



FINE & PERFORMING ARTS NEWS LETTER

April 2026

Below: Ms. Kosturik and the Fostertown
2nd Grade Music Production students



DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Spring is in full bloom, and so are the arts in the Newburgh Enlarged City School District community! We have enjoyed an incredible season of fine and performing arts events, and we couldn't be prouder of our talented students and their hard work. I also want to thank our talented fine and performing arts teachers who support and inspire our students every day.

Be sure to check out our upcoming events, and keep an eye out for even more exciting performances and showcases in May and June. Your support and encouragement makes all the difference for our students, and we appreciate you, the NECSD community.

We look forward to celebrating and supporting your children's growth throughout the 2025-2026 school year!

-Kristen Johnsen,
Director of Fine & Performing Arts



UPCOMING EVENTS



4/15 - OCMEA Junior High All-County
Pre-Rehearsal, M-W MS

4/16 - Fostertown 1st Grade Song Swap

4/16 - NWS Drama Club Performance
6pm

4/17 & 4/18 - HMS Musical *The Little
Mermaid, Jr.*

4/22 - OCMEA Elementary All-County
Pre-Rehearsal, M-W MS

4/22 - NFA Main Dance Spring Concert,
6pm

4/23 - NFA Small Ensemble Concert 6pm

4/24 & 4/25 - OCMEA Elementary
All-County Music Festival, M-W HS

4/30 - National Art Honor Society
Induction, 6pm

5/1 - GAMS 3rd Grade Recorder Concert

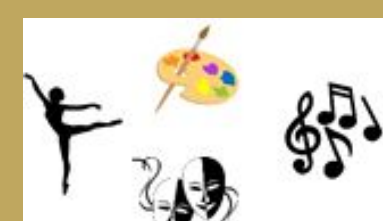
5/1 & 5/2 - SMS Spring Musical *The Lion
King*

5/1 & 5/2 - OCMEA Jr. High All-County
Music Festival

NECSD Department of Fine &
Performing Arts

*Inspiring lifelong learners, enthusiasts,
and active participants in the arts,
contributing to a vibrant and enriched
community.*

Questions? Email: kjohnsen@necsd.net





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Students from the NFA North Concert Band enjoyed a visit from the West Point Band's brass quintet. Members of the brass quintet performed music for the students of various genres and spoke to the students about their professional responsibilities as professional musicians in the U.S. Army Bands. Students also had the opportunity to ask questions and speak with the band members after the performance.



Above:
March 14 - 29, 2026: K-12 Student Artwork (Photo provided by the Garrison Art Center)

SITE: SCHOOL INVITATIONAL THEME EXHIBITION, Rooted: Art in the Natural World featuring the creative artwork of Kindergarten to 12th-grade students in the Hudson Valley region, including students from MHS.

Students in Ms. Williams' Art classes participated in the Garrison Art Center's exhibition entitled *Rooted: Art in the Natural World* as a part of the **SITE: SCHOOL INVITATIONAL THEME EXHIBITION**

Established in 1994, SITE is a cornerstone outreach initiative of Garrison Art Center. This year's theme, *Rooted: Art in the Natural World*, invites students from 19 local elementary, middle, and high schools to explore the connection between art and nature—and to reflect on our relationship with the natural world. Students are encouraged to incorporate natural elements into their work, create materials from found or organic sources (such as walnut ink or onion-skin dye), or design art meant to interact with outdoor environments. The exhibition celebrates creativity grounded in curiosity, stewardship, and our shared connection to the world around us.



