

**THANK
YOU
FOR
A GREAT
YEAR!**

Paw-sitively Connected

Great Path Academy at MCC



GPA's Trip to Washington

From May 26th to May 29th, 32 GPA students, four staff members and one mother traveled by Peter Pan bus to Washington, D.C.

According to Kailah McCall, a junior at GPA, the bus driver was really nice and got them to and from every destination in a timely manner.

The first day, they went sightseeing and went to the Air and Space Museum. They ate lunch at Union Station.

The second day, they went to the Supreme Court and

and reenacted wars and events that have taken place, as well as the jobs that they do. "We got to take pictures with the soldiers, it was pretty cool," Kailah said.

The third day, they went to



Above, GPA Students and Staff pose in front of the White House. To the left, the show at the Army Base.



the Library of Congress. They then ate lunch at Union Station. After, the group visited Mt. Vernon. They also visited the Joint Base Meyer Henderson Hall and saw the Twilight Tattoo show, where the U.S. Army Drill Team gave a performance

Arlington National Cemetery. There, they got to see the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the changing of the guard. "Not a cool fact, but an interesting fact, is that a minimum of sixteen funerals occur every day at the Arlington National Cemetery," Kailah said. They then ate lunch at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center. After lunch, they went to the



U.S. Capitol and had a tour. "Our tour guide was actually a UConn student from CT who works for one of the congressmen from CT," Kailah recalls. After the Capitol, interested students were given the opportunity to tour Howard University (photo above). The bus driver brought them to the famous Georgetown Cupcakes for a snack. For dinner, the group at dinner at an ex-NFL player's restaurant, Joe Theismann's. After dinner, a tour guide came onto the bus to give a driven tour, then they had a guided illumination tour. They got to see the Lincoln Memorial and the National Monument lit up.

The fourth day, the last day, they went to the Smithsonian National Zoo, on Connecticut Avenue. Then, they ate lunch at Golden Corral and headed back home.

"The best part was when we went to Mt. Vernon and I got to see the stables where George Washington kept his horses. He broke in every single one of his horses, personally."

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Inside this issue:

Unified Arts News 2

Social Studies News 2

English News 2

Science News 3

Math News 3

Student Spotlight 3

Antigone 4

GPA TALENT SHOW/ UConn Excursion

On June 1st, students who auditioned for the Annual GPA Talent Show performed for the whole school. "The singers were great, I was surprised and amazed at the people who could sing!" Kayla DeJoie said. There were nine total acts, plus the jazz band. The acts spanned from singing to dancing and comedy. Ryan Brumant and Derrick Holloway

(pictured to the left), two GPA seniors, were the MC's who guided the event. Adelina Pardo and Destiny Arroyo performed a dance that they choreographed, combining multiple forms of dance techniques. The event closed with a performance by the jazz band, featuring Ricky Hamilton on saxophone and John Kaminski on electric guitar.

UConn Excursion

GPA juniors went on a field trip on May 12th to visit the

UConn Storrs campus. Students who are interested in attending this school attended. The visit consisted of a full tour of the campus. The students got to talk to one of the administrators of the school, who gave students advice on what they need to do to get accepted to the school. The tour guide responded to questions about specific majors and the school environment. They explained the concepts of Husky Pride and Huskymania.

Special points of interest:

- Did you know? The GPA Guidance Office has an Independent Reading library that students can check books out of! See Ms. Spencer for details.



Above, GPA juniors explore UConn.



Unified Arts News

Spanish II is finishing up the year strong by creating a Family Photo Album Project in order to practice the Imperfect tense and vocabulary relating to their childhood. Some students even used real baby pictures. ¡Que precioso!

Students have been busy putting the finishing touches on their business plans which include financial statements as pictured.

GPA Art and Math students collaborated on a math mural project, which was presented at the ROOTS Youth Leadership Conference in Hartford.

Several GPA students attended the conference, joining in with

students from other Hartford schools to attend workshops and sport their ROOTS t-shirts. The t-shirts were designed by GPA art students in collaboration with Hartford Prints. Student artwork from Great Path Academy and other local schools is on display at the Dehn Gallery and MCC on Main in Manchester until July 10th. Students enrolled in college art courses also have artwork on display at the NewSpace Gallery at MCC. Please stop by the art galleries to admire the work of our talented artists!

