# Trumansburg Troubadour

## Student Leadership Opportunities By Baylee Spackman, Junior

Many students want to get involved in their schools and communities, but have no idea how to go about doing so. Organizations in Tompkins County are highly dedicated to getting high school students involved, and leadership opportunities for students in Charles O. Dickerson High School are plentiful.

A student leader from Charles O. Dickerson, Elena Dell'Accio, the president of Femtastic!, the school's gender equality club, believes that collaborative decision-making and inclusion are key to the success of any club. "Femtastic! focuses says that from being the presion bringing equality and awareness to our school and community through local events focused at high school students. The most difficult part of leading Femtastic! is getting people involved," says Dell'Accio. "This year the events that we've High School robotics team, is organized have had quite a turnout, but the monthly meetings haven't followed that trend." As given six weeks to build a ropresident, Elena works to organize groups and events, and to disperse responsibilities to members of the club. Elena



dent of Femtastic, she's learned leadership skills, responsibility, and the importance of being the one people come to with questions.

The Trumansburg Robot Raiders, the Trumansburg described as a varsity sport for the mind. Each year the team is bot to compete in that year's designated challenge. Max Westwater, a member of the Robot Raiders, says that the

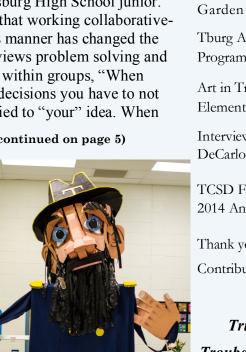
decisions in the team are primarily made through democratic means. "Either a sub-team or the whole team decides on the strategy. We normally pursue multiple routes, and then after we actually start to build [the robots] it is apparent which is the better option," tells the Trumansburg High School junior. He says that working collaboratively in this manner has changed the way he views problem solving and working within groups, "When making decisions you have to not get married to "your" idea. When

**ILLUSTRATIONS BY:** 

HANNA HERTZLER,

**SOPHOMORE** 

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**Trumansburg** Troubadour welcomes vour feedback!

Please contact us with comments and story leads at:

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# 2015 Art Show and Art Auction By Andrea Romero, Senior

Photos by Liam Saccucci-Bryan, Senior

April 8th, 2015 was an important day for all young artists in Trumansburg. It was the 2015 Art Show and Art Auction. This is our fourth year putting on this show and the second year holding the art auction. The art show took place in the Charles O. Dickerson High School cafeteria. As a foreign exchange student from Mexico, I think this program gives students who are interested in art a unique opportunity to develop their skills and expand their horizons.

Every year, March is Youth Art Month, which is a national program. This year's theme was Puppets! Elementary school students

made paper puppets, middle school students made shadow puppets, and high school art students created a giant Tburg Raider (who decided to fall at the art show while I was eating my bean burger). All the food, which was wonderful, was donated by Good to Go!, a local eatery.

The art show displayed art made by students from all ag-

es, from kindergarten through high school. The purpose of the show was to share and show that art is important in our lives. Paper puppets made by the elementary students were phrases like "I think art is





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#### Art Show and Art Auction (continued)

what happens when you learn to dream," "Good art is anything. Good art can be defined in just how you look at it," "Good art is any neat piece of artwork with good color combo, if any color at all." One of the walls exhibited the insects made by the Advanced High

Peggy Haine and Amy Brill were our fabulous auctioneers this year. They have been working together auctioning for over nine years to support auctions for nonprofits. "It's a fun cause, it gets every-

auctioned.

body's adrenaline up" said Peggy. "And it's free entertainment," Amy added. This year the art auction raised \$2,439, which was substantially more than last year.

> Near the end of the auction I met a girl who was very interested in art. Her name is Mari Wilson and she is in sixth grade. 'Quite an artist," said her mom, adding that "she believes in not leaving white spaces." She is

> an amazing

and inspiring student and right before saying goodbye she gave me a piece of her artwork; her mom also mentioned that she is very generous with her art.

