

University School

at The University of Tulsa

December 2012



Winter Concert "Accomplishments & Anniversaries"

Wednesday, December 12
10:30 a.m.

Lorton Performance Center
550 South Gary Place

All students will participate.

Friends and family are
welcome to attend!

School will be dismissed
immediately after the concert.



Director's Message

This year, the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) nominated University School for a creativity award. I was delighted that our school was honored in this way. Since the beginning of the school in 1982, our motto has been "to develop creative producers," just as it states on the banners in front of the school. We use every available means to achieve this goal.

The bedrock of this emphasis on developing creative producers is provided by our teachers in music, art, band, and creative writing. However, every teacher, in every class, at every age level, teaches our students how to be creative producers. This includes the teaching of science, social studies, math, computer, language arts, physical education, library, Chinese, and Spanish. Our students learn that, in addition to generating a good idea, the creative process involves a great deal of hard work, dedication and follow-through.

We have seen the positive effects of this education in our graduates who have been creative producers in the many fields they have chosen as their careers. Among our graduates, there are many professions represented. Some of these include doctors, lawyers, business people, teachers, artists, and writers. Individuals have the potential to be creative in any field they choose if they have had the opportunity to develop and strengthen that trait from an early age.

While we appreciate being nominated for a creativity award, our greatest reward is seeing our graduates becoming creative producers out in the world.

- Pat Hollingsworth, Ed.D.

Re-Enrollment Coming in January

The month of January is designated as Preferential Enrollment for all current University School families. Enrollment information and payment agreements will be emailed to all current families in January. If you want your child to attend USchool in 2013-2014, you will need to turn in a signed payment agreement and a \$400 deposit (per student) by the end of January.

News from the USA

Dear Families,

The focus of our November USA meeting was the subject of bullying. We heard short presentations from administrators and teachers of the various grade levels explaining how the *Second Step* program is used school-wide to teach empathy, problem-solving, and social skills.

University School is very proactive in creating a safe environment with the goal of keeping all students free from the distractions and fears that are created by bullying. In such a nurturing family-like educational environment, our children are able to focus on achieving to their fullest potentials. The teacher/student ratio is a very strong factor in monitoring student behavior. Weekly class activities utilizing *Second Step* are also essential.

USchool administration encourages parents to bring any concerns or questions they may have to the attention of the teachers. Thank you for your support of our wonderful school.

Kathy Law, USA Vice-President

Needs-Based Financial Aid for 2013-2014

Online Application Due January 31, 2013

This year, we are again partnering with School and Student Services by NAIS (SSS) in our financial aid process. To apply for needs-based financial aid for the 2013-2014 school year, you must complete the Parents' Financial Statement (PFS) online at the SSS website and submit tax documents for 2012 to SSS. Complete details are available on an informational flyer which you can find on our website, in ParentsWeb, or at the front desk at school. A few important elements of the aid process are highlighted below.

- The application consists of two parts:
 - An online application - the Parents' Financial Statement (PFS) - Due January 31, 2013
 - Submission of tax documents which may be uploaded or mailed - Due April 16, 2013
- The fee to complete the application is \$39 per family. This fee is paid online directly to SSS.
- You only need to pay one fee and submit one application, even if you are applying for aid for more than one student.

The flyer referenced above contains information that you will find extremely helpful as you complete your application. We strongly suggest that you have the flyer available when you begin the application process.

SSS application website: sss.nais.org/parents

USchool's SSS code is: **174920**

For general questions about our financial aid program, contact Debra Price at debra-price@utulsa.edu.

If you have questions as you are completing your online application, you will contact SSS customer service at the phone number on the flyer.

You may begin the application for needs-based financial aid at any time. The first part of the application - the online Parents' Financial Statement (PFS) must be completed by January 31, 2013!



Student Achievements



Karter Flournoy (EP) completed the Tulsa Run Fun Run on October 27 with an average 8-minute mile!

Christopher Flippo (INT-1) is currently ranked 7th in the United States in the International Chinese Martial Arts Championship Organization for the boys youth division. Christopher has been training in Kung Fu for almost three years.

Yash Kumar, USchool 8th grader, was honored in October at a national medal ceremony sponsored by the Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth. Yash earned an exceptionally high score on the ACT test, placing him within the top one-half of one percent academically of all same-grade students.