(Photos of the ROOTS conference and the gallery exhibits are featured around this page.)



Brenda Castillo-Jiminian, working hard on her business plan.



Social Studies News

In Modern World History, students are comparing the education systems of China and the United States. Some of the current events being analyzed in class include the current issues in the South China Sea and the most recent data breach in the United States. Students are also learning about North Korea and the influence North Korea has on world affairs.

In Geography, students have been learning about Apartheid in South Africa. We have been discussing inequality around the world, including the rights and freedoms that all humans share. Students have also been analyzing the difficulties that refugees face around the world, including refugees from Syria.

In United States History we finished up the year examining the American Civil Rights Move-

ment, spanning the 1950's through the 1960's.

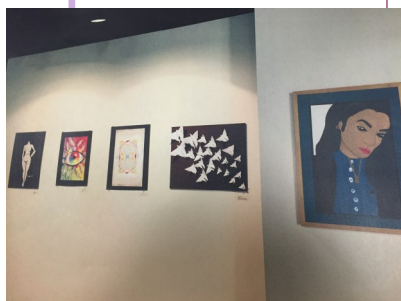
We focused on Martin Luther King Jr.'s nonviolent approach and its effectiveness. We ended the unit exploring the divide within the movement and the emergence of new approaches to achieving equality, specifically the approaches of Malcolm X and Stokely Carmichael.

English News

English II: All students are now reading *Of Mice and Men* as their end of the year novella. Honors will be completing a research paper and debate discussing euthanasia and discrimination. College Prep is working in reading partners to analyze how Steinbeck uses realism and nat-

uralism to convey various themes throughout the novel.

All students are extremely proud of themselves for their work on NWEA Reading. Students focused extremely hard and we are all very proud of them.



The Dehn Gallery Presents
Year in Review:
High School
Student Exhibition
Manchester High School
Great Path Academy
May 22-July 10, 2015



Science News

The students in Honors Chemistry are working on molecular modelling. They are doing this by investigating the shapes of molecules through 3-D models of actual molecules. The stereoscopic arrangement of atoms in a molecule is influenced by interactions between electron pairs, if the number of electron pairs involved is known, the shape of any molecule can be predicted. Students in Ms Chaki's college prep chemistry are in the process of wrapping up the unit on chemical bonding (ionic, metallic, covalent). In this unit, students performed simulated labs and small research projects as part of their learning activities.

Chemistry- Honors chemistry students are investigating the shapes of molecules through 3-D models of common molecules. Since the stereoscopic arrangement of atoms in a molecule is influenced by interactions between electron pairs, if the number of electron pairs involved is known, the shape of any molecule can be predicted.

Articulated Honors Anatomy and Physiology - During the final weeks

of school, students are completing their work as required for college level credit from MCC. Most students are completing their group presentation work on one body system for which they were required to report on the anatomy, physiology, disease/disorders, and treatment/current research. Students on the Washington, DC trip were required to read a selected novel, related to Anatomy and Physiology, do a written report on that book and, upon their return from the trip, present to and convince their classmates of the merit and value of reading their chosen book with respect to A&P.

Biology- The Biology classes are working through a final unit that covers topics from both ecology and evolution. They engaged in activities that illustrated the interdependence of organisms in ecosystems, viewed how and why populations change and new species form, and analyzed various forms of physical evidence that demonstrate changes in populations over time. While maintaining a lens for our theme of sustainability, students will now work to determine the impact that human activities have on other

natural systems. Students will have creative choice for a final project which will be used as a platform for them to highlight their new learning from this unit, followed by their final exam to conclude the year.

Physical Science- The physical science class is working on naming simple organic compounds and understanding the significance of carbon and organic chemistry. This comes shortly after a brief unit of study on chemical reactions and learning about, "the Mole." But ties in nicely because we had seen several examples of carbon and organic compounds previously that are becoming more familiar in this last unit.

