

CRESTWOOD

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF GENERATION Y

BY: JENNIFER FREEDMAN

As we peer through the screens of our computers and other gadgets, we gaze upon screensavers of natural beaches and lush rainforests. From these we see the appealing and natural utopian beauty of land that is not developed. It is a form of eye candy that has the potential to be brought back by our society who originally destroyed it once technology advanced.

Every year there is one week where we can repent for our sins against Mother Nature and is "intended to inspire awareness and appreciation for the Earth's natural environment."

I had the privilege of interviewing Mr. Johnstone, one of the Green Team moderators, and discussed Earth Week and why it is important for the legacy of a green planet to stay alive.



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MR. SANTOMERO AND MR. HECOCK ENJOY A WASTE-FREE LUNCH!

Mr. Johnstone provided insight into why it is important to him personally, both here at Crestwood and in his home life. "Well, it is a very important week. It is a week which focuses on raising environmental awareness and therefore it helps promote initiatives to conserve the environment." His involvement includes instituting initiatives in and around the school to ensure that we maintain a healthy and environmentally friendly school environment. However, it is important for students to take charge; students must understand their own role in helping to save the planet.

"For earth week this year we have adopted a kind of individualistic approach. That means trying to make our community see that it is a person's choice to help the environment. We can try to create lots of different activities, but at the end of the day, what you do every day is what matters. We have created some

challenges for our staff and students that are easy to do and will have a great impact on the environment."



These daily challenges included saving energy, asking students to not use their phones or computers during their lunch periods, bringing their own coffee mug or water

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THE RESPONSIBILITY OF GENERATION Y, CONTINUED

bottle to school, eating at least one vegetarian meal during the week, and having a waste-free lunch. "As you can see, those challenges can be done every single week during the year and that is our goal," suggests Mr. Johnstone. With this being said, the question remains as to whether or not these initiatives will - in the end - really have an impact on the school.

"There is so much we can do from school, but at the end of the day, we want students and parents to take initiative. Conversations should also happen at home related to what we can change in our daily lives in order to help the environment." We are still a long way from being environmentally responsible, and we need to realize that it is just a personal choice not to help, as Mr. Johnstone pointed out. "I know it is not cool to bring your own plate and cutlery to the cafeteria during lunch time, or when your friends cross the street to go to Pizza Pizza, you bring your own container to the store. Now, take away restaurants let you bring your own containers! But at the end of the day, when we leave school and become productive citizens, we are going to realize that there are lots of cool people that have made environmentally friendly decisions."

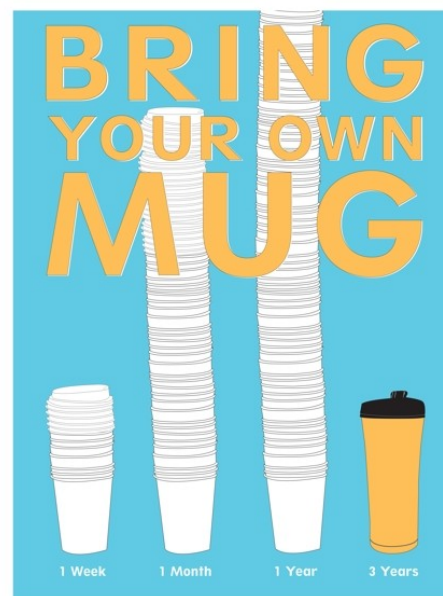
Crestwood Preparatory College strives to be as green as possible. One of its many ways is using the Green Team as a species of propaganda to convert other students to this planet friendly way of living.

My generation is amongst those who have betrayed Mother Nature. Even in senior kindergarten, we started learning about the harm that has been done to our planet. The pollution and waste that is being produced is just growing as earth gets older. It is very important that teenagers are still educated on the ways that we have harmed and also ways that we can heal our planet.

