

# news

## Calendar

12/09: Early Dismissal at Noon  
*THS & CD*

**Crafternoon!**  
*Actually... Crafter-Morning due to early dismissal.*

12/15: Winter Celebration, 7PM  
*Carpe Diem*

12/16: Ice Skating Outing  
*Grades 4 - 8 only*

Pajama Day/Half Day  
*Carpe Diem only*

**Holiday Potluck, 5-8PM**  
*Families, Alumni & Friends at Burton Lodge*

Financial Aid Deadline for Current Families  
*Details on page 2*

12/19 - 1/02  
**NO SCHOOL**  
*Winter Holiday Break!*

1/03: First Day Back!

1/06: Jumping Mouse!  
*Carpe Diem*

1/13: Crystal Mountain Ski Trip  
*Grades 4 - 8 only*

Jumping Mouse!  
*Carpe Diem*

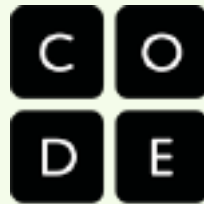
1/16: **NO SCHOOL**  
*Martin Luther King Jr. Day*

1/20: Jumping Mouse!  
*Carpe Diem*

1/27: **NO SCHOOL**  
*Teacher In-Service Day*

Corner Art: Tree by Luca (Grade 3)

## Hour of Code



Beginning next week, Harbor School's Upper Elementary and Middle School grades will participate in the International Hour of Code movement as part of Computer Science Education Week across the world.

"**Code.org** organizes the annual Hour of Code campaign which has engaged 10% of all students in the world, and provides the leading curriculum for K-12 computer science in the largest school districts in the United States. Code.org increases diversity in computer science by reaching students of all backgrounds where they are - at their skill-level, in their schools, and in ways that inspire them to keep learning."  
- [code.org](http://code.org)

We thought it might be valuable to provide a FAQ piece for those who may not know what "Hour of Code" is. The following information was gleaned from the [code.org](http://code.org) and [HourOfCode.com](http://HourOfCode.com) websites:

**WHAT IS IT?** The Hour of Code started as a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify "code", to show that anybody can learn the basics, and to broaden participation in the field of computer science. It has since become a worldwide effort to celebrate computer science, starting with 1-hour coding activities but expanding to all sorts of community efforts.

**WHEN IS THE HOUR OF CODE?** The Hour of Code takes place each year during Computer Science Education Week. The 2016 Computer Science Education Week will be **December 5-11**, but you can host an Hour of Code all year round. Computer Science Education Week is held annually in recognition of the birthday of computing pioneer Admiral Grace Murray Hopper (*December 9, 1906*).

*The 'Hour of Code™' is a nationwide initiative by Computer Science Education Week and Code.org to introduce millions of students to one hour of computer science and computer programming.*



Earlier this fall, Team Pizzazz was introduced to coding with the help of current parents Dylan Fitterer and Jason Staczek.

[MORE NEWS >](#)



## Trivia Night Winners!

Our second Trivia Night event was held last night, December 1, at Snapdragon Restaurant. Participants formed teams of 4 and played five rounds of challenging trivia - thanks to the stellar and oddball questions our Trivia host, Mark, provided! (*Do you know what the Greek God Achilles mother dipped his body in to make him immortal? What continent are passenger*

*pigeons extinct from? Who was the first 'Man of the Year' on Time magazine's cover in 1927? What does H.T.M.L. stand for?!*)

It was a close and competitive game but the prize goes to the "Stellar Jays" - current parents Eric Frith, Holly Taylor and Darryl Shannon. (*Ok, that's twice now Darryl's been on the winning team. Perhaps we need to make him a team of his own?!*)

Thanks to all who came, including a handful of alumni parents and friends! Big thanks to Mark for crafting such great questions, and to Snapdragon Restaurant for letting us overtake all the tables in the back of the restaurant! Stay tuned for the next Trivia Night. We'll announce a date in early January.

## Financial Aid Application is Now Open for 2017-18

Financial Aid is an important aspect of our school, and it has been since our doors first opened. In our culture of philanthropy, we wish to ensure a broad spectrum of students to our school, as the value they bring to all of us is far beyond the monetary. Thank you to all our families who support this important effort.

Our financial aid application is now open for the 2017-18 school year. For our current families, we are asking that all financial aid applications be completed no later than Friday, December 16, 2016. This allows families to use their tax information from last April, and it will allow the school to have accurate data for re-enrollment contracts in January.

