

FROM THE
HEAD OF SCHOOL

SMALL WORLD

“Dear Mr. MacKay, how you doing? I am one of the boys you met in Tsinghua High School. We took photo together, you still remember?”



Mel MacKay with students from Tsinghua High School in Chongqing, China

When I received the above e-mail, I certainly did remember. Only a week before, on December 7, several other American educators and I had toured two schools in Chongqing, China, and in an English class I had found myself talking to three high school students who sang, “I’m looking at the man in the mirror,” wanting to show me how much they knew about America.

To visit China, even for a short time, is an education. To spend time talking with Chinese teachers, administrators, and students was a revelation. I observed four English classes averaging 60 students each. Despite the huge class sizes, students zipped along in immersion classes, learning everything from British geography to the vocabulary of sports. I saw smiling, motivated students, two of whom are now sending me e-mails through their hotmail accounts.

Did I forget to mention heat? The schools of Chongqing, a booming city many times larger than Boston, aren’t heated, and in the forty-five-degree weather, the stoic students and teachers were bundled up in their parkas and scarves.

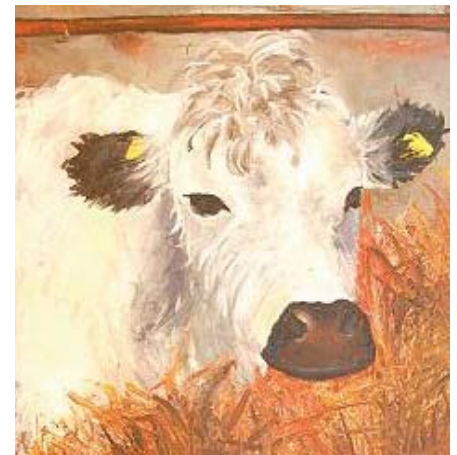
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WINTER ART SHOW HIGHLIGHTS STUDENTS’ TALENTS

For several seniors each year, the Winter Art Show represents an opportunity to showcase portfolios they are developing for Advanced Placement Studio Art and, in some cases, for art school applications.

On January 6, a packed house of admiring family members, friends, and faculty found themselves in a veritable **Anastasia Gallant ’10** gallery, with artwork in several genres scattered throughout the auditorium, including a table devoted to paintings, sketches, and constructions. “Sometimes I come into the art room,” commented Ana, “and just start gluing things together!”

Senior **Nadine Nicke’s** striking paintings of cows seemed to be grazing on all sides of the room. Some of the many works that stood out included the meticulous rendering of a bridge by **Katy Hein ’10** and coffee mugs by **Shane Hass ’10**.



Cow by Nadine Nicke '10



Coffee Mugs by Shane Hass '10

On December 18, students and faculty got a preview of the show in an assembly led by art teacher **Melissa Burns**. Several pieces of student artwork are featured in this edition of the *Community Link*.

All artwork photographs are by Betsy Hudson.

Why John Bapst?

- *The school has a comfortable and welcoming atmosphere. The teachers are always there to help if you need them....***William Stoddard ’11**, Student Ambassador
- *The student body is incredible. We accept each other for who we are and support each other as we try new things. Only at Bapst is it possible for a basketball player to play a Munchkin or a senior to join the football team for the first time and be totally accepted in the process....***Angela Frankland ’11**, Student Ambassador

BAPST STUDENTS WIN ACADEMIC AWARDS

Three John Bapst Memorial High School seniors have been named Semifinalists in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program: **Anna Carmack**, daughter of Adrienne and David Carmack of Veazie; **Evelyn Fairman**, daughter of Janet and Randall Fairman of Dixmont; and **Lucas Hubbard**, son of Marlene and Jon Hubbard of Holden.

The National Merit Scholarship Program honors individual students who show exceptional academic ability and potential for success in rigorous college studies. The nationwide pool of semifinalists, which represents less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest achievers on the 2008 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) in each state.

Six John Bapst Memorial High School seniors have also been named Commended Students in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program. They placed among the top 5 percent of the more than 1.5 million students who took the 2008 PSAT/NMSQT and are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. The six Commended Students are: **Gillian Anderson**, daughter of Susanna Anderson of Holden and David Anderson of Hermon; **Patrick Hall**, son of Lynn and



Photo by Jennifer Stone Photography

Anna Carmack '10
National Merit Semifinalist and Siemens/College Board State-level Winner

Robert Krueger of Glenburn; **Shane Hass**, son of Susan and Frank Hass of Veazie; **Melissa Hoksch**, daughter of Constance and Steven Hoksch of Hampden; **Ian Szydlo**, son of Leslie and David Szydlo of Glenburn; and **Sarah Wardell**, daughter of Joni and Edward Wardell of Orland.

