

news



Upcoming Calendar Highlights

- 9/19: **Private Concert with Ian Moore at Nashi Orchards**, 6:30PM (for 2017 Voyagers Auction winning bidders)
- 9/22: **Carpe Diem Student Portraits** with Marla Smith (Details on page 4)
- 9/25: **Carpe Diem Curriculum Night**, 6:30PM at Carpe Diem (Grades K-3 parents)
- 9/26: **Upper Elementary Curriculum Night**, 6:30PM at Harbor School (Grades 4 & 5 parents)
- 9/29: NOON DISMISSAL (all grades)
- 10/3: **Middle School Curriculum Night**, 6:30PM at Harbor School (Grades 6-8 parents)
- 10/4: **Board Meeting**, 6:30PM at Harbor School
- 10/12: **Elementary Parent Conferences**
No School - Grades K-5
- 10/13: **NO SCHOOL**
NWAIS Faculty Conference
- 10/17: **Harbor School Student Portraits** with Marla Smith (Details on page 4)
- 10/20: **Elementary Parent Conferences**
No School - Grades K-5
- 10/21: **OPEN HOUSE**, 12-2PM
Harbor School campus
PUBLIC WELCOME!

Top Left: Making Fairy Houses at Camp Niwana (Photo by Emma Hathaway)

Reflections on Camp Niwana

by Mark McGough

Camp Niwana is a full experience for students as well as faculty. To write about it before the dust has had time to settle feels like a disservice to the experience of community that is developed across the school during the week away. As always at camp, the highlights are many and varied. They are both communal and individual and in retelling they may sometimes even appear small but each one is important and hard-earned. I hope by now that you have heard many of them from your own children.

The weather was beautiful – the sky lit up by beautiful pink and purples as the sun set and the night was illuminated with a beautiful bright moon. 8th grade climbed a mountain and Carpe Diem joined us for a day. This year we welcomed the Vashon Wilderness Program to camp and they provided one of the highlights of the

week as they introduced us to *'Life and Death in the Forest.'* Alumni **David Nguyen '13** also joined us this year. It was a pleasure to watch him engage with our students and we hope that having alumni accompany us to camp will continue in the years to come.

Perhaps the highlight for me though is simply being able to watch our faculty at camp as they engage with your children. Their commitment and contributions to the success of camp are the real highlights. As the week goes on and they grow more tired their energy just seems to deepen and strengthen. Without them, camp would not exist and I thank them for their tireless, insightful and supportive contributions to the success of our latest Camp Niwana.



Carpe Diem Needs iPads

Carpe Diem will be adding a new tool to their reading program--**Raz-Kids**, an online guided reading program that matches students with appropriately leveled text. This program can be used at home and on the go on most devices, which makes it an easy way to get some reading practice while out and about! We want to teach students how to use this program at school. Use of this in the classroom will be very limited. Unfortunately, the Kindles that we have to support the **Raz-Kids** apps are too old. We are looking for a set of iPads, ideally 4, to use for this purpose.

If you have an older model iPad that you would like to donate to the school, we would be delighted to take it off your hands. As a non-profit school, we'll make sure you get a donation acknowledgement letter for your tax purposes.

Please note, donated iPads must be able to run iOS 7.0 or later.

To donate your iPad, please contact our office at office@harborschool.org or call (206) 567-5955.

Race Equity & Diversity

As many of you know, throughout the course of last year, a group of parents worked together to focus the discussion of diversity and race at school. Led by **Jen Williams** and **Rebecca Lanphear**, the group hosted several book readings and a movie night, met regularly and developed and presented a series of objectives to the Board at the end of the year. These objectives will be part of our plan for improvement this year and will focus around the three operational objectives that I outlined at the **Back-to-School parent meetings** - 'excellence in the classroom', 'rooted in the community' and 'education for global citizenship.'

There is much exciting work to be done this year and a number of events are already in the planning stage but the goal is to formally establish a **Race Equity Committee** comprised of parents, faculty and staff and anyone interested in furthering the conversation at Harbor School. The initial task of this group will be to revisit the work of last year and to move forward with actions, community events, and further planning for this year.

If you are interested in being a part of this committee, please get in touch or just join us at our next meeting. That date has not yet been finalized but will be announced next week in the *Cornerstone News*.



