

The Ol' Steller Yeller



Steller Intensives a Success

For the last two weeks of the semester, students spent their days in Intensive Classes. The classes ranged from a study on classical music, a peer-taught dance class, knitting and crocheting, a trip to England and Scotland, to an outdoor winter sufferfest class. No matter the intensive students took, they all had unique learning experiences that stretched their comfort levels, taught them new knowledge, and gave them practice in developing new skills. We think they had some fun too!

ROCK CLIMBING INTENSIVE

Rosa and Simone each taught their own section of rock climbing. The students spent every other day at the Alaska Rock Gym where they were instructed by Rock Gym staff in safety, technique, and training of bouldering and top-roping. Their improvement during the two weeks was impressive. The days they weren't climbing, they were iceskating, swimming, bowling, practicing yoga, or planning for future rock climbing trips.

Photos courtesy of the intensive teachers and Logan Davis.

Steller Secondary School asdk12.org/steller 907-742-4950





WINTER SUFFERFEST INTENSIVE

Students spent two weeks outside learning avalanche safety and accessing the wilderness on foot, snowshoes, ice skates, and skis. We hiked towards Wolverine, skied and snowshoed up Powerline Pass, ice skated at Westchester Lagoon and ended the Intensive at Manitoba Huts. There, students spent two nights out in the yurts, enjoying winter activities and the best snow we have seen this winter. Highlights included a nighttime sled down the switchbacks; skiing and sledding the base

of Manitoba in the powder and sun; and playing games in the cabin. Leigh Anne led this adventure-filled intensive.



SCOTTLAND AND ENGLAND INTENSIVE

Philip and Brian took students on a historical tour of England and Scotland. They got to visit and learn about places such as Trafalgar Square, Westminster Abbey, Stonehenge, and the Royal Mile. The students kept a blog which you can peruse yourself here: <https://stellergoestolondon.weebly.com/> One student was amazed by the British Museum, "We learned about how, for example, the Rosetta Stone greatly aided in the translating and deciphering the hieroglyphics since the same text was written in three different languages, Greek, Hieroglyphics, and Egyptian. They found commonalities to help figure out the hieroglyphics. . . it is certainly an amazing experience, and a marvel in terms of construction, and in the relics preserved inside. Also in the museum was one of the first libraries!"



Orchestra Concerts

Recently, The Steller Orchestra performed in the Ted Stevens Holiday Performance Series on December 5th, 2019 at the Ted Stevens International Airport. This was a great experience; our students and their music were well received by airport employees and travelers alike. Please join us for our upcoming Winter Concert on January 30, 2020 from 6-7 pm at the Steller MPR.

Advisory, Club, & Grade Level Activities

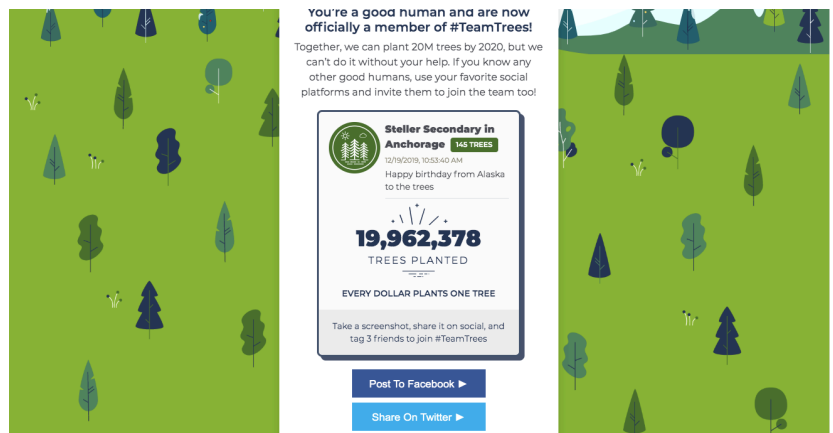
Volunteer Club

Thanks to all those that brought in food for Steller's food drive held during the months of November and December. Students contributed over 1000 pounds of food! Ken's advisory took first place in the advisory competition, followed by Philip's Advisory and Jason's Advisory. The volunteer club will be advertising more upcoming events they will be organizing to help our community. Thanks for your giving spirit and hard work, Volunteer Club!



CLIMATE CHANGE INTENSIVE

Students in Becky's Climate Change Intensive got to learn about the processes taking place in our world right now that are causing our climate to change. They also learned ways they can personally combat climate change in project-based learning. One project they worked on was fundraising for an organization called Team Trees. For every dollar donated, one tree is planted. Jack Schulz explained it best: "I organized a breakfast fundraiser for Team Trees serving variants of healthy, eco-friendly food. It lasted 30 minutes, and we raised over \$145."



Dane Senaga explained his learning experience and project: "I learned about the effects of climate change and how to prepare for climate change. REAP [Renewable Energy Alaska Project] came in to present about renewable energy and recycling. My project for the intensive was researching geothermal energy; after that we found the most efficient way to transport it."

Attention Sophomores and Juniors: Would you like to explore a career and earn credit? The Gifted Mentorship Program will begin accepting applications for the 2020-2021 school year on February 1, 2020. You must meet GPA, coursework, and standardized test score requirements to qualify. Students spend 45-60 hours with a mentor in their field of interest and complete various assignments, including a final project. Mentorships are available in many fields including healthcare and engineering. Visit the website for more information: <https://www.asdk12.org/giftedmentorship> or contact the coordinator, Amber Jaasma, jaasma_amber@asdk12.org (907) 742-3841.