This event wouldn't be possible without our wonderful art teachers who work with

students all year long. Ms. Apker is the teacher from K to 4 in the elementary school. In her program, students participate in six mediums (painting,



drawing, printmaking, ceramics, sculpture, and collage). There was a paper mâché puppet workshop taught by Kate Sinko for Youth Art Month. Ms. Colunio teaches in the middle school and in the high school. With her, students draw, paint, and use different kinds of mediums. For the shadow puppets there was a workshop with Cornell's Southeast Asia Program as a guest instructor. Ms. Pennock is the high school art teacher. She worked with the high school students to make the giant raider puppet possible.

This event is also made possible thanks to the TCSD Foundation. The Foundation was founded in 2006 to provide funds to enhance students' educations in the Trumansburg Community School District. The Foundation also receives donations to support these programs. ◊



School Studio Art classes.

The art auction was established to raise money for educational programs that are not included in the school budget. For this event, students and people from our community donated their art to be

## Robot Raiders Go to World Championship By Max Westwater, Junior

One of the goals of any varsity team is to have the opportunity to compete for a championship—whether it be a championship in your league, region, the state level, or even at a national level.

This year the Robot Raiders got to do just that, as we earned the opportunity to compete in the FIRST Robotics World Championship. At our regional competition we finished ranked 1st out of 44 teams at the event, which earned us a spot at the World Championship located in St Louis, Missouri.

The event is the place where the top 600 teams in the world compete against each other for the title of world champion. There were teams from all over the US



including Canada, Mexico, Israel and China just to name a few. We were competing against teams from schools much larger than us and that have been around for much longer than our team's short two-year history.

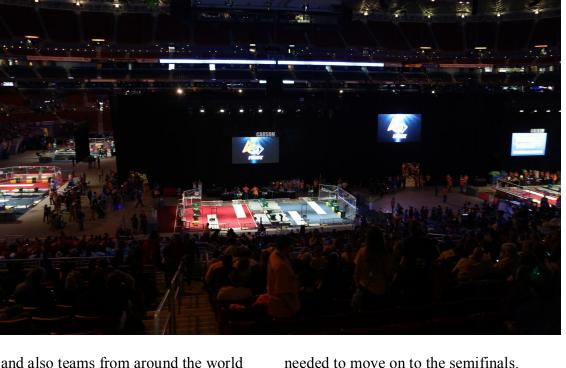
> We went into the competition being a relatively unknown team. We finished the event ranked 10th in our division of 75 teams. We were selected to be on

the 6th seeded alliance and were eliminated in the quarterfinals with a score of 191, which was only 1.5 below the score we

needed to move on to the semifinals. Overall we finished ranked 41st out of the 600 teams at the event.

The championship was an amazing thing to experience. You compete in the Edward Jones Dome, which is the huge indoor football stadium where the St Louis Rams play. There were 30,000 people there competing and watching the competition. The robotics fields are setup on the stadium field with lights and sound systems and huge video monitors above the field. There are camera crews that follow each match and announcers. It is pretty cool to be on the same field in the domed stadium where NFL teams play.

While at the competition, you are also able to meet and interact with like-minded







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### Beauty and the Beast

#### By Annalee Parker, 4th grade



The Trumansburg
High School Drama
Club performed
Beauty and the
Beast in the Trumansburg High
School auditorium.

The performances took place March 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup>. The auditorium was packed full with people of all ages!

One of the reasons that people came to Beauty and the Beast was to see their family and friends perform. Another reason that the auditorium was full was because



Belle (Bretana Turkon) and the Beast (Will Westlake) dancing to the song, "Beauty and the Beast," performed by Mrs. Potts.

some students had a sneak peek. Some elementary and middle school students went over to the high school to watch a preview of *Beauty and the Beast*, two days before opening night.

The musical was put together like a puzzle with no missing pieces. The key pieces to making the musical included the cast, the crew, the pit band, the directors, the set designers, the costumers, and the many parent volunteers. The cast and crew were mostly made up of 9th-12th graders. The youngest cast member was Sebastian Cole, a 5th grader, who played Chip.

