



# Blake Blue Note

February/March 2010

*Please share this issue with your spouse and students*

## From the President

*Monthly Message from your PTSA President*

Robina Barlow

The first semester has come to an end and the students have a second chance at maintaining or improving grades. This semester most seniors anxiously await news about their college acceptances, juniors are gearing up for the SAT or the ACT. Many sophomores are in the middle of their first AP classes, and freshman now know that either they are successful high school students, or they have to make a few changes to get there. Parents, as always are expected to play a supporting role in student success. The PTSA wants the best for all students.

Last month The PTSA was fortunate to have Mr. Charles Harper, the Head of the Blake Security Team, and Officer Joe Lowery, the Blake EFO (Educational Facility Officer) speak to parents at the PTSA meeting. We learned that student behavior in the classroom needs improving, that incidents of theft have decreased, that no one, boy or girl, should send inappropriate pictures via cell phone, lest they tempt legal trouble. They spoke of Blake's Peer Mediation Group, for conflict resolution, and in cases of complex conflicts, there is staff mediation. Blake does not experience an inordinate amount of conflict, compared to other schools. Sometimes conflicts occur in the community

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## Principal's Corner

Carole C. Goodman

The earthquake in Haiti, coupled with the extremely difficult economic times locally, are a dire reality check and a reminder of how fortunate some of us are while others truly are suffering. As a school community we have many coordinated efforts to provide supports to Haiti. I am very proud of how we have rallied in the past, particularly for Hurricane Katrina relief and Pennies for Patients and am sure we will rise to the occasion as we have before.

For our Blake families, who are significantly impacted by the economic times, please know that if you need financial support for school issues for your child; contact your child's counselor, administrator or me. Your situation will be dealt with discreetly and we will do our best to provide support whenever possible.

If you are a parent of a senior, you are probably aware that the Blake HS Class of 2010 is the very first graduation in MCPS. This is a mixed blessing as it means there is zero wiggle-room for students whose graduation status may come down to the wire. In previous years, students on the cusp had the opportunity to re-write a paper, re-take a test and teachers bent over backwards to give them every opportunity to finish up so they could graduate and walk with their class. Senior exams end May 27 and graduation rehearsal is Friday, May 28, prior to the Memorial Day holiday on Monday, May 31, and graduation is 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 1, at DAR Constitution Hall.

What this means is that students must do everything to ensure they have met all requirements prior to May 28. Each year I have the heartbreaking situation of telling students who are a half or one credit short that they

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**Message from your PTSA President - continued from page 1**

and spill over at school, but if the security staff is aware, they will do what they can to avert such instances. Parents are asked to talk to their children about how they respond to conflict, but know that they can contact security if they have any concerns.

Social networking sites, such as Facebook, My Space and Twitter, were mentioned. The thought is that either students are on Facebook, or are going to be on Facebook. The best that the parents can do is to ask your student to show you their Facebook page periodically, to make certain that they are not doing anything that could potentially cause them problems.

On February 16, a speaker on driving safety, from I Drive Smart will speak at the PTSA meeting, to be held at 7:00 p.m., in the Media Center. Plan to attend, if you can.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Used Book and Media Sale will be held on the weekend of February 19-21, at the Cloverly Shopping Center. Please see the article later in this newsletter for more details. Attending the sale is an excellent way for students, their families and friends to find cheap books and videos, and support Blake, all at a convenient location. There will be Poetry readings, too.

The Montgomery County Board of Education has officially designated February as African American History Month. Blake students have helped to organize school programs in the past. This year, the school is planning something new; a Symposium on the morning of February 10, for all students of Blake. Speakers who have been involved in civil rights or who are African American professionals in various areas of business; legal, financial, arts, sports, entertainment, and others, have been asked to participate. Students will move through classes of 4 speakers that morning. Ask your student about their experience.

We are planning a lunch time meeting for Student PTSA members for February 25. Students will have a chance to hear what is going on with the PTSA and dialogue with members of the PTSA leadership team. Students who are not currently members will have an opportunity to join the PTSA for \$5.00, if parents are members. Let your child know if you paid for your student's membership. They will also receive a notice from the PTSA. Thank you PTSA members, for your support of our efforts; educational, social, outreach, and fundraising.

One of the subjects raised recently is transportation for students who cannot get to some of the special extra-curricular activities in the evening. We'd like suggestions

on what can be done, or what we can all do to help. Your presence at meetings, contributions (verbal and monetary), and suggestions are welcome.

We all know what a devastating effect the earthquakes have had on Haiti, this past month. The school is devising a plan to contribute to the relief, and the PTSA will support that effort. Many of our members have made their own personal contributions to various relief organizations involved in assisting in Haiti. Please continue to be generous. We are so fortunate, lest we forget.

After Prom (May 15) will occur again this year at Dave and Busters, immediately following the prom (May 14), which will be held, for the second year at University of Maryland Alumni Center, College Park. The After Prom Committee is looking at the feasibility of getting transportation between the Prom and After Prom. Please let our After Prom committee know if you would like transportation to be offered. Send a message to one of the After Prom co-chairs; Maura McMullens at McMullens2@verizon.net or Diane Bush at dbush10892@verizon.net.

The After Prom Committee consists of mostly parents of Blake seniors. Without a lot of support and help by junior, sophomore, and freshman parents, the future of the After Prom could be in jeopardy, if parents of younger students cannot help. There will need to be a new Chair, or co-Chair next year, but more importantly, the various "jobs" need to be learned this year. After Prom is an event for juniors and seniors, and their Prom dates. It is only one night, but the preparations occur all school year. Parents help to sell pizza every Tuesday, immediately after school, there are dine-in/dine-out nights at restaurants, which give a percentage of their proceeds to the committee, and there are meetings, mailings, decorations, etc. that are needed, as well as parent help by committee members on the night of after prom, in May.

Please do your part to keep this wonderful tradition going. The After Prom Committee will be sending out letters soon asking for your support. "Pay it Forward", so that your students can have a wonderful After Prom experience when they are in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade, too. And of course, as always, we ask for everyone's support. There will be a meeting in March to discuss Prom and After Prom 2011. Please submit your suggestions to the PTSA, via [president@blakeptsa.org](mailto:president@blakeptsa.org). Stay tuned for more information via Eubiemail.

Blake has a Student Assistance Program to help students

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may not walk with their class. This is not negotiable as at graduation I must publicly declare to the member of the Board of Education that all graduates have met the requirements to receive a diploma for the State of Maryland. Mr. Tyrell and counselors will be working closely with students, parents and teachers to make sure every member of the Blake High School Class of 2010 is a proud graduate on June 1.

In the next few weeks students in grades 9, 10 and 11 will be asked to register for their course selections for next year. It is critical that students make decisions very carefully as we no longer have the luxury of allowing students to change their minds on their course selections after they register for next year. Our staffing will be extremely tight, as grant staffing has ended, signature program staffing has been reduced, and we anticipate even tighter staffing due to the economic realities. This will be very different from previous years where we were able to offer some high interest courses when enrollment was not necessarily high enough to run the course. We will be making very difficult decisions and we will not be able to offer under-enrolled courses. Staff is assigned (and hired) on the basis of student course selection; we cannot afford to have students change their minds once they have chosen courses. We will, of course, always ensure students do not get shut out of honors or AP classes but elective courses must be selected with great care.

