



THE ARTS

AT SPRINGS...

Arts Leaders - Pearl Little and Lucia Hocking-Whitehead have had a really busy start to the year. Both have been on Leadership Camp and are now heavily involved in rehearsal and preparation for the Drama Trip to London leaving in just over a weeks time. They have got involved with Stage Challenge and are both on the Stage Challenge Leaders Committee getting this years production on the go. Also, they have helped to promote the annual Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival and have assisted with getting rehearsals started. Most recently, they have selected their Arts Committee for 2015 - the committee will come together soon to promote events such as the school **ASB Stage Challenge** production and the **SGCNZ University of Otago Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival**. They have a busy schedule for the year.

Western Springs College is very fortunate to have the very talented **Rita Stone** onboard coaching and mentoring participants in the SGCNZ University of Otago Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival this year. Rita is a superb teacher, founder of the Young Auckland Shakespeare Company and Artistic Director of the Auckland Shakespeare Company. This year she will direct a scene and coach students who are to perform or direct 5 and 15 minute extracts from any Shakespearean plays - in a style and interpretation of their choosing.

We look forward to seeing what these students put forward.

Thank you Ruby Griffin – 13 Art Design for the ArtsNews Heading in this issue. All headings are the work of 13 Art Design students 2015.

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Kirsty Britton – Arts Coordinator

ARTS LEADERS

What's happening in the Arts!?

Firstly, we'd like to congratulate and welcome to our leadership team - the Arts Committee for 2015:

Drama & Dance – Ariane Lenihan - Y12

Media – Benjamin Zambo – Y13

Music – Tom Conway - Y10 and Caroline Ann Sutcliffe – Y13

Performing Arts – Pearl Little and Lucia Hocking-Whitehead Y13

Visual Arts - Ruby Griffin - Y13

We had a number of outstanding applications however there are simply not enough places for all the people that we wanted to include. We hope that in years to come those who weren't successful this

year will reapply. Our focus as a team will be to continue to support the Arts and events as they occur throughout the year. We look forward to planning and reporting back on some very new and exciting events as a committee this year!

2015's Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival rehearsals have got off to an awesome start. Rehearsal is underway for the competition which is just under three weeks away. This year we are very lucky to have special guest tutor and former Western Springs' Drama teacher Rita Stone tutoring the five groups. The chosen pieces for this year include, A Midsummer Night's Dream and Julius Caesar. The groups will be joining together to do a scene from Julius Caesar and will also do separate ones by themselves. It looks like the performances are off to a great start and the energy is hard working and ecstatic.

ASB Stage Challenge 2015 has kicked off at Western Springs College and it looks as though this year is going to be the best yet.

We have had a huge response to sign ups and have an amazing team of juniors and seniors on-board which is awesome to see. The enthusiasm

that everyone has brought to the after-school rehearsal slot is positive and fun, and everyone is willing to try new things and even experience creating some of their own choreography.

This year the concept that we are promoting has been generated to stay relevant to what is happening around Western Spring College this year. We are basing this year's theme around our school's hashtag which the 2015 Student Leaders have created, "**#wscproud**". We want to promote *self-pride*, using the sentence; "*Being proud of yourself is a positive thing, and something that we should celebrate*". We want to create a performance that enforces that our school is proud and we don't put others down for their achievements.

We still have space for new members to join, it's not too late so tell your friends, and come to the hall on Monday after school for a fun afternoon with new and old friends.

Lucia Hocking-Whitehead and Pearl Little – Arts Leaders 2015

DANCE

Learning continues apace in Dance with links between the professional dance industry and classroom learning.

This Friday Year 12 and 13 Dance students will be lucky enough to watch a free showing of *Rotunda* in TAPAC Theatre, as The New Zealand Dance Company prepare for their national tour. Year 13 are studying an excerpt of *Rotunda* for their external exam and it will be great to watch the show live ahead of performing a solo from the dance for assessment next week - perfect inspiration!

The show will serve as a fantastic example of professional choreography as we start our own Level 2 NCEA group choreography assessment in year 12.

Stage Challenge Rehearsal #2 – School Hall – Monday's 3.15 – 4.30pm



Year 11 have been working with breakdance tutor Laurent Dunningham and are "resting" their contemporary sequence while we work on our first composition of the year, based on kowhaiwhai patterns.

We also have two trips to local and international dance in the Auckland Arts Festival in coming weeks. Students are looking forward to seeing *I Am* by butoh-influenced Samoan-New Zealander Lemi Ponifasio this Friday, and *In the Mind of Igor* by Akram Khan in a couple of weeks' time. Watch this space for student reviews of the shows...

Melanie Turner - Acting HOD Dance

VISUAL ARTS

Extended Greetings



Although it's early in the year, the rooms are a buzz of activity as the students settle into their practical and theory based work. This year we are pleased to welcome **Sarah Menzies** to the department as our permanent part-timer. Sarah is an experienced teacher and has a background in printmaking, multimedia and moving image and will be working exclusively with Tori Young and the junior programmes.

EOTC this term has been the three Y11 Art classes drawing from Nga Oho and MOTAT (site 2). These are observation and recording lessons, important to the overall sensory and contextual understanding of this year's theme; 'Shifting Ground'. The Y12 Art History class also travelled in the same week to the Auckland Art Gallery to view relevant art works and familiarise themselves with using terminology required for the first internal assessment.

The department would like to acknowledge the outstanding results from 2014. Not only did we surpass the national averages for our decile across all three NCEA levels, but we had one of the best Level 3 results in five years. A staggering 30 students in total gained excellence endorsed, with Art Photography gaining four scholarships and five scholarships awarded to Art Design. Special mention to both Jeremy Lawton and Sienna Mark-Brown who received the highly coveted Outstanding Scholarship grade for Art Design. This is a huge and well deserved achievement, which is a reflection of the hard work and commitment of the students and an acknowledgement of the nurturing and proactive teaching of the Art staff.

Our past students are also making a name for themselves in a variety of mediums. Last year's Y13 Art Photography student Isabel Shore will have her folio travel around the country as part of the 'Top Art' displays. Ex-Springsers Solomon Mortimer has photographic work on display at Pah Homestead as part of the James Wallace Trust, and renown street artist 'Component' (Sparrow Phillips) has installed his mural for the school which will be formally opened by a prominent local leader.

Finally, a fee reminder to parents and guardians about the payment of Art and Art History fees for Y10-13. Our ability to provide relevant EOTC opportunities, the appropriate technical and specialised resources for the year is dependent on your continued support. Thanks in advance.



11Art visit the new MOTAT hanger – observational drawing.

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Lily Laita - HOD Art