
Art
Mixed-media sculptor Jill King thinks in three dimensions, and you will too, after participating in this hands-on workshop. Jill will introduce you to the vibrant local sculpture scene and demonstrate soldering and other sculpting techniques. Then students will break up into small teams and bring their visions to life through creating a small scale sculpture using steel wire, steel mesh, soldering techniques and plaster.

Thursday Period 5  11:25-12:20  C109

Nathan Kipnis
Architecture
"High Design/Low Carbon™" embodies the philosophy of Nathan Kipnis’s architecture work. An early adopter of sustainable design, Nathan will review some of his key sustainable projects, including the proposed offshore wind farm in Lake Michigan near Evanston’s shore, the ultimate in urban scale sustainable energy production.

Thursday Period 6  12:25-1:20  A220
Phillip Koch  
Master Chef Bruno Abate and award-winning filmmaker Phillip Koch show clips of their project, "Serving Time," a documentary about an Italian Chef teaching Cook County Jail inmates culinary arts skills to give them hope and dignity, and a chance at a job to change their lives.

Thursday  Period 6  12:25-1:20  A217

Kokandy Productions  
Chicago-based Allison Hendrix and Michael Potsic, who are both music directors, pianists, actors and educators, are fresh from Kokandy Productions' critically acclaimed Assassins. In the last year they have worked with such companies as The Hypocrites, Paramount Theater, Boho Theater, and Bailiwick Chicago. Believe it or not, you really can sing and act!

1) In this beginning musical theatre workshop, Allison and Michael will give you a brief look at the process of putting on a musical number. You will learn a musical theater song cut, then put it on its feet with staging and/or choreography. Plan to have fun and get silly!

Friday  Period 5  10:55-11:40  E117 Choral Room

2) Allison and Michael will present Growing up or Choosing Not To: A Cabaret: a hilarious and possibly poignant session of stories and songs exploring life, love, and happiness as not-so-grown-up grown-ups.

Friday  Period 7  12:35-1:20  E113 Band Room

D. Graham Kostic  
Interested in the fashion industry? Want to publish your own style blog? D. Graham Kostic, creative and editorial director of digital magazine GlossedandFound.com, is here to share his journey of creating off-the-cuff, dynamic and engaging content. From sharing industry experience to showing the best of G&F's fashion forward videos and interviews, Graham's unique approach to digital journalism will leave you excited to log on and start working toward your own career goals in the fashion biz!

Wednesday  Period 5  11:10-11:55  A343

Steve Kriozere  
If you’ve ever wondered what it’s like to write for TV, this workshop is for you! Join HPHS alum and former HPHS swim team captain Steve Kriozere for a lively discussion and behind-the-scenes look at writing and producing for TV. Steve is currently a writer-producer on Agent X, a new one-hour action-espionage show for TNT premiering in the fall. He also co-created and served as executive producer of Femme Fatales for Cinemax and has written for such shows as NCIS, Castle, Necessary Roughness, Sliders and the SyFy Channel original movie Dead and Deader. Steve also wrote the original graphic novel Elvis Van Helsing.

Thursday  Period 6  12:25-1:20  A343
Friday  Period 4  10:05-10:50  A343

Mr. Krist  
Mr. Krist is a special effects makeup and theatrical makeup artist specializing in character, gore and special effects makeup and prosthetics. He will show students different techniques used by professional makeup artists to achieve a
variety of effects. From theatre, to film, to Halloween, to just for fun, makeup can be used in many different ways to change one’s appearance. Learn how!

**Wednesday**  
**Period 6**  
**12:00-12:45**  
**G114**

**Caroline Kuhl**  
**Dance**

Caroline Kuhl is on the professional staff of **North Shore School of Dance**. She has performed with many dance ensembles and in many venues. She will teach an **African boot dance class** and students will learn a dance combination. Students should **wear rubber rain boots** for class. They are in style now, let's use them!

Explore rhythm, sound and patterns as we use boots and feet as instruments.

**Friday**  
**Period 6**  
**11:45-12:30**  
**Bodyworks**

**John Kupper**  
**Creative Writing**

Who writes the words you hear public figures speak? John Kupper, that’s who. John has spent nearly 30 years developing press strategies for political candidates and was **President Obama’s message and advertising consultant** in 2004 and 2008. John will discuss the **elements of writing an effective speech** and will show a DVD of speech excerpts that you will then discuss and critique. Participants may also draft brief speech openings on a subject of interest to them to share with the rest of group and discuss.

**Wednesday**  
**Period 7**  
**12:50-1:35**  
**A325**

**Dan K. Kurland**  
**Music**

Dan K. Kurland, **collaborative pianist** for both singers and instrumentalists, leads a workshop on **how to work with an accompanist**. An HPHS alum, Dan has performed with such artists as violinist Charles Yang, cellist Julian Schwarz, and actress Tyne Daly. One of the most valuable assets a musician has at their disposal is a close working relationship with an accompanist, and Dan will help you get there.

He served on the faculty of the Franco-American Vocal Academy in Périgueux, France and recently completed two summers in the young artists program at The Glimmerglass Festival. He is currently a C.V. Starr doctoral fellow at The Juilliard School. **This is an open master class.**

**Friday**  
**Period 6**  
**11:45-12:30**  
**E117 Choral Room**

**Robert Kurson**  
**Creative Writing**

Have you ever wondered **what it takes to become a writer**? Find out from Robert Kurson, who has written for the **Chicago Sun-Times, Chicago Magazine, and Esquire**. His stories have also appeared in **Rolling Stone, The New York Times Magazine** and other publications, and he wrote the best-selling book, **Shadow Divers**.

**Thursday**  
**Period 4**  
**10:25-11:20**  
**A327**

**Marla Lampert**  
**Dance**

Do you love to dance around your living room? Marla Lampert did and still does! Marla’s workshop will focus on different styles of **dance used in musical theatre**. Students will learn two different combinations and work on their technique and **performance skills**. Come ready to move and have fun! All levels welcome.

**Friday**  
**Period 8**  
**1:25-2:10**  
**Dance Studio**
The Artists

Tessa Lark
Music

Tessa Lark is a popular and award-winning violin soloist and chamber musician, who has been praised by critics and audiences alike. She is recipient of a 2014-15 Annenberg Arts Fellowship and winner of the prestigious Naumburg International Violin Award in 2012. Most recently, Tessa, age 25, was named Silver Medalist of the 2014 International Violin Competition, the highest-ranked American-born winner in the competition’s history. Tessa has performed around the globe, including here in Highland Park, where she participated in the Steans Institute for Young Artists at the Ravinia Festival. She plays a Tononi violin, made in 1675, on generous loan to her from Ravinia Festival.

1) Tessa will demonstrate a range of sounds and techniques through performance of selected classical works for violin.

Wednesday Period 7 12:50-1:35 E106 Orchestra Room

2) Tessa has actually been playing bluegrass and traditional acoustic country music with her dad, Dr. Five-String (aka Bob Frederick), longer than she has been playing the violin. With Tessa on fiddle and her dad on 5-string banjo, they will present some of the music they have played together for the last 20 years; describe, among other things, the difference between fiddle and violin, and between bluegrass and Appalachian music; and discuss collaboration in arranging tunes and improvising.

Wednesday Period 8 1:40-2:25 E106 Orchestra Room

Latin Street Dancing
Dance

Founded in 1998, Latin Street Dancing has been a force in Latin dance and entertainment in Chicago ever since.

1) This performance will be hot, hot, hot... Latin Street Dancing presents a series of Latin dances: salsa, merengue, bachata, cumbia, and cha-cha. Each dance has its own set of rules and body movements, but they all originated in the Caribbean and play a big part in Latin and American culture. Latin Street Dancing will appear with JUMP RHYTHM® Jazz Project and HPHS’s own Collage as part of the Focus Day of Dance!

Thursday Period 3 9:25-10:20 Auditorium

2) Learn to salsa with Latin Street Dancing's professional dance instructors! Perfect if you are just starting! We look forward to sharing with you the joys of Latin rhythms and to helping you explore Chicago's fantastic Latin dance scene!