Any families not currently on financial aid but who anticipate a need for the 2017-18 school year will be asked to meet this deadline as well.

**Please complete your FA request through Student and School Services at <http://sssbynais.org/parents/>**

If you have questions about financial aid, please do not hesitate to contact our business manager, **Jackie Mollison**, at [jmollison@harcorschool.org](mailto:jmollison@harcorschool.org) for assistance.

[Headed to Jumping Mouse in rain or shine! >](#)



## Inclement Weather Policy Winter Storm Expected Next Week

With the forecast of a winter storm looming next week, we felt it wise to reiterate the school handbook policy on weather-related school closures.

For safety reasons, weather conditions may require us to cancel school, to delay the start of school, or to end the school day early. Our closures will be for both campuses and will mirror those for the Vashon Island School District. If V.I.S.D. is listed on any news outlet, then our school will follow the same procedure.

**The following is an excerpt from V.I.S.D. superintendent Michael Soltman that was emailed to V.I.S.D. families today:**

“ During periods of extreme weather and/or power outages, radio/TV stations will report closures and changes of schedule. The latest information can be accessed at [FlashAlert.net](http://FlashAlert.net) or by calling the VISD District Office at 206-463-2121 for a recorded message, or on our website.

We monitor weather forecasts to make decisions about late starts and closures, and whenever possible we will make an early decision by 7:00 p.m. for the next morning. If snow is predicted, we will usually call for a 2.5 hour late start. Then, if conditions worsen overnight, we will communicate a closure decision prior to 6:00 a.m. **The following are the three schedule options we consider when inclement weather is expected:**

1. **Regular Schedule with Emergency Bus Routes**
2. **2 ½ Hours Late - Typical "late start" Schedule**
3. **Schools Closed**

As a general practice, if severe weather conditions develop during a school day, we will keep students at school until they can be picked up by parents, or be sent home on school buses. We will operate buses on regular schedules unless road conditions are unsafe. Our primary concern is the safety of our students, their families, and our faculty and staff. Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable winter season. ”



[MORE NEWS >](#)

## Community Support Needed

You may have already received an email earlier this week, but we wanted to also include a reminder to in the Cornerstone News about one of our current families that is in need of our support. Jon Crouch, parent of Jessica in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, has begun 6 weeks of 5-days per week chemotherapy treatments. For families wishing to give support, there is a sign-up available to help with meals, healthy snacks, or even some time to lend an ear or a hand. Please click on the link below if you are able to sign up and help out in any way.

**Sign up for Love for Beatrice, Jon & Jessica:**  
<http://signup.com/go/45Y8HK>

*Thank you for your consideration!*

## Holiday Book Exchange for 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

It is the time of year for our Secret Santa-style Holiday Book Exchange on the Harbor School campus. Each student/teacher/staff member has chosen a name out of the name bucket and are now playing detective to determine what would be the perfect book for that secret person to receive at our school celebration on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Books are wrapped and have some kind of a treat tied to the package (*past examples have been a holiday cookie or candy cane treat*). Please help your child to choose this special book and have it wrapped with fun and care and brought to school on Thursday, December 15. The books, once read by the receiver, are then gifted back to the school to add to our growing library.

**Art below, left to right, created by Quentin (Grade 3), Anelaya (Grade 8), and Morgan (Grade 7).**

## Student-Led Service Project Sweatpants Drive

**Written by Morgan Sennott, 7<sup>th</sup> Grader**

In Seattle in an old building with brown stone walls is the small one room clinic in which my mother works. She is a Nurse Practitioner and works at Harborview. She is working at the clinic in the DESC a homeless shelter. In the room she works in now is a filing cabinet. This filing cabinet is not filled with papers, but clothes. Coats, socks, shirts, bags and what I am calling for...**sweatpants**.

My mom told me that one day a man came into the Clinic, he had ratty shoes and old pants. After she treated him for whatever was ailing him, she opened the filing cabinet. She gave this man, the one with that ratty shoes and old pants, some socks, and, you guessed it...**sweatpants**. She told me he smiled and thanked her many times.

I had come up with the idea of giving to the places my mom worked in 4<sup>th</sup> grade when we made Christmas cards for Harborview, but I really got inspired when Mark talked about the art supplies for the slum in Africa. I thought, if this school is motivated enough to help kids in Africa, would they be even more motivated to help locally? To find out, in a class meeting, I uncapped the marker and wrote down **sweatpants**. After a lot of confused looks, I proposed my idea for a sweatpant drive. I got a huge reaction! So this happened! The very first Harbor School Sweatpant drive!