I am extremely concerned about maintaining the integrity of our signature program and academies and need to ensure we are able to keep key staff in key positions. Reading between the lines, if your child has an invested interest in a particular program, this is not the year to opt out of that program. Please understand that staffing comes in categories, but there is no distinction in teachers designated for academic core classes (math, English, social studies, science), or other electives (foreign language, technology, physical education, etc. or arts electives -- visual arts, theater, dance, music, etc.) Staffing and courses offered are based exclusively on student course selection so please work with your children to ensure they make responsible choices.

In order to ensure students make informed decisions, we will host an electives fair during an extended lunch period to allow students to get a sense of the many elective classes we offer at Blake. The intent is to model it after our NEC Open House, where prospective 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their

families get a sense of what we offer. We want our students to make informed decisions that are aligned with their academy affiliation but also serve to augment a rich and well-rounded high school experience for them. We did this for the first time last year and feedback was extremely positive.

The recent visits of 2009 Blake graduates at the end of their first semester of college, was extremely rewarding as virtually all reported they were doing well both academically and socially. I was very pleased by student reports that they felt Blake had prepared them well for college. So the start of a new semester for our current students is the perfect time to remind them of the importance of school success. For students who have done well academically, and are pleased with their progress, they are commended and need to continue to do well. For students who may have been disappointed in their first semester grades, the new semester is particularly important. Semester grades are what appear on transcripts that are sent to colleges, not marking period grades. It is very important for students to take those semester grades seriously. Academic success is something to be proud of and strive for. We continue to praise and recognize students who are reaching and exceeding their potential academically through hard work and perseverance.

I know I say this constantly, but there are many resource supports available to assist students who need academic support, if they will take advantage of the opportunities. Our one-lunch schedule is designed to allow for maximum teacher availability when students need assistance. Teachers let their students know what days and times during the lunch period they are available. The number of teachers who routinely forgo their own lunchtime to be available to assist students amazes me. All students need to do is ask when they need help. Another support is the National Honor Society tutors who are also available during lunchtime. Students may go to room B223 for help, and NHS tutors are assigned to work with students based on the subjects in which they need support. Students do not have a valid excuse if they say they can't get help or make up missing work. Our teachers and student leaders are available and eager to get and keep students on track for academic success.

As a school, we really need assistance from our parent

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community in following rules and helping us reinforce this to students. Our goal is always to have a safe, secure and respectful environment where all students can learn and thrive. We are looking at preemptive efforts and student support and modeling of appropriate behaviors including things as simple as getting to class on time. We will also pursue rewards for students for going above and beyond, which so many of them do when they demonstrate elements of good citizenship and sometimes simple kindness. Somewhere along the line some of our students have not mastered the social skills that will help them in all aspects of their lives and we need to help guide and encourage them.

One of the ways parents can assist is by modeling and respecting rules and policies. An example is that the entrance on Johnson Road is strictly for staff in the morning and is a huge safety issue as buses are exiting and staff is entering to access the staff parking lot. There are several signs that say "No stopping at anytime" and "Staff only 6:30 to 7:30 a.m." yet every morning drivers choose to ignore these signs and enter to drop off students. I have seen many near misses between cars, busses and student pedestrians, particularly with u-turns, and I am very concerned that this is a serious accident waiting to happen. The student drop-off is through the student parking lot. It may not always be the most convenient, but it is the designated and safest route for everyone.

There are several other issues along the same lines. The main office secretaries are often put in an uncomfortable position when parents insist they need to see their child, or need to give them their lunch, clothing, homework, equipment, etc. It is a significant disruption to call students out of class for non-emergency situations. There are days when secretaries are holding up to several dozen lunches that students forgot, in addition to gym bags full of sporting equipments, projects, etc. Certainly everyone understands that occasionally a student forgets something important and parents respond to that frantic call, but in some cases it is on an almost daily basis and is a problem. We certainly want to be sure we respond and are helpful in emergency situations but need your support in minimizing interruptions that could be avoided.

We spend a great deal of time dealing with lost or stolen cell phones or iPods. In the majority of cases,

they are items left unattended and students are shocked when their belongings disappear. I wish it wasn't this way, but phones, iPods, etc. are tempting items for thieves, and students more often than not make it convenient for their belongings to be taken. Please reinforce to your children that if they bring valuable items to school, it is their responsibility to ensure they are secured and to not make themselves vulnerable to unscrupulous and criminal behaviors of other students.

An additional issue also has to do with cell phones. Students are not allowed to use cell phones during the school day, including at lunchtime; they are to be off and out of sight. This is MCPS policy. There is constant abuse by students, sometimes as blatant as walking down the hall chatting on their phone. At one point we had parents claim the phones of rule offenders, but recognize what a major inconvenience that is for parents. However, there are many times when students are on their cell phone with their parents during the school day, which is a blatant violation of the MCPS policy and puts us in a very uncomfortable position. Please help us by following and modeling the rules we need students to follow.

On a very positive note, it is extremely rewarding to see the large numbers of students, parents and community members who are attending our music, dance, drama productions, athletic and special events. To me, the test of a successful school and its programs is when parents and community members come to activities and events at the school when their own children are not participants, and when students come to support their friends. This active participation is how we have established and found our own niche in a community already rich in the traditions of the surrounding high schools. Bring your friends, spread the word; great things are happening at Blake High School!

We are looking forward to a positive and productive second semester at Blake High School. Let's hope for a mild and event-free winter.



who are having trouble in their lives. If you know of a student and are concerned about their mental or emotional health, or you suspect that they are having problems with drugs, please look for a Blake Student Assistance Program form, outside of the Counseling Center. You can also find a form on the PTSA website, under Other Resources for Students and Parents. There are two forms; one for students to fill out, and another for adults. They can be submitted to the counseling office.

Have a wonderful February and March. Hug your students. Tell them you love them (advice from a counselor.) Good luck to your students, this semester. I will conclude with a quote from a wise and humble woman:

Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world. – Harriet Tubman

We all have the ability to change the world, one student at a time.

[Blakeptsapresident@gmail.com](mailto:Blakeptsapresident@gmail.com)

### Instrumental Music Events

The time is fast approaching for the annual Swing Night at Blake High School featuring our very own “Eubie Blake” Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Mr. Brian Damron. On Friday, March 19, 2010, at 8:00PM: the Blake HS cafeteria will be transformed into a Jazz Club and all are invited to attend this great event. The night will be filled with music, dancing, food and fun. This year’s selections will include the music of Dizzy Gillespie, Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Duke Ellington, Frank Sinatra, and so much more. A wonderful Italian dinner and beverages is included in the price of admission. Dancing is always welcome so bring all of your friends. Tickets are now on sale for \$25 per person. This event does sell out, so order your tickets early. Tickets can be purchased before or after school in the music office or by contacting any member of the Jazz Ensemble or the director. Checks should be made out to Blake Music Boosters. All proceeds for this benefit event will go to help purchase new costumes, music, supplies and equipment for the Instrumental Music Department. See Mr. Damron if you have any questions: 301-879-1339 (or) [damron@blakemusic.org](mailto:damron@blakemusic.org).