Thursday Period 4 10:25-11:20 Dance Studio

Nathan Laube
Music

Nathan Laube, one of the organ world’s elite performers and Assistant Professor of Organ at The Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, will present “Classical Music – A Historical Perspective and Why it Matters to the 21st-Century Musician.” He will explore the implications of our ever-changing times on the way music was, is, and will be perceived, and why our understanding of historical context and “historically-informed performance practice” can give us the tools for the most compelling personal expression in music-making. If you have ever felt that there are too many rules binding your interpretation of a score, this is the talk for you!

Thursday Period 5 11:25-12:20 E117 Choral Room
The Artists

Kevin Leadingham  Media
Come to a discussion of television and documentary filmmaking that all TV watchers will enjoy! Kevin Leadingham is an experienced documentary/reality television producer/director living in Los Angeles. He first garnered attention with the award-winning documentaries A Refugee and Me and Maid in America (PBS). His television credits include Wife Swap (ABC), NASCAR Drivers: 360 (FX), To Catch a Smuggler (Nat Geo), and many more. Kevin also served as executive producer on season 1 of Animal Planet’s hit series Treehouse Masters.

Friday  Period 6  11:45-12:30  A342

Jenny Learner  Art
Learn the mystery of encaustic painting from professional artist Jenny Learner. Jenny will demonstrate several of her favorite encaustic painting techniques including line and fill, pastel transfer and calligraphy on warm beeswax and collage using mini irons. Each student will create a beautiful piece using one or all of the demonstrated techniques.

Wednesday  Period 8  1:40-2:25  C109

Jill Leiderman  Media
Love late-night comedy television? Join Jimmy Kimmel Live executive producer and HPHS alum Jill Leiderman as she shares her path from performing in Wayne Thomas elementary school plays, to hosting a Saturday talk show for kids on WMAQ-TV at the age of 12, to living in New York City and Hollywood, and traveling the world while working for Jon Stewart, David Letterman and now Jimmy Kimmel.

Friday  Period 8  1:25-2:10  A342

Michael Lerich  Music
Michael Lerich is featured on clarinet playing mainstream jazz with the Michael Lerich Jazz Ensemble. The clarinet is rarely heard in this type of Jazz setting and Michael has devoted the last several years to achieving the goal of mastering the clarinet and bringing it to the forefront of jazz!

1) Michael will lead his group in a "Bebop" and "Mainstream" Jazz program.

Friday  Period 4  10:05-10:50  E113 Band Room

2) Michael and his musicians will conduct a workshop on jazz style and technique. Students are encouraged to bring their instruments for this period. This is an open master class.

Friday  Period 5  10:55-11:40  E113 Band Room

Brian Levant  Media
You know the movies, now meet the director! HPHS alum Brian Levant is a writer, producer and director for television and film. Brian is best known for directing the films Beethoven, Jingle All The Way, The Flintstones, and Are We There Yet?

1) Brian will conduct a shot-by-shot dissection of a scene from one of his films, tracing its complicated path from storyboard to answer print. This is a master class.

Wednesday  Period 6  12:00-12:45  A222

2) Brian will present a film tracing the influences that the local Chicago television shows of his childhood played in shaping his five-decade career in television and films.

Wednesday  Period 8  1:40-2:25  A342
Peggy Levine  Art
Join artist Peggy Levine as she helps tap into your creative side through drawing and painting with fun and easy-to-use water soluble pastels. You will also have the chance to incorporate the use of colored tape to create colorful and abstract works of art. Come join us to explore and play with unique materials in this hands-on painting workshop. These workshops are generously underwritten by the District 113 Education Foundation. This is a master class.

Friday  Period 7  12:35-1:20  B100
Friday  Period 8  1:25-2:10  B100

Ethan Levy  Media
Game design is both the videogame industry’s most romanticized and most misunderstood profession. Everyone wants to be a game designer. Everyone thinks they are a game designer. Yet, few understand what a game designer’s job is or how to become one. Professional game designer Ethan Levy will take a peek behind the curtain to explain what being a professional game designer is and what it isn’t, and will present concrete steps that aspiring game designers can take.

Friday  Period 5  10:55-11:40  A220

Howard Levy & Chris Siebold  Music
Two musical greats share the stage in their return to Focus! Howard Levy is a two-time Grammy Award-winning pianist/harmonicist/composer/producer. Chris Siebold is a world-reknowned guitarist/singer/composer. Chris and Howard have played as a duo all over the world, and have also both appeared on A Prairie Home Companion. In this workshop they will play together, presenting a wide variety of music in many styles, and Howard will explain the history of the harmonica from its beginnings in 19th century Germany to its uses today. He has developed techniques that have revolutionized harmonica playing.

Wednesday  Period 8  1:40-2:25  E117 Choral Room

Wendy Levy  Art
Create your own trendy beaded wrap bracelet with local artist Wendy Levy. All material will be supplied for you to make a "Chan Luu" style bracelet like those found in high-end boutiques.

Thursday  Period 3  9:25-10:20  A322

Jan Lewis  Art
Share Jan Lewis’s passion for pattern and design while creating your own wood bangle bracelet. Using acrylic paints, participants will try Jan’s technique, which consists of intricate dot designs.

Wednesday  Period 6  12:00-12:45  C109

Daniel Libman  Media
TV writer Daniel Libman wants to share with you a supercut of things he’s written for such shows as Robot Chicken, Happy Endings, Bad Teacher, and Marry Me, explain how TV writing works and how his education has applied to his current job, and maybe even break a basic sitcom story with the group to show you the collaborative and creative aspects of the job.

Wednesday  Period 7  12:50-1:35  A228-330
Jeff Libman  
**Music**

Are you an aspiring singer-songwriter and performer or just into acoustic music? This is your session. Jeff Libman is an HPHS graduate and performing singer-songwriter based in Evanston, who has presented at Focus many times. He’ll perform some of his music while offering up stories and insights into the world of the singer-songwriter and making it in the music world. You’re guaranteed to leave with plenty of inspiration!

**Wednesday**  
Period 3  
9:25-10:10  
E113 Band Room

Bill Lipsman  
**Architecture**

Beauty or Beast? **Chicago Architecture Foundation tour guide** Bill Lipsman will discuss the aesthetics of architecture and identify the components that give a building its beauty. With photos of buildings primarily from Chicago, he will show how a building's location, size, proportions, materials, textures, and symbolism influence our perception of its beauty.

**Friday**  
Period 7  
12:35-1:20  
A226

Logan Lipton  
**Dance**

Logan Lipton, a professional choreographer in the Chicago area, will be teaching a contemporary/lyrical dance class. Logan will be teaching a routine that will encompass musicality, directional changes, jumping, turning and the use of plié.

**Wednesday**  
Period 7  
12:50-1:35  
Dance Studio

David Lisker  
**Music**

Described as an exquisite virtuoso violinist with a cultivated artistic taste, David Lisker will perform a recital of classical music for violin and piano. David has appeared as soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral performer in many of today’s most prestigious concert halls. Come be mesmerized by his beautiful music.

**Friday**  
Period 8  
1:25-2:10  
E117 Choral Room

Allan Loeb  
**Media**

Join screenwriter, producer and HPHS alum Allan Loeb for an entertaining and informative discussion on professional screenwriting. Allan has been involved in many popular movies including *Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps, Just Go with It,* and *The Switch.*

**Wednesday**  
Period 3  
9:25-10:10  
A342

Lookingglass Theatre  
**Drama**

Lookingglass Theatre is an ensemble-based company in Chicago, known for creating original theatre from both familiar stories and completely original ideas. In this workshop you will work with a teaching artist from the company, exploring their core values: invention, transformation, and adaptation. You’ll also use the “actor’s tools:” body, voice, and imagination. This is all we need to create original characters and to tell creative stories! These workshops are generously underwritten by the District 113 Education Foundation. **This is a master class.**

**Thursday**  
Period 3  
9:25-10:20  
B100

**Thursday**  
Period 4  
10:25-11:20  
B100
M.A.D.D. Rhythms

Chicago's premier tapdance company. M.A.D.D. Rhythms brings you raw, rhythmic percussion and tapastic expression in "Everyday I'm Shuffling!" When the lights go down, the tap madness begins! Legendary tap dancers serve as the inspiration for the rhythm, while Jazz, R & B, Gospel, Hip Hop, African and World create the musical landscape by which the rhythm travels! M.A.D.D. Rhythms will set the stage on fire and even teach you a step or two. Get ready to rhythmically express yourself and release your inner hoofer, while enjoying the journey through time and space.