The Siemens Foundation and the College Board have also announced that **Anna Carmack** is one of two state winners of the Siemens Award for Advanced Placement. Selection was based on exceptional performance in AP math and science. In addition to the national recognition, Carmack will receive a \$2,000 college scholarship from the Siemens Foundation.

COURSE REGISTRATION APPROACHES FOR CLASSES OF '11, '12, AND '13

By David Armistead, Academic Dean

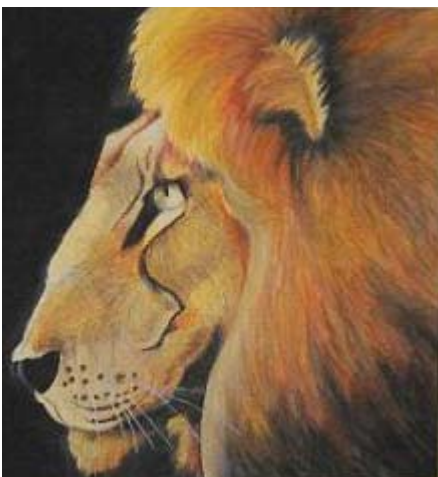
It's hard to believe, but the first semester has just ended and we are already planning for the next school year. Beginning in February, John Bapst freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will be participating in course selection for the 2010-2011 school year. Course offerings for 2010-2011 will be finalized in mid-January and the *Program of Study* updated.

The registration process will begin when students receive registration packets in their homerooms on February 10 and 11. Once students receive their packets, they will have three weeks to choose the courses they'd like for next year.

Beginning in March, each student will meet with his or her guidance counselor to discuss progress and goals and to make course selections. Between April and May, the 2010-11 master schedule will be developed, and students will be placed into sections for next year. Students should receive their schedules by mid-May.

Please note that this initial round of course sign-ups provides the school with important information about student interest in elective courses. The school's commitment to Advanced Placement courses means that, in general, AP courses with small enrollments are offered. Non-AP electives in English, social studies, and science with small enrollments cannot be guaranteed. Students who sign up for courses that cannot be offered will work with their guidance counselor to make appropriate adjustments.

Students and parents can access the full *Program of Study* at www.johnbapst.org under "Academics."



Lion by Morgan Rublee '10



Girl by Erin Bousfield '10





Fred Lear '10

FRED LEAR '10 ACHIEVES WRESTLING MILESTONE

John Bapst senior **Fred Lear** attained a wrestling milestone at the home meet on Saturday, December 12, by winning his 100th varsity match.

Head Coach **Joe Bowen** commented on Lear's achievement: "To get to 100 wins is similar to getting 1,000 points in basketball. It's a milestone that takes years of dedication and hard work to stay healthy

and consistently make your weight class."

Lear, the son of Steven and Cecilia Lear of Bangor, is the 5th John Bapst wrestler to reach the 100-win mark in recent years. Other John Bapst wrestlers who have reached this milestone include **John Frankland '09**, **Nick Rullo '09**, **Jeff Sanford '08**, and **Joe Fernandez '07**.

FALL ATHLETIC SUCCESSES PUT CROSS-COUNTRY, FIELD HOCKEY, AND FOOTBALL IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Great individual performances and gritty team play marked a memorable fall season for John Bapst athletics.

In field hockey, seniors **Marianne Ferguson** (13 goals) and **Victoria Huckestein** got a tremendous boost from **Emily Tilton '12** and **Elise Tilton '13**, who between them scored 11 of the team's record-setting 39 goals and recorded a total of 14 assists. Coach **Gina Shuck's** team finished 13-3, losing in the playoffs to the eventual state champion, Gardiner.

Meanwhile, the John Bapst girls' cross-country team captured the Eastern Maine championship, routinely placing four to

six girls in their races. Week after week under coach **Joe Capehart**, **Adrienne Carmack '12**, **Kim Spencer '11**, **Mary Carmack '11**, and **Laura Donovan '11** racked up the points and brought trophies home. After an impressive fourth-place finish at the state level, the team sent Adrienne Carmack to the New England championships—in her first year of high school running.

