

WAGNERWORLD

The Student Newspaper of Susan E. Wagner High School
Staten Island, New York

Issue I

November 2009

College Corner:

- **Wednesday Nov. 25:**
SmartStart You must have a 90+ average to be eligible. The info session is Pd. 4 in Auditorium B.
- **Monday Nov. 30:**
Mercy College Pd. 5 in Auditorium B.
- **Friday, December 4:**
St. Thomas Aquinas visits Wagner 5th period in the College Office
- **Saturday, December 5:**
Dec. SAT exam - Register at www.collegeboard.com. School code is 335403.
- **Saturday, December 12:**
Dec. ACT exam - Register at www.actstudent.org. School code is 335403.
- **Tuesday, December 15:**
Regular registration deadline for Jan. SAT - Register at www.collegeboard.com. School code is 335403.
- **Wednesday, December 30:**
Late deadline for Jan. SAT. There will be a late fee. School code is 335403.
- **Tuesday, January 5:**
Regular registration deadline for Feb. ACT - Register at www.actstudent.org. School code is 335403. If you get free or reduced lunch, you can register for free with a fee waiver, available in the College Office.

By: Regina Thomas

SENIOR SING 2010 VICTORY!

Congrats to Senior SING 2010! You put on an outstanding show. Your win was highly anticipated and well deserved.

The SING seniors worked extremely hard for three years, spending countless hours in school and talking endlessly about the upcoming shows. For the seniors it was their final performance and they were determined to win. The show was literary out of this world. It was set on a distant planet in outer space. The rulers of this planet were ruthless tyrants who enslaved their people and trapped their only daughter. Three regular students with a community project in mind were magically transported to the planet. The students learned that the princess of the Kingdom felt isolated on the planet and wanted desperately to travel to earth. The students worked hard to free the princess and along the way learned the art of friendship and gained compassion for others. The seniors won best script and ultimately stole the show. However the other grades worked very hard and put on amazing shows as well.

Sophmen SING was phenomenal. The lead roles were played by Nicole Williams, Tom Cobb, and, Bledar Maqellara. The story was centered around the television. The three characters were trapped in the television and learned valuable lessons about friendship as the tale proceeded. The production incorporated popular television shows such like American Idol and Hannah Montana. Renowned pop star Lady Gaga was featured as well. Hannah Montana played the villain in the story, trying her best to keep the kids in the television as long as possible. However Lady Gaga saw through Hannah Montana's selfish ploy and led the three friends to the exit, which was through the cable box. The story was entertaining and quite funny. The Sophmen chorus was enormous and very powerful and it was no surprise when the Sophmen won best chorus. The Sophmen won the award for best dancers as well. As stated by Grace Chamoun, "Even though we didn't win by title, we all know how amazing we were. We came so far, worked hard, and all put on phenomenal shows."

Junior SING 2010 put on a show that surpassed time with the help of their time machine. The nasally nerd, Marc Antony took us on an adventure back into history. He was accompanied by two of his friends; a self-absorbed jock and a ditsy fashionista. The three friends traveled back to ancient Egypt and met their match with Cleopatra and her minion. The friends completed three tasks and were given permission to leave the land of the Nile. However Cleopatra fell madly in love with Marc Anthony and he stayed behind as his friends left Egypt. The three friends formed a bond that could not be broken by an unexpected change of plans. In Ancient Egypt, the three tested the strength of their friendship, found true love, and ultimately put on an excellent show. At the end, they managed to receive an excellent grade for learning that friendship is one of the most treasured parts of life. The juniors had amazing sets and artwork; the viewers truly felt as if they were in ancient Egypt. Their hard work paid off when they won the award for best sign and best art.