### Student Service Learning (SSL) Notes Give a Little Time...Make a Big Difference

#### **Students MEET REAL NEED and ACHIEVE CURRICULAR OBJECTIVES.**

- Participate in school-sponsored clubs and organizations that promote service.
- Consider service activities in celebration of President’s Day, February 15, 2010.
- Get involved in service-learning activities on the afternoons of “Early Release” days. (Like Friday, February 26, 2010--- coming up!)
- Remember: SSL is a state graduation requirement just like any other...It must be completed in order for students to graduate from Montgomery County Schools.
- Spring Break at the end of March is a good time to get involved in service. Consider all opportunities to *learn* about real need and yourself as well as *earn* SSL hours toward the state graduation requirement.
- Students who have met the graduation requirement of 75 hours by the first Friday in April of a middle school year will be awarded the Superintendent’s SSL Award. This year, due to the spring break, documentation of service is due to the SSL coordinator by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in April (4-9-10).
- Seniors who have documented 260 or more SSL hours by the first Friday in April will be awarded a Certificate of Meritorious Service. This year due to the spring break documentation for this award is due to the SSL coordinator by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in April.
- Middle School students enrolled in Grade 6 science, Grade 7 English, and Grade 8 social studies will have opportunities to engage in service-learning activities during the instructional day. Verification of service in these courses is required using MCPS Form 560-51, *Student Service Learning Activity Verification*.
- When you think about service for which SSL hours are awarded think: nonprofit, tax exempt, organization, public place, secular in nature, adult supervision (not a parent), meeting a real need!
- Find meaningful, high quality service-learning opportunities by searching [www.mcpsssl.org](http://www.mcpsssl.org).

## COUNSELING DEPARTMENT NEWS:

Registration for 2010-2011 course offerings begins the week of February 8<sup>th</sup>. Counselors will be meeting with all 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> graders during English classes to discuss courses and answer any questions. Cards are due back signed by a parent/ guardian no later than February 26<sup>th</sup> to the student's counselor.

**ACT-SO** - The Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO) is a major youth initiative of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Founded in 1978, by the renowned author and journalist, Vernon Jarrett, ACT-SO provides a forum through which African American youth demonstrate academic, artistic and scientific prowess and expertise. Categories of the competition are:

Science: Biology/Microbiology, Chemistry/Biochemistry, Computer Science, Earth and Space Sciences, Engineering, Mathematics, Medicine and Health, Physics

Humanities: Music Composition, Original Essay, Playwriting, Poetry

Performing Arts: Dance, Dramatics, Music Instrumental/Classical, Music Instrumental/Contemporary, Music Vocal/Classical, Music Vocal/Contemporary, Oratory

Visual Arts: Architecture, Drawing, Filmmaking, Painting, Photography, Sculpture

Business: Entrepreneurship

The competition is on **Sunday, April 18, 2010** from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Applications are due **February 26, 2009**. Please contact the Blake High School ACT-SO liaison, Bernadette White, by email [Bernadette.White@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Bernadette.White@mcpsmd.org) or 301-879-1310, with questions or for more information. [www.montgomerycollege.edu/actso](http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/actso)

**Upcoming**: Advanced Placement exam registration will begin on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Bernadette White (Resource Counselor and Mr. Joe DuBoyce (Assistant Principal) will be meeting with students to discuss the registration process.



### Registration for Online summer courses!

The early registration "opening" date has been postponed until a final decision on start dates for online summer courses is approved—it may open today, tomorrow, or a week from now. Please check the following link to confirm when registration is open:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/onlinelearning/enroll.shtm>

### **MCPS Online courses being offered this summer:**

MCPS Comprehensive Health and Wellness (.5 credit, three week course, \$310)

MCPS Personal Finance (.5 credit, three week course, \$310)

MCPS Foundations of Technology (1.0 credit, six week course, \$620)

Students interested in taking one or more of these online courses will need to do the following:

1. Work with their school counselor to select a course/courses
2. Complete and print the online registration form (This form can be found at: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/onlinelearning/enroll.shtm>)
3. Return the printed form, with necessary signatures *and* tuition payment to MCPS Student eLearning, **2096 Gaither Rd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20850** or by fax: 301-670-8235)

### **MVS Online courses being offered this summer:**

MCPS has approved several AP courses that students can take during the school year or summer. For more information on which courses are approved courses or how to register, go to:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/onlinelearning/mvs.shtm>

### **Timeline of Important eLearning Dates:**

February 26: Early summer registration closes for MCPS courses

April 5: Registration opens for MVS summer and fall AP courses

April 29: Registration closes for MVS summer and fall AP courses

May 4: Registration re-opens for MCPS online summer courses

May 28: Registration closes for MCPS online summer courses

If you have any questions, please contact the following:

Online student services, course enrollment information: [abbottgregory047@gmail.com](mailto:abbottgregory047@gmail.com)

Online teacher services, professional development: [Lynn.M.Wiegand@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Lynn.M.Wiegand@mcpsmd.org)

General program information: [Patrick.Thompson@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Patrick.Thompson@mcpsmd.org)

## COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER NEWS:

**NIST SUMMER INTERNSHIP** - Deadline for applications: **February 10, 2010** - The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is offering a new Summer Internship Program for High School students. This program is aimed at high achieving students with strong backgrounds in engineering, sciences (especially chemistry and physics) or computer science/IT. Applications are being accepted through February 10 and can be found at [nist.gov/director/civil/ship](http://nist.gov/director/civil/ship).

- 1) This is open to current juniors and seniors.
- 2) Students must be U.S. citizens for this internship.
- 3) Students will earn SSL hours for the internship (6 weeks x 40 hours/week).
- 4) Students should have some advanced coursework in their area of interest.
- 5) Selected interns will be matched with labs/projects based on their background coursework and interest.
- 6) The computer science intern requires programming skills comparable to C++ or JAVA.

Anita O'Neill, K-12 Science and Engineering Supervisor  
Montgomery County Public Schools  
850 Hungerford Drive, Room 253  
Rockville, MD 20850  
(301) 279-3421  
(301) 279-3153 (fax)

**COLLEGE GOAL SUNDAY** - **February 14, 2010** from 2-4 pm (snow date: Feb. 21) – If you missed Blake's Financial Aid Workshop, here's an opportunity to get hands-on help with the FAFSA in a computer lab setting. This annual event is held at the Montgomery College Takoma Park campus in Silver Spring. Financial aid volunteers from area colleges volunteer their time to individually help families complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Bring your 2008 or 2009 tax returns or W-2 forms, proof of residency (alien registration number) and your FAFSA PIN number for assistance ([www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)).

**REMEMBER:** All seniors should complete the FAFSA to be considered for federal or state student aid beginning January 1, 2010. Be sure to submit before March 1st to be considered for Maryland state aid! Some colleges request that the FAFSA be submitted before March 1st, so be aware of your colleges' financial aid deadlines.

**HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES RECRUITING LOCALLY** - Remaining HBCUs that are sponsoring on-the-spot evening admission/scholarship events in Montgomery County. The schedule is as follows:

- 2/11/10 Bowie State University @ J.F. Kennedy HS
- 2/17/10 UNCF/NAACP/MCPS College Fair @ Richard Montgomery HS
- 3/10/10 Coppin State University @ Northwood HS

Contact your Counselor or Career Center Coordinator for more information (301-879-1324). The high school hosting the event will want to know who to expect from Blake H.S. Typically, these evening events begin at 6:00 pm with a presentation from the admissions rep, followed by individual interviews (first come/first served). Students must be prepared with a completed application, transcript and test scores in hand and ready to interview with the admissions representative. Application fees are waived for participants.