Don't Miss LelaVision Event

On Saturday, September 30th, 3:00PM at Duwamish Waterway Park, Lelavision will hold their Seattle premiere of Ela Lamblin's new kinetic musical sculpture, "Interspecies Communication."

Throughout the summer Ela and Leah (*parents of Kairos in grade 4*) have been workshoping with youth and cultural dance groups exploring collective behavior amid diversity of people and movement vocabulary. We are bringing together hula dancers, street dancers, improvisational dancers, the Duwamish Tribe and Vashon youth for a "human murmuration" game and then a potluck, mixer and sharing time. A number of Harbor School and Carpe Diem youth have been involved this summer.

Lelavision would love to extend an invitation for all of our students (*grades K-8*) to join us at the event. Leading up to the event, Lelavision and guest teachers - **Erica Howard** (*Seattle Biologist/Butoh Dancer*) and **Soyinka**

Rahim (*Oakland Musician/Improvisor*) will workshop with students exploring systems dynamics and collective behavior in nature. We'll make kinetic bird puppets as well as explore poetry and world myths as we examine culture.

Erica Howard will be visit Zoe's science classes on Monday, September 25, and Soyinka Rahim will be at Carpe Diem for morning circle on Thursday, September 28, and at Harbor School after that (stay tuned for date.)

This is presented in conjunction with Harbor School Race Equity Committee. Special thanks to faculty member **Alisara Martin** for bridging all the communications and coordinations between staff and faculty.

Also, please join us for the upcoming **Kids and Race: Changing the Narrative** event on **October 22**. Details at: <https://www.facebook.com/events/384045765331215/>

Wait, there's more...

Erin Shultz will be doing workshops with upper math students on synergy, Boids model and cluster analysis - *date TBD*. Erin is an alumni parent and currently serving on the Board of Trustees.

COMMUNICATIONS

To get the school year started off, we'd like to remind all our families, new and old, about the various ways we communicate throughout the year. From following photos of student activities on Facebook, to reading the digital Cornerstone News, it's important for all of us to stay up-to-date on the goings on at Harbor School and Carpe Diem.

If you have questions about any of the communication tools we use, please contact Allison Reid, *Director of Advancement*, at allison@hARBORSCHOOL.ORG.



Cornerstone News

Harbor School's **Cornerstone News** is a weekly publication that features a calendar column on the front page to highlight our most imminent events; regular updates from Head of School, Mark McGough; classroom content from our faculty; All-School events and so much more. There's even a COMMUNITY page at the end to share island-wide events, classes, and interesting articles.

Content for the weekly editions is assembled at the end of each week.

You can expect to see an email distribution before

the end of the weekend. During

holidays and shortened weeks, we may skip an edition and consolidate content in the next issue.

Grandparents and special friends can also sign up to be included in our *Cornerstone News*. If you'd like to add a relative or special friend to receive the *Cornerstone News*, please let us know and we'll be happy to add them to the distribution.

Please note, the COMMUNITY section promotes events and activities by other non-profits on the island. We do not include listings for work, employment, or fundraising efforts by other individuals. Please keep this in mind when submitting any community info.

If you would like to submit an article or item for the Community section, the weekly deadline for submissions is Thursday at 5PM. All content should be sent to allison@hARBORSCHOOL.ORG.

How To Communicate with Us

The very best way to communicate with the school office is to send an email to office@hARBORSCHOOL.ORG. You are always welcome to call the main office number at **206-567-5955**; however, we have found that the volume of details and information coming in to the office flow best with email.

Likewise, for urgent communications from us (*like ferry delays or scheduled pick-ups*) be sure to check your inbox for an email from office@hARBORSCHOOL.ORG.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter!



Follow Us On Facebook

Since the merger of Carpe Diem and Harbor School, we have maintained two Facebook pages. If you have a presence on Facebook, we encourage you to "like" the pages below so photos and announcements appear regularly in your Facebook feed.

<https://www.facebook.com/hARBORSCHOOL/>

Posts predominantly for grades 4-8 as well as All School News.

<https://www.facebook.com/cARPEDIEMPRIMARY/>

Posts predominantly for grades K-3 as well as All School News.