By: Regina Thomas, Mylisa Nogra, Nelya Meystelman

The Tickertape Parade

The Wagner Marching Band had the honor of seeing our beloved Yankees up close and personal as they celebrated their 27th World Series championship. We witnessed the crazy flock of New Yorkers who awaited the Yankees as paper and confetti clouded the air. The people pulsed as the Yankees walked up onto their platform, many even cried. Yankee fans and anxious bystanders came out in support. It was no longer about just about honoring a baseball team; the people came to show their New York spirit. The Wagner Marching Band began to march and the crowd rose with pride. It was truly a day full of festivity.

For the New York Yankees it was a greatly anticipated win. The Yankees defeated Philadelphia Phillies 7-3. The Wagner Marching Band spent the entire week preparing their music for the parade in hopes that the Yankees would win the game. The Marching Band played the CBS Yankee theme song, New York, New York and The Hey Song that afternoon. Their efforts were well received by the New York crowds.

By: Nelya Meystelman

Steel Magnolias Review

Our talented drama program has performed many amazing shows under the instruction of Ms. Zerega and I entered our school's new black box theater with very high expectations for the production of *Steel Magnolias*.

On the day of the show, the excitement outside the theater was overwhelming. Teachers and students alike joined in the effort to support the theater program. Along with an authentic and professional looking set, the actors told the story of Shelby (Dorothy Ladyzhensky), a diabetic who longs for a child of her own. Shelby's mother M'Lynn (Courtney Manfredi) strongly opposes her dream, fearing for her daughters health. Truvy (Amber Andron/Michelle Herman) is the



owner of the nearby beauty salon where the story takes place. Quiser (Harley Pace-Rodriguez/Sarah Smith) and Clairee (Samantha Sallam/Caitlin Marino) are both supportive friends in the struggle. Annelle (Isabelle

Krysiak) is a newcomer to the salon but quickly becomes acquainted with the group. The play begins on the day of Shelby's wedding and ends on the day of her funeral. It

tells a tale of struggles of a diabetic and the way it affects the people in her life.

As I watched the play I grew to understand each character. With Shelby, I shared the heartache of diabetes and the joy of motherhood. Through Truvy's eyes I was able to see the optimism in every situation and through M'Lynn's, the nega-

tivity. Quiser brought humor and laughter to the story while Annelle brought innocence and a new perspective. Clairee offered a leveled headed and sympathetic opinion. The play is filled with truth and drama. At any given moment you could be laughing or crying but



without a doubt you will be mesmerized. The play was remarkable and truly reflects the abilities of our school's theater program.

By: Nelya Meystelman

Spanish Club

Bienvenidos al club de español! What is Spanish Club? We're definitely not just another excuse to put another extra-curricular activity on your student resume for colleges. We're an interactive club filled with great members that strive to make a difference within the community.

Do you need to do community service? We're the place to go to. Key Club is great if you want to focus primarily on completing service credit. Sometimes it feels like Spanish Club is the low-key version of Key Club. We do things

such as fund raising and walks for special causes. This Thanksgiving, we are going to adopt a child for the holiday. But we don't only do community service.

As the name suggests, Spanish Club is about all things Hispanic. Our members learn about the effects that the Spanish culture, traditions and language has had on the world. We educate one another about these things in a fashionable way. When special holidays come up, each member tries his or her best to come up with an activity that the school can be involved in to

learn about the significance of that holiday.

So come join Spanish Club! You'll be able to complete your community service credit, you'll make a lot of new friends and you'll have fun along the way. Not only do we help other people have fun, but we have fun ourselves during our times together – we play outrageous game and even make t-shirts for the club. There's no doubt that we're a great place to hang out at on Thursday afternoons.

By: Daniella Plaksiy

Wagner Sports Center

Welcome, Wagner Falcon fans, to Sports Corner. We hope to provide you each issue with an update on your Wagner Falcon sports teams. So, on to the business at hand! In a busy Fall schedule, we currently have 12 teams at play. The student athletes have been training and now they are in season and playing the games that count! Here are the updated results as of November 3, 2009:

The playoffs beckon for some of our teams but congratulations go out to ALL of our teams for representing themselves and Wagner with dignity and class. teams for representing themselves and Wagner with dignity and class.