Friday  Period 6  11:45-12:30  Auditorium

Rebecca Makkai

What does it mean to be a working writer today? Author Rebecca Makkai will tell you what it takes to earn a living writing fiction. Rebecca grew up on the North Shore with aspirations of being a writer, and will share with you the steps she took, from high school through her early career, to learn the craft of fiction and find publishers for her work.

Friday  Period 4  10:05-10:50  A236

Mancow

Meet a Chicago legend! TV and radio shock jock Erich “Mancow” Muller of Mancow’s Morning Madhouse joins us at Focus to discuss media presence. Known for his outrageous and often controversial behavior, Mancow has been extremely successful in creating a memorable media personality.

Wednesday  Period 7  12:50-1:35  A343

Victoria Marchio

Photo transfers allow you to tell a story with images. This unique, hands-on workshop with local artist Victoria Marchio will provide you with the opportunity to use the technique of Photo Transferring your own images to create a mixed-media canvas that will tell a story on a theme of your choice. By using carefully chosen images and text you can create a canvas that expresses a political, social, moral, or cultural issue that is of importance to you. Watch powerful images emerge from a theme about which you feel passionate! This workshop meets on two separate days, and you must sign up for both sessions.

Wednesday  Period 3 DP  9:25-10:10  C211
Thursday  Period 4 DP  10:25-11:20  C211

Scott Marr

Scott Marr is the Production Design Director and Scenic Director for the Lyric Opera of Chicago. He will lead a workshop about the process and inspiration of scenic and costume design for opera, which will be shown through sketches, renderings, and photographs of actual productions at the Lyric. An open-floor question and answer session will follow the presentation.

Wednesday  Period 5  11:10-11:55  A325

Maxwell Street Klezmer Band

Maxwell Street is the Midwest’s most popular Klezmer Band, touring Europe and performing throughout the U.S. Audiences are delighted by Maxwell Street’s high-energy performances and sense of humor.

1) The band will teach traditional dances from the "shtetl" (Eastern Europe) as well
The Artists

as simple Israeli and Middle Eastern dances. These circle and line dances do not require any special skills, so everyone can join in the fun!

Thursday  Period 5 11:25-12:20  Exhibition Gym

2) In this concert, students will learn about the instruments and history of Jewish culture through rhythm and participation songs. Everyone has a unique family history, with culture, music and dances to learn about and share. Come learn about yours!

Thursday  Period 6 12:25-1:20  Exhibition Gym

Andrew Putnam McCann

Andrew Putnam McCann is a professional violinist and Alexander Technique teacher based in Chicago. Whole body coordination and awareness is one key to performing at a high level. Such coordination is often a challenge to achieve because our unconscious habits take over and interfere with our ability to put even the best instructions into practice. This workshop will explore how the Alexander Technique helps us become aware of and begin to change our movement habits so that we avoid injury and perform at our best.

Wednesday  Period 8 1:40-2:25  Dance Studio

Kelly O’Connor McNees

Can you ever really know “the whole story” about historical figures? Kelly O’Connor McNees, the author of three novels, will tackle the creative challenge of writing fiction about real historical figures. You’ll look at how some authors have used gaps in the record to create stories, to give voice to the silenced, and to tell truths that the facts cannot. Students will have an opportunity to craft a short piece of writing around a historical figure.

Friday  Period 5 10:55-11:40  A322

Susan Merdinger

Internationally acclaimed, award-winning concert pianist and music educator Susan Merdinger will perform Music of Two Cultures - Spanish and American Classics: works by Spanish composer Isaac Albéniz and Uruguayan-American (Chicago-based) composer Elbio Barilari, and George Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue.

Thursday  Period 7 1:25-2:20  E117 Choral Room

Douglas L. Meyer

Meet Tony award-winning Broadway producer Douglas L. Meyer, who has produced renowned musicals Hairspray and The Producers. Other Broadway credits include: Swing!, Little Shop of Horrors, Legally Blonde, The Wedding Singer, Leap Of Faith, White Christmas, A Little Night Music, and Lucky Guy. Doug will discuss what a producer does and how he got to be a producer, and show clips from his various musicals.

Thursday  Period 6 12:25-1:20  A342

Muntu Dance Theatre

In the Bantu language, “muntu” means “the essence of humanity”. Muntu Dance Theatre's workshop will focus on traditional West African dance. They will share information on the cultures presented and draw comparisons to more contemporary dance styles. Muntu strives to create an atmosphere of communal participation, encouraging and inspiring audiences to join in the celebration!

Wednesday  Period 6 12:00-12:45  Bodyworks
Julie Murphy  
Art

Did you ever want to draw a monster, an animal or your best friend? Artist Julie Murphy will guide you through a series of fun exercises aimed to unleash your creativity and help you produce unique drawings of subjects from life, memory and imagination. These exercises will provide tools for expanding artistic expression and avoiding creative blocks.

Friday  
Period 7  
12:35-1:20  
C211

Natya Dance Theatre  
Dance

Natya Dance Theatre is among the most critically acclaimed and culturally treasured Indian dance companies in the US. Their highly innovative work offers profound and subtle expressions of humanity’s deepest questions and values in the context of our present-day lives. This interactive workshop focuses on the movement vocabulary of Indian Dance and the communication expressed through the body and stylized hand gestures. Come learn about the powerful means of cultural exchange through dance.

Wednesday  
Period 5  
11:10-11:55  
Bodyworks

Neal Alger Trio  
Music

Neal Alger's versatility has made him a valuable asset to Chicago's eclectic music scene. Among others, Alger has performed with jazz vocalist/pianist Patricia Barber, his original rock project Needles in the Red, and R&B/Funk group William Kurk Enterprise. Neal's guitar trio performs compositions drawn from straight-ahead jazz to Brazilian music to R&B/Funk to an almost neo-classical style. Alger's mission is to impart the notion that quality music can be found around all parts of the globe.

Thursday  
Period 4  
10:25-11:20  
E113 Band Room

The Neo-Futurists  
Drama

The Neo-Futurists present a fast-paced, randomly shuffled set of original plays written from honest discussion of their own lives, sociopolitical awareness/engagement, celebration of audience interaction, the risks of chance and a ticking time limit. The group's signature show, Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind, which had its first performance in 1988, is now in its 26th year, making it the longest-running show in Chicago today. Too Much Light, with its ever-changing "menu", is an attempt to perform 30 plays in 60 minutes.

Friday  
Period 4  
10:05-10:50  
Auditorium

Corinne Ness  
Music

Dr. Corinne Ness has performed classical, musical theatre, jazz, contemporary Christian and bluegrass music in venues across the country. Now she will be leading a workshop that will focus on developing vocal power for singing and speaking. Participants will explore their vocal power and develop an understanding of their own vocal anatomy through interactive activities. Dr. Ness is the department chair and director of musical theater studies at Carthage College and she will provide "recipes" for applying vocal power strategies in belt singing and stage speaking.

Friday  
Period 4  
10:05-10:50  
E117 Choral Room
The Artists

Nieto’s Art
Let’s get cooking! Come and meet Debbie and Carlos Nieto along with Chef Nabor of Nieto’s Restaurant, one of Highland Park’s leading culinary hot spots. In this interactive workshop, you will get a chance to prepare and enjoy a delicious dish with these leaders in the local culinary scene. No skills needed – just bring your appetite!
Thursday Period 7 1:25-2:20 B100 - Kitchen

Samantha Nisenboim Media
Direct from L.A., meet Hollywood’s Samantha Nisenboim! Samantha will discuss the different steps of animating The LEGO Movie - from storyboard, to layout, to animation - and explain the differences between live-action and animated filmmaking. Last, learn how to break into the film and television industry in Los Angeles, from someone who’s done it!
Friday Period 8 1:25-2:10 A226

NIU Steel Ensemble Music
Come hear the sounds of the very first steel band formed in an American university! Created in 1973, the NIU Steel Ensemble, directed by Liam Teague and Clifford Alexis, has performed throughout the United States and around the world. NIU Steel Ensemble has an eclectic blend of styles that you will love!
Friday Period 6 11:45-12:30 Student Commons