**BANK OF AMERICA - STUDENT LEADERS PROGRAM** - Deadline: **February 17, 2010**. H.S. juniors or seniors strong in leadership who have demonstrated interest in tackling the crucial issues facing communities today should consider applying for this paid eight-week internship for the summer of 2010. Bank of America Student Leaders Program is a non-profit organization that addresses the concerns in your community. Gain hands-on learning & valuable insights into how community organizations work. Apply online: [www.bankofamerica.com/foundation](http://www.bankofamerica.com/foundation). Questions: 202-442-3925 or [theresa.seighman@bankofamerica.com](mailto:theresa.seighman@bankofamerica.com).

**PAID SUMMER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING APPRENTICE PROGRAM** - Deadline for applications: **February 26, 2010** - Sponsored by the Army Medical Research & Material Command and George Washington University, this program is looking for academically talented high school students, age 16 years or older who have an interest in science & math (graduating H.S. seniors included). The very selective program offers hands-on experience in engineering research labs for an eight-week period during the summer of 2010. Dates: June 21-August 13, 2010. Apply online at: [www.usaeop.com](http://www.usaeop.com) (transcript must be mailed).

**MONTGOMERY COLLEGE offers ACCUPLACER TEST at BLAKE HS** – **Friday, February 26, 2010, 7:30 – 10:00 am** (MCPS half day) Seniors who wish to apply to MC should pick up an application from the Career Center and submit it to Mrs. Moore for an application fee waiver **prior to Feb. 16, 2010**. These students will be scheduled to take the MC placement test (Accuplacer) on Feb. 26 in one of the Blake computer labs. If a student has already mailed their MC application to the admissions office, they will not be able to take advantage of the fee waiver, but can register to take the Accuplacer at Blake. See Mrs. Moore to sign up for the test (only 60 seats are available on Feb. 26).

### COLLEGE FAIRS IN MARCH:

**JESUIT COLLEGE NIGHT IN MARYLAND** - **March 11, 2010, 7-9 pm** - Learn about the tradition, diversity and the distinction of 18 of the nation's Jesuit colleges: Boston College (MA), College of the Holy Cross (MA), Fairfield University (CT), Georgetown University (DC), Gonzaga University (WA), John Carroll University (OH), LeMoyné College (NY), Loyola College (MD), Loyola University Chicago (IL), Loyola University New Orleans (LA), St. Joseph's University (PA), St. Louis University (MO), St. Peter's College (NJ), Spring Hill College (AL), University of San Francisco (CA), University of Scranton (PA), Wheeling Jesuit College (WV) and

Xavier University (OH). Location: Georgetown Prep School, Hanley Athletic Center, 10900 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD. For more info: 410-617-5012

**VETERINARY MEDICAL COLLEGE CAREER FAIR & INFORMATION SESSIONS** - **March 14, 2010**, 2:00-5:00 p.m., Westin Alexandria, 400 Courthouse Square, Alexandria, VA 22314 - Interested in the career of veterinary medicine? Want to see what it takes to be a vet? Make plans to attend this event, which is open to the public and absolutely free! Pre-register at: <http://www.aavmc.org/DVM>.

**HISPANIC YOUTH SYMPOSIUM at TOWSON UNIVERSITY (MD) – June 23 – 26 2010** – Deadline for applications: **March 31, 2010**. Consider applying NOW to be part of the Latino Network. Spend 4 days and 3 nights on a college campus, learn how to pay and apply for college, meet college representatives and compete for scholarships. Eligibility: Be a sophomore or junior in the fall of 2010, minimum cumulative GPA 2.5 and a recommendation from a counselor or teacher. Online registration: [www.hispanicyouth.org](http://www.hispanicyouth.org).

**MARYLAND GUARANTEED ACCESS GRANT - Deadline: March 1, 2010** - Seniors who have significant financial need should apply for this Maryland grant that may cover up to \$13,700 of full-time college tuition. Income limits are posted on the MHEC website under the Howard P. Rawlings GA Grant: [www.mhec.state.md.us/financialaid/](http://www.mhec.state.md.us/financialaid/). Student must enroll in a 2 or 4 yr college in Maryland, minimum cumulative high school GPA requirement is 2.5 and a completed FAFSA form ([www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)) in addition to the Guaranteed Access Grant application must be submitted by March 1, 2010 .

**DELEGATE & SENATORIAL LEGISLATIVE SCHOLARSHIPS** - Deadlines vary (**usually March 1<sup>st</sup>**) - Contact senator or delegate directly, as scholarship criteria and award amounts vary. If you do not know your senator or delegate, refer to [www.mlis.state.md.us](http://www.mlis.state.md.us) or call 1-800-492-7122 to find out your legislative district. H. S. seniors who plan to enroll in a 2 or 4 yr college or private career school in Maryland (or a college in the Academic Common Market) may apply. Student/parent must complete the FAFSA by 3/1/2010 and contact their state senator or delegate for the application and eligibility criteria. Students should have some demonstrated financial need.

**AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE PROGRAM - June 20-26, 2010**, McDaniel College, Westminster ( MD), Deadline for applications: **May 1, 2010**- The American Legion is sponsoring their annual summer residential program for current H.S. junior boys, called Boys State. The program emphasizes the necessity of participation as a citizen in the government process to insure continuing freedoms and rights. It is a week of learning & group participation where students are required to work as a team under close supervision. The experiences gained at Boys State stays with the student his whole life. Students will also tour the U.S. Naval Academy and the Maryland Legislature, where they will be addressed by several top state government officials. Please see Mrs. Moore for a complete itinerary and the paperwork needed to

apply for Boys State. Boys who attend this program may apply for the Samsung Scholarship grant of \$1,000. Proof of military eligibility by parent, grandparent, great grandparent or legally adopted parent who served during a period of war is required only for the Samsung Scholarship. Remember that activities such as this look great on your college resume!

**SAT OPTIONAL SCHOOLS** - There is a list of colleges that do not use SAT or ACT scores for admitting substantial numbers of students into their bachelor degree programs. Some schools exempt students who meet a certain grade point average, while others use SAT or ACT scores only for placement purposes. Please check with the college's admissions office to learn more about each individual college's requirements. The National Center for Fair & Open Testing publishes a list at <http://www.fairtest.org>.

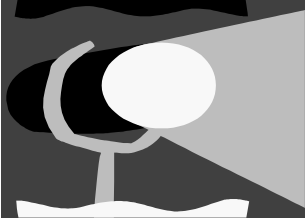
### **11<sup>th</sup> grade students take the Mock SAT or ACT**

On Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, all juniors will take a Mock SAT or Mock ACT at school. The test is free and the administration will take place at school from 7:30AM until 11:10AM. During the first week of the semester, all 11<sup>th</sup> grade students will complete a preference sheet in their 11<sup>th</sup> grade English class indicating whether they will take the Mock SAT or Mock ACT. Students should come to school, as scheduled, on the 26<sup>th</sup> with two #2 pencils and their calculator and take the test for which they registered. A few weeks after the test, students will receive a detailed score report highlighting their strengths and weaknesses on the test. The results of the mock test are confidential & will not be shared with any colleges or universities.