This starts on December 5<sup>th</sup> and ends the last day of Christmas break. The pants should be gently used or new, so if you put them on they would be comfortable. Sizes, men's pants should be... let's just say not for elementary school kids. For women we can probably have any used pants from middle school girls, just not tiny. The bigger the better and we really only need adult pants.

To get you motivated, look around. Think of the last homeless person you saw, now put a grin on their face and a twinkle in their eye.

Happy Holidays! - Morgan





## Join Us In Celebration Of Our School Community

The holidays are upon us! With giant candy canes mounted to lamp posts, garlands of fir draped from business awnings, holiday Art Studio Tours opening to promote local arts & crafts and the town tree lighting ceremony this weekend, the feeling of holiday cheer and the spirit of giving, sharing and gathering together is everywhere. It is also a time of year when the diminishing light of winter and the chilly weather makes us seek out the light and joy in our community.

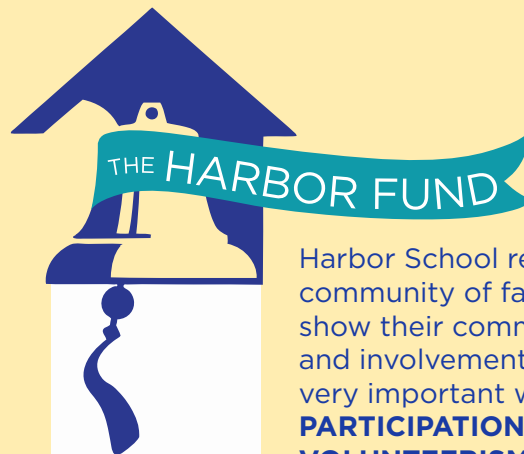
We'd like to share in the warmth of our strong community of families by inviting everyone to our **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual All School Holiday Potluck on Friday, December 16, from 5-8PM at the Burton Lodge**. Alumni families, grandparents and relatives are a big part of our school and we welcome their participation as well! Families attending are asked to contribute a potluck item for a communal dinner together.

We will also have a collection box for anyone who would like to donate canned goods for our local Vashon Food Bank to support our island community.

Parent volunteer Shannon Johns will be hanging decorations and setting up beforehand and could use some helping hands if you are willing and able to come down to Burton Lodge in the late afternoon. You can email her at [shannon\\_johns@hotmail.com](mailto:shannon_johns@hotmail.com).

*We hope to see you there!*

## Make A Gift Today!



**100%  
PARTICIPATION  
IS OUR GOAL**

Harbor School relies on our community of families to show their commitment and involvement in three very important ways: **PARTICIPATION, VOLUNTEERISM and SUPPORT.**

**PARTICIPATION:** *Being part of our community through events and activities.* Whether attending Poet's Afternoon or the Invention Convention, or acting as an ambassador during an Open House, it really makes our community great when everyone joins in.

**VOLUNTEERISM:** *Supporting our school through service.* Parents sign up at the beginning of the school year and also answer frequent "calls to action" when help is needed. Volunteering is a huge part of keeping our school running smoothly and demonstrating to our children and wider community the importance of giving back through service.

**SUPPORT:** *When you give what you can.* Making a gift to the Harbor Fund, donating an auction item, raising your paddle high for Financial Aid, or purchasing plants at our spring Plant Sale--*these are just some of the ways we count on our families to support our school. No gift is too small.*

