



The Marylhurst School

honoring the journey of each child



A Speakeasy Success!

Dear Marylhurst Community:

Thanks to our generous school community, the 2017 Marylhurst Speakeasy was hugely successful. While we will not have a final number for a few weeks yet, we are expecting an outstanding \$63,000 raised to support our school! All of the hard work and late nights from our auction team and faithful volunteers has paid off, and we are deeply grateful for everyone's commitment to putting on a

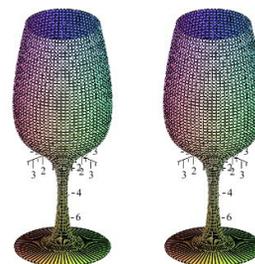
first-rate event. We would like to thank our generous sponsors: Clyde Common, Buffalo Trace Bourbon, Bernert Barge Lines, Pet Wants PDX, board member Jasmine Fullman, Mulino Trading LLC, and the VIP families of Marylhurst. Preparations for next year are already underway, and the 2018 auction committee will begin meetings in October. Until then, we would love to hear your thoughts and ideas and we hope to see you at the May 6th Garden Work Party and Chili Cook Off!

Gratefully yours,

Meighan Swakon, Frank Lemos and Kayla Kohl

Upcoming Dates

- April 25: Talent Show Auditions
- May 6: Garden/Building Work Party
- May 8: Board Meeting
- May 15-18: Student Portrait Week
- May 15-19: Literacy Week
- May 16: Talent Show Dress Rehearsal
- May 18: Talent Show 6:15 pm
- May 29: Memorial Day - No School
- May 31: Parent Association Meeting 9 am



From the Admissions Desk

Thank you again for your dedication to The Marylhurst School. Following the priority admissions process, enrollment is at an all-time high. Whether you are a newer family with us, or have been involved in our community for years, the expansion has introduced a very exciting time in our 45-year history.

Kindly save the following dates for annual spring gatherings:

K-8 BBQ – June 3rd at noon

Preschool Picnic – June 8th at 5:00 pm

We still have availability in our middle school and parent/child preschool programs so please spread the word! We will continue reviewing applications and enrolling students until we reach capacity.

We are honored that you entrust us with your children's education, and look forward to 2017-18 in our community of creators, explorers, and citizens.

Warmly ~ Laura

Marylhurst Summer Camps

You must check out our Summer Program! We are so proud and excited about the variety of camps we are offering this summer. The teachers create these camps following a year of watching your children and understanding their growth, development and interests throughout the school year. The Marylhurst School summer program is truly unique and like nothing else you will find. Summer camps run for 3 weeks in the month of July. Our summer camps are open to everybody, so grab a neighbor or a friend or two and come join us. We have program descriptions and registration forms in the office.



Marylhurst's First Talent Show

Teacher Karlie is welcoming Kindergarten~7th grade students to take the stage and share a special talent with our community. Join together with a classmate or solo and be a part of this very special showcase!

Please pick up an enrollment form to let Karlie know what you will be performing. You may return the form to the office when it is complete. Teacher's Karlie, Kim and Chanda are available for guidance and ideas if you are looking for support. Please do not hesitate to reach out to them.

Auditions: Tuesday, April 25th at 3:00 pm in the gym.

Mandatory Dress Rehearsal: Tuesday, May 16th at 3:00 pm

Talent Show: Thursday, May 18th at 6:15 pm

See you on the stage!!!!



Join the Marylhurst Board!

Each spring, the Board of Trustees encourages our preschool and primary communities to consider volunteering their time by serving on the board and/or its committees. Our school serves a diverse community and we would like our board to fully represent that diversity. We are currently looking for individuals interested in supporting and shaping the future of Marylhurst. As we work to further develop our board, we are specifically looking for individuals with experience or background in finance, law, human resources, and development and/or capital campaigns. We welcome candidates both from within our school community and from the community at large. If you are interested in exploring this unique opportunity or would like to recommend a friend, co-worker, family member, or acquaintance, please fill out a board application (located in the office) and return it to the Marylhurst Board mailbox by May 1 2017. If you have questions, would like more information, or would like to recommend a candidate from outside our school community, please feel free to contact any of our Executive Board Members:

Melissa Dubal: missydubal@gmail.com

Brent Hunsberger: bshunsberger@gmail.com

Rachel Fredricks: rfredrix@gmail.com

Spanish

Walk down the long Marylhurst hallway on a typical afternoon and you will hear many interesting sounds. As you approach the Spanish classroom, you are likely to hear the voices of our many “Spanglish” speakers. Hawks, Ravens, Meadowlarks, and Sparrows weave in and out of Spanish and English as they use their new Spanish vocabulary words within the context of an assigned activity. Teacher Mark gives instructions that require students to keep one proverbial foot in each language, such as “Raise your mano if you know qué hora es.”

Speaking of “qué hora es,” students in all four Spanish classes recently learned how to tell time in Spanish. Younger students in the Sparrows and Meadowlarks classes focused on learning the time in one-hour increments, while the older Ravens and Hawks went a little further telling time by the half-hour, fifteen minutes, or practically any time at all. Students in all four classes enjoyed playing “Qué hora es, Señor Zorro?” or as it’s more commonly known in English, “What time is it, Mister Fox?”

Another popular activity in Spanish class is story time. Among our favorite authors is Susan Middleton Elya, who has written many children’s books in Spanglish. Elya’s stories employ a lot of rhyming words, making them fun to read and creating a distinct rhythm for the listening experience. The stories are written in English but are peppered with many Spanish words. New language is incorporated in a way that allows a reader to understand what’s happening even if the Spanish vocabulary is unfamiliar.

Borrowing from Elya’s style, our Marylhurst students speak Spanglish in class every day. Whether it’s a simple greeting or asking for permission to leave class and go use the baño, our students find the right opportunities for practicing their new language skills and building their vocabularies... one palabra at a time.

Congratulations to Marylhurst Writers and Artists

Congratulations to all the students who submitted work to the 2017 Honoring Our Rivers Student Anthology.

Honoring Our Rivers is an organization committed to promoting and nurturing respect for the Watersheds of Oregon. The anthology is a “compilation of literature and art work that features multiple expressions of the relationship between people and their Watersheds--the waters, weather, land, plants, animals and habitats that make up our beautiful and fragile river systems.” Students submit poems, essays, and artwork that reflects their thoughts and feelings about the river. The Marylhurst School was very well represented this year, Kudos to the following students whose work was chosen for publication:

Sparrows Class~ Jaren Feuz-Krumm

Meadowlarks Class~ Milo Ford, Rosemarry Murschell, Akshay Shah, Riley Swakon, Ava Thomas, Willow Wilson

Ravens Class~Marianne Daubersmith, Kaden Digby, Annie Dubal, Mason Ford, Luna Han, Kahlil Powers-Graham, Sofia Pritchard, Bronson Watts

Hawks Class~ Jack Fry, Stephanie Haynes, Claire Hunsberger, Lila Jones, Eden Smith-Flowers,

These students are invited to present and read their work at Powell’s book store on Sunday, May 21, from 4-5pm. Please feel free to attend and support our community of authors and artists.



The Paradox of “The Paradox of Choice” -- Ann Brown

Some of you may be familiar with the study, The Paradox of Choice, in which psychologists set up two displays of jams at markets around the country – one with twelve different varieties of jams to taste and buy, and one with thirty-two varieties.

Disclaimer: a few – or all – of the details and actual facts of my synopsis of the study may be iffy. I listened to it on NPR while I was driving to work. And eating yogurt with a fork because I forgot to take a spoon with me into the car. And looking at my newest gray hairs in the rearview mirror. And thinking about what I wanted to eat for lunch after class. So my attention was slightly abbreviated. But still.

So, the study. Turns out, the display with thirty-two varieties of jam lured in more interested shoppers than the display with only twelve varieties. A bigger display with more choice was more exciting. No major surprise, right?

However, the display with only twelve varieties of jam, despite having brought in fewer interested shoppers, resulted in more lookers actually buying the jams.

Conclusion: When presented with the need to make a decision, we do better with fewer choices.