Moriah Martin, Staff Development Teacher, SAT Coordinator

### **Freshman Select Academy Pathways**

All Blake freshman participate in our Freshman Academy, a smaller learning community of student teams, teachers, counselors, team leaders and administrators who work together to ensure our 9th graders transition to a successful high school experience. As these students move onto tenth grade, they have an opportunity to join our Career Academy program by choosing a pathway and elective course sequence that focuses on a career area of interest. There are nine pathways contained within our four career Academies: Arts and Communications, Business and Consumer Services, Humanities and Public Service, and S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). Each pathway has multiple areas of focus with relevant courses that provide students with a window into future career opportunities. All of these are detailed in the Course Registration Book for 2010-2011 that will be coming home with students and available online. Be sure to review these options with your student to assist them in making good choices that will enhance their academic experience at Blake. Counselors and Academy staff will present this information to freshman, along with general course registration materials, in the upcoming weeks.



**Spotlight on Career Academies: S.T.E.M.**

In this issue, the spotlight is on our S.T.E.M. Academy—the Blake career-focused program that features pathways in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. One of the STEM career areas of focus unique to Blake is our Construction Technology and Management pathway, taught by Mr. Ernest Williams in partnership with the Montgomery County Construction Foundation housed at Thomas Edison Center. This program gives students the background to pursue careers related to construction management. Students take courses in construction technology and architectural drafting and complete their pathway with courses for college credit at Montgomery College. Last year two of our senior students participated in the Montgomery College courses and 19 students in the pathway completed the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) Learning Series Program credential and are now in the National Registry—a great headstart to a future career. Our business partner for this pathway is the Associated General Contractors of Metropolitan DC.

Other pathways within the STEM Academy have similar strong partnerships that support their activities. Northrop Grumman Information Systems has been a long-standing partner of our Engineering Science pathway, taught by Ms. Raquel Marshall. Their partnership has provided mentors, seminars, and higher education scholarships. The University of Maryland College of Engineering has also been an active S.T.E.M. partner, providing speakers, learning seminars at the university, senior capstone experiences, and articulated credit for courses taken in the Engineering pathway. Coming Academy Spotlight attractions...Academy recognition for seniors at awards night and graduation.

As the second semester begins, the senior class has much ahead of them. On February 10<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm in the auditorium, Mr. Blake, an all male pageant open to juniors and seniors will be taking place. This contest is always a riot, and not to be missed.

There will be a Mandatory Parent Meeting for all parents or guardians of Seniors on Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the auditorium. Please mark your calendars! We will be discussing all the culminating senior activities, including Prom and Graduation.

The Senior Banquet is also approaching before you know it! The Banquet will be held at Ten Oaks Ballroom in Clarksville MD on April 15<sup>th</sup>, ticket prices will be advertised soon. Please check the announcements and senior class website for details.

With graduation just around the corner, we would like to take this opportunity to find out if any parents or immediate family members of seniors will require interpreting services for the deaf or hard of hearing for the graduation ceremony. Please email Ms. Gelb at [Christina\\_R\\_Gelb@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Christina_R_Gelb@mcpsmd.org) if this is needed.

Reminders:

60 SSL hours are needed before graduation. Turn forms in B230 or Main office; they are a requirement to graduate.

If you did not order a Cap and Gown yet for Graduation, you must do this ASAP! Order forms are available in the Counseling Office or with Mrs. Gelb. Forms should be mailed directly to Jostens with payment of \$60.00.

**National Honor Society Inducts New Members at Blake**

The James Hubert Blake High School chapter of the National Honor Society welcomes 42 new members. The formal induction took place on Monday, December 7, 2009. Candidates for the National Honor Society are evaluated on four criteria: leadership, scholarship, character, and service. Members must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or weighted 4.0. Ms. Beth Shepherd and Ms. Katie Kodan are the NHS advisors.

The new members are: Alexandra Abell, Daniel Arias, Nicholas Arnold-Medabalimi, Sarah Aylor, Lauren Barlow, Isabela Barriga, Adrienne Bush, Cynthia Cheng, Maia Chicherio, Git-Yee Chu, Aron Crews, Delaney Cruickshank, Somala Diby, Leanna Diggs, Rainier Gomez, Amy Gottlieb, Kelly Hanlon, Bridget Hawvermale, Ashley Haymaker, Blaire Hoffman, Lily Hua, Julie Huleis, Nicholas Hung, Dylan Hysen, Aimee Kohorst, Corinne Konoza, Sara Kushner, Jennifer Lien, Julia Maas, Quynh-Nhu Nguyen, Leena Owen, Joshua Paunil, Nicole Pontious, Linda Powers, Mariel Shilling, Gillian Spolarich, Britney Stuart, Sophia Venero, Shannon Wade, Kira Williams, Patrick Xiao

**BLAKE'S AFTER-PROM CELEBRATION**

**Friday May 14/15 12:30am-5:00pm**

**Location: Dave & Buster's, White Flint Mall**

**Back by popular demand!**

Prom season is almost here and along with that comes the 2010 version of the After-Prom! That night will surely be an adventure of the Class of '10, Blake juniors and the prom dates! There will be free video games all night long, a casino, the ever popular key chains, tattoos and a return of a very special guest that will make you think twice. We'll have lots of food and some terrific prizes! Students who stay until 3:30am will receive the Blake After-Prom T-shirt designed as a wearable memento just for the occasion! Our goal is to everyone stay until the end because excitement abounds all night-and the very best door prizes aren't given away until the very end!

**Money Matters:** It takes hard work, planning and a lot of "green" to entertain, feed and supervise over 700 students all night! The approximate **cost per student is \$35**. Our all night party is the alternative to parties in private homes or hotel rooms. Traditionally, Prom tickets include admission to the After-Prom but the **After-Prom receives no funds from the prom ticket sales**. If sufficient funds are not raised by our fundraisers we may need to charge Prom goers a fee to attend After-Prom and/or eliminate some of the planned activities and that the kids enjoy. Part of our success in keeping kids at our After-Prom (we have one of the best attended AP and kids stay longer than other schools) is that we have so many fun things to do! Dave & Buster's is a safe location, and has many fun activities. While we are still working hard on fundraising efforts (pizza sales, dine out nights and spirit buttons) we are counting on your financial support! Our fundraising letters will be mailed to all Blake families in February. Please send in your tax deductible contribution as soon as possible. Any amount is appreciated. Thank you!

Checks Payable to Blake HS After-Prom can be dropped off at the school office or mailed to: Blake HS 2010 After-Prom, 300 Norwood Rd. Silver Spring, MD 20905

Suggested Contributions:

- \_\_\_ \$100.00 (Eubie)
- \_\_\_ \$75.00 (Bengal)
- \_\_\_ \$ Other
- \_\_\_ \$50.00 (Silver)
- \_\_\_ \$35.00 (Blue)

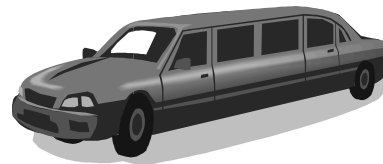
**Help from the Corporate Dollar:** Many corporations realize that strengthening community programs is a benefit to all. Some offer their support on a matching basis (Verizon, Choice Hotels and Marriot, to name a few). Check with your Human Resources Department to find out how to double your donation! Contact Diane Bush at [dbush10892@verizon.net](mailto:dbush10892@verizon.net)

**Transportation news:** In an effort to facilitate transportation for young drivers, we are offering bus service from the Prom to the After-Prom at 12 midnight. The cost is \$15.00 per person. Advance purchase is required. To order, please mail a separate check in to the school Attention After-Prom by Monday, April 19. Checks will only be returned and bus service cancelled if a minimum of riders is not met.