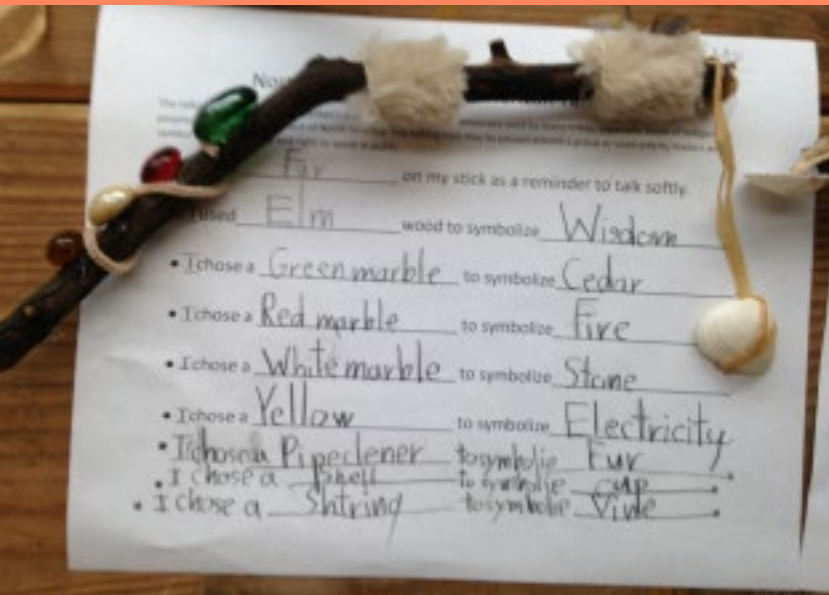
**37%**

*We grew 7%*

*30% on Nov 18*

**DONATE NOW**

**PLEDGE FORM**



In our study of Native Americans this week, we read the *Legend Of The Talking Stick*. In the legend, a grandmother broke up a fight between Crow and Magpie over which tree belonged to which bird. They wouldn't listen to each other's ideas. Eagle was called in to speak to them and in the ruckus, Eagle lost a feather that landed on a branch. Grandmother took the feather and the branch it landed on and created a "talking stick" so that Crow and Magpie could learn to truly listen to each other.

We then created our own beautiful talking sticks creations with bits and pieces that represent each of us.

## Winter Celebration

On the evening of **Thursday, December 15 at 7pm** we will hold our annual Winter Celebration Performance. This performance includes songs prepared in music class as we do for every performance, and in addition, each student presents a gift to the community. This gift is open to just about anything, and in the past it has taken many forms. It can be a song played on any instrument, a dance, a song sung solo or with family members, a story or poem, a joke, a magic trick, an informational or how-to talk, a demonstration of drawing or a special talent. As you can see - almost anything goes as long as it is age appropriate and something that your child will enjoy doing in front of a very loving and forgiving audience. The gift is planned and prepared at home; it will not be practiced at school. The presenting of the gift should take no more than 3 minutes. If you have questions about this piece of Winter Celebration let us know. We will all support you and your child's interests. We will also need to know if there will be any props to manage during the performance. Many thanks for all you do! - *Carpe Diem Teachers*

Students learn a song with Mark for Winter Celebration.



## Science Visit with Zoë

Carpe Diem 3<sup>rd</sup> graders visited Zoë's science room this week with Team Pizzazz (*our Upper Elementary 4th & 5th graders!*) We found out that Santa's sleigh has broken down, so we had to build parachutes to carry Santa and the presents safely to their destinations! Students built many small proto-type parachutes and tested them for safety (*we can't break presents or Santa!!*). The array of design ideas was astounding!

## Playground Additions

We returned from Thanksgiving Break to discover that the playground fairy had left us many wonderful gifts -- *a new climbing dome structure, soccer goals, soccer balls and playground balls!* We are having fun keeping this a secret from the kids, but the playground fairy is coming to us courtesy of Liz and Andrew Naumann, parents of Max and Mila. We are so thankful for all they have done to improve our playground and our students' experience of outside play time!

The gravel and pavers that John Thomas and Erin Schultz installed last year are also working wonderfully. We are so incredibly lucky to have such thoughtful and generous parents! Many, many thanks!

## Basketmaking with Barb

Barb led a wonderful workshop on basketmaking this week. The kids learned quite a bit about Native American baskets, creating one in the Puyallup style. We hope you got a chance to see them in our hallway! They are quite beautiful and all different.

## Visitors on Monday

On Monday, December 5, the Spanish interns and Spanish Art teacher from Chautauqua Elementary are visiting us at Carpe Diem. They will be observing the 1:00 and 1:30 classes.

[MORE NEWS >](#)

## Colonial America

This week, students began the process of setting sail to discover new lands. To learn about the future, it's important to look back. Our students will, in their lifetimes, likely see people colonize Mars (*and who knows where else*). To learn about what might be helpful or wise, it's important to learn from humans who came before us. We're weaving in topics about why the colonists during the 1600s (*and even before*) came to North America, who sent them or why they left their homesteads, what they often brought with them, and what they were hoping to find. To do so, students are involved in a simulation which allows students to live and breathe the Colonial experience. Rather than enduring the traditional textbook or lecture approach, students will become colonists—*thinking as colonists, suffering as colonists, and hopefully succeeding as colonists*. This week, students prepared themselves by developing map skills to understand the importance of geography, examined reasons why people colonize, and learned about the meaning of flags and even created their own team flag.

A beginning of unit update was emailed to all *Team Pizzazz* parents on Tuesday and was sent home with students.