By: Phineas T. Bluster

<u>TEAM</u>	<u>RECORD (WINS + LOSSES)</u>
Boys' Bowling	7-2
Girls' Bowling	5-4
Boys' Cross Country	no results published
Girls' Cross Country	no results published
Junior Varsity Football	1-8
Varsity Football	5-4
Girls' Golf	6-2
Boys' Soccer	10-2
Girls' Soccer	7-5
Girls' Swimming	2-4
Girls' Junior Varsity Volleyball	4-2
Girls' Varsity Volleyball	11-0

Council for Unity Week at Wagner

The week of 11/9-11/13 was Council for Unity at Wagner Week. Monday, November 9 saw a 3rd period assembly in the auditorium attended by over 400 students. Dino Johnson and Tayisha spoke to us, detailing some aspects of their lives including incarceration. Their sheering authenticity was raptly listened to by our students as both speakers then summed up their presentation by asking us to make GOOD DECISIONS in our lives.

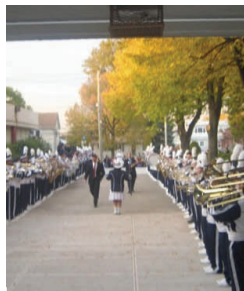
On Thursday, November 12, 21 students attended a YAP program at Sing Sing Prison in Ossining, New York. Students entered and were subjected to an extensive security search, walked through 3 cell blocks, an inmate shower room, ate lunch in an inmate cafeteria, walked the outer perimeter and then had a 2 hour session in the inmate auditorium with 8 incarcerated Council for Unity members who honestly shared how they came to

arrive at Sing Sing. These inmates are our brothers as fellow Council members. They didn't try to scare us 'straight.' They were trying to tell us to make good decisions and do the right thing. This was an extremely trip. Currently, students are corresponding with the inmates.

By: Phineas T. Bluster

High School Information Night!!

As some of us leave behind the safe haven of junior high school, we begin a new chapter of our lives called High School. This new realm, although full of complications and drama, is actually a place where we begin to define ourselves and become active members of the world around us.



This is a challenging time for eighth graders as they transition into a school they know very little about. Thankfully, our school has its own way of alleviating this burden through High School Information Night. This event took place on October 21st, where programs like Law and Politics and The Academy of Hospitality and Tourism recruited new members. Wagner's famous Marching Band also did a stunning job by welcoming new students with uplifting music as they entered the

building. The music continued into the hallway where the guitar ensemble performed. Overall, the event was a great success.



By: Kristina Lam

Poetry

Pale

By Ryan Curran

Trapped,
 Stuck abandoned in a desolate place,
 Left with nothing but a blank page,
 Empty seats and a packed stage,
 Red, blue, yellow, and black shades
 Confined with endless time
 No visions, only in the mind
 Will creativity be my longevity,
 Or will writer's block ruin my plot,
 And snow cover my footprints where I trot?
 I want to let the best of me overcome the rest
 of me
 I've conducted this perfect remedy of a recipe,
 And at the right time,
 I will let it unwind
 And entwine with my mind
 I will let it explode,
 And my thoughts will be exposed,
 With my guard soon to fold like thorns cut
 from a rose,
 And an array of colors will unfold,
 Splattering onto the blank canvas,
 You'd swear I planned this,
 With beauty no one could manage,
 No longer abandoned.

Back in the Old Town

By: Daniella Plaksiy
 Inspired by Nizar Qabbani's *In
 The Summer*

Back in the old town
 I thought I had a friend
 Whose hands I would never
 Let go.
 When distance separated
 Us, his kindness wavered and
 Eventually became a no-show.
 Through time I met another
 Whose soul was far more warm:
 His heart with mine became
 Inter(twin)ed
 His love within me swarmed.
 If I had gone to Paris
 And had spoken of my love,
 I fear the Seine would
 Rise from its banks and
 Seek you from above.