**T-shirt sponsors needed:** Attention Blake business owners! We are in need of several sponsors for our T-shirt giveaway. Your business name will appear on the back of the shirt and will be worn all over town! What a great way to support Blake and advertise your business at the same time. Contact Diane Bush for more details.

**Need a tuxedo rental?** The Tuxedo shop at Sears in White Oak generously donated a FREE tux rental that will be raffled off at the Senior Parent Meeting. They are also offering a \$20 off coupon to Blake students. Contact the manager, Mr. Andy Melwani at (301) 672-5627 for details. If you haven't received one, a stack of extra coupons will be in the main office. Please patronize the businesses that support Blake!

**Limousines:** Prom season is a busy time for limousine companies, so book early. A list of recommended "safe" limo providers is available at <http://www.mcppg.org> Click on "Limo List..."



**Thanks to our volunteers!** Many thanks to the many parents who have volunteered their time at the Tuesday pizza sales, basketball concessions and upcoming letter stuffing party! We will need many volunteers on the night of the event, be sure to sign up when sending in your donation! Blake parents are the BEST!

**Blake High School's 3rd Annual Used Book and Media Sale**  
**Cloverly Shopping Center**  
**742 Cloverly Street**

**February 19, 2-8 pm**  
**February 20, 10-8 pm**  
**February 21, 11-5**

**Excited yet? Well, we have more exciting news!**

**Location:** This year's used book and media sale will be held in Cloverly Shopping Center. Kramer Enterprises is letting us use a store there for a month, which means the sale is going to be bigger and better than ever! More storage, more time to sort, more chance to pick the good stuff for you to buy.

**Drive-through book/media drops:** We all have books, CDs, DVDs, etc., that we just don't know what to do with. Happily, you can donate them to the sale. To make donating even more convenient, we will have several drive-through book/media drops right at the store. All you have to do is pull up in front of the store, and someone will take your donations out of your car for you and, on request, give you a receipt. The first is on **Saturday, January 30, from 10 to 1**. Other drop-off days will be announced through Eubimail.

**Volunteer and SSL opportunities:** This undertaking offers many SSL opportunities for students, particularly on drop-off days, during the sale, and immediately after the sale. Have your students contact Ms. Rigney at school or Orit directly (see information below) if they'd like to help out.

As for the rest of the community—parents/guardians, teachers, friends—we need a lot of help with sorting before the sale and at the sale itself. We will be doing this at the store at least 2 days a week. Sorting gives us a chance to get to know each other better while helping out the school. It should be a lot of fun. If you're interested, please let Orit know.

**Stay tuned for Eubimail announcements about sale-related activities.**

*For more information or to volunteer, please contact Orit at*  
*301-384-3324, 240-460-1534*  
*oritil@yahoo.com.*

**Comedy Night Is Coming!**  
**Friday, March 12, 7:30 pm**  
**Blake Cafeteria**

Comedy Night is a laughter-filled evening by and for the Blake High School community and sponsored by the PTSA. Last year's performances by Blake students and community members were so much fun that we're not even looking for outside entertainment this year. We're bringing back the Last Comic Standing competition, open mike, and improv. Who knows what other surprises might be in store.... So, folks, mark the date on your calendars now.

Auditions for emcee and all acts—Last Comic Standing, improv, skits, songs, etc.—will be held throughout February. Send an email to oritil@yahoo.com letting us know that you want to audition and with details about your act, and then look for announcements on the morning news at school, on the school website, in Eubimail, and at the PTSA website (blakeptsa.org) for dates and times of auditions.

Note: Last Comic Standing competitors will be expected to perform at least 2 minutes of material for the audition. Anyone interested in being the emcee should be able to chat with the judges (as though they are the audience) and tell a few jokes. All other competitors please show us rehearsed skits or prepared material.

**Questions? Contact Orit 240-460-1534 or oritil@yahoo.com.**

**Engineering Innovation Summer Program**

Did you know that every summer the JHU Whiting School of Engineering offers a four-week Engineering Innovation program at JHU's Montgomery County Campus in Rockville for high school students? And that at the end of the course, students with a passing grade earn three transferable Johns Hopkins University credits? It's true!

The program includes instruction on engineering concepts as well as hands-on projects, such as building a better mousetrap and a spaghetti bridge competition. (Interested in seeing last year's students test their spaghetti bridges? Check out this short video: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OnS\\_5A97N3E](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OnS_5A97N3E). Eligible students must have completed their sophomore, junior or senior year of high school and also have completed a laboratory science and Algebra II course. (More details about eligibility requirements are available on the Engineering Innovation web site.)

This year, the program at JHU MCC will run from July 6 – July 30, with classes going from 9am – 3pm, Monday-Friday. The application deadline is Monday, May 3, 2010. You can find more information – including details on financial aid availability – at <http://engineering-innovation.jhu.edu/>.

## **The Signature Program News for February and March**

**The Signature** is supporting several events at Blake the next several weeks including:

**The February 4<sup>th</sup> Electives Fair** at an extended Lunch Period. Students will have an opportunity to explore the many wonderful electives offered by Blake High School --- many of which are Signature-related. Students may stop by and pick up information about electives might interest them.

**Blake will celebrate the African-American Experience** in our country on a Symposium Day on February 10<sup>th</sup>. Students will have an opportunity to attend three sessions to see and hear of African-American Experiences in the American workplace, in American history, in the arts and humanities, in careers, as well as celebrate African-Americans in all fields of work as well as the performing arts and visual arts. Speakers enlisted to help us so far include Tony Cohen of the Menare Foundation, musician Marcus Johnson, and Dr. Ed Sanders among other distinguished African-Americans.

### **The Blake Stage Company News**

The Stage Company will be producing the hilarious musical theatre comedy LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS on April 23, 24, 29, 30 and May 1 at 7:30 pm. The Company is looking for the community to help support the show as an advertiser in our program or as a financial contributor. Just contact Michael D'Anna at Michel\_D\_D'Anna@mcpsmd.org if you wish to lend financial assistance.

**Financial Obligation?** Parents don't be surprised to find out your student has a financial obligation. Contact the Blake financial office @ 301-879-1321 or email Mary\_H\_O'Donnell@mcpsmd.org to find out if your student has a financial obligation. Kathryn D. Vargo, School Business Manager

### **Blake Beat Wins Again!**

For the third year in a row, staffers on The Blake Beat at James Hubert Blake High School have led the state in journalism awards in the 2009 Maryland Scholastic Press Association individual writing and editing contest for high school newspapers, as announced through the College of Journalism at the University of Maryland in College Park.

Blake Beat staffers received recognition for 26 submissions for the 2008-2009 school year, easily distancing

themselves from Montgomery Blair's Silver Chips (16 awards) and Walt Whitman's Black and White (11 awards).

Blake Beat graphic artists swept the Illustration (hand or computer-generated) category by winning all five awards: Christine Lien (first in the state), Brendan Lipton (second in the state), Patrick Howe (third in the state), and Brendan Lipton and Patrick Lowe again (honorable mention). Brendan Lipton also took first prize statewide for his Double-Page Layout, while Kelly Shih took first prize statewide for Informational Graphics.

