

LUSHER CHARTER NEWSLETTER #4 – Early April 2008

So many things happened between the last newsletter and this first week back from spring break, so this is a short catch-up issue of the Newsletter. Another issue will be published later this month. Remember to send news to Jenny Cromer, Jenny_Cromer@nops.k12.la.us, or Susan Krinsky, susanlkrinsky@gmail.com.

Awards and Honors

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards – Alliance for Young Artists & Writers

We learned after publication of the late March issue of the Newsletter that 12th grade student Sylvia Burn is also a Gold Key recipient, in the category of General Writing Portfolio.

Lusher Teachers Receive Awards, Too!

High School Foreign Language teacher, Marina Schoen, has been chosen to attend the summer immersion program at the University of Liege in Liege, Belgium. Ms. Schoen's scholarship is being provided by the French Community of Belgium. Congratulations, Ms. Schoen!

Lusher Orchestra Wins Big

Congratulations to orchestra students and their director, Marta Jurjevich. The Lusher Orchestra won the Sweepstakes Award at the District VI Large Ensemble Competition on April 1st. Dr. Jurjevich reported that “every judge remarked on how you really put your heart into your playing.” The orchestra will now advance to the State level competition, which takes place over a range of days at the end of April and the beginning of May.

You can hear this award-winning orchestra perform at the Crawfish Boil on April 5th, at the Junior Ring Ceremony on April 9th, and at the High School Graduation ceremony on May 18th.

***Unity through Understanding* Anti-Defamation League Day**

The Anti-Defamation League will hold its fifth annual Unity Through Understanding Day Workshop on April 9th. Lusher will send eight students as participants: Alex Ates, Elliot Balch, Philip Williams, Jason Wong, Sierra Livious, Cora Parsons, Jalisa Roberts, and Rui You.

Three Lusher students—Jemila Dunham, Samaneh Khoshini, and Ana Treffinger—will serve as peer facilitators for this year's workshop. All three attended the workshop last year and were also chosen to go on the ADL National Youth Leadership Mission in Washington DC last fall.

College News

Senior Class

As of April 2nd, seniors had reported admission to an extraordinary list of colleges. Remember that this senior class has fewer than 40 students. Congratulations to our 12th grade students, and thank you to the teachers who wrote letters of recommendation, and to our college counselor, Mr. Charles Prosser, who walked both students and parents through the college application process.

College admissions have so far been reported as follows:

Bard College, NY (4)
Manhattanville College, NY
Marymount Manhattan College, NY
Vassar College, NY
School of Visual Arts, NY
Ithaca College, NY
New York University, NY (2)
Syracuse University, NY

Kenyon College, OH (2)
University of Cincinnati, OH

University of Chicago, IL
Columbia College, IL
Northwestern University, IL
School of the Arts Institute, IL

Reed College, OR

Boston College, MA
School of the Museum of Fine Arts, MA

Colorado College, CO (2)
Colorado Mountain College (2)
Johnson and Wales University, CO

Haverford College, PA
Swarthmore College, PA
University of the Arts, PA

College of Santa Fe, NM
Oklahoma City University, OK
University of Oklahoma, OK

Bennington College, VT

American University, DC

University of Miami, FL

Agnes Scott College, GA

Washington University in St. Louis, MO

Whittier College, CA

Tulane University, LA (7)
Loyola University, LA (15)
Louisiana Tech University
University of New Orleans (8)
Louisiana Scholars College (2)
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Louisiana State University (3)

Southwestern University, TX

University of Washington, WA

Bethel College, WI

Summer News

Summerbridge

Lusher 10th grade student Kaitlin Guerin has been invited to serve as a teacher at the prestigious Summerbridge Program, where she was previously a student. Kaitlin will be teaching science and math. The teaching staff of the Summerbridge Program consists

entirely of high school and college students interested in curriculum design, effective teaching, student behavior management, evaluation and assessment, and student success. The student teachers are mentored by credentialed teachers, but are fully responsible for teaching.

Ochsner STAR Program

Ochsner's STAR (Science, Technology Academics, and Research) Program has selected three Lusher students—10th graders Kyrstin Dees and Kayla Rodney and 11th grader Geralyn Lane—for its 6-week summer program. Ochsner selects only 12 high school students each year. The candidates must demonstrate an interest in science or healthcare. The six-week program is a “unique educational opportunity to conduct hands-on, inquiry-based biotechnology experiments under the guidance of Ochsner's research scientists.”

Parents and teachers: please send us news of other internships and educational programs in which Lusher students will participate.

Sports News

Varsity Track

As reported by Coach Landrum:

Top finishers in the Destrehan Track & Field Meet held on Friday March 15th

Alex Sorapuru, 9th grade, 2nd place winner in the 400 Meter Dash

Maura, 6th grade, 1st place winner in the 3200 Meter Run & 1600 Meter Run

Emily Stovall, 8th grade, 2nd place winner in the 3200 Meter Run & 1600 Meter Run

Top finishers for the Brother Martin Track & Field Meet held on Wednesday March 19th

Brandon Addison, 9th grade, 1st place winner, 100 Meter Dash

Brandon Scott, 9th grade, 2nd place winner, 100 Meter Dash

Alex Sorapuru, 9th grade, 1st place winner, 200 Meter Dash, 400 Meter Dash and 800 Meter Run

Brandon Scott, Ricky Theyard, Brandon Addison, Alex Sorapuru: 2nd place winner, 4x200 Meter Relay Team

Soccer

As reported by Coach Volo:

Marcus Pierre was selected for the All-District Soccer Team.

