



MAY 2017 NEWSLETTER

GRADUATION WILL BE AT 6:30 PM ON JUNE 20TH

Project Graduation will follow Graduation, with check-in between 9 & 10 PM

An organizational meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 9 at 4 PM in Room 136. We invite any parents who are able to assist with soliciting funds, food, or services for the event, which will take place overnight after graduation. This has traditionally been a night when students engage in risky behaviors, and we began this program five years ago as a safe, fun alternative to those activities. We will have inflatable games, a midnight dance party, plenty of food and prizes for all of our new alumni. We invite all seniors to join us in the fun!

Student Led Conferences

Student Led Conferences and the underlying portfolio development process encourage students to take greater control of their learning. On Tuesday, May 16, HVRHS will dismiss at 12:25 PM so students who have not yet had a conference this year can schedule an afternoon session if needed. The window for conferences is May 8-19th; please contact your child's School Counselor if you have any questions.

Parent Partnership Meeting on May 15th

Parents are invited to meet with Dr. Jose Martinez, to discuss the NEASC process (2018 accreditation) and the school improvement plan. We encourage all parents to come and learn more about these important upcoming events which will have significant impact on our school's future.

HVRHS Alumni Wall of Honor

The HVRHS Alumni Association is creating an Alumni Wall of Honor (WOH) in the main lobby of the school; it will consist of plaques and a multi-media video. The instillation will introduce students and the community to HVRHS graduates who have embodied the core values of Housatonic Valley Regional High School and gone on to exemplify those values in their life's work. [Details.](#)

A Better High, Laugh, help, run, love...and other ways to get naturally high!

May 10th, is hosting Matt Bellace, the author of *A Better High*, to talk with students and parents about addiction. Dr. Bellace offers students, teachers and parents a positive way to talk about alcohol and drugs and how to get high in safe, positive and natural. Bellace presents his message with humor and audience interaction and believes, "young people need to feel empowered in their schools and communities. It's not enough to ask them to stay away from drugs and alcohol. We need to show them positive things they can do instead, both for themselves and others!" The session for parents will be on May 10th at 6:30 PM in the auditorium.

21st Century Fund Initiative

The 21st Century Fund is proud to announce the winners of its new Ingenuity Competition: **Victor Flores, Caroline Hurlburt and Manuella Matsudaira.**

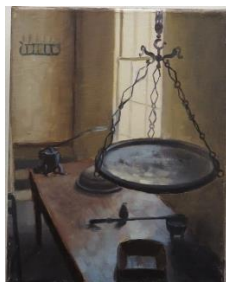
The trio, under the mentorship of John Samaha, is creating a club to promote social and civic responsibilities. The club will begin with a pilot mentoring program to support Lee H. Kellogg students transitioning into HVRHS which they hope to roll-out region wide. Long-term, the club will branch-out into community service opportunities.

Upcoming Events:

2017 Blue & Gold Show at the White Gallery May 19-21. The opening reception will be on May 19th from 5-7 PM. The Sharon Woman's Club is raffling off a hand painted chair to raise money for student scholarships. This year's invitation postcard was designed by Johanna Spencer, Class of '17.



Selected Works of Richard T. Scott are on Exhibit in the HVRHS Library:



This year's annual screening of the **Civic Life Documentaries** will be on May 30th at 6:30 PM in the Community Room at Noble Horizons. We hope you will join us to see and discuss the short documentaries written and produced by members of the Class of 2017. Topics include the militarization of police, drug/alcohol use in school, student counseling in the 21st Century, dropout rates at public/private colleges, the stigma of mental illness and third party politics. The event is hosted by the 21st Century Fund for HVRHS.

Opportunities for Students

Junior Prom tickets need to be purchased by May 5th.

Summer Programs:

[Civic Life Summer Program](#)

A week of learning about the shooting of documentaries. For students entering 9-12th grades.

Figure Drawing Workshop

Applications are being accepted for a valuable summer figurative art seminar. Artist Daniel Howe will be returning for his second year of working with gifted HVRHS art students. Your child should see for Mr. Prindle for details.

SPARK Summer Programs for Girls

If you are a rising middle or high school female student, the University of Connecticut invites you to challenge yourself by incorporating your math and science skills into hands-on projects and experiments, exciting engineering concepts, and fun activities.

SPARK is UConn's latest initiative to shrink the STEM gender gap. Participants will be taught and mentored by outstanding female undergraduate, graduate students and faculty engineers. Students will live in residence halls, supervised by Residential Counselors who are members of the UConn Engineering community.

Congratulations

The Contemporary Visual Arts Scholarship announces this year's applicants.



The annual CVAS scholarship will be awarding \$40,000 to a talented senior. One requirement: A letter of acceptance from an accredited 4 year art school / art program.

This year's applicants are **Johanna Spencer, Maggie Sullivan and Emily Sullivan.**

Digital Self Portrait by Lizzie Riccardelli, CVAS recipient currently attending Savannah College of Art & Design

Works by **Kyra Cullerton, Matt Murray, Grace Cohn Tianna Togninalli** will be in the Art Slam 2017 exhibit at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford CT. (Upper Concourse East). Their works will be on display April 4th - 12th with a closing reception on Wednesday, April 12th, from 3 to 5 pm. Works are selected because of their artistic merit and overall quality.

@hvrhs students Angela & Grace, 2nd place (Academic) winners at the Braindance Awards!



Around Campus



EMBRACING EDUCATIONAL DIVERSITY



May Calendar

- 1st AP Testing--Chemistry & AP Environmental Science, 8-12**
- 2nd AP Testing--Physics 1, 12-2:30**
- 3rd AP Testing--AP English Lit and Comp., 8-12**
- 5th Mr. Housatonic in Auditorium, 7-9:30**
- 6th All Day Music Trip to Six Flags w/Tom Krupa**
- SATs at HVTHS, 10-1**
- 8th AP Testing--Bio and AP Music Theory, 8-12**
- 9th AP Testing--AP Calculus AB, 8-12**
- Project Graduation Meeting, 4:00**
- 10th Matt Bellace Assembly, 1:15-2:15**
- Matt Bellace Evening Presentation 6:30 PM**
- 11th AP Testing-- AP Statistics, 8-12**
- 12th Ag-Ed CDE'S at UCONN**
- 13th Junior Prom**
- 15th Parent Partnership Meeting, 6:30 PM in Room 133**
- 16th 1/2 Day Dismissal High School Student Lead Conferences**
- Charles Westcot/ College Planning Program in Room 133, 6:30 PM**
- 17th Ag Ed Open House and K-8 STEM EXPO in Mahoney-Hewat Center**

19-21st Blue and Gold @ The White Gallery (Opening reception on the 19th, 5-7 PM)

20th Invasive Plant Workshop On HVRHS Campus, 9:30-11:30

Color Run for the Sophomore Class, 10 AM – 3 PM

Senior Ball

23rd Science Fair in Mahoney-Hewat SciTech Center

24-27th French Classes in Quebec City

25th Late Opening

College Funding Night in Room 133, 6:30 PM

27th Rabies Clinic Ag-Ed Center, 9-12

29th School Closed for Memorial Day

30th Civic Life at Noble Horizons

Suggested Reading and Links:

A Better High, Matt Bellace

[Update from the Parent Committee](#)

[Matt Bellace](http://www.mattbellace.com/) or <http://www.mattbellace.com/>

[Spark Summer Program for Girls](#)