Blake Novotny Art
Come to our own Blake Novotny’s workshop as he presents an interactive stencil and spray-paint unit. This unit will look at the growth of street art and spray-painting, culminating with students making their own spray-painted posters in the style of Banksy and OBEY artist Shepard Fairey. This workshop is for everyone. It will be a blast!
Friday Period 6 11:45-12:30 C113

OMG! Accessories Art
Do you love accessories and fashion? Come see what it takes to launch a career in the fashion world. After a brief talk on entrepreneurship and product development in fashion design by Chicago designer and founder of OMG! Anne Narter, you will participate in a mini design workshop where you will create your own handbag design.
Thursday Period 7 1:25-2:20 E102

Orquestra de Samba Music
Members of Orquestra de Samba will take the audience on a journey to Brazil. They will perform different styles of Brazilian music from different areas of the country and explain about each style. There will be a hands-on percussion workshop where students will learn a Brazilian percussion instrument in the samba style and play along with Orquestra de Samba.
Wednesday Period 6 12:00-12:45 Exhibition Gym

Carlos Ortiz Art
Chicago-based photographer Carlos Ortiz will conduct an interactive demonstration of tricks and trends in commercial photography. Come and be inspired by this highly accomplished artist whose work focuses on documenting society’s most vulnerable communities throughout the world.
Friday Period 4 10:05-10:50 C109
Wesley "Wesside" Owens  
**Dance**

"Wesside" Owens has been dancing since elementary school, and while at Indiana University continued to perform and host events. Many students on IU’s campus knew him as “the guy who dances across campus with the headphones.” This fun and engaging workshop will be an interactive **hip hop** presentation that encourages people to get up and move while learning about dance, choreography, and the culture of hip hop in the 21st century. Come and **learn some new dance steps**! All levels are welcome!

**Friday**  
Period 7  
12:35-1:20  
Bodyworks

Stephanie Paul  
**Dance**

Stomp, groove, make beats and explore the **body as a rhythmic instrument**! Stephanie Paul, Artistic Director of "be the GROOVE", will lead a workshop that will **intertwine the worlds of body percussion and hip hop**. We'll build rhythm and movement skills as we work towards learning a short routine. Stephanie loves rhythm and hopes you will too!

**Friday**  
Period 6  
11:45-12:30  
Dance Studio

Kit Paulson  
**Art**

Come and **make your own small blown glass ornament** with artist Kit Paulson. Learn some basic ideas about glassblowing and then try your hand with a **small blow torch** to apply colors, heat glass and inflate it into hollow orb shapes. Please wear all natural fibers and closed-toed shoes, and tie back any long hair.

**Wednesday**  
Period 4 & 5 DP  
10:20-11:55  
Garage

**Wednesday**  
Period 7 & 8 DP  
12:50-2:25  
Garage

**Thursday**  
Period 3 & 4 DP  
9:25-11:20  
Garage

**Thursday**  
Period 6 & 7 DP  
12:25-2:20  
Garage

**Friday**  
Period 4 & 5 DP  
10:05-11:40  
Garage

**Friday**  
Period 7 & 8 DP  
12:35-2:10  
Garage

The Performer's School  
**Drama**

Stacey Flaster and Liz Fauntleroy of The Performer's School will help students **navigate a musical theatre audition**. The focus will be on preparation: How you enter the room, your introduction, talking to an accompanist, a song as monologue and finishing a piece. You’ll receive hints on how to focus your audition and leave feeling like you have won! You may not get "the job;" but rather your job is to be present, be yourself and do the best work you can do. **This is an open master class.**

**Thursday**  
Period 3  
9:25-10:20  
E117 Choral Room

Cory Pesaturo  
**Music**

Cory Pesaturo, the only person ever to win the **World Championships on acoustic accordion, digital accordion and jazz**, is going to perform for you! Cory will do a demonstration of what the accordion, and more specifically his personal accordion, **can do** with music!

**Friday**  
Period 8  
1:25-2:10  
E106 Orchestra Room

Tim Pfiffner  
**Art**

Work hands-on with artist Tim Pfiffner in this **raku** workshop. Raku, a form of ceramic pottery design, uses a special high heat kiln that works in just 30 minutes. After taking your work out of the kiln, you will place it in a can full of combustible materials, which creates beautiful crackle effects and intense colors in your piece. **This is a master class.**

**Wednesday**  
Period 4 & 5 DP  
10:20-11:55  
C113

**Wednesday**  
Period 7 & 8 DP  
12:50-2:25  
C113

25TH CELEBRATION
Jonathan Plotkin  
Jonathan Plotkin wants you to doodle in class, especially his class! A nationally published editorial cartoonist and illustrator, Jonathan firmly believes spontaneous doodling has the power to expand the creative potential of the human mind, and that art can be used as a tool for creative problem-solving and expression. Jonathan’s workshop will demonstrate the art of doodling in an interactive session for new and accomplished artists alike.

Thursday  
Period 6  
12:25-1:20  
C211

Noah Plotkin  
This musical enrichment program will explore the power of rhythm in all aspects of our lives.

1) Using vocals, rhythmic games, and hand drumming in a drum circle, we will create musical fun! We provide all of the instruments including congas, bongos, djembes, shakers, wood blocks, cow bells and rattles!! You provide the enthusiasm! These workshops are generously underwritten by the District 113 Education Foundation. This is a master class.

Friday  
Period 4  
10:05-10:50  
B100  
Friday  
Period 5  
10:55-11:40  
B100

2) Come join a drum circle, a great experience for anyone of any musical ability! We will provide a variety of drums and other percussion instruments, you provide the enthusiasm!

Friday  
Period 8  
1:25-2:10  
IM Gym

Alfonso Ponticelli  
Alfonso Ponticelli, lead guitarist and founder of Swing Gitan, Chicago’s premier Gypsy-jazz band, will perform solo original guitar compositions, folk, traditional and Gypsy Jazz pieces. He will be joined by his bandmate, jazz and ethno-violinist Steve Gibons. Together they will play a guitar and violin duo. The two perform across the country in the band Alfonso Ponticelli & Swing Gitan, bringing a unique juxtaposition of fiery virtuosity and delicate warmth to their music.

Friday  
Period 6  
11:45-12:30  
E113 Band Room

David Pritikin  
He’s produced some of the biggest hits on television, including Survivor, The Voice, and Deadliest Catch! Join Emmy Award-winning David Pritikin for a first-hand look, taking you behind the scenes and revealing what it takes to work in the business.

Wednesday  
Period 4  
10:20-11:05  
A342

Janice Pytel  
Janice Pytel is a professional costume designer, whose work has been seen throughout Chicagoland, around the United States, and in numerous international venues across five continents. She will share and discuss her work in theater, opera, dance, performance art, and film, focusing on her ongoing passion for developing new work through the collaborative process.

Wednesday  
Period 8  
1:40-2:25  
A325
Q Brothers

Rap! Music! Shakespeare! Acting! The Q Brothers have it all. They create original hip hop adaptations of classic theatrical works, and they can teach you to as well. In this workshop the Q Brothers will demonstrate and teach the basics of writing and performing in their "add-RAP-tation" form: rhyming, acting over a beat, and doing a line-by-line hip hop translation of existing text.

Thursday  Period 4  10:25-11:20  A325
Thursday  Period 5  11:25-12:20  A325

Jasmine Quintana

Learn the mesmerizing art of belly dance with Jasmine Quintana! Students will learn basic belly dance movements through short combinations and put it all together into a small routine. All dance levels are welcome, no dance experience is required! Be sure to wear comfortable clothing you can move in and feel free to bring a scarf or shawl to tie around your hips.

Wednesday  Period 4  10:20-11:05  Bodyworks

Jessica Beth Redish

Jessica Beth Redish is a professional director and choreographer and founder of The Music Theatre Company. Her credits include work Off Broadway in NYC, around Chicago and across the country. She specializes in creating narrative dance for the musical theatre and will conduct a workshop in creating movement and dance for the musical stage. Dancers, movers and non-dancers are welcome!

Friday  Period 5  10:55-11:40  Dance Studio

Dean Reynolds

Discover what it’s like to be a journalist in the 21st century from award-winning reporter Dean Reynolds. Currently a correspondent for ABC News based in Chicago, Dean has also worked in ABC’s Dallas, London, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem bureaus. In his long career, Dean has covered many major news stories, including the past nine presidential campaigns, terrorist bombings and nuclear disasters. Dean will discuss the changes in the ways we get our news today, from 24-hour cable news, to podcasts and blogs.

