

Fwd: Letter from the Head of School 11_4_18

1 message

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November 4, 2018

Dear Parents,

Girls Bowling State Champions!

At the Hickam Bowling Center, the girls bowling team captured the 2018 HHSAA State Bowling Championship crown. This is the first ever state bowling title for the school. Just as it has been all season, it was a true team effort as they accumulated a 6808 pinfall total by overcoming a very challenging oil pattern, with Thursday's six games finishing close to midnight, then having to get up Friday morning to bowl the remaining 3 games.





The team members are: Asia Amii '19, Claire Moriyama '19, Kiana Okamura '19, Seobeen Chang '20, Jordan Luke '20, Ashlyn Okazaki '20, Logan Akau '21, Rachel Iha '21, and Carianne Takeuchi '22. Coaches are Michelle Jung, Geoffrey Inouye, David Okazaki, and Alden Wong. The boys team finished in fourth place behind Mililani, Mid-Pacific, and Leilehua. Congratulations Bowlers!

Macbeth

From Upper School faculty member Dr. Peter Webb. "The student performances in this production were excellent. Sarp Senol '20 infused Macbeth with dignity; his soliloquies showcase the struggle between morality, love, and power that ultimately crushes him. Hannah Yonamine '19 created a Lady Macbeth whose initial evil intent grew more complicated as the play progressed; her sleepwalking scene in Act 5 generated both sympathy and horror at the way she has destroyed herself with her own schemes. As Banquo, Josh Guillou '22 combined love of family, seen in his playful interaction with his child Fleance (Alyssa Kimura '22), friendship with Macbeth, and a fatal interest in his own prophecy. Tyrell Garcia '19 created a compelling Macduff, Macbeth's nemesis, driven by his own tragic losses. Mariko Jurcsak '19 made the most of her lines as Malcolm, the avenging heir to the murdered King Duncan (Brandon Yim '19). The three witches, played by Chloe Evans '19, Tierra Nakamura '21, and Maya Oda '19, were remarkably disturbing in their skull makeup and occult costumes, while Culley Jones '20 gives us a few precious moments of laughter as a distracted doorkeeper. Many of the cast members were involved in the fight scenes throughout the play, with excellent choreography and swordplay in the climactic duels between our main characters. The whole cast was so clearly invested in the play's story, each actor hitting his or her marks with precision and passion, that only the constraint of time keeps me from praising each individual actor.







The pit ensemble of Aubrey Danko '20 (piano), Taylor DeCastro '20 (violin), and Susannah Niu '20 (cello) did an excellent job with an exciting and evocative score written by Jameson Caps '17. Shakespeare's works originally were performed with musicians in the balcony; the trio's skill at matching mood and tempo to the stage action makes clear why live music is so compelling. The costumes evoked a medieval world without being overly busy; Lady Macbeth's dress of crimson and gold was a standout piece of costume symbolism. The minimalistic set used color washes on scrims and occasional special effects, with a few major set pieces (the banquet table and the Macbeth's thrones) adding both majesty and overindulgence to the coronation party. As always, the IDP crew provides excellent sound, lighting, and scene changes to keep the play rolling.

Various humorists have remarked on the irony of Halloween falling only a week before Election Day. Having Macbeth bridge this gap made a lot of sense. The witches, apparitions, and swirling fog of the play evoke Halloween chills; the conflict between the will to power and the need for moral action creates the main conflict of the tragedy. Whether your taste runs to ghouls, political scheming, swashbuckling sword fights, or thoughtful soliloquies, this production of The Tragedy of Macbeth undoubtedly thrilled all attendees."

Halloween and Halloween Concerts

The faculty and staff were out in good spirits as well as classic rockers.









The 14th Annual Halloween Spooktacular Concerts were held this past week showcasing the joint talents of students in Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced Lower School Orchestra as well as members of Upper School Orchestra 1, Orchestra 3 and Intermediate Band. Under the direction of Mrs. Wehrman, students performed spooky pieces including Rock around the Halloween Clock, Monster Mash and the themes from Harry Potter, Batman and Ghostbusters.





Two separate events were held, the first in the Lower School courtyard, attended by students and families, and the second in the Upper School courtyard at lunch. Additional highlights of these collaborative concerts included a performance of Camille Sean Saint's *Dance Macabre* with Upper School violin soloist Laura Huang, '23, and Lower School soloist Vance Maeshiro, '25.

Science Olympiad

This past Saturday, 70 'Iolani Science Olympiad students attended the Mililani Invitational Science Olympiad Tournament where they competed against teams from 12 other schools. Students have been working since the summer building devices and mastering concepts from a variety of different subject areas. This is the first of many tournaments over the next few months.