Chess Club - USchool competed in the Oklahoma Scholastic Chess Organization Grade State Championships on November 12. The team did exceptionally well.

- **Elliott and Samantha Glover** won medals and finished 2nd as a team in the K-2nd Division.
- **Henry Holman** won a medal in the 3rd Grade Division.
- **Krish Kumar** was the 3rd Grade State Champion.
- **Kortay Vincent** was Co-Champion for 5th Grade.
- **Nikith Kurella** and **Saagar Basavaraju** both won medals in the 6th Grade section with Nikith finishing in 3rd Place.
- **Yash Kumar** won the 8th Grade Championship individual trophy and also teamed with **Thomas Palmer** to take home the 8th Grade team title.

MATHCOUNTS - The USchool MATHCOUNTS team participated in a mock competition at Jenks on November 16. The Complex Numbers Team had excellent scores. In the overall results, **Yash Kumar** came in 1st Place, and **Saagar Basavaraju** came in 4th Place. Their team, which also included **Omar Aly** and **Thomas Palmer**, placed 2nd.

Robotics - Two University School teams won awards at the Regional First Lego League competition held on November 17.

- The **Silver Spartans** won the Inspiration Award for their ability to work together as a team. Team members are **Ryan Bibb, John Fournet, Mohona Ghosh, Luke Kymes, Hea Pushpraj,** and **Nathan Ross.**
- The **Imaginationists Version 3.0 (TIVO)** won 2nd Place in the Championship Award. This award was based on team performance on a research project, project presentation, teamwork, robot design, and robot performance. TIVO team members are **Knox Blakely, Ronak Desai, David Fournet, Lauren Hamby, Yash Kumar, Sydney McMahan, Cybil Seneker,** and **Kyler Smith.**



Silver Spartans



TIVO

Congratulations to all of these students on their achievements!

Staff Development - OTA/Encyclomedia Conference

On October 2 and 3, a number of University School teachers and staff attended the OTA/Encyclomedia Conference in Oklahoma City, sponsored by the Oklahoma Technology Association (OTA). They attended a variety of sessions on topics such as:

- Art Across the Curriculum
- Fluid Educational Environments
- Great Websites in the Classroom
- Technology Swarm
- Using iPads in the Classroom
- Movement and Learning
- Tech Infused Classrooms
- Dynamic Differentiation and Digital Age Learning
- Creative Writing Workshop
- Graphic Inquiry Across the Curriculum
- Education and Social Media
- Using Camtasia Software to Create Video Lessons

In November, four USchool teachers attended the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) Conference in Denver, where they gave presentations and attended sessions about gifted education. The January newsletter will have more details about the NAGC Conference.

Your support of University School's fundraising efforts makes these important staff development opportunities possible. They allow our teachers and staff to gain skills and knowledge of current best research and practice, directly benefitting our students.

Fall Activities Roundup



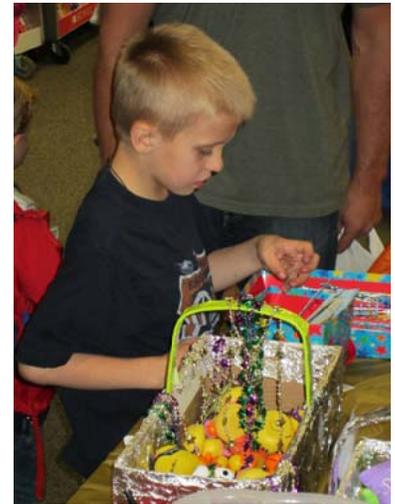
Emerson Shankle-Knowlton browses the book fair selection.

Fall Book Fair - Many thanks to everyone who supported our Fall Book Fair by volunteering, visiting, and/or purchasing items. Special thanks to Rajeana Gibson, parent volunteer coordinator.

The Book Fair raised \$980 for the school library plus \$2,355 in products, which included books and funds set aside for a renewal subscription to Scholastic's BookFlix. BookFlix is an online literary resource which is used by teachers at school and can also be accessed by parents and students from home. (See log-on information below.) Additionally, students and parents donated many books directly to USchool's classrooms.