## Social Skills

Our focus this week is on **Compassion**, one of our school's Cornerstone Values. Students are in the midst of an ongoing project to inspire inside-of-school-play adventures to broaden their social horizons. In class meeting this week, we discussed the benefits of getting to know everyone in our class. Students recognized the importance of finding commonalities and sharing experiences with others, and noted that it helps them feel more comfortable. When they feel comfortable, they are more likely to take risks. When they take risks, they are more likely to push themselves (*and even fail!*). When they push themselves, they grow. And this, they decided, is the point of school. Come check out the beginnings of our *Let's Connect* chart to track our play adventures in school.

## Science with Zoë

Carpe Diem 3<sup>rd</sup> graders visited Team Pizzazz this week for science! We found out that Santa's sleigh has broken down, so we had to build parachutes to carry Santa and the presents safely to their destinations! Students built many small proto-type parachutes and tested them for safety (*we can't break presents or Santa!!*). The array of design ideas was astounding!

## Math

In math this week, students began a mini-math adventure on multiplication of multi-digit numbers. Students will be attending Multi-U (*Multiplication University*) where they will be completing "course work" in a variety of "college courses" in multiplication, moving along at their just-right speed and level. Students took a pretest this week to see what they already know, which will help us meet them where they are in their multiplication journey and place them in the proper Multi-U class to begin. We will continue work on solidifying a basic understanding of how to multiply multi-digit numbers with at least one strategy, will teach various other strategies to students who are ready, will practice mental math strategies, and will work to gain efficiency in systems by the end of our two week unit.

## Literature Groups: Sign of the Beaver

*The Sign of the Beaver* is a historical fiction novel set in the woods of Colonial Maine in New England. The story is about a young settler named Matt who has to survive in the wilderness while his father is away. While Matt is brave, he is not prepared for the myriad challenges that he encounters on his own and is rescued by an Indian chief and his grandson Attean. The story centers on the relationship between Matt and Attean and the lessons they learn from one another while exploring other colonial themes.

The exciting part of our December Literature Group is that we are meeting multiple times each week! There will be some in-class time given to support your reader in this process. There is also an audio version of this book available if desired (*audible.com*). Students will complete comprehension questions for each meeting and a **final project will be due on December 16**. Final project guidelines and deadlines were included in the overview packet you received in the parent email on Tuesday.

On the web, you can find a brief preview of the happenings in each chapter:

<http://www.brighthouseeducation.com/homework-help-literature/65800-sign-of-the-beaver-summary/>

And a brief review:

<http://www.pluggedin.com/book-reviews/sign-of-the-beaver/>

## Upper Elementary Dates:

12/09: Half Day with Noon Pickup

12/13: Meet 'n Greet, 8-8:20AM

12/15: Carpe Diem 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders Math Morning Invitational and Holiday Book Exchange



## Art with Alisara

*Team Pizzazz* had a fun all-class colored pencil workshop this week to try macro still life drawing. *Great job, Pizzazz!*

## Science with Zoë

### 6<sup>TH</sup> and 7<sup>TH</sup> Grade

Students have collected, analyzed and presented their data from the nut-burning experiments. Their goal was to answer the question, "Which nut is the best for an energy bar?" They used the evidence from their tests and background research to develop an answer to the question. After sharing their findings with classmates, they wrote a short paper discussing the tests, results and their reasoning for choosing a particular nut for an energy bar.

### 8<sup>TH</sup> Grade

**The Human Body** unit has come to a close. Look for the end of unit update packet at home next week. Our new unit is **Genetics and Biological Evolution**. This week, we looked at the natural variation in traits between and within species. Students completed research about beetle species, compiled their findings and shared the findings with classmates using graphics. Next, we look at the structure of DNA using the 1940's findings of Erwin Chargaff. Students will use some of his data to describe the structure of the hereditary molecule.

## Math with Leslie

Just a reminder that all Middle School math students are invited to stay after school on Tuesdays for extra help!

### LEVEL 6 - MATH 6

We are finishing up **Chapter 3: Decimals**. Study Guide went out on Thursday in preparation for a test next week on Tuesday or Wednesday.

### COURSE 2 - MATH 7

We are finishing up **Chapter 2: Equations**. Study Guide went out on Thursday in preparation for a test next week on Tuesday or Wednesday.

### LEVEL 7 - PRE-ALGEBRA

We are halfway through **Chapter 4: Algebraic Manipulation**. Study Guide went out Friday for a test next Thursday.

## Algebra with Zoë

We are coming to a close of the Quadratic Equations and Functions unit. Students are practicing using quadratics to analyze projectile motion and find areas of rectangles. Next week, we will review and take the unit exam.

