

Nathan Hale News



of family, alumni and staff and friends. The publication of the Nathan Hale High School Foundation.

Annual Fund Kick-OFF

NO. 19 SPRING 2007

Nowhere Men Concert had them "Dancing in the Aisles"

Over 300 Nathan Hale community members of every age attended the Annual Campaign kick-off event at the Performing Arts Center Saturday February 10. *The Nowhere Men*, led by parent George Myers, had audience members tapping their feet and singing along to the music of "The Beatles" almost immediately.

But you know a concert is going really well, when the dancing starts! Towards the end of the first set, two brave couples went to the front of the auditorium and started dancing. Their enthusiasm was contagious. In fact, by the end of the evening, people were dancing all around the PAC while those still seated waved their cell phones in time to the music.

"The Beatles' would have been pleased," smiled Annual Campaign Co-chairperson Carol Driver. "It was really heart-warming to see the way people responded, not only to *The Nowhere Men*, but to our request for pledges. So many people contributed that night. This concert really got the campaign off to a



Nathan Hale Jazz Band members Charles Wicklander, Aaron Liao and Luke Knezevich.

fabulous start." A special thanks to Nathan Hale Jazz Band members Charles Wicklander, Aaron Liao and



The Nowhere Men, led by Nathan Hale parent George Myers

Luke Knezevich who entertained the audience before the concert and during intermission with some excellent music.

Pre-Concert Dinners Bring Families Together

Dinner and conversation was shared before *The Nowhere Men* concert by over 70 people attending casual open-house gatherings at Nathan Hale homes.

"There just aren't enough chances for parents to talk to each other in a casual, intimate setting," pointed out Marsha McGillivray, Annual Campaign Co-chairperson. "I hope this type of gathering happens more often for school families."

Thank you to the families who opened their homes that night: Mike Pierson and Carolyn Becker, Josh and Amy Brieger, Caryn and Chuck Hopkins, Maria and Stuart Kahn, Bill and Nanette Zook, and Steve and Laurie Lippold-Gelb. Special thanks to prime organizer Mike Pierson.

Annual Fund Update:

Many, many thanks to our ever-growing community supporters. You've responded thus far with 200+ donations and pledges. The Foundation's principal fundraiser is the annual campaign. This is the single most important thing we do and through your incredible generosity, we are getting

closer to our support goal for our students and our school. Here's a mid-campaign update:

- Your pledges total over \$84,000 through 4/7/07;
- This brings us within \$36,000 of our goal of \$120,000 from 400 donors;
- The level of your support has allowed us to maintain staffing levels at Nathan Hale and, provide for much needed classroom supplies - our tools for learning.

There is still work to be done. Pushing us over the \$105,000 mark will allow full campaign support of classrooms and supplies. The additional \$15,000 will allow direct support to the home-work center and a grant for technology upgrades. The upgrades in particular are on equipment that hasn't been improved in over five years.

Can you pledge \$10 a month? Or \$20? Those outright \$1000 gifts are wonderful and necessary. But if every family at Nathan Hale could donate a personally significant monthly amount, no cuts would have to be made in the education support plan for next year! Just check the "monthly pledge option" box on the pledge form, available at www.nathanhale.org or in the Nathan Hale school office.

Thank you in advance. Your pledge helps keep the educational experience at Nathan Hale marvelous - Together we make an outstanding school for our students!

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NH School News

Note from the Principal

Your support has allowed Nathan Hale to experience another terrific school year rich in rigorous and relevant learning experiences.