Untitled

By: Anonymous

Look, Listen, Hear-
 are my thoughts that reside within

If judgment was a person,
 How pretty would she be?
 With long blonde locks, a precious smile,
 and as spiteful as can be.
 With bitter words, and sinister company
 that never leave her side.
 A villain in disguise,
 A suit she wears rather well
 Oh, if judgment was a girl

Look , listen, Hear-

If failure was a person,
 How alluring would she be?
 Not only class clown, but
 also voted most likely not to succeed.
 She'd pout her lips
 And speak nothing but complaints,
 about how impossible everything seems.
 How nothing ever goes her way,
 how judgment got voted class queen.

Look, listen Hear-
 Are my thoughts that reside within

If sadness was a person
 To how many "cliques" would she belong
 To those who have no one to turn to,
 To those whose world's seem to be all
 wrong.
 A recluse, an introvert
 both describe her pretty well.
 Alone, abandoned
 Fighting misery without the company.

Hear.

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Advice Column

Have you ever felt down or unappreciated? Or just felt like you wanted to talk but no one was there to listen? Now you have the chance to express any problems or feelings you may be having. All you have to do is send out a simple e-mail. An account has been set up called AskSW@aol.com. This is an account created to help those that want advice, help or information on anything that they may need.

As you all know our school is huge and has many activities and clubs. Many of you could be having problems that you do not have time to talk about. That is why I have created this account so that on your own time while being online, visiting your social networks you can send me an e-mail and I would be happy to help you with any problems you may be having. The topics can include school or family related issues and can be anonymous. You can give yourself a name/title such as "Person That Needs Help". Some will be published but if you do not want your problem to be published just mention it in the e-mail. I'm looking forward to helping out all of you out there! Don't be shy! If you don't know how to explain your problem, here's a problem that one of my friends had:

"Dear SW,

I am a very interactive and outgoing person. Because of this, I join many school activities and clubs. Such as SING, dance team, international club, and volleyball. I've come to realize that all of this is piling up on my shoulders and my schoolwork is slacking a bit. How can I balance all of these things while dealing with my schoolwork? Please help!

-Outgoing Slacker

Dear Outgoing Slacker,

It's great to be involved in many things, but the most important thing is to keep everything balanced. If an activity is holding you back, you should either quit or find another time to do it. Remember schoolwork and studies come first before anything else. But if you still want to do all of your activities, you can keep a personal schedule where you plan out your activities day by day. I personally think this is one to many activities to be apart of but if you can manage your time wisely, everything will work out! If not you might have to reconsider one of the activities. Good luck!

-SW"

By: Anonymous

Wagner Playlist

The Top Ten Songs on the Susan E. Wagner Charts

1. PAPARAZZI- Lady Gaga
2. PARTY IN THE USA - Miley Cyrus
3. KNOCK YOU DOWN- Keri Hilson
4. RUN THIS TOWN- Jay-Z/ Rhianna/ Kanye West
5. DOWN- Jay Sean
6. GOOD GIRLS GO BAD- Cobra Starship
7. USE SOMEBODY- Kings of Leon
8. FALLIN FOR YOU- Colbie Caillat
9. HOTEL ROOM SERVICE- Pitbull
10. ONE TIME- Justin Bieber

Thanks to the many people who participated in this survey. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions for the upcoming WAGNER PLAYLIST email me at ashsalquin@aol.com.

By: Ashley Quinones

-WagnerWorld-

This year the Wagner World staff hopes to reinvent the school newspaper with the central focus being Wagner and all of its clubs, teams, shows, activities, and people. We are always looking for new members and support. We hope to include a calendar of events, reviews of all the major productions, depart highlights and much more in the upcoming issues. The goal of Wagner World is give the readers a detailed overview of everything that goes on in Susan E. Wagner High School. Our goal cannot be accomplished without your help. If anyone wishes to join the Wagner World staff they can consult Mr. Kane or send an e-mail to wagnerworld@ymail.com. Thank You!