On the boys' side, sophomore **Gabe Stewart** finished second at the Eastern Maine regional championships, positioning himself as a force to be reckoned with in future years.



Bridge by David Jones '11

BAPST FOOTBALL ENJOYS ANOTHER LANDMARK SEASON

Capping a stellar football career at John Bapst, senior **Bill Wetherbee** tacked on another hundred-yard performance against Foxcroft Academy on November 14. FA won this year's battle of the titans and went on the state championship game a week later.

Head Coach **Dan O'Connell's** Crusaders have gone 28-4 over the past three years, winning one state title and finishing as runners-up in the Eastern Maine championships twice. Athletic Director

Rick Sinclair had nothing but praise and admiration for the entire team and its coaches. "People don't necessarily understand how many things have to go right for a good team to have a great season."

In the season finale, Wetherbee rushed for 135 yards and scored a touchdown, bringing his season totals to 1,886 yards rushing, 2,063 all purpose yards, and 30 touchdowns.



Cat by Ashley DeFlaminis '12



CHINESE TEACHER LOUISA DENG SPEAKS AT BANGOR BREAKFAST KIWANIS CLUB

Louisa Deng was the guest speaker at a recent Bangor Breakfast Kiwanis Club meeting. Following are excerpts from her speech.

My passion is teaching, and I have chosen it as a life-long career. I taught English for nine years at the Conservatory of Music College in my hometown of Shenyang, China. I enjoy teaching Chinese at John Bapst very much. Both the school and the teachers have helped and supported me a great deal. I really appreciate that. The children are eager to learn, and the people of Bangor have been wonderful, just like the sunny days.

This is my second year of a two-year teaching contract. Teaching Chinese to Americans is very important. China is a major trading partner with English-speaking countries, especially America. Knowing the Chinese language will offer American students more opportunities when they graduate from college.

There are several reasons why I chose to teach in America. One is that the climate here in Bangor is similar to where I was born. I love winter sports such as skiing and skating.

This year is special to Chinese people because it was our 60th anniversary on October 1. The whole country prepared for a very big celebration. During the 60 years, China has changed dramatically,

which can be seen from China's economic growth and its place in the world today. And this year is also a very special year for China and the U.S. because it is the 30th anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic ties between us—the biggest developing country and biggest developed country.

In 30 years, China's economy has increased more than 30 fold. Now we do nearly \$400 billion of annual trade between us. We all know that the U.S. is the biggest consumer of made-in-China commodities, and China is the holder of the largest amount of American debt. Moreover, we both shoulder the common responsibilities of human peace and development.

With the fast growth of China, many American entrepreneurs, organizations, and groups see it as a good opportunity to explore Chinese markets. They need a large number of specialized employees who can speak Chinese, but also there will be huge opportunities for both nations and their people to cooperate in a variety of fields such as education, culture, technology, commerce, finance, and sports.

We learn a language when we see its importance. Presently, the number of people learning Chinese all over the world exceeds 40 million. There are 3,000 universities in more than 100 countries offering



Photo by Betsy Hudson

Louisa Deng speaking to the Bangor Kiwanis

Chinese courses in various educational institutions. In the U.S., more than 600 universities offer Chinese courses, and 10 percent of undergraduates at Yale University study Chinese. More than 2,000 elementary schools and high schools offer Chinese as an optional language, and 50,000 students are learning Chinese. Comparatively, there are 400 million Chinese learning English. The ratio is 1:8,000!

People are finally beginning to pay attention to Mandarin Chinese as a major cultural and economic prospect for students. Stable, sound, long-term growing bilateral ties not only benefit our two nations and peoples but also the entire world. Our respective priorities and policies have a global impact, and communication and mutual understanding help to bring peace and to construct a harmonious world.

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, May 22, 2010



8th Annual John Bapst Auction

6 - 9 p.m. in the John Bapst Auditorium

Make your reservations now by calling

Jennifer Tower at 947-0313, extension 115.

THE JOHN BAPST ANNUAL FUND

We count on alumni, friends and family to ensure that John Bapst remains one of the best high schools in Maine. The school receives the large majority of its funding from tuition and fees. The budget is met thanks to gifts to the Annual Fund. With your help, we will achieve this year's Annual Fund goal of \$150,000.



JOHN BAPST PLAYERS CAPTURE TARTUFFE

This November the John Bapst Players presented Molière's 1600's classic comedy, *Tartuffe*. Director **Melissa Burns** decided to add a twist, casting all 12 characters with female actors. The result was delightful.