Thursday  Period 3  9:25-10:20  A342

Jacqueline Rezak

Join us for a meet-and-greet with Jacqueline Rezak, fashion stylist to the stars and founder and head designer of the brand Rad and Refined. Jacqueline will discuss her career, including how she built her brand, how she became a celebrity fashion stylist and the different magazines, television sets and music videos that she has worked on. Get ready to amp up your style volume with Jacqueline Rezak!

Wednesday  Period 5  11:10-11:55  A316-318

Monternez Rezell

Professional choreographer, dancer and emcee Monternez (“Monty”) Rezell will be conducting a break dance workshop. Students will get an introduction into the world of a b-boy/b-girl while learning how to toprock, downrock, freeze and spin. Come learn the foundations and moves of the art form known as break dancing.

Friday  Period 8  1:25-2:10  Bodyworks
See a master at work! Nationally acclaimed portrait photographer Todd Rosenberg will demonstrate his craft when he comes to Focus and sets up a small studio to create portraits using professional lighting sources. He has shot celebrities, politicians, musicians and athletes – and now he’s bringing his skills to us!

Thursday
Period 3
9:25-10:20
C109

Explore the art of filmmaking with HPHS alum Bradley J. Ross. As an Emmy-nominated producer and award-winning film editor, Bradley has edited and produced content for Showtime Networks’ Homeland, MTV, HBO, Oxygen and many others. In 2012, he co-produced and edited a feature documentary, Escape Fire: The Fight to Rescue American Healthcare, which was a Sundance Official Selection. Bradley recently co-produced and edited another feature documentary, Cartel Land, which is a 2015 Sundance Official Selection.

Friday
Period 7
12:35-1:20
A342

Images tell powerful stories. Come for a behind-the-scenes view of the process of capturing compelling images with renowned photographer and videographer Tom Rossiter. Incorporating his love of nature, architecture and culture, Tom’s images and videos tell stories of how these elements interact. In this workshop, Tom will show you how to create powerful images, including pre-visualization, equipment, logistics, timing, tricks, and a whole lot of “making stuff up.” Learn some secrets for being in the right place at the right time.

Wednesday
Period 5
11:10-11:55
A327

Create an experimental electronic alien noise machine that creates sound and music with light! Listen to the patterns of light on your TV screen, turn shadows into soundscapes, play music with a flashlight - where there is light this easy-to-make device will create sound! Enjoy bizarre sounds, electronic loops, sampling, distortion, and other easy ways to create effects. No previous electronics or musical experience required!

Thursday
Period 4 & 5 DP
10:25-12:20
E102

Adam Rudman began his entertainment career here at HPHS, writing funny and strange stories for his very concerned (and not amused) typing teacher. Since then he has won six Emmy Awards for writing for animated characters, puppets, humans and even animals. Rudman has written for TV shows such as Tom and Jerry, Scooby Doo, and Cyberchase, as well as co-creating, executive-producing and being head writer for Jack’s Big Music Show for Nickelodeon, Bunnytown for Disney and the upcoming Nature Cat for PBS. Join Adam in an interactive discussion about writing/producing animation for television. He hopes he doesn’t run into his old typing teacher during Focus.

Thursday
Period 3
9:25-10:20
A240

Discover the concept of art and healing with artist and HPHS alum Caren Rudman. Caren will show you how to connect mind, body and spirit through art.
Using relaxation techniques and guided imagery, we will make artwork, some even with eyes closed. It is not about learning a technique but about learning to release stress by connecting to creativity. No art experience necessary, only a desire to learn how to express your own creative energy!

**Thursday Period 5 11:25-12:20 Bodyworks**

**David Rudman Media**
Meet HPHS alum and Emmy-nominated puppeteer David Rudman, along with his friends from *Sesame Street* and *The Muppets*. David performs Cookie Monster, Baby Bear, and Two-Headed Monster on *Sesame Street*, as well as Scooter and Janice on *The Muppets*. He has performed in numerous movies and TV shows, including *The Muppets Take Manhattan*, *Labyrinth*, *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, *Saturday Night Live*, *The Colbert Report*, and *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon*. In addition, David co-created, executive produced and directed *Jack's Big Music Show*, *Curious Buddies* and many more children's shows. Come and meet an acclaimed performer who got his start right here on the HPHS stage!

**Friday Period 5 10:55-11:40 A342**

**Peter Rudman Media**
Get a glimpse of what it's like to produce live college sports for ESPN and NFL football for the Chicago Bears! Come and meet HPHS alum Peter Rudman, who has developed and produced over 1000 hours of content for various networks. It doesn’t get any better than this!

**Wednesday Period 5 11:10-11:55 A226**

**Kidd Russell Music**
Kidd Russell used to free-style on roof tops and turned his college radio class into Music Business 101. Come listen to a short acoustic hip hop performance and hear him speak about the pursuit of a career in music. He will share with you funny stories about touring with artists like Shwayze, AER, The Roots, Common, The Flobots and more.

**Wednesday Period 6 12:00-12:45 Student Commons**

**Dedé Sampaio Music**
An exciting cultural adventure...imagine being in the heart of the Amazon and hearing the “Sounds of Brazil.” In this workshop, master percussionist Dedé Sampaio will help students explore, learn and understand many aspects of Brazilian history, geography, customs and music. A wide variety of Brazilian percussion instruments will be demonstrated, played and discussed, and their origins will be explained. The audience will get a chance to try their hand as well.

**Thursday Period 5 11:25-12:20 Student Commons**

**Nick Sandys Drama**
Nick Sandys is an award-winning actor, director, and fight choreographer who, as of February 1, 2012, is the Artistic Director at Chicago’s Remy Bumpoo Theatre Company. Nick will lead a workshop entitled “Reacting to Threats: Stage Combat and the Unarmed Actor”. Unarmed combat is one of the most commonly used disciplines in stage combat, ranging from a single punch, to a wrestling match, to a martial arts fight, among other things. Come join this exciting class and learn the basic techniques of stage combat!

**Friday Period 4 10:05-10:50 IM Gym**
The Artists

Mary Schmich

Creative Writing
Pulitzer Prize-winning Chicago Tribune columnist Mary Schmich will discuss how to write a good personal essay.
Wednesday  Period 6  12:00-12:45  A325

Rusty Schwimmer

Drama
The history of a character is not always apparent in the words of a play or a screenplay. It is an actor’s job to fill out that character - create a backstory - to give the audience a true portrayal. Actress Rusty Schwimmer will discuss and answer questions about character analysis and what it takes to make a character come to life on the stage and screen. Her extensive experience in both TV and film include A Little Princess, Twister, The Perfect Storm, North Country, Broken Trail, Gilmore Girls, Heroes, Bones and more.
Friday  Period 7  12:35-1:20  Studio Theatre

Jason Scott

Art
Learn about what goes into owning and designing your own clothing line from HPHS alum and fashion designer Jason Mandler, founder of Jason Scott menswear. Jason will talk about all aspects of the fashion industry, from designing to selling to production and the importance of social media.
Thursday  Period 7  1:25-2:20  A325

The Seigfried Trio

Music
Dr. Karl E. H. Seigfried returns to Focus with his hard-swinging all-star trio. Chicago’s most widely-recorded and written-about bassist, Karl has released over 20 recordings with rock stars (Todd Rundgren, members of Supertramp, Hawkwind and Jefferson Starship) and jazz legends (Bobby McFerrin, John Medeski, sidemen of Ornette Coleman and Charles Mingus). He is known for creating exciting music that transcends cultural boundaries. He will perform original music inspired by boxers, musicians and Grimms’ Fairy Tales. Illinois Entertainer calls his work “a virtuoso performance so stunning in concept and execution, it must be heard to be believed.”
Friday  Period 8  1:25-2:10  E113 Band Room

T.J. Shanoff

Drama
Second City director, writer, and musical director T.J. Shanoff will lead participants in satirical and comedic songwriting, and the art of parody. Bring your sense of humor and your creativity to this laugh-out-loud class!
Friday  Period 5  10:55-11:40  E106 Orchestra Room

Richard Shay

Art
Stretch your imagination in this interactive photography experience. Working with professional photographer Richard Shay, you will create a variety of images working the camera and lights, and be the subject in some of the photos as well. Learn how lighting placement and exposure affect the photo, and many other helpful photography “do’s and don’ts” from a master! See your photos come to life on a big screen TV. No experience necessary.
Thursday  Period 7  1:25-2:20  IM Gym
### The Artists

#### Ed Sherman  
**Media**

How do you consume sports media today? *Chicago Tribune* sports reporter Ed Sherman wants to know! In this workshop, Ed will discuss his experiences in sports journalism, covering Super Bowls, the Olympics, and the World Series, and then lead a discussion on how we get our sports news today.