## Art with Alisara

### 6<sup>TH</sup> Grade

Students continued their **Harmony with Nature** unit and practiced three types of perspective drawing. The homework is to get Unit 1's EOU and Unit 2's BOU signed.

### 7<sup>TH</sup> Grade

Students finished their beautiful tree paintings, so make some wall space for your winter, spring or fall tree. The homework is to get Unit 1's EOU and Unit 2's corrected BOU review signed.

### 8<sup>TH</sup> Grade

Students practiced drawing noses and eyes all week, so ask to see their work! Their homework is to sketch 20 life-size pictures of the eye area in about 30 minutes.

## Social Studies with Laurreta

### 6<sup>TH</sup> Grade

We read *The Odyssey* this week as well as discussed the rise and fall of Athens during the classical period of ancient Greece.

### 7<sup>TH</sup> Grade

Students had a "power week" researching and writing about one of the monotheistic religions.

### 8<sup>TH</sup> Grade

We spent the week tying up loose ends regarding the **Civics** unit and then beginning our annual tradition - **The Big, Wide, Wonderful Project**.



Photo left: Harley (Grade 7) finished her tree painting in Art.  
Photo below: Kai and the 8th Grade worked on drawing noses and eyes in Art this week.



# In the Community: Artists Among Us

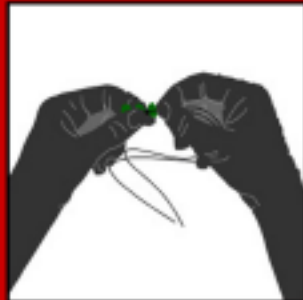
## The holidays start at Waterworks Studio Collective



Woodwork



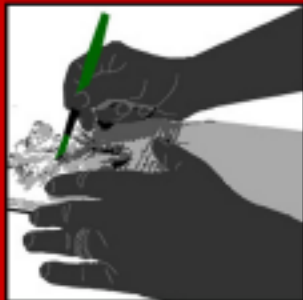
Pottery



Jewelry



Music Friday!



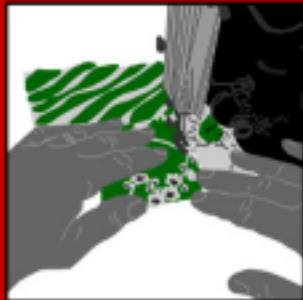
Sketches



Prints



Watercolor



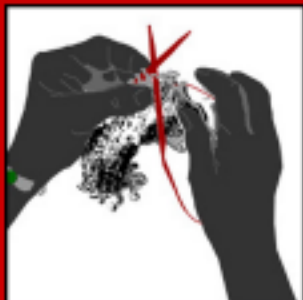
Textiles



Home & Garden



Photography



Knitwear



Oil & Acrylic

Preview Party: Friday, December 2, 6:00 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday, December 3-4 & 10-11, 10:00 am-4:00 pm

7012 SW 240th St. Maury Island, #28 on Vashon Island Art Studio Tour 2016 map

waterworksonvashon.com ★ 206-463-5633 ★ Art raffle to benefit Food Access Partnership (A VIGA Program)

★ Donna Romero oils & collage ★ Note cards & calendars by several artists and ornaments by all on the Artists' Tree ★

The Vashon Island Art Studio Tour is happening this weekend and many artists from our school community are featured. Please support our local artist parents, alumni parents and grandparents who are showcasing their work.

**Gallery Stop #2** features alumni parent Ann Nicklason at Schwennesen Studio.

**Gallery Stop #3** features current parent and sculptural artist Ken Judd.

**Gallery Stop #6** features current parent Erin Schulz' classical realist oil paintings.

**Gallery Stop #14** features alumni parent Mary Shemeta's handcrafted scarves.

**Gallery Stop #17** features *Regen8* artisan handbags created by current grandparent Roxy Hathaway.

**Gallery Stop #28** features alumni parent Kathleen Webster's photography, alumni parent Bob Horsley's paintings, alum parents Chris & Darsie Beck's porcelain creations and watercolors, and current parent Ellen Parker's Cowbelle Industries printed textiles.

And check out **Cafe Luna's current show**, opening tonight, with featured work by alumni parent and former art teacher, Kathy Larsdotter!

Be sure to visit ALL the Art Studio Tour stops and support your local community!

*Our apologies if we forgot to include any alumni or school friends featured on the tour. Not all listings included artist names clearly so we did our best to name all the ones we know.*