



## Letter from the President

### *Hip, Hip, Hooray!*

I can think of several reasons we have to cheer at Hughes!

The first well earned cheer I am going to send up is for the generosity of the Hughes community in supporting the "Invest In Hughes" campaign we've just wrapped up! It's official – the final results are in! Together, we were able to donate a \$3200 gift of technology to LHMS! Thank you to all who supported this campaign, as the gift will fund technology that will assist the students today and students of the future. Notably, for a week in December, the students themselves participated in a Change Challenge that raised over \$400 in donations for just that week! From chalkboards to whiteboards to smartboards, we've come a long way in thirty years!



Next, let's raise a cheer for the Hughes basketball players as one of the big social events of the year, the Hughes/Herndon Middle school game takes place on March 18. Mark your calendars to come out for a night full of fun, food and a fabulous matchup.

The third reason I can think of to cheer is "Celebrating Diversity Week" happening March 21-25. This week full events will be a time students will applaud what makes them unique as individuals and together as a community. Look for contact information for this event in this newsletter.

On another note, though it feels premature to be thinking of next year with so much still to be done, the PTA Nominating Committee is currently being formed. This group will bring together the individuals that will be the next slate of officers and committee chairs. The Hughes PTA is fortunate, because we have the opportunity to blend together the best ideas from many elementary schools, all in support of the Hughes community of which we all are now part. There is just no better way to keep up with Hughes happenings and to meet other Hughes families, than being an active PTA member and volunteer. When you get the call, or read the KIT volunteer announcements, please consider which talents you might have to share for the upcoming school year.

### Calendar



## Happenings at Hughes

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| March 10<br>Thursday   | 6:30 pm –<br>Spotlight on<br>Hughes-featuring<br>LHMS depart-<br>ment chairs |
| March 10<br>Thursday   | PTA meeting –<br>7:00 pm   |
| March 16<br>Wednesday  | 3:00 - 4:00 pm<br>Hughes Fun Run   |
| March 18<br>Friday     | Hughes/Herndon<br>Middle School<br>Basketball Game,<br>SLHS                  |
| March 21-25<br>Mon-Fri | Celebrating<br>Diversity Week  |
| April 7<br>Thursday    | PTA meeting<br>7:00 pm   |

## Diversity Week

**During the week of March 21st – 25th**, Hughes students, families, teachers, and staff will participate in a week long celebration of activities and events that recognize the many cultures, languages, traditions, values, beliefs, and abilities represented in our school and community. If you are interested in volunteering to assist with the week's events, **contact Lisa Gordon at [ltgordon1@verizon.net](mailto:ltgordon1@verizon.net)**

2011-12

Sincerely,

*Kathy Joyner*

Kathy Joyner, President  
[president@lhmspta.com](mailto:president@lhmspta.com)

# THE BIG GAME IS COMING!!!

## LHMS vs Herndon Basketball Game – Friday March 18



*Save the date of Friday, March 18* for the upcoming annual Langston Hughes Middle School basketball game. That Friday, our fantastic 7th and 8th graders will face off against the Herndon Middle School teams. It's a great time for our students and a great way to show school spirit. Tickets are \$5 per person and will be sold at the door. Doors open at 5:45 pm. We'll have spirit wear, lots of fun, and good food to purchase.

To make it all happen — we'll need lots of people to help out. Click here on **Volunteer Spot** and select your volunteer slot. Volunteer Spot is an easy online site to track volunteers with automatic reminders. If you have trouble accessing the site or prefer to notify us directly – please contact Mary at the email below and she'll enter your information manually.

**Go Panthers !!!!**

*For more information  
contact*

**Mary Shedlock at [msreston@gmail.com](mailto:msreston@gmail.com) or  
Donna Carrens at [carrens@verizon.net](mailto:carrens@verizon.net)**

## Get Your Game Shirt Now!!!!

The big basketball game against Herndon is coming soon and for school spirit, we have special shirts for sale for \$10.

You can find order forms in the school office or bring \$10 to purchase one at designated lunches.

March 1st will be the 1st sale at lunches. Other dates will be announced later.

### **Questions?**

**[email basketball@lhmspta.com](mailto:basketball@lhmspta.com)**



## Support Hughes PTA... without writing a check!



## **Box Tops for Education**

We have the opportunity to give to Hughes PTA by saving the box tops from items you regularly purchase. Each Box Top that you cut out and turn in is worth 10¢ to the PTA. It sounds small, but adds up very quickly, and is easy to do. Clip them, save them, and send them in with your student to deposit in the box in the office or in the school library.

**If you've got some, or think you can find some in your pantry, please send them in with your child and we can watch the dimes turn to dollars for LHMS PTA!**

# Annual Art Show at USGS

*The LHMS PTA is assisting the Art Department with their annual Art Show at the US Geological Survey in Reston!*

This year, our students' art will be on display at the USGS on Sunrise Valley Drive for the month of April. On the evening of Thursday, April 14, there will be a reception with the artists, the LHMS jazz band, and food from the Home Ec Department.

We have numerous opportunities for volunteers during April!! We need volunteers to load up the art to deliver to USGS, set up the art displays, and the same in reverse at the end of the month.