Other Beat staffers who finished among the top three entrants statewide in this year's MSPA contest include Isaac Hirsch (third in the state in Cartooning), Kelly Shih (third in the state in Front-Page Layout), Ben Martin (second in the state for Photography), Jonathan Yuen (third in the state for Photography), Justin Pereira (second in the state for Inside-Page Layout), Ryan Arrendell (second in the state for Signed Opinion Column), Hannah Mellman (second in the state for Sports Writing), Ben Hostetter and Jay Sharma (third in the state for Sports Writing), Justin Pereira (second in the state for Sports Feature Writing), Nick Foley (second in the state for Sports Opinion Column), and Justin Pereira (third in the state for Sports Opinion Column).

Eight other Blake Beat entries were recognized as Honorable Mention winners: Kelly Shih (Informational Graphics), Laura Brady and Luan Pham (Newswriting), Amelia Holgash and Christine League (Newswriting), Christina DeGraft-Johnson and Kelly Shih (Front-Page Layout), Kelly Shih (Signed Editorial Column), Andrew Padgett (Signed Editorial Column), Hannah Mellman (Signed Editorial Column), and Kelly Shih (Reviews).

More details may be found on the MSPA website: <http://www.journalism.umd.edu/mspa/contests/individ.newswinner.2009.pdf>

The Blake Beat is advised by journalism teacher Kevin Keegan.





**High School Challenge: Pennies for Patients!!! What you need to know:**

This February, Blake HS will be participating in the Pennies for Patients High School Challenge sponsored by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. This program challenges Montgomery County schools to various components, asking students to raise awareness and funds for the society through school-wide and community events.

We will be hosting a variety of events inside and outside of school.

**1. 1<sup>st</sup> period classes-** We will be collecting donations in all first period classes. The winning class will receive a donut breakfast and the teacher will receive a prize as well!! Each week we will start the donation count over, giving different classes a chance to win.

**2. Departments-** We will be distributing collection boxes to the school departments. We will collect these every Thursday/Friday and the winning department will receive a donut breakfast. Each week we will start the donation count over, allowing different departments to have a chance to win.

**3. Online Donations-** Blake HS will have an online donation page where students, staff and community members (near and far) can donate. The link will be on the Blake webpage.

**4. T-Shirts-** The SGA will be selling T-Shirts that promote Pennies for Patients. The price will be \$10 and orders and money must be received by February 5<sup>th</sup>.

**5. Community Nights-** We will be hosting different events from a Bengal Ball Tournament to nights out at local restaurants that will donate a portion of their profits to our cause. Please support these and join the school in raising awareness and funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Restaurant Night Dates:

2/3<sup>rd</sup> LEDO Pizza Olney 11am-10pm Dine-In and Carry-Out  
2/16<sup>th</sup> LEDO Pizza- Colesville 4-10pm Dine In and Carry Out  
2/25<sup>th</sup> Mamma Lucia Olney 5-10pm Dine In and Carry Out

**Other Events:**

**Assembly 1/29-** We will host Tim King, a student at Whitman HS, who is fighting cancer right now. In addition, we will discuss the events for the month and have an inspiring performance by Revelations!!

**Mr. Blake 2/10 7-9pm**

Mr. Blake contestants do a “walk-through” the crowd during intermission to raise money for PFP. The contestant with the most money collected won a special prize and all of the money collected was donated to PFP.

**Boys Basketball Game vs. Paint Branch 2/12**

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to Pennies for Patients. Chipotle Gift Cards will be raffled off at the event.

**Dance for a Chance 2/13 8-11pm (All proceeds go to LLS!!)**

Black & White Bash, Tickets will be \$5, \$10 at the door. Ticket sales will begin February 1<sup>st</sup> at lunch.

**Bengal Ball Tournament- 2/23-7-9pm**

We are inviting students to create 10 person teams and pay a \$2 per team member registration fee (all donated). Spectators will be charged \$3 to enter. Teams will compete in the single elimination tournament in the hopes of advancing to play the staff team. Teams do not have to be by class as we are encouraging students to work together across classes. We will also be raffling off gift cards at the event.

**Thanks for your help and support!!**

*Navigating College Admissions for Students with Disabilities Workshop*

Eliot Applestein will present a workshop; *Navigating College Admissions for Students with Disabilities*.

Please join the PTSA in the amphitheater on February 24, at 7:00 p.m. for this informative session.

While 50% of students will graduate four year colleges, only 28% of students with learning disabilities will graduate.

Surprisingly, 75% of students with disabilities do not take advantage of the services available to them at college. In this workshop he will discuss the following topics:

1. How college differs from high school and how this affects students with disabilities
2. Understanding the difference between IEP, 504, ADA
3. What documentation is needed for college accommodations?
4. Overview of college admissions
5. Standardized tests and accommodations
6. Types of disability programs available at colleges

*A Big PTSA Thank You to Blake Families for Their Generosity!*

Thank you to everyone who contributed and help fund the many programs the PTSA organizes at Blake

**Eubie Gold Level:**

**\$250-499**

Jacqueline Reeves  
Marie & Dan McNamara

**Friends of Eubie**

**\$100-\$249**

Meseretu Amare & Eshete Bizunesh  
Robina & Bryon Barlow  
Jacques Benjoar & Kathleen Lockhart  
Laura Benson & Bill Leishman  
Maria & John Breen  
Donna & Tim Brennan  
Linda & Chuck Callahan  
Chandra & Mridula Chaurasia  
Walter Cruickshank & Deborah Gartland  
Diane Dai  
Robin Ford  
Nancy Frame & Staci Frame-Miller  
Tammy & Hal Freeman  
Barbara Girolami  
Donna & Gordan Gregg  
Anne & Paul Grenaldo  
Cheryl & Bill Hamilton  
Marymac Hoffman  
Karen & Ron Jaffe  
Paul Korycinski & Amy Sandler  
A. Gail Lee  
Amy & Eric Lewanda  
Susan & John Lingan  
Kathleen Lyons  
Lisa Mathis  
Jane & Rene Mondonede  
Theresa & Zachary Moore  
Jim Norberg  
Christy Norberg  
Seema & Robert Owen  
Judith & Phillip Porzel  
Patricia & Richard Prather  
Brenda & Harvey Pullen  
Monica Ramey  
Ly & Jim Riedel  
Marcia & Brian Riley  
Betsy & Steven Sirk  
Joan & Michael Taylor  
Cindi Wanke  
Brenda Wetzel  
Rhonda & Bill White  
Michelle Yates