Tennis

The Middle School Girls defeated St. Dominic 3-2 in a match on April 1st. Massey/Korn, Tannenbaum/Adams, and Douglas/Dashner won their matches, while Unnithan/Koefel and Greenberg/Clark lost in rain-shortened matches. It was a very good first match for Lusher.

Arts News

Dinner Theater Showcase – “Bus Stop”

The Certificate of Arts Program in Theatre will open its production of William Inge’s *Bus Stop* on Thursday April 10th. Evening shows will be held on April 10th, 11th, 12th, 17th and the 19th. Dinner, provided by a well-known local restaurant, is included as an option in the price of a ticket. Tickets are \$20 dinner and the show, or \$5 for the show only.

Lusher Music Program News

On Friday, April 11th, the Lusher Orchestra and the Lusher Jazz Band will engage in exchanges and clinics with band and orchestra students from Buffalo, New York, who will be visiting Lusher. These students raised funds for over \$15,000 worth of instruments for Lusher students.

Dance Performance

The Evening of Dance will take place in Tulane’s Dixon Hall at 7 pm on Friday, April 18th. The Ensemble, Corps, the Company, and Willow Dance Troupe will be performing with guest musicians, the Lusher Orchestral Ensemble.

From J Hammons of the Lusher Dance Program:

Saying you don’t understand dance is like saying you don’t understand a shrimp po-boy. A shrimp po-boy is not made to tell a typical story nor is most dance. But both have the ability to not only be very yummy, but to also give a very rich experience. A dance, like any art, is a conversation. Audience members are encouraged to use their own perspective to enjoy the movements, symbols, and rhythms in their own personal way.

To be a dancer, one must be physically courageous. The Lusher Dancers train daily to expand their limits and mature as people and artists. To be creative, one must be honest. The dancers use material from their everyday lives and develop that material into engaging and articulate expression. In the Spring Dance Concert our pieces explore high fashion, teen angst, group/peer dynamics, cell phones turning private conversation into public entertainment, crows always depicted as the “usual suspects” and Alice in Wonderland.

Please come and be ready for a yummy, rich experience. Friday April 18th @ 7pm - Dixon Hall.

Middle School Drama Troupe

FULL OF SMITH, by Susan Chenet, will open Wednesday, May 7th at 6 pm, with another performance on Friday, May 9th at 6 pm. Both performances will take place in Room 109. Admission is free, but donations are greatly appreciated.

Coffeehouse Postponed

The Coffeehouse performances originally scheduled for April 18th have been postponed.

Upcoming Dates

April 10-17 – Dinner Theater Showcase Performances, Fortier Campus

April 18 – Evening of Dance, 7 pm at Tulane University, Dixon Hall

May 7 and 9 – Middle School Drama Troupe Performances, Room 109, Fortier Campus

May 9 – Visual Arts Exhibition Opening, Fortier Campus

Summer Arts Intensive

Lusher's Summer Arts Intensive will run June 2 through 27, 2008 for rising 4th through 12th graders. Classes will be offered in dance, music, creative writing, visual arts, mixed media & film, music, and musical theatre workshop. Applications are available now.

Lusher students will be given first priority, but students from the community will also be registering, so get your registration form in early to save your spot.

Summer Basketball Camp

Registration is now open for Lusher Lions Summer Basketball Camp for incoming 1st to 9th graders, both boys and girls. Dates and times are:

Regular Camp, ages 6-12, June 2 - 6; 9 am to noon.

Regular Camp, ages 10-14, June 9 - 13; 9 am to noon

Shooting and Offensive Skills Camp, ages 10-14, June 2 – 6; 1 pm to 3 pm

Shooting and Offensive Skills Camp, ages 10-14 June 9 – 13; 1 pm to 3 pm

Shooting camps, which are limited to 10-14 year olds, have limited enrollment of 24 spots. Regular camps have limited enrollment of 50. The fee for Regular Camp is \$100; the fee for Shooting and Offensive Skills Camp is \$125.

Brochures and registration forms are available in the main office of each campus. The camp is run by Coach Hunter Higgins, Lusher High's head basketball coach (and former Jesuit High assistant basketball coach—we apologize for our error in the last issue of the newsletter). Contact Coach Higgins at 218-9319 or hunter_higgins@luserschool.org

Upcoming

For a complete list of upcoming events, please see the Combined Calendar on EDLINE. What follows are some highlights:

Junior/Senior Prom

Saturday, April 26th, at the Fine Arts Center on Baronne & Constantinople.

Junior Ring Ceremony

The Junior Ring Ceremony, accompanied by the Lusher Orchestra, will be held Wednesday, April 9th at 7:30 pm on the front steps of the Fortier building. Last fall's ceremony was beautiful, and the spring ceremony will be, too.

Graduation

Commencement ceremonies for Lusher's first class of 12th grade students will be held Sunday, May 18th at 3 pm on the Tulane campus.

Parents and Teachers: we are relying on you to forward news of honors and accomplishments to us at jenny_cromer@lusherschool.org or susanlkrinsky@gmail.com.

We would also like to publish information about summer programs in which students may be participating, so please let us know about those, too!

Lusher Charter School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in the administration of educational policies.