**Please contact Molly O'Boyle at [mollyboyle@gmail.com](mailto:mollyboyle@gmail.com) or 703-758-9885 to volunteer.**

## Langston Hughes Stars

Langston Hughes STARS Student Recognition Program would like to recognize the following students for achievements, honors, and volunteerism gained or performed from the beginning of the school year until now:

**Rylie Sullivan** played his flute for the Cokesbury United Methodist Church Founder's Day Celebration.

**Catie Lee** was selected to join Encore Theatrical Arts Project, a dance company in Northern Virginia performing and competing locally, nationally, and internationally.

**Madeleine Daum** was selected to play on the Virginia Commonwealth Games Girls' Lacrosse Team which won the state championship.

**Christopher Zaboji** serves the homeless at the Lamb Center in Fairfax, VA, on an ongoing basis.

**Monica Lannen** qualified for the 2011 USA National Youth Indoor Track and Field Championships in both the 800m and 1500m events.

**Bridget O'Boyle** & **Fatima Jahangir** spent 14 hours making a gingerbread scene that they donated to a family member's holiday event.

**Bridget O'Boyle** volunteered at Reston Children Center for over 19 hours over Winter Break with 3- and 4-year-olds.

*The following students made the All-District Chorus:*

**Arianna Barkhordari; Katie Beach; Remy Branscum; Alec Brown; Madeline Cochran; Hailey Corkery; Harrison de Wolfe; Sara Delcoco; John Dyke; Hannah Ericksen; Rhett Fetter; Casey Grage; Dan Gurley; Christina Kim; Micah Mastrovito, Catie Medvid; Jane Oswald; Maddie Planton; Levi Prudhomme; Charlie Quinn; Madhu Umashankar; Brienne Welch; Kate York.**

Please continue to send STARS nominations to: [studentrecognitionstars@lhmspta.com](mailto:studentrecognitionstars@lhmspta.com).

*We are very proud of our LHMS students!*

## Nominate a Student Star...

By the end of the year we would like to have every Langston Hughes student represented by at least one star, and preferably more than one!

Whether you are a teacher, a staff member, or a parent – don't wait! Nominate a LHMS student TODAY for something they did over the summer or since the school year began by filling out the form on page 4 of this newsletter or by sending an email with the student's name, your name, your relationship to the student & a one-sentence description of their achievement to [stars@lhmspta.com](mailto:stars@lhmspta.com). (Do you have a student who is shy about their accomplishments? Instead of using the student's name, we can print the student's initials or even "a 7th (or 8th) grade student" — just let us know!)

*Thanks in advance for helping us showcase the achievements of our amazing students!*

See page 4 for nomination form.

# “Look Ever Upward at the Sun and Stars ...”

“But march ever forward, breaking down bars. Look ever upward at the sun and the stars.”

– *The Negro Mother*, Langston Hughes.

Let these words of Langston Hughes inspire you to **nominate a child to be a Hughes Star!** Throughout the year we will be posting brightly colored stars in the front hall and locker commons highlighting the many and diverse achievements of our students. What makes a child a star? As Langston Hughes suggests, it’s all about marching forward, breaking down bars, and aspiring to be the best you can be! Here are some examples:



- ★ Something accomplished in conjunction with your family, neighborhood, or community (ex: helped someone in need; organized a neighborhood event; volunteered at RCC to help with Martin Luther King Day celebration)
- ★ Participation in an event devoted to raising money or awareness for a cause (ex: Walked in Relay for life, raised money for hurricane relief)



- ★ Participation or achievement in athletics at school or out in the community (ex: team sport, individual sport, athletic event)
- ★ Participation or achievement in academics (ex: Math Olympiad, essay contest, spelling bee)
- ★ Participation or achievement in the arts (ex: poetry contest, music competition, art show, theater, literary magazine)
- ★ Something accomplished in conjunction with a school-based club, activity or organization (ex: Odyssey of the Mind, Lego League, chess club)
- ★ Something accomplished in conjunction with an outside club, activity or organization (ex: Boy/Girl Scouts, service clubs, dance teams)

By the end of the year we would like to have every Langston Hughes student represented by at least one star, and preferably more than one! So whether you are a teacher, a staff member, or a parent – don’t wait! Nominate a LHMS student TODAY for something they did over the summer or since the school year began by filling out the form below or by sending an email with the student’s name, your name, your relationship to the student and a one-sentence description of their achievement to [stars@lhmspta.com](mailto:stars@lhmspta.com). (Have a student who is shy about their accomplishments? Instead of using the student’s name, we can print the student’s initials or even “a 7th (or 8th) grade student” — just let us know!)



*Thanks in advance for helping us showcase the achievements of our amazing students!*



## “Langston Hughes Stars” Student Recognition Program NOMINATION FORM

“But march ever forward, breaking down bars./Look ever upward at the sun and the stars.”  
– *The Negro Mother*, Langston Hughes

Let these words of Langston Hughes inspire you to **nominate a child to be a Hughes Star!**

Student names & accomplishments will be posted in the “Hall of Stars”  
(between the gym & cafeteria) throughout the year.  
Our goal is to ensure that every LHMS student is recognized for their accomplishments!

STUDENT NAME (or initials): \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to child (i.e., parent, teacher, guidance counselor): \_\_\_\_\_

Short (~ one sentence) description of student’s achievement: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed nomination forms to PTA box in mailroom or  
mail your nominations to [stars@lhmspta.com](mailto:stars@lhmspta.com)

**Thanks in advance for helping us showcase the achievements of our students!**