

# University School

## at The University of Tulsa

# March 2013

### New Front Entry System

The University School Association (USA) Board has approved the expenditure of Funding the Future funds for the purchase and installation of a new, more secure front entry system for University School. The system will include an electronic lock that allows school personnel to control entry with an access buzzer. This will provide an additional layer of security for University School students and staff. The system components have been ordered and are expected to be installed this semester.

The safety and security of all students, teachers, staff, and parents at University School is, of course, of the utmost importance. As reminder, here are just a few of the main features of our school's security program:

- All doors and gates routinely kept locked. Entrance to USchool through front doors only.
- Panic button at front desk which immediately alerts TU security of any emergency security threat.
- Radios in all classrooms for communication.
- Strict policies regarding student pickup, including approved pick-up lists and supervision of students during pickup times.
- Regular patrols and observation of activity around school by TU Security.
- Parent Alert phone call system (through RenWeb).
- Background checks on all employees.

If you have any questions about security at University School, please don't hesitate to ask.



### Director's Message

This month, I am focusing on the advantages that our students have because of our location at The University of Tulsa. Our students do not have to wait until high school to experience what it is like to be on a college campus. For USchool students, being on a college campus is a way of life. Additionally, the university is a great resource in many other ways.

- TU facilities, such as the Allen Chapman Activity Center (ACAC) and the new Lorton Performance Center, provide venues for student performances, and ACAC's dining services have long been a favorite reward for students' hard work.
- Dr. Bob Howard, TU Professor of Chemistry (and wife of USchool math teacher Marilyn Howard), has frequently hosted our students in the TU chemistry lab. The exposure to a college-level lab is a wonderful experience for our middle-school age students.
- Students have visited the Alexandre Hogue Gallery on campus many times over the years to view art exhibits. This semester, eight USchool classes viewed the *Corrugated Alphabet* exhibit.
- We use athletic and sports facilities, such as the track, the Mabee gym, and the football stadium for PE activities and special events such as the annual Jog-A-Thon. Students also are often invited to attend TU sporting events, including volleyball, soccer, and basketball.
- Each month, students attend musical recitals on campus. These recitals feature TU student musicians as well as professional musicians and expose students to a wide variety of music styles and instruments.
- TU professors often serve as resources for Older Intermediate students working on their Type III research papers.

These are just a few examples of the many ways our students have gained educational advantages as a result of USchool's campus location.

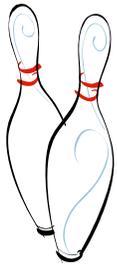
- Pat Hollingsworth, Ed.D.



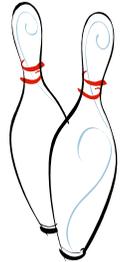
**Drama Festival**  
**Thursday, March 14**  
**ACAC Great Hall**  
**9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.**

All USchool students in grades Primary 1 and up will participate in the annual University School Drama Festival. Students present short plays that are created as a class project. Under the guidance of their teacher, students conduct research, write, and produce the plays. The plays are presented once during the day and again in an evening performance. Daytime performances begin at 9:00 a.m., and evening performances start at 6:00 p.m. Family and friends are welcome to attend.

All performances will take place in the Great Hall of Allen Chapman Activity Center (ACAC) on the TU campus.



***Let the Good Times Bowl!***  
***Saturday, April 20, 2012 6:30 p.m.***  
***Andy B's Entertainment Center***



This year, our auction theme is FUN! University School will take over the private lanes at Andy B's Entertainment Center and "Let the Good Times Bowl!"

Watch your mailbox, because invitations are going out soon. Admission will include beer, wine, soft drinks, dinner, and prizes throughout the evening. We'll also have some fabulous items up for bid in silent and live auctions. The emcee and DJ for the evening will be Jeanne Nass from Tulsa's Classic Rock station 103.3, and our honorary event chairs are Elizabeth Frame-Ellison and Chris Ellison. "Let the Good Times Bowl" is the culminating event for the annual Funding the Future campaign. All money raised on this evening will benefit the University School scholarship fund.

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us as we come together for an evening of fun, festivities, and competition. You might even go home with the title of University School Bowling Champion! I hope to see you there.

- *Kevin Daboval*, Auction Chair

Andy B's groovy private party area has 16 lanes, complete with seating, tables, and a bar. We'll also have a separate private banquet room where we'll have casual hors d'oeuvres, pizza, and desserts!

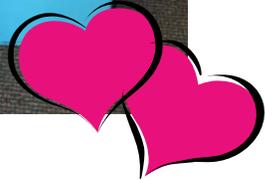


# USchool Happenings

## Valentine's Day Parties



EC students enjoyed shopping at the Sweet Shop during their class party.