My future with the environment does not look like a healthy one. My eyes are like a microscope, seeing all of the dead organisms wanting to be cured in order to be resurrected, but we have yet to find a cure. In my future, I want to be able to go outside and not have to wear SPF 70 sun lotion everyday because the ozone layer has dissolved.



In 2013, teenagers are not constantly thinking of the health of our earth. Yes, media does do a good job of informing viewers of these critical events, but not the media that teenagers are exposed to. We are constantly absorbing information from social media sites such as Twitter and Facebook; however, these sites are not necessarily used to promote these important events that have the potential to help our planet. In the future, we need these teenage-friendly internet sources to step up and help teens realize that it is our generation who will suffer. It is now our time to nurture Mother Nature like she once nurtured us.



CURTAIN CALL

BY: ALLIE MARTIN
(AKA: MRS. GLOOP)

One final run through. One final rehearsal. Then, just like the previous year we are dismissed for pizza dinner before we change into our costumes. The familiar sense of pre-performance anxiety stirs inside me. Do I have all my lines down? Do I know all my cues? What about the others? Are they ready? My fears are not too overwhelming though. I've always found that a little nervousness is good for keeping you on your toes and preventing you from getting overconfident. Even though I'm just playing a minor role, I still want to do my absolute best.

It's time to get ready. I grab my costume (musing that it's much less elaborate than my dodo bird costume from last year) and head to the girl's locker room to change. It's just another performance. Just like last year. Mixed in with my anxiety is now the thrill of anticipation. I want get on that stage. I want to perform. Just like I did last year and just like I'll...

It then occurs to me that this will be the last time I'll perform for the school.

Throughout all the rehearsals, all of the independent practice, all of the weeks leading up to this day, I had never considered the fact that this would be my last play at Crestwood. And only now that I'm getting ready to go onstage do I realize this. It's actually a bit saddening for me. While I'm sure there's going to be some sort of drama club at university, it won't be the same. There won't be any more rehearsals in the cafeteria. I won't be joking



around with the same actors. The stage setup will be completely different. I realize for the first time that I'll be leaving all this behind.

The night goes on. It's now just a few minutes until the play starts. Backstage, the excitement is brewing with the cast and crew. Just past the curtains we hide behind, our parents and other family members and friends gather in the audience. I mentally prepare myself to go onstage. *This is it. This and the performance for the school tomorrow will mark the end of my acting career here.* But after some time to think it all over, it's not really that bad. After all, every ending is also a beginning. Sure, I'm not going to be able to do this anymore, but that's the same for everything else at this school. I had already accepted that I'd be leaving this school behind, and this is just part of that. And this doesn't mean that I'll never be able to get into drama ever again. I'll just be doing it somewhere else with different people in a slightly different way.



And in the mean time, I've still got one more play to do here, so I'd better give it my all. The lights dim. Everyone gets into their positions for the first scene. This is it.



AN EVER-GROWING TRADITION

BY: KATHERINE CHARNESS

On the morning of Monday, April 22, the Crestwood gymnasium was full of activity for the annual Grandparents and Veterans Breakfast. Students host this breakfast for veterans, Holocaust survivors, and grandparents of students as the culminating event for the Oral History Project each year.

The growing success of the Oral History Project was evident in the number of people present at the breakfast this year – it was hosted in the gym as opposed to the cafeteria for the first time. Throughout the morning, the Crestwood Jazz Band, the Crestwood Voices, and local jazz duo Shelley Hamilton and Ron Davis kept people entertained with some of the old favorites, and some new music as well, while students served them breakfast. There were also presentations that highlighted some of the interviews completed throughout the year, the efforts of the Youth Against Racial and Religious Discrimination club, and the changing way technology has affected our learning.