The makeup crew experienced creating masculine effects with traditional makeup and the addition of facial hair with professional adhesives. "It was an incredibly fun experience," commented **Erin Bousfield '12**, this year's head makeup artist.

One of the most interesting aspects of Molière's play is the fact that it is written in rhyme—both in the original and in translation. The challenge for the actors

was to not deliver each line in a sing-song-like fashion. Students met the challenge, and as Ms. Burns explained: "All of the actors found their voices, and the lines became a part of their characters, rather than the written poetry sketched out in Molière's script."

The actors also were waiters and waitresses, staying in character as they served patrons dinner and dessert between acts. Dinner was cooked and plated by volunteers from the John Bapst Fine Arts Boosters, and dessert was prepared by **Brooke Pacholski '11**. Kitchen details were organized by Karen Keim, parent of **Michael Keim '10**.



Back Row: *Molly Moreshead '10* (Monsieur Loyal), *Brittany Ellis '11* (Dorine), *Katherine Morelli '12* (Madame Pernel), *Ana Gallant '10* (Orgon), *Heather Allen '10* (Elmire), *Allie Emery '10* (Tartuffe), *Melissa Smith '13* (Cleante)
Front Row: *Devon Tull '12* (Damis), *Ellie Bate '10* (Valère), *Kristen Weed '12* (Mariane), *Jacquelyn Dougherty '11* (Flipote), *Christina Long '13* (The Officer)

Photo by Melissa Burns

HELLO, DOLLY CHOSEN FOR SPRING MUSICAL

Casting for the school's spring musical production of *Hello, Dolly* concluded in November, and pit band and stage rehearsals began in December.

Lead players include **Savanna Szumilas '12**, **Katy Ward '12**, **Mike Keim '10**, **Jason Pulley '10**, **Ellie Bate '10**, **Andrew Babbitt '11**, **Aaron Ortiz '11**, **Anastasia Gallant '10**, **Rosie Upton '13**, **Katherine Morelli '12**, **Brittany Ellis '11**, **Angela Frankland '11**, **Jacquelyn Dougherty '11**, **Lauren Piccirillo '11**, **Christina Long '11**, **Julia Pelkey '11**, **Alex Michaud '11**, and **Megan Doane '11**.

The John Bapst Players will perform two shows, each at 7 p.m., on the evenings of March 19 and March 20. Tickets will be \$3 and will go on sale in the Fine Arts Office starting March 8, 2010.

The Spring Musical co-directors are **Melissa Burns** and **Patric Hamilton**.

Small World, continued from page 1

The trip I took was co-sponsored by the College Board and Hanban, the cultural outreach organization in the People's Republic. If the goal was to foster relationships between American and Chinese educators and schools, it certainly was achieved. John Bapst has a standing invitation to bring students and teachers to two schools, and Chinese students and teachers seemed eager to visit us in the U.S. Our school is in its third year of teaching Chinese language and culture, and it is vitally important that more and more Americans learn Chinese.

Talking to the three boys at Tsinghua, I tried to help them picture where Bangor, Maine is. "Have you heard of Boston?" I asked. "Yes," said one, and when I asked about basketball, he replied, "Paul Pierce, Kevin Garnett, Ray Allen ..."

Small world indeed!

Understanding Handicap Parking Space Rules



The two handicap parking spaces on Broadway near the school's Fine Arts entrance are for handicap use only. They are not a waiting zone for pick-up and drop-off.

Please help us keep these open and available for those members of the community and those vehicles (including a school bus) that use these spaces daily. The City of Bangor fine for illegal parking in a **handicap zone is \$200**.





100 Broadway
Bangor, ME 04401-5299

Return Service Requested

JOHN BAPST MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

Do you know 8th-graders who could contribute to the John Bapst community? Tell them about . .

Step-up Day — February 2nd



Art by Kim Spencer '11

For more details, students or parents can call the school or visit www.johnbapst.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 14 & 15

Semester 1 Exam Review Days

January 18

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (No School)

January 19-22

Semester 1 Exams

January 22

Semester 1 Ends

February 2 (Snow Date: February 3)

Step-up Day for 8th-graders (8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.)

Parent Information Night (6:00 p.m.)

February 10-11

Course Registration for 2010-2011

February 15-19

Winter Break (No School)

March 2

Civil Rights Day

Junior College Night (6:30 p.m.)

March 5

NHS Red Cross Blood Drive