For All-School events that involve all grades and our entire parent community, you can expect to see posts repeated on both pages. However, we recommend parents "like" both pages so you can see what is going on across all grades!

If you do not have a presence on Facebook, you can view our most recent posts on the school's website by scrolling to the bottom of the homepage here:

<http://hARBORSCHOOL.ORG/>

2017-18 Directories



Each year Harbor School prints a school Directory & Handbook to send home with all our families. We will also be emailing a digital PDF that we recommend keeping on your computer desktop or saving to your smart phone for easy reference.

We are in the final stages of proofing all the directory contact info and hope to have printed booklets by early next week.

Each family will receive one hardcopy booklet as part of their enrollment. If you'd like to order additional booklets, the cost for extras are \$5 each.

If you have questions or wish to order an additional booklet, please email office@hARBORSCHOOL.ORG.

School Website

You can find lots of information on our school website at www.hARBORSCHOOL.ORG. The site is predominantly a marketing tool to promote our school and have a presence online; however, we do post calendar updates, press announcements and archive past *Cornerstone News* on the site fairly regularly.

FROM THE OFFICE

Do You Know Who to Contact?

- > **SCHOOL ABSENCES** are best communicated via email to office@harborschool.org.
- > **MESSAGES TO STUDENTS** are best communicated via email to office@harborschool.org, and will be delivered to students at the earliest possible break from classes.
- > **MESSAGES TO TEACHERS** are best emailed directly to the teacher. Teacher email addresses are their **first names @harborschool.org** (e.g. lauretta@harborschool.org). All teacher email addresses are listed below and can be found in the directory handbook.
- > **TUITION PAYMENTS** can be given directly to Jackie or Niamh in the office, dropped in the "Deposit Payments Here" box in the office, or mailed to PO Box 1912, Vashon, WA 98070. We also have a secure after hours drop-box just outside the school's main entrance.
- > **FINANCIAL QUESTIONS** or matters (such as tuition payment amounts, balances due, etc.) should be emailed directly to Jackie at jmollison@harborschool.org.

HARBOR SCHOOL

ADMINISTRATION

[in alphabetical order]

Mark McGough, Head of School
mark@harborschool.org

Shannon Johns Beck, After School Program
afterschool@harborschool.org

Jackie Mollison, Business Manager
jmollison@harborschool.org

Niamh Prince, Admissions Director
nprince@harborschool.org

Allison Reid, Director of Advancement
allison@harborschool.org

Mariette Spence, Development Support
mspence@harborschool.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Lisa Pearson, President

Scott Shawver, Secretary

Peter Walker, Treasurer

John James

Tom Baker

Alice Dorr

Kevin Crayton

Erin Schulz

Mark McGough, Ex Officio

FACULTY

[in alphabetical order]

Andrea Braganza, K-3 Teacher
andrea@harborschool.org

Jaffrey Clark, K-3 Teacher
jaffrey@harborschool.org

Ethan Cudaback, Middle School Math
ethan@harborschool.org

Kate Davidson, K-3 Teacher
kate@harborschool.org

Steve Ellis, Upper Elementary Assistant
steve@harborschool.org

Zoë Hughes, MS Science & Algebra
zoe@harborschool.org

Lauretta Hyde, MS Social Studies
lauretta@harborschool.org

Alisara Martin, Art Teacher
alisara@harborschool.org

Joleen McCauley, Upper Elem. Teacher
joleen@harborschool.org

Russell Ray, K-8 Spanish Teacher
russ@harborschool.org

Nicky Wilks, PE & Life Skills
nicky@harborschool.org

Todd Wooster, MS English
todd@harborschool.org

Drop-Off, Pick-Up, & Parking

HARBOR SCHOOL CAMPUS

The entirety of our drop-off/pick-up lane is a marked Fire Lane. Use the lane for pick-up and drop-off, but do not park there to come into the school.

We need to keep the traffic flowing in the drop-off/pick-up lane, so if your passenger(s) will not be getting in or out of the vehicle promptly, it is a great idea to pull into a space in the parking lot.

Please remember to pull as far forward as possible and maintain your position in the drop-off queue. To ensure the safety of our students we ask that vehicles maintain their place in line and not pull around the car(s) in front of them.