Forensics- Students in forensics are putting the final touches on their culminating project, the script for a crime drama that requires them to draw upon their learning from this course to create meaningful dialog and a logical progression to the solving of a fictitious case. Our plan is to film the short drama and utilize forensic techniques during the production to illustrate how forensic detectives would solve real-life investigations.

GALAPAGOS!!!- Next March break GPA will be traveling to the Galapagos! The very islands where Charles Darwin collected the data that lead him to his theories of natural selection and evolution! Any student who has passed Biology is welcome to sign up. Details can be found at: www.explorica.com/Thurrott-8568

Student Spotlight

Of very special note, we have many students to be very proud of as this year ends, including the following: Owusu Darko was awarded the Wise Travel scholarship, he will be traveling and experiencing areas of the US, stay tuned for details of his trip next year! Mattea Whitford was awarded MCC Honors and participated in the ceremony for this honor. Lastly, Mikaela Rivera was awarded a MCC Sociology Award. Go GPA students!

Hartford District STEM Expo- A huge congratulations to our District of Hartford STEM Expo winners!

1st Place 11th Grade Gaming and App Design: John Kaminski, Reinaldo Stewart, Aaron Hill, and Obdulio Santiago

1st Place 9th grade Gaming and App Design: Shawn Akomeah, Matthew Dagmawi, Ronald Martin, and Wail Abdul-Hussein

1st Place 11th Grade Filming: Richard Hamilton, Samad Ahmad, Gregory Adams, Owusu Darko

1st Place 9th Grade Invention: Nick Sombric

2nd Place 12th Grade Filming: Suzette Keurbitz and Kelly Shouldice

2nd Place 10th Grade Filming: Edward Meco, Bennett Sullivan, and Stephon Akomeah

2nd Place 10th Grade Invention: Myia Tedeschi

3rd Place 9th Grade Filming: Zariyah Peak, Tyuanah Watson, Crystal Eubanks, and Talyor Davis

We are also proud to announce the Students of the Month:

Freshman: Cameron Gilbert, Joe Smith, Aliza Delvagio, Quyen Le, Marissa Gilbert, Tim Powers
Sophomores: Eleanore Hewitt, Ranazia Monroe, Michelle Apiagyei, Stephon Akomeah, Brendan Medovich, Clayton Wilshire
Juniors: Destiny Arroyo, Mark Billingsley, Owusu Darko, John Kaminski, Angelique Melakian
Paige Montgomery



Above, the last 204-15 GPA Students of the Month accept recognition from Mega Education.

Seniors: Alivia Caruso, Javante Danvers, Joseph Johnson, Nataly D'Oleo, Madison Baranoski, Lauren Peoples

Thank you for everything this year!



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www.greatpathacademy.org



GPA Storrs Adventure Park
Excursion June 2015

Antigone the GPA Way



On April 23-25, Theatre@GPA presented their production of *Antigone* by Jean Anouilh. Using a modern language adaptation of the classical Greek tragedy, Theatre@GPA also added popular songs that underlined and modernized the themes of the play. The music was performed entirely by the members of the company. Music teacher Steven Wolf arranged the songs for a cappella voices and recorded the singers so that the eight-

member chorus was free to dance to the music (photo of dancing cast below). Some pieces featured live solo voices in addition to the recorded tracks (photo of Destiny to the left).

In addition to Mr. Wolf's brilliant



contributions, huge credit goes to GPA junior Talia Clarke who choreographed all the movement in the show and to senior Alivia Caruso who assistant directed and designed costumes as her Capstone project. Alivia's work also allowed Theatre@GPA director Dr. Paul Zotos to return to the stage for the first time in 21 years, playing the role of Creon (photo to the right).



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Susan Canty, Title IX Coordinator
tor.canty001@hartfordschools.org

Thank you to the following donors to the PBIS Gotcha Cart this month:
Mrs. Canty

We appreciate the support for helping to recognize GPA Student Cougars for being Responsible, Respectful and Safe!
If interested, donations can be made to Ms. Canty— please email cants001@hartfordschools.org or call (860) 512-3723.