

'21 February Newsletter

HSArts February to March Newsletter

March 3 2021

There's still time to name the HSArts Newsletter! Do you have a unique idea? Send it in! We will continue to accept submissions until a name is chosen.

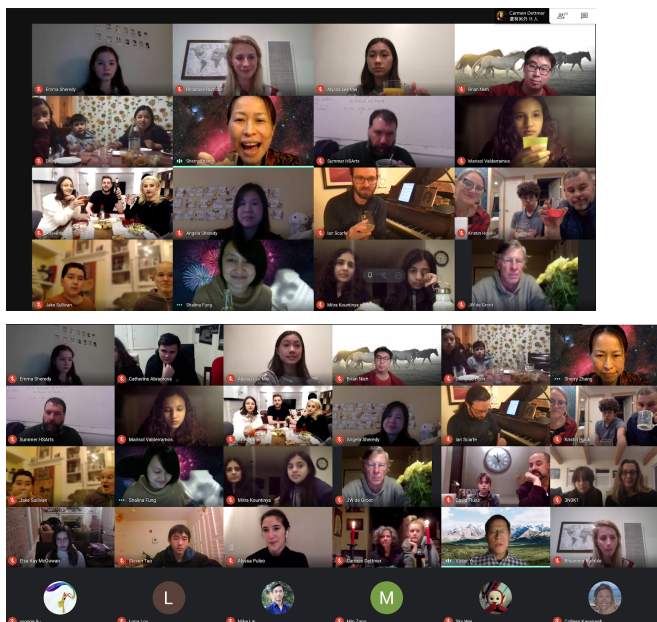
Email your ideas to brian.nieh@hsarts.org

HSArts Celebrates Chinese New Year

On Lunar New Year's Eve, Thursday February 11, our HSArts family celebrated the Chinese New Year. Our kitchen staff created a large selection of traditional New Year dishes and made boxed dinners for all to enjoy! Many of our students and their families stopped by the school to pick up their special New Year meals.



Later in the evening, we all gathered online to celebrate the New Year together. Dozens of families, teachers and staff were at the virtual dinner. As we feasted on spring rolls and rice pudding, we made toasts to everyone's good health and fortune in the Year of the Ox. To end the evening, we enjoyed a beautiful piano performance of Liszt's Un Sospiro by our new piano and vocal instructor, Mr. Ian Scarfe. Bravo!



Thank you to everyone who participated in this wonderful event. We are grateful to have these virtual spaces where we can remain creatively connected during these challenging times. Happy Year of the Ox!

Virtual Open House

To share the creative spirit of HSArts with prospective families, we are hosting Virtual Open Houses on March 4 and April 7, starting at 7:00 pm.

- Meet our Head of School, Dr. Sherry Zhang
- Learn about our unique visual and performing arts program and college-prep curriculum
- Discover how we've adapted to the safety protocols now in place due to COVID-19
- Find out why HSArts is the perfect fit for your child, your friends and family!

We hope you'll encourage your friends to join us at our Open House. Please [register here](#).

Special Note:

Due to current circumstances brought on by the pandemic, late applications will be considered where space is available. Contact [Admissions](#) with questions or to begin the application process.

Academic Update: High School English

Our ninth and tenth grade students have been honing their creative writing skills in English class! After reading *The Fellowship of the Ring* by J.R.R. Tolkien, students began working on a very inventive assignment. They created journal entries, speeches, and letters written from the perspective of one of the main characters from *The Fellowship of the Ring*. Our young writers utilized vivid imagery and figurative language to bring their creations to life. Below is an excerpt from a student's speech, which was written from the perspective of the loyal hobbit, Samwise Gamgee. You can read more student creations on our Creation Wall bulletin board upstairs!

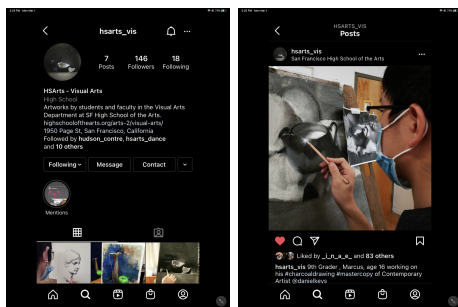
*Sam's account to the younguns of the Shire. Based on: Tolkien, J. R. R. *The Fellowship of the Ring*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1994, p.81

"One night on our trip we had been hiding off the side of the road to avoid a nasty black rider when we heard the low singing of a group of travelers. Mr. Frodo identified the singing as elfish music that was moving closer to us. It was a low and humming chant that reminded me nothing of the shire songs; it was more of a slow, wide, unstoppable river that sent a subtle vibration through my body and my head cleared. As the group passed us, they looked as if they were floating on the light autumn air. Their skin was gleaming from the luminous moon, a pearl-like texture and glow. My heart was jumping around in my chest and my eyes were too astonished to blink..."

Let us know if you're interested in reading more of this or other student works!

Introducing our New Visual Arts Instagram account: [@HSArts_vis](https://www.instagram.com/hsarts_vis)

Let by HSArts art teacher Mr. Kai, this account features student artwork from our Visual Arts Department. Check it out and show them your support!



Did you know? We're on Facebook, Instagram and Youtube. Find news and information, keep up to date on our events, and see our students in picture and video action! Follow us [@HSArtsSF](https://www.instagram.com/HSArtsSF). Remember to Like, Comment, Subscribe, and Share!

Looking Ahead

March 4	Virtual Open House at 7pm
March 19	Decision notices sent electronically after 4pm
March 24	Student Talent Show (tentative date)
March 26	Spring Arts Festival (tentative date)
March 26	Registration deadline 11:59pm PST
March 27 - April 4	Spring Break (No school)
April 7	Virtual Open House at 7pm

Student Resources:

Our teachers recommend the following extracurricular opportunities for our students. More to come in the future!

Middle and High School

JASNA Essay Contest - June 1, 2021

<http://jasna.org/programs/essay-contest/>

Bowseat Ocean Awareness - June 14, 2021

<https://bowseat.org/programs/ocean-awareness-contest/>

High School Only

Bill of Rights Institute, We the Students essay contest - April 15, 2021

<https://billofrightsinitiative.org/engage/students-programs-events/scholarship/>

American Foreign Services Association - April 5, 2021

<http://afsa.org/rules-and-guidelines>

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