CARPE DIEM

Parents should park in the rear gravel lot at the Presbyterian Church and walk their children into the building. Doors open at 8:45AM on school days.

Main Office Has Moved

Harbor School's main campus office has moved to a bigger and more accessible room across the walkway in the previous math room next to Lauretta's social study classroom.

The new office space allows folks to come and go without interrupting our teachers in the midst of a class lesson; plus, it allows for more work space for faculty and staff to gather.

Thriftway 1% Program

Harbor School has been participating in the Thriftway 1% Receipts Program for many years, and this year we have set a fundraising goal of \$2,500 collecting Thriftway receipts. If we can get 75% of our school families participating we will be on our way to meeting our goal.

We all do a little shopping at Thriftway!

Just sign your receipt, add your phone number, drop them at the main campus office or look for the Receipt box at Carpe Diem. We'll take care of the rest!



Volunteer Sign-Ups

If you missed attending the Back-to-School Parent Meetings in late August, please make sure to check out our Volunteer Sign-Up sheets at both Carpe Diem (in the hallway) and at Harbor School (in the new front office). There are many volunteer roles that need support throughout the year, and lots of options to choose from. The sign-up sheets will remain up through September so be sure to stop by and sign up!

Student Portraits

Photographer Marla Smith will be taking student portraits this year at both Carpe Diem and Harbor School.

CARPE DIEM PORTRAITS will be **Fri., September 22** with additional make-up photos set for October 6.

HARBOR SCHOOL PORTRAITS will be **Tues., October 17** with additional make-up photos set for October 23.

Social Emotional Learning at Carpe Diem

by Peggy Rubens-Ellis

Hi Parents,

In addition to my highly esteemed job as “mom of Mira,” I am the social/emotional teacher at Carpe Diem. This will be my 4th year teaching grades K-3. This year, I will be teaching the circle with Kate on Monday afternoons. I wanted to share a little bit about my background and philosophy.

I earned my Master’s degree in K-12 School Counseling from Seattle Pacific University in 1994. My internship was cancelled at the last minute and my professor and I scrambled around for a new internship, finding one on a small island I had never heard of called Vashon. Little was I to know that I would fall in love with this place and raise my family here.

I commuted to Highline School District for a good chunk of my career and worked with a very diverse population. In addition, I was a ropes course facilitator for 4-H and a very active member of the Association of Experiential Education as well as the Washington School Counselor Association. In 2004, I started a business called *Creative Crossings* focused on creating emotionally safe schools and reducing incidents of relational aggression. I was lucky to get to speak and work with youth, educators and parents all over Washington state.

After Mira was born, I became a Certified Parent Coach, a Mental Health First Aid Trainer, a Positive Discipline facilitator and completed trainings in Strengthening Families (*look for our VARSA class this winter at McMurray*), basic advocate training for domestic violence prevention, and collaborative divorce mediation.

My philosophy towards teaching social emotional skills is to work from both the inside out — how to manage big emotions/self-calming strategies and from the outside in — how to ask to join a game, develop empathy, problem solve, ask for what you need.

I draw from the following curriculums/ideas as well as my own:

- **Second Step Violence Prevention and Steps to Respect**—*the basic units being understanding feelings, anger management, problem-solving*
- **5 Point Scale**
- **Kelso’s Choice**—*a cute little frog that talks about big and small problems plus encourages nine different things to try when you have a problem*
- **Yoga Calm**—*need I say more?*
- Various dance and movement curriculums
- **Bibliotherapy**—*using books to learn social/emotional concepts*
- **Washington State Health Standards,** Counseling standards
- **Whole Brain Child**
- **Positive Discipline in the Classroom**
- Storytelling, games, puppets as learning tools
- **Teaching Tolerance/Peace Corps** curriculum and other social justice curriculums

On a more personal note, I love teaching and coming up with new ideas, writing, traveling, and being outside. I spent a year teaching in Nepal and many other trips that have shaped my philosophy. I am a step-mom to two lovely adult children. My oldest step daughter has a 9-month old daughter named June who was born with a profound hearing loss. This has allowed my entire family to learn spoken English sign and I look forward to incorporating this into my lessons.

I am always open to hearing your home challenges and will attempt to weave these into my lessons as well. In the social emotional circle we also address things happening in the classroom, encourage leadership and promote the Cornerstone Values.