The past and current presidents of our local Legion Branch 345, Don Capalbo and Eric Reynolds, were in attendance to present awards from the Legion's annual poster and poem contest, which many Crestwood students participated in. There to represent our community was City Councillor Denzil Minnan-Wong, Senator Don Meredith, and Major John Fisher of the Canadian Forces College. We also received a video message from MP



Mark Adler, who could not attend that morning. They all expressed their gratitude to Crestwood students for the work they have done on the Oral History Project, and stressed the importance of Holocaust and World War II remembrance. One of the more memorable moments was when one of the veterans volunteered to sing a song to the entire gymnasium, something he had done during the war to entertain his squadron mates.

As always, the breakfast was truly a delight to help with. It was great to see everyone we have interviewed talking and laughing together in one room. It was a pleasure for all those in attendance, as well as the students who had the privilege of hosting the breakfast that morning. Overall, it was a great success and I am sure it will only continue to expand in future years.



MAKING CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

BY: SHELBY FEIGEN

On the 23rd of April, grade 11 Biology students (including myself!) departed on an 18-hour bus ride to the scenic province of New Brunswick. This trip was in place as a way to introduce us to oceanography, the study of the deep sea and shallow coastal oceans, to make meaningful connections to the curriculum work we had done throughout the year.

Over the course of four days, we were given the opportunity to participate in various labs and activities that included searching the ocean's bottom. Given that New Brunswick has one of the highest tides, we were able to walk on the ocean's bottom while the tide was at its lowest. While doing so, we collected several seaweed samples, as well as organisms such as starfish, side swimmers, crabs, and worms. With our animal gatherings we studied behaviours and habits, which was a very intriguing hands-on experience. We were also given an exclusive opportunity to visit the Atlantic Reference Centre. In two groups we were given a tour of some of their storage, where animals are preserved so they can be further studied, as well as their larger storage where the bigger animals such as sharks have been preserved.

By the end of the trip, each of the multiple groups were to use two of the labs practiced to create a presentation, which would be shown on the last day. My classmates and I put in quite a lot of effort into these projects, and the outcome reflected just that.

Personally, my strongest subject is not science, but this trip flipped my perspective upside down. Partaking in hands-on activities and projects gave me a new insight into the world of biology. I hope these experiences continue to leave a mark on my classmates and I as we continue on through our education in biology and other sciences.



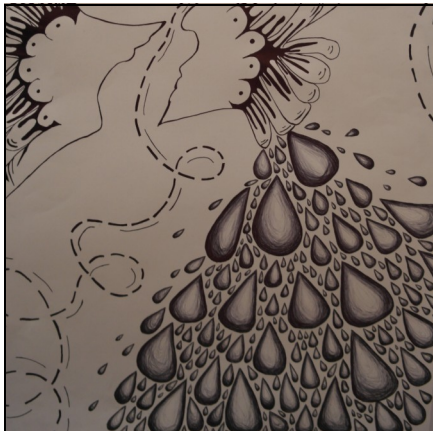
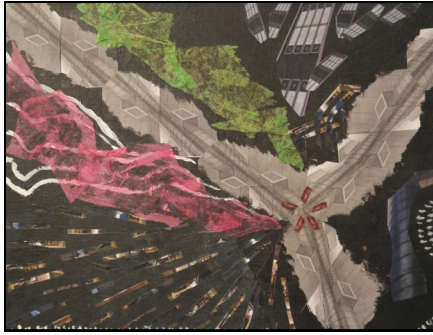
THE SWEETEST OF MELODIES

BY: MR. CHRIS JULL

Last night we saw proof that Mr. Fong is a miracle worker! Working largely alone, he has planned and implemented a music program for six years of Crestwood students that includes five different concert bands, and two jazz bands, that takes students that have never held an instrument before and turns them into the highly competent musicians that performed Holst's First Suite in Eb, a wickedly difficult staple of the wind ensemble repertoire. And he's done all of that with a relatively small student body! While the musicians deserve a lot of credit for their hours of rehearsal and individual practice, I know that when I have some water I need turned into wine, I'm going to bring it to Mr. Fong in the music room!

