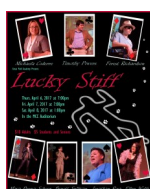


Paw-sitively Connected

Great Path Academy at MCC



Great Path Musical "Lucky Stiff" is a Success!



April 6-8 of 2017 Great Path Academy put on three amazing showings of the Musical, "Lucky Stiff". Timothy Powers starred as the British shoe salesman, Mr. Harry Witherspoon, who was slated to inherit 6 million dollars from his deceased uncle Tony, played by Forest Richardson. However, in



order to receive the inheritance, Harry had to cart his dead uncle's corpse around Monte Carlo as his uncle's last request. Should he fail, the inheritance would be scooped up by Annabelle Glick of the Universal Dog home of Brooklyn, played by Mika Coderre. Along the way, we discovered that Tony's girlfriend, Rita play by Maya Penna-Scheer, may have actually killed Tony... accidentally. Rita, dragging her

optometrist brother Vinnie, played by Benett Sullivan, stalked Harry across the Atlantic to find the 6 million bucks. The show featured incredible



songs and engaging dance numbers as it detailed the riotous escapades of Harry, his uncle Tony, and Annabelle. In the end, Jonathan Rosa playing Luigi, a consistent nuisance in Harry's travel plans, provided a last minute plot twist that laced everything up!

Cameron Gilbert- "Given the opportunity of a being stage manager for the first time in my life has been a great



experience I will definitely remember from my 4 years of high school. Working with Dr. Zotos and the talented cast of Lucky Stiff has changed my outlook of watching school plays completely. Actually being able to run the show behind the scenes with the light cue's and getting to wear the headset made

me feel official and important. I am looking forward to future productions and hopefully get another chance like this to support the amazing actors of Great Path Academy."

Whitney Thurrott- "This was my first year working on a GPA theater production and it was quite the adventure! It was incredible to see the cast and crew working creatively to put together the wonderful show that resulted. I especially enjoyed working with the dance girls on the "Speaking French" number, even though it was sometimes hard to get everyone together at the same time. Also, shout out to Ms. Gonda-King for her kick line and dance expertise, and a HUGE shout out Dr. Zotos and Mr. Wolf for their time, skill, and profound dedication to the GPA students!"



Volume 4, Issue 5

May 2017

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Ninth Grade: YMCA led classes on perception.

Tenth Grade: Sophomores just completed the safe dating program.

This module helps students recognize their own triggers for anger and how to appropriately communicate in a relationship.

Eleventh Grade: students will begin the initial steps for their Senior Capstone Writing Assignment.

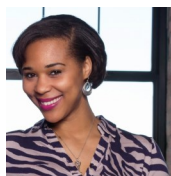
Twelfth Grade: Students have completed their Capstone research paper and are working on the components of

Co-Teaching: Housing Discrimination and Background on Chicago for "A Raisin in the Sun"

English I is reading A Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry. This play sets on Chicago in the 1950s. Hansberry grew up in Chicago and used her talent for writing as an avenue for advocacy. Alexandria Willis came to speak to ninth grade students to provide a contextual background on housing discrimination and systemic racism. Throughout the presentation students were shown primary sources that document the housing discrimination against Blacks during the pre-civil rights era. The presentation had its own soundtrack with Kanye West as one of the musicians. Ms. Willis also explained the importance of advocacy to students. Ms. Willis

gave an example of going against the city for giving away free housing to "diversify" the neighborhood. Willis explained that giving a way housing would hurt many of the public servants that it was initially supposed to help. Willis went into detail about the importance of skills taught in the classroom such as critical thinking, analysis, problem solving, and most of all perseverance. "The term ignorance is bliss is not acceptable" stated Willis. Willis also commented on the documentary 13th and how the screening gave a clear indication of the corruption that has occurred in society over the years. "After the law was passed to desegregate, Blacks were still not officially al-

lowed to live where they wanted. If they did move, they were pushed out. That made me upset because we should be able to get the things we earned and



Alexandria Willis is a health analyst, community advocate, entrepreneur, and budding philanthropist. She is a Chicago native and currently lives in and advocates for the

Bronzeville Neighborhood. She has a bachelors from Hampton University and a Master of Public Health from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Alexandria holds a leadership position on the Board of Directors for the Renaissance Collaborative, a non for profit that focuses on homelessness prevention, workforce development, and community development.