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#### Ian M. Sherwin  
**Art**

Learn the art of origami with artist and inspiring instructor Ian M. Sherwin. Ian will conduct a tutorial and show 3-D demonstration boards so you can participate and create art through folding.

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#### Anne Shimojima  
**Creative Writing**

Everyone loves a good story. But what makes a story well told? Voice, expression, pacing, gesture, eye contact, material? Learn the components of a great storytelling experience and hear some of Anne’s favorite tales. Anne Shimojima, the former librarian at Braeside School, has been a performing storyteller for 30+ years at schools, libraries, festivals, museums, conferences, and anywhere people like to hear stories.

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<td>Thursday</td>
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#### Corky Siegel  
**Music**

Corky Siegel has earned an international reputation as one of the world’s great blues harmonica masters, a ground-breaking composer, blues pianist, and singer/songwriter. Celebrating 50 years of performance, he will be joined in this performance by Chihsuan Yang, exotic violinist, vocalist, and erhu player who has also toured with people ranging from Brian Wilson of The Beach Boys, to Yo-Yo Ma and the Dalai Lama.

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#### Mark Silverman  
**Media**

What does it take to run a cable TV sports network? Mark Silverman, president of the Big Ten Network, will discuss the various aspects of producing and marketing live events and shows, dealing with talent, negotiating with cable distributors, working with Big Ten athletic departments and more. Also hear about conference expansion, mega TV deals, and the latest developments in the sports world.

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#### Stef Skills  
**Art**

Take part in this hands-on workshop on “Graffuturism” – and see what’s new in the world of graffiti art! Artist Stef Skills will teach you some graffiti basics and history on elemental style, color, form and technique. Then help her sketch and complete a mural installation of graffiti and street art elements to be displayed right here at HPHS. You may be painting installation shapes indoors or using spray paint and acrylics outside. Either way, it’s sure to be a good time!

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Rachel Slotnick  
Art
In order to draw, we must first forget the things that we “know” for certain about our world. What is beauty? What is memory? What is talent? Join painter, writer and teacher Rachel Slotnick and experiment with a series of unorthodox drawing techniques that teach you to trust your hands and your impulses. It is only when we begin to forget conventions that we begin to create work that is true to ourselves.

Friday  Period 8  1:25-2:10  C106

Lynn "Chirps" Smith  
Music
Come tap your toes to the music folks sang and danced to back before radio and television, when people had to make their own entertainment. “Chirps” Smith plays this for old-time barn dances, squares and contra dances. He has been playing for over 40 years and is self-taught, having learned much of his material from senior old-time musicians throughout the Midwest.

Wednesday  Period 5  11:10-11:55  E106 Orchestra Room

Katy Smyser  
Media
What turns a news story into an in-depth investigation? Veteran investigative producer at NBC5 Chicago Katy Smyser shows you how to dig through documents, comb through secret data, go undercover, and navigate social media to find surprising twists in the news of the day.

Friday  Period 5  10:55-11:40  A240

Tami Snow  
Art
How would you “brand” yourself? What would you like to convey to the world about who you are and what you stand for? Join California artist Tami Snow to learn about the world of tattoo art and the symbolism associated with this long-used art form. Then design your own personal symbol and apply it on your body as a temporary tattoo.

Wednesday  Period 5  11:10-11:55  G114

Bolaji Sosan  
Media
So you hope to turn a hobby into a business? That’s what SocialLifeChicago.com’s founder Bolaji Sosan did and that takes her across the city of Chicago covering the social and philanthropic scene. As a new media entrepreneur she is responsible for overseeing all operations of the growing website, and she will discuss what it takes to run an online publication from the ground up. Come with questions.

Thursday  Period 6  12:25-1:20  A240

José A. Soto  
Drama
José A. Soto, screenwriter and professor at DePaul University, founded the only two-year Telenovela Screenwriting Program in the world. He will present a talk on “La Industria de la Telenovela,” with time for audience members to ask Professor Soto about his work in the industry and his perspective about current telenovelas. This presentation will be in Spanish.

Friday  Period 7  12:35-1:20  A217
Feel like getting your hands dirty while creating your own piece of art? Join Chicago artist Natalya Sots in this hands-on ceramics workshop. Natalya’s unique style, which combines fanciful artwork with bright colors, will inspire you to build your own whimsical ceramic jar.

Thursday  Period 4  10:25-11:20  C113

Have you ever heard an opera singer in person? Are you curious about what it’s like to be an opera singer? The South Shore Opera Company of Chicago will present familiar selections from standard operas such as Mozart’s The Magic Flute, Verdi’s La Traviata, Gershwin’s Porgy and Bess, and others, which will explore a wide range of characters. They will discuss vocal technique and musical terms that are unique to opera and classical music, and their shows include audience participation. There will also be a question and answer session at the end of the performance so that students can share their thoughts about the concert.

Thursday  Period 6  12:25-1:20  E117 Choral Room

One of Chicago’s most exciting chamber music ensembles, the Spektral Quartet will perform brand new works by living, breathing Chicago composers. In this interactive workshop they will be performing and talking along the way about how they work and about their lives as professional musicians. Come enjoy their performance which will mix traditional and contemporary string quartet music.

Wednesday  Period 3  9:25-10:10  E106 Orchestra Room

Dance. That’s what’s lacking in today’s jazz music. Award-winning pianist/composer Greg Spero, an alumnus of District 113, went on to release four albums, tour Africa, Israel, Europe, and the UK, and win “Best Jazz Entertainer” at the Chicago Music Awards last year. Now he’s back to share with his home district how he’s incorporating popular music and beat production into his unique style of jazz, popularly being coined as “Hard Jazz.”

Wednesday  Period 5  11:10-11:55  Student Commons

You want people who read or hear your story to say, “Wow! I didn’t know that!” Learn how to get sources to answer your questions with more than just a “yes” or “no.” Karen Springen, who spent 24 years as a correspondent at Newsweek and who now teaches at Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism and directs its Journalism Residency program, will share her interviewing tips.

Friday  Period 5  10:55-11:40  A325
The Artists

Scott Stantis

Creative Writing

Come see a cartooning demonstration and join in an animated discussion with award-winning, internationally syndicated cartoonist Scott Stantis. Scott is an editorial cartoonist for the Chicago Tribune and creator of the comic strip Prickly City, having a daily readership of nearly 10 million! Let Scott share with you his love of cartoons and cartooning that began by accident when he was 18. Through his drawings, Scott will demonstrate character development and caricature, and will talk about all the aspects of his creative process.

Friday  
Period 5  
10:55-11:40  
A217

The Storytelling Project

Drama

Television screenwriter and DePaul University professor José A. Soto, brings back to HPHS his passionate brand of storytelling. This unique, unforgettable experience will tap into the stories of the Highland Park and Highwood communities.

Friday  
Period 5  
10:55-11:40  
Studio Theatre

Studio Beads

Art

Here’s your chance to participate in a fun project mixing metal chain and leather to create a wearable bracelet that can be made and worn by both men and women. Studio Beads co-owners Donna Zaidenberg and Jessica Lundevall will bring an assortment of chain and leather colors. Learn from award-winning bead artists and master instructors who have taught all over the country!

Wednesday  
Period 4 & 5 DP  
10:20-11:55  
C206

Studio Gang Architects

Architecture

The visionary work of Studio Gang Architects confronts pressing contemporary issues – with beautiful results! Come and meet architect Gabrielle Poirier, who will speak about the architectural design process and her firm’s wide-ranging work, which includes the Aqua Tower; the WMS Boathouse at Clark Park; and a fire rescue training facility in Brooklyn, New York. Gabrielle will discuss the firm’s activities in Chicago and lead a short activity related to the studio’s methodology.