This conclusion isn't particularly shocking. I mean, have you ever stared at a restaurant menu that has, like, six pages and just blanked out on knowing what you even want to eat anymore? It's overload. This happens to me very often – perhaps you've seen me at Panera trying to decide between the turkey and the tuna sandwich. Hours pass. Seasons have changed while I've stood there. The woman behind the counter has aged and died, and her grandchildren now wait for my order. It's too much choice.

But as much as it's not shocking, it is important to remember the lesson in this culture where there is, pretty much, an alternative option to everything. Including facts.

But I digress.

We know that it's easy to overwhelm a child with even good options. An example I use often with my Two's class parents is when your kid says, “I'm hungry.”

“Great!” You say, and you open the newly and fully stocked fridge. “Do you want yogurt? I just bought a pallet of that yogurt you like.”

And your kid says, “No. I don't want yogurt.”

And you smile and try not to think about the fact that you just bought a load of it specifically because your kid said it was the BEST ever and he'd eat it every day if only you'd buy it.

You say, brightly, "Okay. How about cheese and apples?"

"No, I don't want that, either."

Your smile dims a bit but you forge on. "Eggs? I can make you scrambled eggs."

"No."

And so it continues until you are offering to flambé cherries and catch a fresh salmon. And, paradoxically, the more options you offer, the more impatient and angry your child gets, and the ruder his responses become.

"What's up with that?" you ask. Only it comes out of your mouth as, "Why the (fill in the blank with the worst words you allow yourself to say) can't you just EAT what I am offering you?" Followed by a lecture on the poor, starving children in the world who would give anything to have even ONE thing in their refrigerators. If they even had refrigerators.

You lie down with a cold compress and two Advil. How did you raise such entitled children, you wonder?

The paradox of choice. It does not bring out the best in us. It certainly does not bring out our gratitude and perspective.

There are myriad examples of how decreasing choice and simplifying options improve our moods and lives and productivity. It's not really an arguable issue.

But here's the paradox of the paradox: We are supposed to give our kids choices, aren't we? That's what all the parenting books tell us. Give them choices. Let them feel a little bit of power.

Yeah, that in itself is true. Choice is freedom. Also not really arguable. So, what to believe?

Well, here's where I get up on my soapbox about Some Random Aspect Of Modern Society That Irks Me. You might want to grab a glass of wine. I tend to get pretty full of myself when given a blank page and an unwitting audience.

We (the global collective of us, but really, mostly Americans) tend to take one good idea, one reasonable thing to change or add to our lives, and we overdo it to the point where it we have

OD'd on it and need antibiotics (metaphorically and real) to get back to normal. (Here's a tiny slice of the list of things that in my opinion are fine in moderation but we totally went crazy about them: No carbs, too many carbs, no fat, tattoos, after school enrichment, Pilates, informality and most recently, coconut everything.)

And so it went with choice.

When we were a young people, there was not a lot of choice in life. You spear a bison; you eat bison for a long while. I do not believe that Stone Age children whined, "but we just had bison yesterday!" when dinner was served. On the other hand, Stone Age children probably didn't think too much outside the box and would not have passed the SAT on the first try. Maybe if their parents had asked a couple of open-ended, constructivist, emergent-curriculum-inspired questions like, "What else can you think of that we can eat for dinner?" and, perhaps done a quick Google search with the kids of What People Eat, made a diorama and written a Haiku, the kids might have come up with a few new menu ideas. But then what? You know how it is with choice: Mom makes bison two nights in a row and the children are all, "I want chicken tenders in the shape of dinosaurs!"

My conclusion is simple: Choice is good and choice is bad.

Glad to have cleared that up for you.

~Ann Brown is available for private parenting consultation. Please contact the office for her hours and fees.

Did You Know...

Raven Teacher, **Britta Daubersmith**, will be competing in the U.S. Masters Swimming Spring National Championship on April 27th-30th in Riverside, California. She qualified to compete in six events a state meet earlier this month in Bend, Oregon. Congratulations, Britta!

Do you know of any accomplishments of others in the Marylhurst community that we can share? Please send information to Sheila, so we can include them in upcoming newsletters.