The Steller Auction

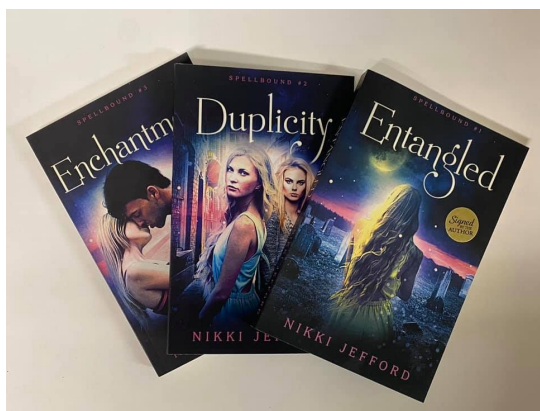


The Steller Parent Group is once again hosting an Auction to raise funds to support students at the school. This year the event will be at **49th State Brewing Company on Friday, January 24, 2020 from 5:30 to 9:30.** The cost is \$40.00 per person and includes a drink ticket, buffet style appetizers and desserts and of course the main event - live and silent auction. Tickets are on sale now at <https://www.auctria.com/auction/steller>.

This event is open to anyone who wants to support Steller Secondary School. Parents, grandparents, and extended family are welcome, as are Steller staff and alumni. Steller students are welcome to attend as well. Please keep in mind that alcohol will be served at this event, it is standing room only, and because it's in a public space all younger children must be supervised. Our focus is on everyone having a good time, while raising money for the school, so please come as you are! Casual or business-casual is a good guideline for what to wear.

All money raised goes to fund projects proposed by Steller students and teachers, including:

- Intensives and Passage (independent study) projects, including travel scholarships.
- Souper Steller community lunch
- Community service outreach projects.
- Additional student and teacher-proposed projects, equipment, and supplies throughout the school year.



Thank you to Westco Co/Once In A Blue Moose for donating multiple sets of the "SpellBound Series" of teen novels. These are all signed by the author Nikki Jefford.

Value \$210.00

We welcome your donations for the Silent Auction! Gift certificates for experiences and activities are very popular, arts and crafts, as well as *new* games and toys. Maybe you have a cabin you'd be willing to offer for a weekend? Students and their families are also encouraged to offer a service like snow removal or spring clean up, baby sitting, dog walking, or even tutoring. Blank Certificates are available in the Office.

Please drop all donations to Steller Auction Central in the school office by **Friday, January 17th** (this gives us time to enter it into the catalogue). Complete the Donation Form and keep one copy for yourself. Please contact Kari at StellerProcurement@gmail.com for any questions.

Many hands make light work. In particular we are looking for someone to help create a simple slideshow and program. We can supply all the content and work with you.

We also need people to help arrange baskets the week of the event, with set up on the day of the event, and during the event itself. If you can help please visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040E4DADA82BA5F49-2020> to sign up or contact Kirsten at StellerAuctionChair@gmail.com



Thank you to Girdwood Artist, Dawn Gerety, who donated 3 beautiful prints 11X14" in mats 16X20". Thank you Dawn!

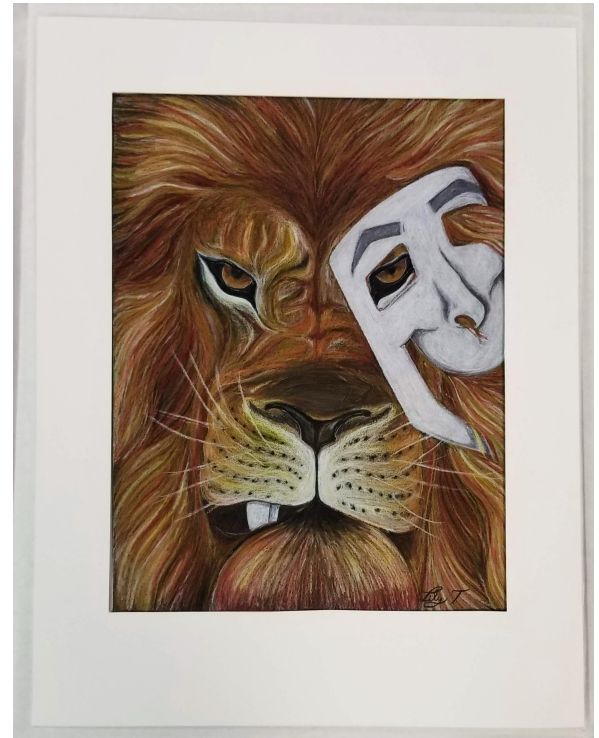
All 3 beautiful prints will be available at the Steller Auction on Jan 24th at 49th State

Steller Artists Featured at ASD Education Center

Lucca Duke, Lily Pannkuk, Moriah Spooner, Lily Tueller, and Savannah Wimett will have art featured at the ASD Education Center through the end of February. This event is the precursor to ASD's Youth Art Month in March where students' art will be featured around the city, including at the Anchorage Museum. Congratulations to these successful artists.



Art by Moriah Spooner



Art by Lily Tueller

Events to put on your calendar

- Monday, January 6th - First day of third quarter
- Monday, January 6th - Friday, February 28th - Art displayed at the ASD Education
- Tuesday, January 14th - Parent Group Meeting, Ken's Room, 6-7:30pm
- Monday, January 20th - Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday - NO SCHOOL
- Friday, January 24th - Steller Auction at 49th State Brewing Company, 5:30-9:30pm
- Thursday, January 30th - Orchestra Winter Concert, 6-7pm.
- Thursday, February 6th - Ice Cream Social New Student Recruitment, 6-8pm
- Wednesday-Thursday, February 12th-13th - Steller students have regular school days (the majority of the district will have half days and conferences but Steller does not)



Anchorage School District
Educating All Students for Success in Life