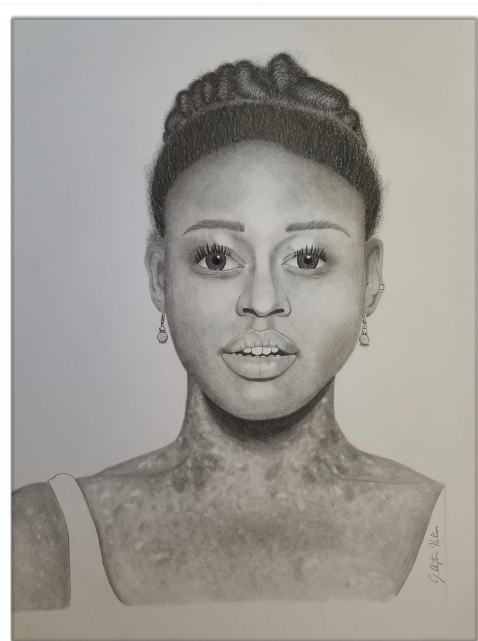


The Ol' Steller Yeller

Steller's Artists Showcased in March



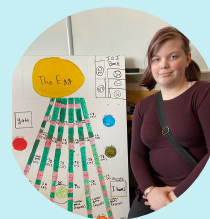
Steller will be well represented in the Anchorage School District's 48th annual Student Art Exhibition. More than 750 artists from kindergarten through high school will have their artwork showcased in the Anchorage Museum, as well as other public buildings around the city. The theme of the exhibition this year is "Take a Journey Through Art." March is National Youth Art Month, a celebration of visual arts programs in United States' schools.

The following Steller students will have their art showcased at the Anchorage Museum: Lily Pannkuk (10th), Lucca Duke (11th), Lily Tueller (10th), Moriah Spooner (7th), Savannah Wimett (12th), Augustine Hardison (12th) (top left painting), and Caralynn Wick (10th). The following Steller students will have their art showcased at the Z. J. Loussac Library: Hayley Limpinsel (8th), Brynn Westward (12th) (bottom left painting).

You can see artwork made by these amazing students at the Artists' Reception on Friday, March 6, from 6-8pm at the Anchorage Museum. The First Friday opening is open and free to the public. Art at the Anchorage Museum, Z.J. Loussac Library, Anchorage City Hall, Chugiak-Eagle River Library, and the Midtown Mall will be on exhibit throughout the month of March.

Photos courtesy: Nobuo, Philip, Becky, Ken.

A Glance in the Classroom



Sci-Fi Literature

In Becky's Sci-Fi Literature class, students read *The Maze Runner*, *Ready Player One*, and *The Martian*. They learned about game



theory from Bob's Game Design class and are applying the four aspects of games: agency, goals, restrictions, and lack of real world application to the board games they designed based on the books they read.

Steller's Gym Hockey League



Steller's lunchtime Gym Hockey League is an exciting pass time, great exercise, and a fun way for students and staff to interact in a non-classroom setting. The Gym Hockey League has been a part of Steller since 1998, with a short three year hiatus in the mid 2000s. Teams are created by Eugene Eustace - the founder, sponsor, and head referee of the league. The teams are

coed and are a mix of grade levels except for the staff team. Games take place Wednesdays and Fridays at lunch. All players are required to wear a mouth guard and glasses, and Eugene's tight refereeing puts safety as the utmost priority.

Eugene puts so much time and effort into the league because he sees a multitude of benefits. The most obvious one is that students are getting exercise and spending their lunch hour in a safe learning environment. He also touts the confidence students gain from playing a competitive team sport. Students (or teachers for that matter) don't have to be experienced athletes to contribute to and learn from their teams. The league also promotes sportsmanship and gives players the opportunity to learn how to deal with intense emotions and frustrations in a healthy way. The rivalry between the staff team and the student teams is a fun and unique way for students to interact with their teachers outside of their classrooms and bond in ways that only sports can do.

From playing in the Gym Hockey League, students often have the motivation and confidence to join other high school or competitive sports teams outside of hockey. Marty Tumey, a Steller 10th grader, was first introduced to hockey through the Steller League. After his first season as a 7th grader, he joined an ice hockey team and has been developing his skills ever since. This year he was part of West's State Championship hockey team. He contributes to the Steller League by mentoring younger students.

If you haven't tried out the Steller Gym Hockey League, I highly recommend it. I am not a hockey player, but found the League to be a fun and supportive place to learn a new sport. Eugene's passion for the game is obvious. He's known for giving new players tips and taking them aside after a game to teach them strategy and tactical skills.