You can contact Peggy at **(206) 335-9051** or by email at m.rubens@comcast.net.



ALUMNI IN THE NEWS



Alumni at Camp

It's been a while since **David Nguyen**, Class of 2013, has seen Camp Niwana (see photo on left from his 7th grade year!). This

week, David returned to assist the faculty with weeklong camp activities and support his alma mater before he heads to the University of Washington to begin his freshman year this Fall. We are thrilled that David could join us and share his experiences with our students as well as lend a helping hand. Join us in thanking David for his participation and to wish him all the best on his college journey!

Three Alumni at VHS in Top 5



Isabelle Spence '16



Beckett Reid '16



Hannah Spranger '16

At the end of the 2016-17 school year at Vashon High School, five freshmen (Class of 2020) received perfect 4.0 GPAs. Of those five top students, 3 are Harbor School's Class of 2015 alumni - **Beckett Reid**, **Isabelle Spence** and **Hannah Spranger**. All three ranked "1 out of 140." (There were 140 VHS freshmen in total).

Well done Beckett, Hannah and Isabelle! We are immensely proud of your academic success and wish you the best for your 2017-18 sophomore year.

SERVICE & VOLUNTEERISM

Supporting VIRC & P2P

Harbor School played a role in supporting this year's PASSPORT 2 PAIN, an island bicycle ride that supports Vashon Island Rowing Club, a non-profit organization. Over 350 bicyclists from all over the nation turned out to ride the 80-mile course. Head of School **Mark McGough** ran shuttles from the ferry to Jensen Point as well as volunteering with fellow faculty, staff and parents to run Checkpoint #16 at Manzanita. With a 'Wizard of Oz' theme, the checkpoint was decked out as the "Sleeping Poppies" station - thanks to parent **Emma Hathaway** for making the big tissue paper poppies! Big thanks to **Russ "Profe" Ray**, **Niamh** and **Rob Prince**, **Allison Reid**, **Mark McGough**, and **John** and **Calvin James**. It was so much fun that Harbor School has already promised to return again next year.

Mark and Profe (in sleeping caps) with cyclists at P2P's Checkpoint #16.



CAMP NIWANA



Explore a world that is split into factions, where people are born into a culture that teaches them to hate the 'other'. Whether or not generation next complies does not lessen the danger they face each time they go out. What place is there for Love in such a world? Oh, and what is love?

The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet

by William Shakespeare
as interpreted by ShakesKIDS!

@Vashon Center for the Arts

Rehearsals start September 21st, Thursdays 3:45-5:45.

<http://www.vashoncenterforthearts.org/portfolio-view/year-shakespeare/>

Shakespeare: Romeo & Juliet

Thursday, September 21, 2017 from 3:45-5:45PM

at Vashon Center for the Arts



Year of Shakespeare: Romeo & Juliet

For Ages 9-18

Classes on Thursdays | Sept 21 - Mar 15 | 3:45-5:45pm

Lead rehearsals: Sundays, Jan 21-Mar 11, 3-5pm (skip Feb 18)

Culminating in a performance on Friday, March 16, 7:30pm

Tuition: \$530 Member, \$550 General + \$45 materials

Instructor: Aimee van Roekel with assistant Alex Drissel

Class Location: VCA greenroom and theater

Delve into one of Shakespeare's most famous plays and explore a world split into factions, where youth are taught to hate "the other." What place is there for love in such a world? Oh, and what is love? Learn the plot, characters and themes of Romeo

and Juliet, along with basic stage combat, voice and speech production, acting, iambic Pentameter, character development, stagecraft, all while building an ensemble of players who support each other's exploration. Aimee has worked as a director, writer, professional actress and producer regionally and in New York City, and has also appeared in films and television. *Scholarships and payment plans available.*

More info at <https://tickets.vashoncenterforthearts.org/TheatreManager/1/tmEvent/tmEvent1148.html>

CALLING ALL SWIM SUPERHEROS



This Fall, join forces with Captain Chlorine & The Seals Swim Squad to launch swimming “Under the Bubble” at Vashon Community Pool!

Simply visit vashonseals.org/register for more information. There are options for all swim levels from Seal Pups to the Competitive Team.