Lisa Hechtman

Below are some highlights:

- One example can be credited directly to the Fall Reception: we were able to adjust our 11th-grade curriculum to include reading the recently-published *When the Emperor Was Divine*, an elegantly eloquent novel of the Japanese Internment that is currently on many book club lists.
- Nathan Hale alumni, Peter Maier, led the charge for *Schools First!*, who campaigned to pass the bond enabling the Home of the Raiders to be redesigned as part of the Building for Educational Excellence III. The \$77.3 million dedicated to our project will enable us to create a learning environment that more directly supports our educational philosophy. We are focused on a project as successful as the PAC!
- Several award-winning broadcast alumni Mike West, Jim McKenna, Dave Shield, and Myron Portman joined Gregg Neilson, station manager for KNHC 89.5, and others to form Washington Public Radio Association. Watch for this alumni support to shine enthusiastically as we redesign the station, recognize our student talent, and continue to set national trends in the dance/tech music industry.
- Language arts teacher Larry Uhlman made fantastic use of the PAC this year. With the donation from a local family, he organized a visit from the *Oregon Shakespeare Festival* for an entire-school Shakespearean presentation about the power of words and then the troupe worked with selected students in a workshop with the same focus. He also brought in the Seattle Opera so that students could share in the vibrancy of opera.

- Because of the academic delivery in our Academies, Integrated Studies Teams, American Studies two-year looping sequence, the Interaction Math Program, etc., Nathan Hale is a featured high school in *The High Schools We Need: Improving an American Institution*, a document published by OSPI this year.
- Foundation support allowed us to be honored as one of seven schools in WA chosen by the National Center for Educational Accountability to share our “best practices” for student achievement in their *Just for Kids* study.
- Finally, your support to the Annual Campaign allows us to maintain our staffing levels and smaller class sizes, this year and next. Your help with our current goal of \$120,000 will allow us to continue our focus on our small learning community reforms and lower student-teacher ratios. Without your commitment, Nathan Hale would undoubtedly be a different school.

While there isn't space to list all of the opportunities in and successes of our learning community, we credit the ability to offer such a rich program directly to the support of the Foundation and its members. Thank you for your willingness to act on behalf of Nathan Hale.

Lisa Hechtman, NHHS Principal

NH Foundation

Note From the President

The annual campaign is off to a good start. Thanks to you, our goal of full support of staffing, supplies, homework center and technology needs is much nearer. Your continued help will take us to the top. Thank you.

Also know your generosity at the 06 Fall Reception created a \$15,000 book fund. This makes a difference. Purchased by board member Elaine Wetterauer for use this year, the titles include:

- Kite Runner (250 copies) - When the Emperor was Divine (280 copies) - Catcher in the Rye (160 copies) - Bluest Eye (85 copies) - Siddhartha (25 copies) - Science Texts (25 copies) - “Current Issues” - 250 copies of the

Constitution - “9 Heads” art books, and a digital camera.

An outcome of this support is that all our 10th-graders read the same title at the same time. This is fairly unique in Seattle Schools. Thank you.

Your participation in the Arts Festival is building infrastructure where there are no District funds. Thank you.

Foundation planning update: Mark your calendar for the Fall Reception on November 2nd. We will be at the Nile in Mountlake Terrace. Parent Gabi McCarthy will again host the Fall Arts Festival. As always, we are looking for volunteers to help with our activities. Please let me know if you can help. Look forward to updates in the summer newsletter.

Let me close with special thanks to our committees and board volunteers. The Board met in March to approve our 2007 budget and action plan. Their advice and deliberation has built our organization. Many have quietly served for years and all are involved in our activities and events. They bring to fruition our mission of building a broad community of support for Nathan Hale students.

Yours in public education,
Steve Reynolds

NH Foundation Board Members 2006-2007

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- Rena Ferretti, Secretary
- Alice Lanczos, Treasurer
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- Joan Northfield
- Barbara Peterson
- Ellen Roe
- Tina Tudor
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Alumni News

Class of 1967 Sept 22, The NHHS class of 1967 holds its 40th reunion at The Embassy Suites in Lynnwood. For info: Jan Gough Nigh at 425-485-7658 or Pamela Field Generaux at 206-323-5709

Class of 1972 Aug 11, contact Jeannine Lupton, lupton-jeannine@dol.gov

Class of 1977 Join us on 7/7/07 at the Queen City Yacht Club. Please see <http://www.nathanhalealumni.com/index.asp>

Contact NathanHale1977@hotmail.com.

