



The Lion's Roar

November 2014

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Millennium Charter Academy Events Worth Roaring About



High School Students and Theater Elective Students Attend Professional Workshop

MCA 9th grade students and MCA 6th – 8th grade students enrolled in Mr. Rezzo's theater elective were lucky enough to enjoy a drama workshop led by acclaimed actor and playwright, Mike Wiley. Mr. Wiley has spent the last decade fulfilling his mission to bring educational theater to young audiences and communities across the country. In the early days of his career, Wiley found few theatrical resources to bring attention to key events and figures in African-American history. To bring these stories to life, he started his own production company. At MCA, Mr. Wiley brought along his friend and collaborator, Howard Craft, an esteemed poet and playwright based in the Triangle area. Mr. Wiley and Mr. Craft led the students in a dramatic monologue exercise in which the students wrote brief monologues from the perspective of unusual objects ranging from a sad dragon to a frightened chicken nugget. The results were fascinating and proved that students just need a creative spark in order to find their voice and express themselves dramatically. Mr. Wiley and Mr. Craft gave the students some great feedback and encouraged them to utilize dramatic flair as they write and speak in all sorts of situations in life. Mike Wiley has a Masters of Fine Arts from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is the 2010 Lehman Brady Visiting Joint Chair Professor in Documentary Studies and American Studies at Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In addition to his numerous school and community performances, he has also appeared on Discovery Channel, The Learning Channel and National Geographic Channel and has been featured in *Our State* magazine and on PBS' *North Carolina Now* and WUNC's *The State of Things*. We certainly hope to have him back soon!



Above: **Aiden Woods**, 9th grade, acts out a part during the workshop. Top center: **Mike Wiley** passionately presents his workshop to our students. Far right: **Emily Marteny**, 7th grade, monologues for the workshop. Bottom center: **Kaybri Jones**, 6th grade, shares her monologue with the class.

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MCA Students Have Outstanding Showing in Local Arts Festival

Mrs. Mary McCormick, MCA Art Instructor, recently entered the work of several MCA students in the Mount Airy Junior Woman's Club 2014 Arts Festival. This is an annual event, spotlighting the work of area students. MCA students placed in every category in which they were entered. Congratulations to all our art students for their great work!

Middle School Sculpture

- 1st: **Haley Sission**, 8th grade
- 2nd: **Laurel Petri**, 7th grade
- 3rd: **Jane Ferry**, 7th grade

Middle School Painting (Acrylic or Oil)

- 2nd: **Angel Hawks**, Self-Portrait, 7th grade

High School Sculpture

- 1st: **Sarah Ray**, 9th grade
- 2nd: **Savannah Blackburn**, 9th grade
- 3rd: **Kyla Gunter**, 9th grade

High School Painting (Acrylic or Oil)

- 2nd: **Savannah Blackburn**, Abstract, 9th grade
- 3rd: **Joey McCormick**, Self-Portrait, 9th grade

High School Graphite Drawing

- 3rd: **Marla Grubaugh**, "9/11," 9th grade

High School Mixed Media

- 3rd: **Caitlyn Price**, Collage, 9th grade



Left: Graphite drawing by **Marla Grubaugh**, 9th grade



Above: Baby rhino by **Sarah Ray**, 9th grade; Left: Eye, by **Haley Sission**, 8th grade; Below: Self-portrait, by **Joey McCormick**, 9th grade



Left: Collage by **Caitlyn Price**, 9th grade; Above: Parrot sculpture by **Kyla Gunter**, 9th grade; Right: Abstract by **Savannah Blackburn**, 9th grade