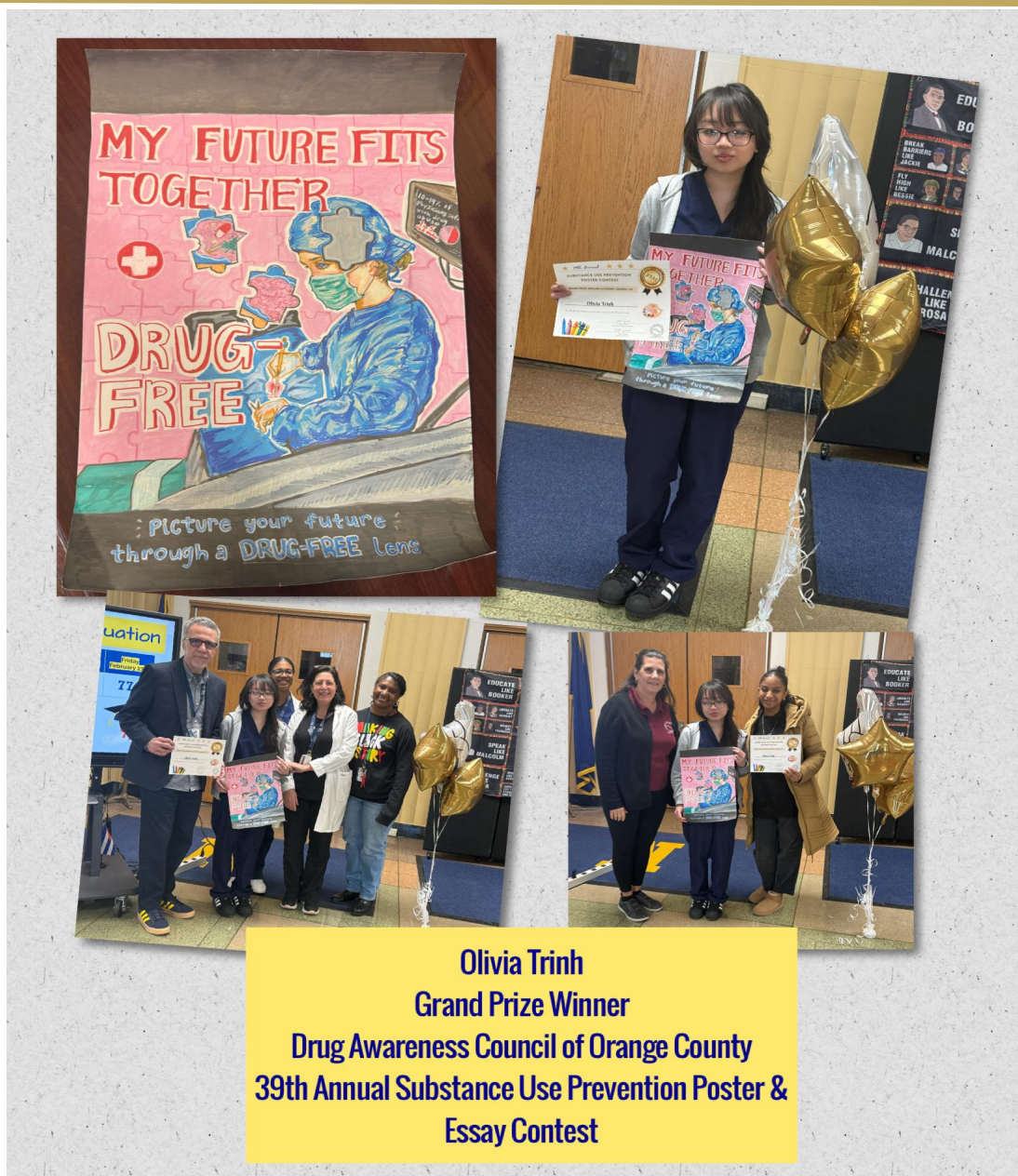
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Students from Heritage Middle School go Under the Sea in their production of *The Little Mermaid, Jr.* Congratulations to Ms. Clina (director) and the HMS cast of *The Little Mermaid* for a job well done!



Photos provided by C. Sklarz



Olivia Trinh from NFA North received the GRAND PRIZE in ADAC's 39th Annual Substance Use Prevention Poster and Essay Contest.

The contest was sponsored by the Alcohol and Drug Awareness Council of Orange County.

The Alcohol & Drug Awareness Council (ADAC) of Orange County's 39th Annual Substance Use Prevention Poster and Essay Contest (2025-2026) is themed "Picture Your Future Through a Drug Free Lens". The contest was open to student in grades 1-12. The Awards Ceremony will be held in May in Goshen.

Photos provided by M. Doddo



Photo provided by M. Antonelli-Guido

On Friday, March 27, 2026, students from the NFA Main Robert D. Williams Tenor Bass Chorus, Select Chamber Strings, Percussion Ensemble, Concert Band, Wind Ensemble and School of Rock traveled to Albany, NY to perform at the Empire State Plaza in celebration of Music in Our Schools Month. This event was sponsored by NYSSMA. This trip has been a yearly tradition for the NFA Main Music Department and the students and teachers look forward to it every year.