BookFlix URL: <http://bkflix.grolier.com>

Login: univsch **Password:** bookflix



Nick Howse-Jackson chooses a book fair prize.

Halloween Carnival

USchool families had a frightfully fun time at the Halloween Carnival on October 26! It was great to see all the wonderful costumes, and everyone had a fun time playing games, participating in activities, and visiting the Book Fair. Thanks to all of the class representatives who organized the carnival activities and to the 8th graders and their parents for preparing the Haunted House and selling hot dog meals.



Amelia Earhart (Kendall Phillips) and Harry Potter (Jack Denney) at the Halloween Carnival.



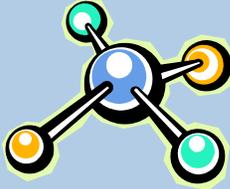
"A Salute to Parents" Reception at Guthrie Green

It was lovely to gather with USchool families at the Henry Zarrow Center for Art and Education and on the Guthrie Green on October 28 for a reception, concert, and other activities. Thank you to all who came downtown to join us for the afternoon's festivities!



Above right: James-Henry and Annabel George and Annelise Eggen-McElmurry at the reception.

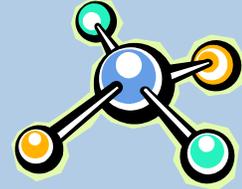
Right: Mrs. Price and Mrs. Lewis on the Guthrie Green.



Science Saturday

January 5, 2013

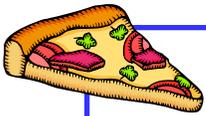
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.



Make sure this date is on your calendar for January!

University School families are invited to join us on Saturday, January 5, 2013, for an exciting interactive day of science exploration. We'll have a variety of fun and educational science activities designed for USchool students and parents to participate in together. You'll be able to explore bubbles, fibers, sound, light, soil, and participate in a paper airplane contest. Siblings of USchool students who attend other schools are also welcome to attend. Science Saturday is a free event.

Watch for more information with all the necessary details to be sent home in December.



Pizza and Milk Orders for Second Semester

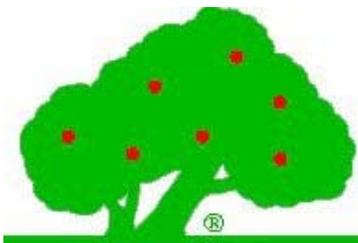
Order forms for second semester pizza will be sent home the last week of November. If you would like daily milk and/or Friday pizza for your student second semester, please complete and **return your form with payment by Monday, December 10**. All pizza/milk orders received after this date will incur a \$5 late processing fee.



Are you receiving USchool email?

Make sure our school emails don't go to your Spam or Junk folders! Add **email@renweb.com** to your contacts, address book, or "safe" list.

We use email, sent through our RenWeb system, as our primary form of communication, and we don't want you to miss any important information!



Care & Share at The Apple Tree

When you shop at The Apple Tree from November 19 - December 24 and designate University School as your favorite school, we will receive 10% of your purchase in the form of a gift certificate for our teachers to use for classroom supplies. The Apple Tree is located at 7204 East 41st Street in Tulsa and has a great selection of fun learning toys for students.

December 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 Jr. Board Mtg 8:00 a.m.	5	6	7	8
9	10 - Pizza/ Milk Orders Due	11	12 - Winter Concert - 10:30 @ LPC - school dismissed after	13 - Winter Break begins - No School	14 No School	15
16	17 No School	18 No School	19 No School	20 No School	21 No School	22
23	24 No School	25 No School	26 No School	27 No School	28 No School	29
30	31 No School					

First Day of Second Semester: Thursday, January 3, 2013

Looking Ahead

January

- January 3 - First Day of Second Semester
- January 5 - Science Saturday
1:00 - 3:00 p.m. @ USchool
- January 9 - USA Meeting and Lunch
11:30 a.m. in the school library
- January 11 - Winter Dance & Alumni Reunion
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. @ ACAC
- January 21 - NO SCHOOL
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

"No School" Days for Second Semester

- January 21 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- February 15 - OAGCT Conference
- February 18 - Presidents' Day
- March 15 - Staff Development
- March 18-22 - Spring Break
- April 11-12 - Parent-Teacher Conferences
- April 26 - Staff Development

Put these dates on your calendar!