At the Mililani competition, student teams competed in 17 different testing events and two building events. Furthermore, students showcased work in three additional building events with devices constructed prior to the competition. Testing events included Anatomy and Physiology, Astronomy, Chemistry Lab, Circuit Lab, Codebusters, Designer Genes, Disease Detectives, Dynamic Planet, Experimental Design, Fermi Questions, Fossils, Herpetology, Meteorology, Mystery Architecture, Solar System, Water Quality, and Write It Do It. Building events included Boomilever (Cantilevers), Mousetrap Vehicle, Thermodynamics, Mission Possible and Wright Flier.





The students represented 'Iolani well. Many thanks to the coaches, parents, 'Iolani Science faculty, and 'Iolani School for the support of this endeavor.

Chris Yogi, Class of '00, visits Film Class



Filmmaker Christopher Makoto Yogi, Class of 2000, returned to campus Friday to speak to Risa Beer’s film class in the Sullivan Center. He shared the process he goes through when making a film and told students to be resilient when pursuing what they love. He now resides in New York City and is back in the islands for the Hawaii film premiere of “August At Akiko’s” which he wrote and directed. The film, stars Alex Zhang Hungtai and Akiko Masuda. The film has been nominated by the Hawaii International Film Festival (HIFF) in two categories including the Made In Hawaii Feature Film Award and the new Kau Ka Hōkū Filmmaker Award, which will be given to emerging directors with their 1st or 2nd feature film. Chris shared a clip of “August At Akiko’s” with students and answered questions.

The screen dates for the film “August At Akiko’s” are as follows:

- Wed., Nov. 14, 2018 – Honolulu (Regal Dole Cannery)
- Fri., Nov. 16, 2018 – Honolulu (Regal Dole Cannery)
- Sat., Dec. 1, 2018 – Hilo (Palace Theatre)

‘Irobotics Ignite Outreach Program Launches Robotics Pop-ups

This past Tuesday was an exciting day for our haumāna in the Lower School. The Drone club along with our ‘Irobotics Ignite outreach team hosted the first of four lower-school robotics pop-ups.





Students in grades 4 - 6 learned how to: fly drones; construct detailed paper airplanes; and practice their piloting skills on flight simulations. Everyone had a great time! Mahalo to Mrs. Warner and Mr Yamamoto (LS) and Dr. Millikan (LS/US) for your support. The next lower school Ignite pop-up will be for our K - 3 keiki in December.

Father Bray's Legacy

Five alumni who played for Father Bray, members of the Classes of 1949, 1950, and 1951, spent the full class time with two periods of seniors in the English elective Literature of Sport on Friday. Former players of Father Bray's have done this annually since the course began in 2003. The visitors were Ray Wong '49, Tommy Lau '49, Harry Takane '50, Walter Nobuhara '51, and Merv Lopes '51.







Students were captivated by their stories and life lessons and had a chance also to ask questions. The men's visit truly enhanced the students' experience of reading Father Bray's biography, *The Ol' Man*, by Don Johnson and Ronald Oba.

Second Grade Pumpkin Decorating

Members of the Upper School Lower School Relations committee got the second graders in the Halloween spirit by decorating pumpkins. Using markers, stickers, and googly eyes, the plain pumpkins were transformed into creative characters.







Blood Drive

‘Iolani held the first blood drive of the school year on Thursday, November 1. We had 48 donors signed up and a few adult walk-ins. 12 student donors were first time donors and commented that it was such an easy process that they will definitely donate again. Donors were treated to delicious snacks donated by the Iolani Ohana Association.



Faculty, staff, alumni, and students 16-18 years old are welcome to donate at any of the three blood drives on campus. The next drive will be on January 16.

5th & 6th Grade Biathlon 2018

In the first quarter of every school year the 5th and 6th graders train for the rigorous biathlon in PE, running and swimming twice a cycle. The training culminates with a test in which the students swim four laps (100 yards) in the pool then quickly transition into their shoes and run to the track, where they finish after running two laps (half mile). This event is more of a race against the clock than it is a competition against classmates. It is a test of mental strength and determination. The pride lies in their time and sense of accomplishment, and not in their placing.





In the 5th grade division, Evans Tan set a new male record of 4:52, breaking the old record of 4:56 set by his brother Tommy ('24) two years ago. Tommy was in attendance to support, cheer and take video of Evans when he broke the record. Congratulations to Evans and to all the 5th and 6th graders who trained and improved their level of physical fitness, and levels of confidence and courage over the nine-week period.

All the best in health and happiness,
Tim

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