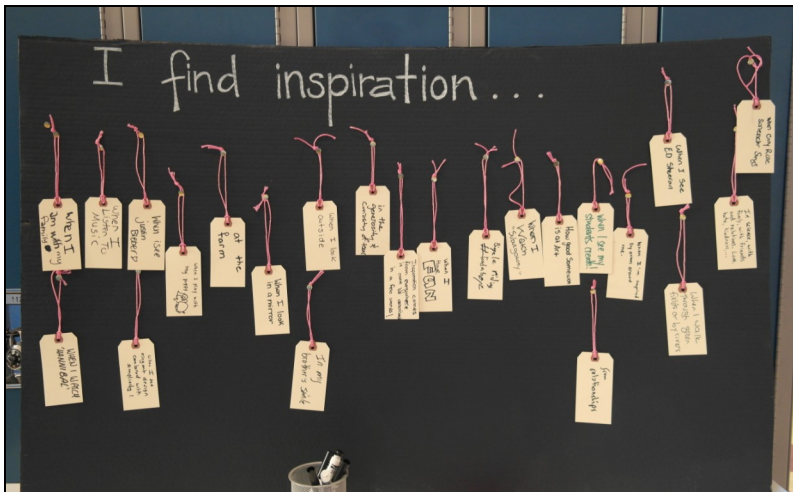
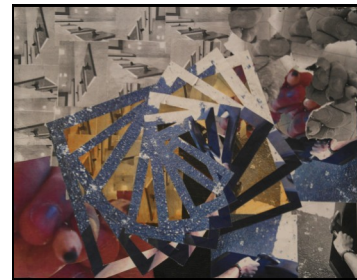
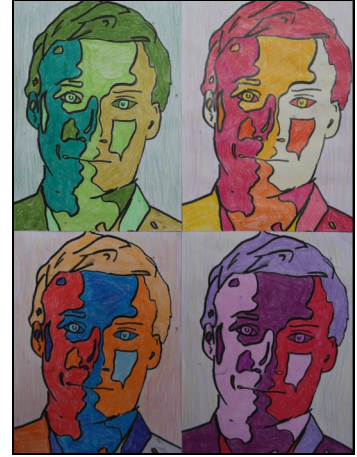


AN ART TEACHER'S INSPIRATION

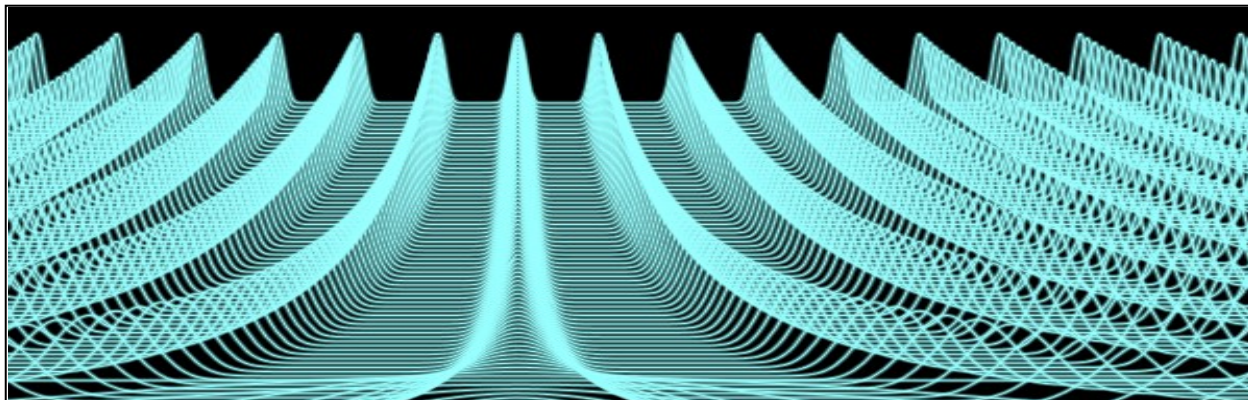


BY: MS. MISHKA SAWKA
Throughout the year I watch my students create. Sometimes they struggle, sometimes they triumph. Then the time of year comes to display this work for all to see. While choosing pieces and putting the displays together I hardly have time to really see each piece. But then when it's done and everything is in place I'm blown away by the talent and creativity in these students. I love what I do and I love that I get to share it on a night like this.