Spanish Classes

Students in Spanish classes have been assessing their proficiency using the STAMP assessment. This is a leveled, computer-based assessment that measures students' ability to read, write, listen to, and speak the language. The assessment will show whether they're in the novice, intermediate or advanced levels for each of the four communication modes. They will receive results from their teachers in mid to late March. This is the assessment used to determine if students receive a Seal of Biliteracy on their diplomas. Any questions about the assessment can be directed to Ashley or Rosa.

THE STELLER BAND SHINES



The ASD Middle School Solo/Ensemble Festival took place on Friday, February 7 in downtown Anchorage. The Steller Band sent nine students to the solo adjudications. The students are: Amelia Brooks on trombone, Zane Hopewell on baritone, Kamryn Lyons on flute, Wyatt Mohs on baritone, Kaitlyn Mosier on clarinet, Alan Nunn on baritone saxophone, Maddox Tomassoni on alto saxophone, Milo Scott on trombone, and Bjorn van Der Goore on bass clarinet. All of the entries received either superior or excellent ratings. The number of band students who are motivated to study, practice, and compete outside of the classroom has grown every year. We are proud of them and their accomplishments. We would like to thank Marcia Stratman for providing us the piano accompaniment, as well as Rebecca Brooks, James Mosier, and Holy Nunn for being parent volunteers.

Passages Highlights

Passage students continue to work hard on their individual projects. At this point, they should be nearly half way done with their 80 hours of work. Check in with your students about where they are on their passage and what goals they have for the second half of the semester.

My passage is documenting my time spent on Teen Council work/training, being a teacher's assistant to Svetlana's Health class, and extra time spent working with peers who have questions or comments about Teen Council, health, sex, birth control, gender, healthy relationships, etc. Teen Council is a peer-led sex education group affiliated with Planned Parenthood that has weekly meetings where we learn about consent, birth control and abstinence healthy relationships, anatomy, and more. We then take this knowledge to classrooms all across the ASD to act as peer teachers for sex education. I wanted to be a teacher's assistant to Svetlana's Health class not only to help her out with copying and helping students in the classroom, but I also wanted to be an open resource for those in the school who might need some extra information about these topics. - Isabel Marshall, 11th grade

My passage is looking at directors of movies and TV shows and their jobs, not just shooting a film, but the responsibility of delivering a story as best they can. There are several ways for directors to add "meat" to their story, such as lighting, food, and books. I am studying directors so I can fully understand the true duty of a director, and the effort they must have in order for their art to appear sound. - Carter Anspach, 9th grade

I am helping Brian, the Physics teacher, every day during second period in his high school Physics class. I assist him with everyday tasks and with writing quizzes, labs and tests. I also write some lesson plans and teach some lessons. I set up a time every week for students to study physics and to work on homework where I will be there to help. I am hoping to create a better environment for learning physics at Steller. - Owen Mozen, 11th grade

Model UN



This past week a group of high school students at Steller participated in the 38th annual Model United Nations of Alaska conference.

Diplomacy and

cooperation are key elements to this conference which simulates global politics. Schools across the state, even students from UAA and UAF, come to participate in this conference. With the help of Ken Varee, 16 students represented Steller at the conference acting as delegates from countries and organizations from around the world. This year Steller students represented: Native Hawaiians, Poland, Sudan, Turkey, and Tunisia. Students who participated in the conference discussed an array of global issues ranging from immigration to international disputes between countries and worked with other delegates to create solutions to these problems. Students were happy to be part of one of Steller's largest groups to have participated in several years. This activity is open for all high schoolers to join, and Ken is looking for more students to participate in next year's conference!

- Logan Davis, 11th grade

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

Peru

Are you interested in hiking the Inca trail, visiting Machu Picchu, and traveling into the rainforest? If so, Leigh Anne and Jason are excited to travel with students in December to Peru. The trip runs from December 5th-17th, 2020, and includes a four day hike on the Inca trail and two days in the Amazon. The cost is between \$3800 to \$3400, depending on the number of students. Students who are hoping to join should apply for their passports or make sure their passports are good through June 2021. Registration forms can be picked up from Leigh Anne. If you want more information about the trip, talk to Leigh Anne or Jason or email questions to bonney_leigh@asdk12.org. Registration for this trip is open and there are only 18 spots for students. Students will need to register this Spring to secure their spot.

New Zealand and Australia

Bob and Becky are going to visit the land of Oz in May 2021. We will have 4 days in Australia and 4 days in New Zealand. Beaches, unique climate zones, zoos, Hobbiton, and more will be experienced during the trip. If you want more information about this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, talk to Bob.

Events to put on your calendar

- Friday, March 6th - No School - Inservice Day
- Monday, March 9th - Friday, March 13th - No School - Spring Break
- College Night, Tuesday, March 24th, 6pm, Ken's Room
- PEAK state testing Monday, March 30th - Wednesday, April 8th.
- Friday, April 3rd, Talent Show, 6-8pm, MPR
- Friday, April 3rd, Activity Night, 8-11pm, Steller



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