Friday  
Period 4  
10:05-10:50  
A226

Studio Mangiameli Flamenco

Dance

Experience the beauty, musicality and dramatic flare of flamenco. Taught by Chiara Mangiameli, this dance workshop will take you through the basic technique and elements of this passionate gypsy art form from Andalucia, Spain: braceo (coordination for hands and arms), palmas (rhythmic hand clapping), and expression. Hard-soled or character shoes are recommended for this workshop. Girls should bring a below the knee skirt.

Thursday  
Period 3  
9:25-10:20  
IM Gym

Stylz & Roman

Media

Believe it! B96’s Stylz & Roman are coming to Focus! They grew up listening to B96, they interned at B96 and now they have a hit show on B96. Come and meet these radio celebs who have interviewed such music icons as Jennifer Lopez, Jay Z, Snoop Dogg and Mariah Carey. Learn how they created and market their hit show, and how radio stays relevant today.

Wednesday  
Period 4  
10:20-11:05  
A228-330
Chuck Swirsky
Come and hear Chuck Swirsky, the voice of the Chicago Bulls, talk about play-by-play sports broadcasting. A long-time basketball and football play-by-play announcer for both professional and college teams, Chuck’s motto is “Love my job, love my team, love my city!”

Thursday  Period 4  10:25-11:20  A226

T. Daniel Productions
Imagine being able to express yourself without words! In the fine art of mime theatre, internationally-acclaimed Laurie Willets & T. Daniel are masters. They incorporate movement, extensive emotions, eye gestures, interaction and music to achieve their innovative productions. Join them on this remarkable journey through their universal art form by exploring and trying yourself to execute their unique style of mime.

Wednesday  Period 7  12:50-1:35  Bodyworks

Bobby Talamine
Bobby Talamine is one of the most prolific rock ‘n’ roll photographers in the world. Very much in demand, he is regularly published in leading international newspapers and magazines, and has been included in numerous books, exhibitions, advertising campaigns, and on CD/album jackets. He has photographed virtually every notable musical act since 1977, including artists as diverse as Led Zeppelin, Bob Dylan, Pink Floyd, The Rolling Stones, Madonna, Bruce Springsteen, Paul McCartney and U2. Most recently, Bobby has worked extensively with Iggy Azalea, Charli XCX, Ariana Grande and 5 Seconds of Summer.

Thursday  Period 3  9:25-10:20  A343
Thursday  Period 4  10:25-11:20  A343

Andrew Tamez-Hull
Jump into this interactive dance workshop! Students will learn a dance and participate in team-building exercises that will motivate and inspire you. Students will learn a warm-up routine and will then compete in creating their own short routines.

Wednesday  Period 8  1:40-2:25  Bodyworks

Geoff Tarson
Geoff Tarson is on the faculty at Northwestern University and is also a television writer who has worked on the staff of shows that include Suddenly Susan and That’s So Raven. Geoff will discuss his experiences as an improviser that led to his career as a professional TV writer. In addition, he will lead a workshop of improv-based creative writing exercises.

Friday  Period 7  12:35-1:20  A325

Thodos Dance Chicago
Explore your own unique choreographic voice through Thodos Dance Chicago’s (TDC) composition and improvisation workshop. Join TDC principal dancer Jessica Miller Tomlinson, who will give you a broad understanding of how dances are made. Jessica will introduce and help you develop tools for developing work and finding your own choreographic style/voice.

Thursday  Period 7  1:25-2:20  Bodyworks
Kay Thomas
**Art**
Sumi-e, the ancient art of Japanese ink painting, is more than a technique, it’s a spiritual journey. Artist and teacher Kay Thomas will show you how to use Oriental painting equipment to **paint classic nature subjects**. Simplicity is the main characteristic. The object is to express the essence of the subject with a few strokes. Less is more. No previous painting experience required.

**Friday**  Period 6  11:45-12:30  C109

Kevin Tibbles
**Media**
You have seen him reporting from around the globe: warzones in Iraq, hurricanes in New Orleans and presidential victory parties right here in Chicago. Kevin Tibbles, an **NBC correspondent** based in Chicago, is a regular contributor to **NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams**, **Today** and **MSNBC**. Join this four-time Emmy award winner for a **lively discussion of how news events touch our lives**.

**Thursday**  Period 4  10:25-11:20  A342

Erika Tuke
**Art**
Consider yourself an animator at the end of this **animation workshop**! Working with our own Erica Tuke, you will **use 3D Studio Max**, used by creators of **HALO**, **Toy Story** and other Hollywood notables. Take your choice animating a unique logo with your name using realistic materials and lighting. The end results are magical—just like the movies!

**Wednesday**  Period 3  9:25-10:10  E102

Karen Weiss
**Art**
Join artist Karen Weiss to learn how to **create a beautiful mosaic project** using various supplies, which may include beads, glass tiles and found objects. These workshops are generously underwritten by the District 113 Education Foundation. **This is a master class.**

**Wednesday**  Period 7  12:50-1:35  B100
**Wednesday**  Period 8  1:40-2:25  B100

Tonya Wibbenmeyer
**Dance**
Get ready to move to the rhythms of Bollywood! Tonya Wibbenmeyer, the Assistant Director at **North Shore School of Dance**, presents a **Bollywood workshop** based on the traditional and popular styles of Indian dance. Dancers will **learn basic choreography, as well as classical hand movement and steps** to enhance their movement. The class is high energy and is certain to be fun for all!

**Friday**  Period 5  10:55-11:40  Bodyworks

X-Factors
**Music**
The X-Factors are a co-ed a cappella group from Northwestern University. They **sing all types of music**, from oldies to Disney and pop hits of today, all **without instruments**! The X-Factors are excited to be returning to Focus to lead this workshop that will include performances from the group and give students the opportunity to sing with the X-Factors. Come learn about a cappella and collegiate music.

**Friday**  Period 8  1:25-2:10  Auditorium

Young Chicago Authors
**Creative Writing/Social Justice**
Young Chicago Authors is an arts organization that encourages the cultivation of artistic voice, critical thinking and empowering youth to be civically engaged. They involve students in **the act of telling their own stories** through spoken word.
verse, and traditional journalism, playwriting, fiction and many other forms. There will be one workshop each on Haiku, Social Justice, and Identity.

Thursday
Period 3  9:25-10:20  A228-330 (Haiku)
Thursday  Period 5  11:25-12:20  A228-330 (Social Justice)
Thursday  Period 7  1:25-2:20  A228-330 (Identity)

Steve Zacharias  Media
Learn everything you will ever need to know in order to make a Hollywood movie from a real Hollywood success story! As a writer for mega-hits Happy Days, The Partridge Family and 40 other TV shows, and co-writer of Revenge of the Nerds and seven other movies, Highland Park’s own Steve Zacharias brings a wealth of experience to share with you.

Friday  Period 5  10:55-11:40  A343
Friday  Period 6  11:45-12:30  A343

Steve Zoloto  Music
How do you write music for the movies? How can different techniques and artistic decisions bring certain emotions to bear? Steve Zoloto will show you. Steve has a long history of recording studio work ranging from CD releases to film scoring and TV advertisements. Visual topics will represent many fields of media, from TV commercials to independent film, to mobile games.

Friday  Period 4  10:05-10:50  A217
Student Showcase

FOCUS ON THE ARTS PRESENTS
A SHOWCASE OF STUDENT ARTISTS...

