



Arts Department - December 2019

Unity Day

In October, students from all the arts programs were invited to attend a special day of presentations and workshops. UNITY Charity engages and empowers young people to become role models and leaders in their communities through an exploration of Hip Hop. After a high energy show in the theatre, students attended 2 workshops in Dance, Spoken Word, Graffiti Art and Beat Boxing.

Band

The beginning of the year is always a crazy time for teachers and students. In the band department we have instruments and music to get out to every student in every grade. That's over 250 kids! By the time we get through all of that taken care of and start rehearsing we are working towards preparing for our winter concerts, clinics, and various other performances that happen before the winter break.

Now that it is the final week before the break, we have been involved in over 10 performances and ready for a solid 2 weeks off. That'll give us lots of time to practice and get ready for the run to the end of the year.

With our students being involved in the Manitoba Honour Band, Tuba Christmas, Solo and Ensemble festival, cadets, and many other extra curricular activities there are many opportunities to see a GC student making music around the city. Check out a few pictures of the kids in action over the last few months.





Dance

The dance program has had a wonderful semester, with students studying Jazz, Contemporary, Tinikling and a variety of partnering styles of dance. Our Dance Team, Reality Check, had a heartbreaking performance at our Remembrance Day Ceremonies. They also hosted an amazing surprise “Pop-up Performance” in the last week of December. We are looking forward to our January Showcase which will be on January 17, 2020 in SOPAC. It will feature a multitude of performances from the first semester dance classes and Reality Check.

Students from the grade 12 class submitted video entries to the 2019 Domestic Violence Youth Media Contest and one of the groups, ‘Wilting Emotions’ won! The winning group included Bryxx Romero, Amir Al-Dulaimi, Franz DeLima, Justine Lusung and Em Roxas. They were tasked with creating a video that engaged and informed their audience of the realities of domestic violence. Their video contained entirely original content; they created the music, the spoken word and the choreography. Bravo!

New York 2020

The Dance and Drama Department are looking forward to their trip to New York in January. Highlights of the trip include taking classes at Broadway Dance Centre, learning choreography from a Broadway performer and then watching their show in the evening, as well as touring iconic NYC locations.

Musical Theatre

Matilda! - Rehearsals are well under way for this year's production of Matilda the Musical. The show is a musical adaptation of the beloved Roald Dahl book. As always, the production involves over one hundred students from all arts areas; including Drama, Dance, Choral, Band, Art, Multimedia etc. The production will run in SOPAC from May 13th - 15th. Stay tuned for more information about tickets coming in the new year!





Collège Garden City Collegiate Report to the Community

Choir

It was a busy fall in the Garden City choir department. Between our ensembles we have had over a dozen performances at school and out in the community. Our choir program consists of four choirs (Grade 9 Choir, Grade 10 Choir, Senior Choir & Chamber Choir) and three vocal jazz groups (Swing, Mix and Groove).

Starting with September, we took our grade 10 choir on a day long retreat to Camp Assiniboia. We spent the day diving into our new music and did some bonding activities as a group. Our retreat also happened to be on Orange Shirt Day (September 30th) We spent some time learning and discussing what this day is about and how we can be intentional in our efforts towards reconciliation.

In November, Garden City Groove vocal jazz performed at the Divisional GSA Conference held at Maples Collegiate. They sang a lovely song called “Butterfly” by the Finnish vocal group Rajaton. Also in November our grade 10 choir performed at the school’s Remembrance Day Service on November 10th. They sang “I Choose Love”, a song about rising above the pain and challenges of our world that can foster hate and instead choosing a better way, love.

All seven of our ensembles performed at ChoralFest Manitoba, a provincial non-competitive music festival where they get to hear other high school choirs, perform for a set of world class adjudicators and have private clinic time with one of the three adjudicators. All of our groups did their absolute best and received high praise from audience members and adjudicators. Garden City Groove was invited to perform at the ChoralFest Gala on the closing night. They performed wonderfully!



Of course we held our own school based concerts as well. An evening of jazz was held at SOPAC on November 21st. We featured all three vocal jazz groups and jazz bands at this concert. Lots of fun and challenging music was performed. Our students certainly know how to bring their A game. Our Winter Choir Concert was on December 2nd, also at SOPAC. All four choirs performed their sets, and the concert ended with a mass piece called Noel. All of our 165 choir students on stage together! What a joyful noise!