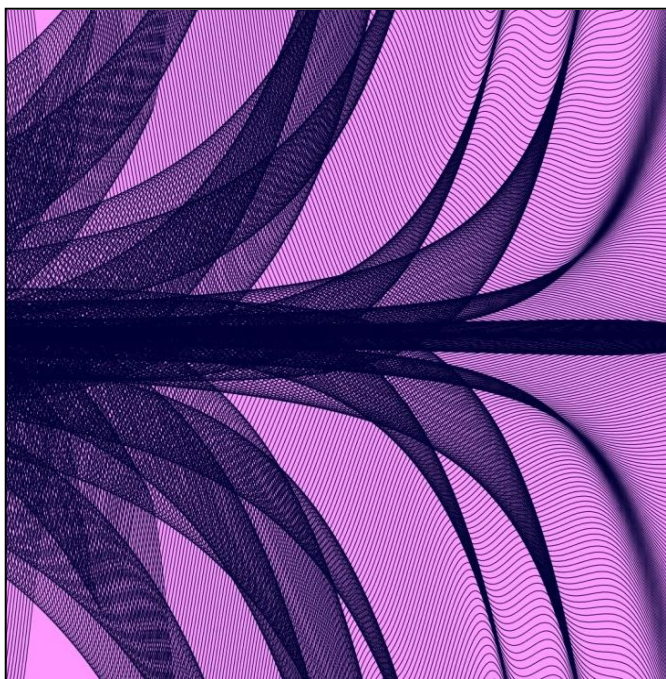
This year, my grade 12 class travelled to New York City. While visiting the Guggenheim Museum they participated in an interactive artwork and they wanted to do something similar during our show. Collectively they came up with the idea of inspiration and having people share where they find inspiration. The responses ranged from funny to sentimental to profound. I find inspiration in my classroom. I'm inspired by my students and seeing them create. I regularly stay after school and work through my own artistic challenges and when I'm stuck I seek feedback from my students. I would like to thank my students and congratulate them on helping to build such a creative environment.



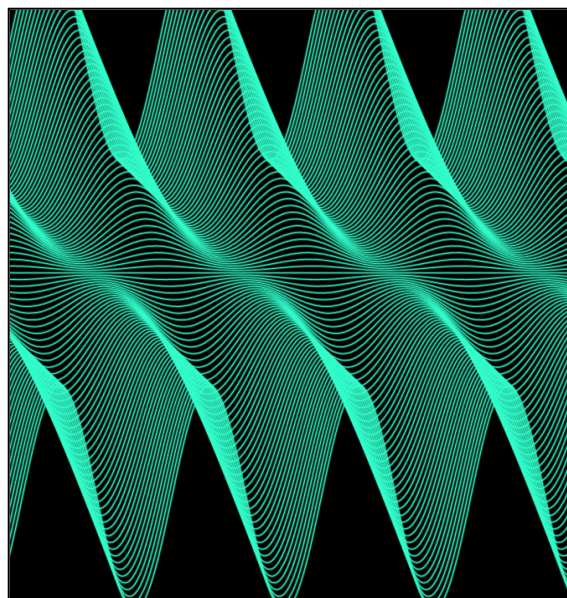
The Family of Curves and Derivatives Project encouraged Grade 12 Calculus students to explore the relationship between mathematics and art by creating beautiful works of mathematical art using dynamic geometry software called GeoGebra. Some student generated artworks (or "mathworks") are featured here.



"UPSIDE DOWN STAPLES" BY NICOLAAS BLOEMAN



"PIERCE" BY CHRISTOPHER LEO



"WATER WORKS" BY KATIE WATERS

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