Ryan Chiou & Aaron Jaffe
Showcase
You will be astounded by Ryan's and Aaron's moves. Their break dancing is unique and engaging, and should not be missed.
Friday  Period 5  10:55-11:40  Wrestling Gym

Collage
Dance/Showcase
Collage is excited to perform “Synthesis,” a vibrant dance that celebrates World dance. It is a fusion of Latin, Middle Eastern and African dance styles. Don’t miss this invigorating piece! Collage will appear with JUMP RHYTHM® Jazz Project and Latin Street Dancing as part of the Focus Day of Dance!
Thursday  Period 3  9:25-10:20  Auditorium

Enviro-Artology of Upcycling!
Showcase
Upcycling is a process of converting old or discarded materials into something useful and often beautiful. Join Highland Park Environmental Science classes for a hands-on upcycling session where you will turn trash into treasure! When you upcycle, you remove items from the global garbage stream. Just about anything: pop bottles, cans, newspapers, jeans, tires, suitcases, milk cartons, you name it! If you no longer have a use for it… Upcycle it! In this session, you will learn how you can minimize your impact on the planet with our unique ideas.
Friday  Period 4  10:05-10:50  C106
Friday  Period 5  10:55-11:40  C106

Aidan & Michael Ezgur
Showcase
This energetic father/son duo will totally entertain you with their upbeat acoustic guitar and impressive and fun harmonies.
Friday  Period 8  1:25-2:10  Studio Theatre

Honors Voice Recitals
Showcase
Select HPHS choral students will perform classical recital selections in this “Best of Honors” showcase. Among the performers you will hear are Liat Benezra, Lindsey Byster, Eli Cohen, Ari Dayan, Savannah Grinell, Jamie Hendler, Carly Krakow, Samantha Masover, Alexandra Rossen, Noah Schwartz, Danya Soto, and Zoe Wilhelmsen.
Thursday  Period 4  10:25-11:20  E117 Choral Room

HPHS Chamber Ensembles
Showcase
Your talented friends and classmates in the HPHS band program are here to entertain you with some small group performances. These groups are entirely run by students, and they have some terrific music to share with you. There will be several different ensembles performing a wide variety of music, so come and share in the fun!
Thursday  Period 3  9:25-10:20  E113 Band Room

Israeli Dance
Showcase
This is your chance to try your hand at one of the oldest dance forms. Fellow HPHS students will first perform for you, then teach you a variety of Israeli dances. Anyone can join the fun!
Wednesday  Period 5  11:10-11:55  IM Gym
Daniel Jonak
Showcase
This accomplished and incredibly talented pianist will be performing gorgeous, improvised melodies on the acoustic piano.
Friday Period 6 11:45-12:30 E106 Orchestra Room

Jonathan Kaberon
Showcase
You will be astonished by how Jonathan’s fingers move as he plays classical piano.
Thursday Period 4 10:25-11:20 E106 Orchestra Room

Latin Dance
Showcase
Our very own HPHS Latin Dance returns to Focus! This group has the moves that will have you wanting to get up and join on the dance floor!
Friday Period 5 10:55-11:40 Wrestling Gym

Claudia Mintz
Showcase
Come hear this amazingly talented vocalist and guitarist perform her interpretation of popular tunes.
Thursday Period 4 10:25-11:20 E106 Orchestra Room

The Chase Nathan & Aaron Strauss Experience
Showcase
This folksy, engaging duo will totally entertain you with their indie tunes and impressive harmonies.
Friday Period 7 12:35-1:20 E106 Orchestra Room

Rachel Overby
Showcase
This highly-trained and talented harpist will soothe you with her beautiful music. This cannot be missed.
Friday Period 8 1:25-2:10 Studio Theatre

Playback Theatre
Showcase
Here’s your chance to experience HPHS’s Playback Theatre as the troupe takes personal stories from the audience and turns them into theatrical events (“play them back”). Actors include: Jack Alberts, Kyle Brincks, Noah Cott, Ari Dayan, Jamie Hendler, Seth Humrick, Gretchen Minzenberger, Montana Moore, Erin Reynolds, Meryl Rudy, Scott Sharfman, Jason Shulruff, Rachel Webb, Gabe Weiner and Aaron Weinstein.
Thursday Period 3 9:25-10:20 Studio Theatre

Sam Poll
Showcase
Do you love rock music? Do you love seeing a great performance? If so, come see Sam Poll. His amazing playing and lyrics will totally blow you away.
Friday Period 6 11:45-12:30 E106 Orchestra Room

Risa Roth
Showcase
Do you like country music? Then you will love hearing Risa Roth perform an original and a cover while playing the guitar. Her emotional lyrics will really have an impact on you.
Friday Period 8 1:25-2:10 Studio Theatre
### Student Showcase

**Meryl Rudy**  
Coming back for her second showcase appearance, Meryl Rudy performs incredible original songs on the acoustic guitar.  
**Thursday**  
*Period 4 10:25-11:20 E106 Orchestra Room*

**Etai Schnitman**  
Come experience the rich sounds of this piano player and singer. His incredible voice will captivate you.  
**Thursday**  
*Period 7 1:25-2:20 E113 Band Room*

**Etai Schnitman & Olivier Alexandre**  
This amazing duo will mesmerize you with their captivating harmonies.  
**Thursday**  
*Period 7 1:25-2:20 E113 Band Room*

**Luke Sclamberg**  
This talented and creative sophomore will share his passion for music as he blows you away with his contemporary tunes on the piano.  
**Friday**  
*Period 7 12:35-1:20 E106 Orchestra Room*

**Spoken Word**  
Are you ready to be inspired and amazed? Come experience the power and passion of spoken word poetry as HP Poetry Slammers Club members perform poems that will leave you speechless! HPHS DJ Club will collaborate to make this session really come alive! Do not miss this truly unique experience!  
**Wednesday**  
*Period 6 12:00-12:45 Studio Theatre*

**Wednesday**  
*Period 7 12:50-1:35 Studio Theatre*

**Isabel Tannenbaum & Shahar Dahari**  
Come experience this powerful, strong emotional duo as Isabel Tannenbaum plays the violin and Shahar Dahari plays the piano. You will be totally moved by their masterful performance.  
**Thursday**  
*Period 7 1:25-2:20 E113 Band Room*

**Abby Wachtel and Carley Friedstein**  
These two powerful singers will put on quite the show as they sing various popular songs. Come see these young stars shine.  
**Friday**  
*Period 7 12:35-1:20 E106 Orchestra Room*

**Xazz**  
This highly talented group featuring Adam Adelstein, Michael Salgado, Sam Subar, Daniel Jonak, Michael Brook, and Dylan Kahn will entertain you with their jazzy, funky beats.  
**Wednesday**  
*Period 5 11:10-11:55 IM Gym*

**Adam Yuster**  
Senior Adam Yuster will wow you with his fabulous, creative performance as he sings both an original song and a classic. You don’t want to miss this.  
**Thursday**  
*Period 7 1:25-2:20 E113 Band Room*
Redmoon Theater is honored to present its newest large scale spectacle contraption to the HPHS community for the 25th anniversary of Focus - The Drum Crane Tower!

The Drum Crane Tower is a 28 foot tall musical performance platform featuring 3 performance tiers that facilitates singers, dancers, raucous percussionists, live DJs and more. The Crane arm can swing in a complete circle, suspending a variety of wild performances high above the heads of audience members, including aerialists, a full drum kit, and sometimes even a baby grand piano.

Redmoon is pleased to be working with HPHS drummers and DJs, pairing them with our highly-skilled raucous crew of interdisciplinary performing artists to create a wild culminating performance full of "muscle and poetry", ingenious mechanical engineering, dazzling acrobatic feats, whimsy and wonder.
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2015 District 113 Administration

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- with eternal thanks!

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1981  Sylvia Delman Rochelle Golen Joni Rosenberg  
1983  Arlene Bublick Miriam Gerber Carol Slater  
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1989  Cheryl Gilhooley Janice Goodman Holly Missner  
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2013  Colleen Kelley Lisa Mann Nancy Mills Deborah Zionts
Very Special Thanks and Student Leadership Board

COORDINATOR VERY SPECIAL THANKS

We would like to thank Colleen Kelley, Nancy Mills and Mindy Sterns for their many years of dedication and hard work on Focus on the Arts. These women have worked countless hours during the day, evenings and weekends to bring you this incredible event. We thank them for their creativity, leadership, friendship and all the laughs. It has been so wonderful to work together. Again, many thanks for all you have given our community!

Jody & Susan

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TICKETS
Wendy Ellis

We apologize for any errors or omissions.
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Special thanks to David Solotke and his crews

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Makayla Cann
Eli Cohen
Wyatt Cole
Zach Coplan
Quinn Coretti
Ben Doylida
Andrew Eckerling
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Annie Fishbein
Anna Fox
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Rebecca Fox
Nora Freeman
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Dani Gliksman
Savannah Grinell
Emma Halfin
Clyde Jennings
Lena Kezdy
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Jack Koch
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Xavier Kwong
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Hope Masters
Isabel Miller
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Kate Mullinkosson
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Charlie Saslow
Zack Saunders
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