**Bengal Supporter:**

**Up to \$99**

Marisela & Jonathan Arias  
Chun-Huet Bair & Chun-Yi Wu  
Bobette & Medaris Banks  
Crystal Banks Roberson  
Rita & Rick Battaglia  
Meryl Bloomrosen  
Diedre & Jeffrey Bond  
David Botto & Patt Silverthorn  
Judy Bradshaw  
Camille Brewer & Beverly Dennis  
Diane & Michael Bush  
Mary Ellen Cain  
Theresa Cali  
Joy & Brian Camp  
Abbie Carliner  
Jeffrey Cohen  
Katrina Carr  
Jill & Joal Chen  
Orit Chicherio  
Cathy & John Clark  
Gina & Stephen Colburn  
Theresa Comer  
Muriel Cooper  
Michael Corsillo  
Alice Crawley  
Andrew Deshler  
Patricia & Donald Diggs  
Debra Dionne  
Lee Ann & Richard Doerflinger  
James Eaglin  
Susan & David Evans  
Patricia Ferry  
Ginger & Bill Fisher  
Mary Flynn  
Dwayne (Pete) Ford  
Caren & Kevin Gaffney  
Jim Gifford & Sara Watson  
Agnes & Brian Giganti  
Meryl & James Glantz  
Anna & Marty Gottlieb  
Jane Gratton  
Sharon & Peter Haley  
Andrea & John Hawvermale  
Lisa & Lee Hedgepeth  
Barbara & Mitchell Hoey  
Noreen Holbert  
Janice Hylton  
Patrice Kelly  
Debbie Kirkland  
Jackie Kister  
Lee Klumpp & Alison Praisner-Klumpp  
Catherine Kugelmann  
Christina & Jay Kuhn

Kyleen Kuczarski  
Christie Latona  
Walter Ligon  
Susan & Mark Lipshultz  
Cara & John Lowry  
Robin Madden  
Nancy & Andrew Majower  
Janeane Marks  
Martha & Peter Martinez  
Maura & Dan McMullen  
Ellen Mehallick  
Ann & Richard Mellish  
Lori & Melvin Moore  
Kelli & Charles Mulchi  
Melinda Munson  
Marian & Eric Nee  
Janis Nero  
Kendra Newman  
Sharon & Dale Nicholson  
Leslie & John O'Flahavan  
Jola & Adefolarin Orimolade  
Gloria & Baltazar Ortiz  
Susanne & David Ostermeyer  
Kelli Ostrow  
Kim Paniati  
Oscar Perla  
Diane & Larry Perry  
John Pistolessi  
Susan & Jay Plafker  
Allyson & David Plihal  
Tami & Steve Radov  
Clara & Bhavindra Raju  
Carolyn & Eric Rehwoldt  
Myna Reindorf  
Joi & William Roberson  
Lisa & Ronald Romig  
Jean Rosen  
Pamela Rowe  
Arlene & Len Samowitz  
Kathy Savary Young & David Young  
Donna & Sydney (Chuck) Selden  
Katherine & Holger Serrano  
Aleta & David Shannon  
Jean & Thomas Simpson  
Sandra & Mark Smethurst  
Jackie Stock  
MarilynTaira  
Lois & Mark Wannan  
Karin & David Weber  
Linda & Dave Welder  
Donna Whitaker  
Janice Williams  
Ellen & David Zaika  
Nancy Ziegenfus-McIntosh

***Donate Now to be Included in the Next List of Generous Donors!***

**Annual Silent Auction and Festival of Arts & Humanities**

Mark your calendars now for Blake PTSA's top fundraising event and Blake HS's premier celebration of the arts! It's an evening you won't want to miss!

Blake PTSA will host the **Annual Silent Auction** at the **Festival of the Arts & Humanities** on May 7th, 2010. Our students and school need our support! We are committed to providing quality education and programs for our students and your efforts will help us all reach that goal.

Funds raised will help enhance our *technology programs*, such as expanded Promethean equipment, *student programs*, which may support areas like the National Award Winning, *Blake Beat*. They also help provide *whole school improvements* like the Blake HS Digital Electronic Sign. AND, especially in these economic times, these needs are greater than ever!

It takes **YOU**, our **Parents and Friends to Chair and work our Auction Subcommittees**. We need *Many Hands* to produce this event. Whether you are able to *Chair a Sub-Committee*, *Provide a Donation*, or *Volunteer the "Night Of,"* there is no job too small!

We will be holding regularly announced Auction meetings, so watch for date reminders on Eubiemail.

Visit the Auction page on the PTSA website at **blakeptsa.org** for all the latest information, including a list of subcommittees and contacts. We urge you to take a moment and consider which area your skills and energy would help us most.

- **DONATION SOLICITATION**: Identify and contact sources of community contributions.
- **DATABASE**: Manage Item/Donor Information, Bid Sheets.
- **DONATION COORDINATION**: Item management, Bundle and Basket Coordination.
- **PUBLIC RELATIONS & ADVERTISING**: School and Community Publicity, Press-Releases, Posters.
- **ONLINE BIDDING**: Manage internet/listserv bid information and graphics.
- **"NIGHT OF" LOGISTICS**: Set-up/Clean-up, Table/Bid-Sheet Monitors, Table Runners
- **TABLE/AUCTION DECORATION**: Table/Auction Layout, Table Decorations, Auction Decorations, Signage
- **PROGRAM**: Prepare Program and List of Donations. Special Donor Request Signage.
- **AUCTION CLOSE-OUT**: Software Management, Cashier and Item Transfer.

Please send us an email to let us know how you can help! For volunteer sign-up or more information please contact **Dawn Dolan** or **Maureen Hill-Gross**, *Silent Auction Co-Chairs* at [auktion@blakeptsa.org](mailto:auktion@blakeptsa.org).

James Hubert Blake High School PTSA  
***Annual Silent Auction and Festival of Arts & Humanities***  
300 Norwood Road • Silver Spring, MD 20905 • 301-879-1300  
**May 7th, 2010 6pm**

**Donation Form**  
Blake High School PTSA  
501C3 Non-Profit Tax ID# 52-2107345

Donor Information:

Name (Business or Individual): \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Special Comments/Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach any business cards, brochures, etc. for display with your donation.

Questions? Contact Dawn Dolan, Co-Chair or Maureen Hill-Gross, Co-Chair via email at [auktion@blakeptsa.org](mailto:auktion@blakeptsa.org)

**Return this form and donation by April 25th, 2010:**

Attn: Dawn Dolan, PTSA Silent Auction

For more information about **Blake HS PTSA** please visit us at [blakeptsa.org](http://blakeptsa.org) or **J.H.Blake High School —Home of the Bengals** at [montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/blakehs/](http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/blakehs/)

Thank you for your support

### Your Blake Blue Note

The Blake Blue Note is edited by Sara Watson, designed and formatted by Michele Setton, and prepared for mailing by Ms. Beth Shepherd's and Ms. Ann Macrae's classes. Ms. Barlow has been taking bins with 1,700 newsletters to the post office – thank you!

Sara's child will graduate this year so we are looking for a successor. It is a truly fun job – you get to interact with lots of people, and you can do it from home. It would be great to get someone before this year is up, so s/he can see how an issue is completed. If you are interested, contact Sara at [saradwatson@aol.com](mailto:saradwatson@aol.com) or 301-879-7692.

### Blake Student Chosen for U.S. Senate Youth Program

James Hubert Blake junior Daniel Arias has been chosen as one of two student delegates statewide to represent Maryland at the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual United States Senate Youth Program March 6-13 in Washington, DC.

Along with other students interested in careers in public service from all 50 states and the District of Columbia, Arias will spend a week in the nation's capital observing and experiencing the federal government in action. Participants will hear major policy addresses by senators, cabinet members, and state department and defense department officials, as well as meet President Barack Obama and senior members of the national media.

Arias and fellow delegates will each be awarded a \$5000.00 scholarship for participation in this program, underwritten by The Hearst Foundations. More information about the Washington Week Program can be found at [www.ussenateyouth.org](http://www.ussenateyouth.org).

James Hubert Blake High School  
300 Norwood Road  
Silver Spring, MD 20905

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