Calendar of May Events

May 1st– National Decision Day

May 2nd– Mother's Day

May 2nd– University of Bridgeport Field Trip

May 3rd– Spring Fling

May 5th– Prom

May 9th–Awards Night

May 16th– Spring Showcase/Cultural Night

May 13th– Hooker Day Parade and Festival

May 17th–Early Release Day

May 17th–SGC Meeting

May 22nd– Capstone Presentations

May 29th– Memorial Day

Great Path Accomplishments: Scholarship Recipient Brenda Castillo



What is the AKA scholarship?

The Alpha Kappa Alpha is a sorority founded by a small group of women of color who were one generation away from slavery. They were also from low- income families and struggled financially. Although these young girls were not financially stable, they were leaders in the community and were engaged in public service. These three girls formed a sorority to enforce and encourage education and human rights in society for colored women from low income family.

How did you feel when you won?

When I won this scholarship I felt very happy and relieved. The reason why is because although i got accepted to my dream school, UCONN, I did not have enough money for the tuition. I was one decision away from choosing another college, but because of this scholarship, I will be able to make a decision to go to my dream college and pursue my Intended major of pharmacy.

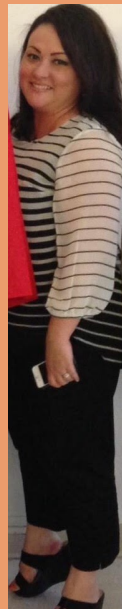
What did you do to win the scholarship?

To win the scholarship I took the time to apply and made sure the required essay was the best it can be by asking teachers to read it and help me make improvements. I also took the time to get involve in my community. I tried to get as involved as possible at my school and outside of school. I did community service hours, became secretary of student council, leader of La Mariposa Program, joined the Anti-Defamation League program at the school and started interning at the College. Through community service and maintaining grades high I was able to prepare for the scholarship.

What do you plan to use the money towards?

I plan to use the money towards my education, as tuition and books.

Great Path Teacher of the Year 2017: Mrs. Paluso-Davanzo



Tell us a little about yourself that people may not know .

I have been fortunate enough to have lived all over the world and experiences many cultures and lifestyles first hand.

What made you want to be a teacher?

Two things – overcoming the difficulties my own daughter had in school and the educational experiences my mother had as an orphan in post World War II Japan.

What do you think is the most important thing to learn in life?

There are so many life lessons that are essential, however, there is one idea that centers me as a teacher... the idea that education *must* build both intelligence and character.

What is your most memorable experience with teaching? Auggggg... impossible to answer! Too many amazing students and moments to pick just one!

What is your mantra for life? I have many – one constant – the golden rule of treating people the way you would want to be treated...the common thread that ties together many of the mantras I have held through the years is that kindness is such a simple idea – it's often forgotten or discounted, sometimes really hard to "do" but always fundamentally essential to a good life. "Friendship and Love, People!"

Great Path College Fair Tour:



May Birthdays!
Godiva Rodriguez
Keyanna Gibson
Matthew Martin
Cheneal Ming
Nitzalys Diaz-Rivera
Alexandra Alicea
Andrea Calderon
Justin Hernandez
Koron Alexandre
Samantha Littell
Abdul Ahmad
Kylie Delgado
Cameron Gilbert
Nyri Crawford
Colin Keilbach

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On a Great Path Corner! Booster Session on Policies and Expectations

GPA believes in the ability of our students to be better than good! For this reason we want to review expectations and systems in the school. All students are required to wear a blue or white oxford shirt with a vest or cardigan. Students are only allowed to wear black or khaki pants (this does not include jeans or leggings). If a student is out of uniform, the teacher will send the student to see Mrs. Spencer. It is the responsibility of each student to make sure he or she is in appropriate uniform attire each day.



Daily GPA

Expectations

- Being **RESPECTFUL** means:
 - You are actively participating! Engaged as a learner! You are working as a team!
 - You are Listening! Every voice is being heard!
 - Demonstrating a Positive Attitude
- Being **RESPONSIBLE** means:
 - You are in full GPA Uniform & on time to every class
 - You work with your team. You Stay on task and on topic.
 - You complete tasks in class & homework.
 - **All cell phones are NOT** to be seen or heard in class or hallways (Cell phones must be off and away & if seen or heard, phone will be taken)
- Being **SAFE** means:
 - Being on time to every class
 - Staying in assigned class, seat &/or group!
 - Asking permission & waiting for a pass!
 - Keeping hands and feet to yourself!

GPA ADOPTED: BE RESPECTFUL, BE RESPONSIBLE, BE SAFE