Collège Garden City Collegiate Report to the Community

Recently our Chamber Choir and GC Mix reached out in to the community, caroling at the Seven Oaks Hospital for their staff holiday luncheon. They were happy to spread some holiday cheer to these hardworking health care professionals.

In the new year we are looking forward to taking our vocal jazz groups on an overnight trip to perform at the Brandon Jazz Festival. This festival is always a highlight of our students' year. We are also planning a Senior Choir trip to Minneapolis in April. The trip is in partnership with the senior concert band.

Thanks for taking the time to read about our choir program at College Garden City Collegiate. We are very proud of the community we have here.



Visual Arts Program

This year students in grade 9 are exploring drawing techniques, colour theory, art journaling and linear perspective. Students in grades 10 to 12 are now able to attend art every second day all year long. This is a new development in our scheduling that allows art students a longer period in which to work on their observational drawing skills, painting techniques, colour theory, the creation of three-dimensional art projects, and to explore environmental themes through art. They have also had the opportunity to watch and discuss *Abstract: The Art of Design* as part of this year's curriculum which has allowed them to get a sense of the importance of design in all our lives designers' personal engagement with the creative process.

Art Club meets Wednesdays after school at 2:30 in 304E.



Choir and Vocal Jazz- June 2020

Even though this school year will be one for the history books, Garden City's choir program started the year with endless potential and a lot of excitement for the year ahead.

Let's start with some highlights from the fall. We held a Grade 10 choir retreat at Camp Assiniboia. These students spent the day immersing themselves in new music and bonding as an ensemble. During an all period day our grade 9 choir was treated to an African drumming clinic led by Jay Stoller. In November, all seven of our ensembles performed beautifully at ChoralFest Manitoba, resulting in recommendations for Canada's MusicFest for Senior Choir, Chamber Choir and GC Groove. Groove, our senior vocal jazz group, was even invited to perform at the Choralfest Gala concert. In addition, that month they also performed at our divisional GSA conference. November is always an incredibly busy time in the choir department!

In December, we held a festive Winter Concert at SOPAC, complete with an audience participation sing-along and a mass choir performance of "Noel" to end the night. Also that month, the Chamber Choir was invited to provide entertainment at the Seven Oaks Hospital Holiday Staff Luncheon. They sang with joy and passion and brought a smile to the faces of all the hospital staff.

Our senior choir and swing performed in February for students from H.C.Avery and ESOMS who made the trek to SOPAC. It was great to perform for the younger students in our school division.

Our vocal jazz groups Swing, Mix and Groove were busy preparing for their annual trip to the Brandon Jazz Festival when everything began to change. They were sounding fantastic and were just one week away from leaving when the school closures were announced due to COVID-19.

Thanks to all of the GC singers for their dedication and perseverance through a tough end to the school year. We wish it could have been different. We wish we could have taken those trips and performed those final concerts and celebrated our grade 12's on stage. Sadly it was not to be. We witnessed you rising to the challenge of online learning, taking things in stride and continuing to make meaningful music together.

We are so proud of you.



Collège Garden City Collegiate Report to the Community

Dance Program - June 2020

The dance program had a wonderful first semester, with students studying styles, including Jazz, Tap, Contemporary, Tinikling, Salsa, Waltz and Swing. Our Dance Team, Reality Check, gave a very moving performance at our Remembrance Day Ceremonies. They also hosted an amazing surprise “Pop-up Performance” in the last week of December. Our January Showcase occurred on a very stormy night with a packed audience. It featured a multitude of performances from the first semester dance classes and Reality Check. Students from the grade 12 class submitted video entries to the 2019 Domestic Violence Awareness Youth Media Contest and one of the groups, ‘Wilting Emotions’ won! The winning group included Bryxx Romero, Amir Al-Dulaimi, Franz DeLima, Justine Lusung and Em Roxas. They were tasked with creating a video that engaged and informed their audience of the realities of domestic violence. Their video contained entirely original content; they created the music, the spoken word and the choreography. Bravo!



Unity Day

In October, students from all the arts programs were invited to attend a special day of presentations and workshops. UNITY Charity engages and empowers young people to become role models and leaders in their communities through an exploration of Hip Hop. After a high energy show in the theatre, students attended 2 workshops in Dance, Spoken Word, Graffiti Art and Beat Boxing.



Collège Garden City Collegiate Report to the Community