Classes of 1978/1979 Aug 11 and 12, two classes join again, Saturday the 11th will be at a local venue

for social hour. Sunday will be a family picnic at Golden Gardens. Contacts: Ric/Janet (Ruff) Wrapsir fourwrapsir@cs.com; Dennielle (Dent) Padgett dpadgett@centurytel.net

Events Calendar

May, 2007 - Urinetown, The Musical

One of the most uproariously funny musicals in recent years, URINETOWN is a hilarious tale of greed, corruption, love, and revolution in a time when water is worth its weight in gold. In a Gotham-like city, a terrible water shortage, caused by a 20-year drought, has led to a government enforced ban on private toilets. The citizens must use public amenities, regulated by a single malevolent company (the UCG = "Urine Good Company") that profits by charging admission for one of humanity's most basic needs. Amid the people, a hero decides he's had enough, and plans a revolution to lead them all to freedom! Inspired by the works of Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill, URINETOWN is an irreverently humorous satire in which no one is safe from scrutiny. Praised for reinvigorating the very notion of what a musical could be, URINETOWN catapults the "comedic romp" into the new millennium with its outrageous perspective, wickedly modern wit, and sustained ability to produce gales of unbridled laughter.

URINETOWN was nominated for an impressive 10 Tony Awards, winning for Best Book, Score, and direction. It also won the Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards for Best Musical. Don't miss it!

The show first premiered at the Fringe Festival in 1999, and was an instant hit with fringe audiences, who also applauded the show's hilarious references to classic musicals such as West Side Story and Sweeney Todd. Word of mouth spread quickly, and the show was picked up for an Off-Broadway run in 2001. The reviews were wildly enthusiastic, and the show was transferred to Broadway's Henry Miller Theater where it opened on September 20, 2001. It was the first Fringe Festival show to achieve that feat.

May 3, 4, 5, and 10, 11, 12 at 7:30 pm nightly, with one matinee on May 12 at 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$12/adults and \$6/student, staff, seniors are available online, at school and at the theater during the run of the show. For more information and ticket sales, visit our new website at <http://nathanhale.org/musical>.

NHHS Baseball night at the Mariners, 6/20/07 - purchase a ticket and help the team. Forms available from stever@u.washington.edu.

November 2nd for the Fall Reception:

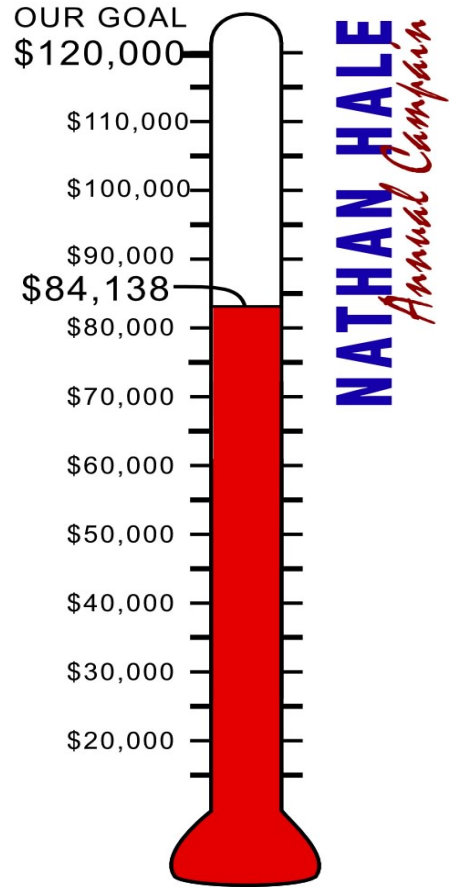
Mark your calendar for November 2nd at the Nile. Join alumni, parents, current and retired staff. Enjoy a great evening of food, fun and auction supporting our classrooms and building community. Be a table sponsor - alumni classes or groups of parents, staff.

Ongoing: Courtyard and entry foyer engravings

Leave a lasting legacy and help the school. Join the growing list with your message in front of the Performing Arts Center and on the entry foyer plaques for alumni, parents, patrons and staff. Fliers available in the school officer or online at nathanhale.org



Nathan Hale Foundation
Current Fund Raising 2007
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Thank You Donors!



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