Left: Cybil Seneker (OI-8) sketches at the exhibit.

Below: P1 students make goofy faces while visiting the art gallery.

## Corrugated Alphabet

A number of USchool classes visited TU's Alexandre Hogue Gallery to see "The Corrugated Alphabet Project" exhibit by artist James Grashow.



## School Spelling Bee

April Gore spells a word as Nikith Kurella looks on at the USchool Spelling Bee, which was held on January 25. Nikith went on to become the winner, and April was the runner-up.



## Revolutionary Days

5th grade students attended the Revolutionary Days on the Hill event on January 31. Above, Ryan Thomason and Casey Zandbergen show off their colonial attire.

## Student Achievements



- USchool 6th grader **Beth Craig** performed Reinhold Gliere's *Prelude, Opus 43, No. 1*, on piano at the quarterly meeting of the Hyechka Society at Harweldon Mansion on Sunday, February 3. Hyechka is a performance-oriented society of young musicians that has been in existence in Oklahoma for more than a century. Beth will be participating in Tulsa's Sonatina Festival later this month. She's had more than two dozen concert performances, among which are Firsts at the District and Oklahoma State Music Association contests last year.
- USchool students **Knox Blakely** (6th Grade) and **Christopher Flippo** (INT-1) are featured in Theatre Tulsa's production of the musical *Oliver!*, which will be held March 15-23 at the Tulsa PAC. This Tony Award-winning family show is Charles Dicken's classic tale of the orphan boy and his triumph over tragedy. Visit [www.theatretulsa.org](http://www.theatretulsa.org) for ticket information.
- **MATHCOUNTS** - USchool's MATHCOUNTS team took **3rd Place** overall at the Regional Competition held at ACAC on Saturday, February 2. In the small school division, our team won 1st Place and will advance to the State Competition in Norman on March 2. Team members are **Omar Aly, Saagar Basavaraju, Yash Kumar, and Thomas Palmer**. Additionally, **Saagar** placed 10th in the written portion of the competition and 7th in the Countdown Round. **Yash** placed 2nd in the written portion and 1st in the Countdown Round. As a result, both Yash and Saagar won a 3 credit-hour math or computer science class at TU. Students who participated in the competition as individuals included **Allison Binger, Lauren Hamby, Nikith Kurella, Ishan Pasricha, Halle Poleman, and Josephine Woytas**.

**Congratulations to all of these students on their achievements!**

## Sequoyah Reading Program

Each year, USchool students in grades Intermediate 1 through 8th grade participate in voting for Oklahoma's Sequoyah Book Award. The Sequoyah Award is the third oldest children's choice award in the nation. Established in 1959, the award honors Native American leader Sequoyah for his achievement in creating the Cherokee syllabary, a system of 85 symbols to represent all spoken sounds of the Cherokee language. The program encourages Oklahoma's students to read books of literary quality. Students who have read or heard at least three of the nominated books are eligible to vote. Voting takes place the week of March 11 - 14.

At University School, students who have read and taken Reading Counts quizzes on a minimum number of books (goals vary by grade) are invited to an ice cream party, and the class that has passed the most quizzes will have a popcorn party. This year, 6th grade student **Madeline Brown** has already read all 30 of the nominated books!

Look for the final class and student results, as well as the names of the winning books, in the April newsletter.



Oklahoma Library Association  
Sequoyah Book Awards

# March 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 - Book Fair & Family Game Night - 5:30 - 7:30	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 - Drama Festival 9 a.m./6 p.m.	15 No School	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Spring Break - No School						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## Don't Forget!

**Family Game Night**  
**Friday, March 1**  
**5:30 - 7:30 p.m.**

On Friday, March 1, we'll have a Family Game Night at school from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the commons areas. We'll play everything from *Candyland* and chess to strategy board games like *Ticket to Ride* and party games such as *Pictionary*. This will be a fun time for you and your child, plus the book fair will be open during the evening.



## Looking Ahead

- **April 1 - 5 - Achievement Testing**  
Teachers will administer the Stanford Achievement Test to students in grades Primary 1 and up.
- **April 11 and 12 - Parent Conferences - No School**  
You will receive information from your child's classroom teacher about how to schedule your conference.
- **April 20 - Let the Good Times Bowl**  
Be sure this date is on your calendar! You won't want to miss our annual auction fundraiser. See details elsewhere in this newsletter.
- **April 25 - Creative Producers International**  
Our annual celebration of creativity will take place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. This year, the event will be held right here at USchool.
- **April 26 - No School (Staff Development)**