Beauty and the Beast is a fun, adventurous tale about a girl named

Belle who lives in France. Gaston, the most popular man in town, wants to marry Belle, but Belle refuses. What follows is a long, long journey full of adventure, drama, humor, and love! An enchantress disguised as an old beggar woman comes to the castle of a young prince asking for shelter from the cold in exchange for an enchanted rose. The young prince is very selfish and is disgusted by her appearance so he turns her

away. Then the "beggar" transforms into an enchantress. turning him into a beast, putting a curse on his castle and turning his servants into enchanted objects! The only way the spell can be broken is if the Beast learns to love someone and they learn to love him back.

Through songs, dance, laughter, and drama the rest of the tale is told.

The musical took months to prepare for the three performances. The audience loved the whole show. They laughed at all of the funny characters, especially Gaston (Jake Shelley), Le Fou (Ben Pesco), Lumiere (Gabe Pesco), Cogsworth (Hanna Hertzler), and Babette (Marissa Mekos). During the castle invasion, the audience erupted in laughter when Lumiere set fire to somebody's rear-end! Another comical moment included Le Fou being chased by Mrs. Potts and Chip while screeching nonstop across the stage! There were too many hysterical parts to list. Who knows what musical the Trumansburg High School Drama Club will perform next year? The community will have to find out! ◊

#### **Cast Memorable Moments**

**Beast-** (Will Westlake), "My most memorable moment was getting stuck in my cape right before the transformation during the dress rehearsal. Bretana and I were laughing so hard while Bretana laugh-sang the Home Reprise."

**Belle-** (Bretana Turkon), "For me, the most memorable moment of *Beauty and the Beast* was getting to go to the pre-K-2nd grade classrooms in my Belle costume. Seeing the kids reactions to meeting me was priceless and I'll never forget it!"

Gaston- (Jake Shelley), "Carrying Le Fou around on stage!"

**Le Fou-** (Ben Pesco), "Creating my new favorite dance move and routine with Jake Shelley."

**Lumiere-** (Gabe Pesco), "My favorite part about being in *Beauty and the Beast* was working and performing with all of the cast and crew. That, and tinkering with your character's speech, body language, and other aspects to be exactly what you want when you are on stage."

**Cogsworth-** (Hanna Hertzler), "Getting a sloppy lipstick kiss on the cheek from Allora (Madame de la Grande Bouche) right before curtain call!"

**Babette-** (Marissa Mekos), "My most memorable moment from *Beauty and the Beast* would be when my wig fell off during a dance number for the elementary students' preview."

Mrs. Potts- (Berkley Sawester), "The most memorable part of the show was running across the stage with Le Fou riding on Chip's cart. It was difficult to control the cart so when we got offstage, crew members had to grab us so we wouldn't slide into the wall."



A trio, Madame de la Grande Bouche (Alora Tompkins), Babette (Marissa Mekos) and Mrs. Potts (Berkley Sawester) singing, "Human Again."

# Indonesian Shadow Puppets

#### By Josie Covell, 5th grade



On Tuesday March 17th and Thursday March 19th, I went to a shadow puppet workshop in the Russell I. Doig Mid-

dle School. The instructor was Kaja McGowan, an Associate Professor of Art History and the director of the South East Asia Program in Cornell.

These aren't your everyday shadow puppets; these puppets are from Indonesia. Also, they are made out of buffalo skin that is dried, stretched, and shaved so that it is much like thin paper.





You know that stick that is used to hold the puppet from below? These sticks are made out of horn.

The supports for the hands are also made out of horn. The limbs of the puppet are held together with a type of rattan used in basket making or strips of rawhide.

You would think that since you only see the shadow of the puppets, you wouldn't need to add color at all, but you would be wrong. Indonesian shadow puppets are actually very colorful. Modern shadow puppets are painted with acrylic paint, but a long time ago, the paint was made of something very different!

For instance, iron oxide makes yellow and cinnabar produces red. Paint was also made from ground animal bones for white. The gold decorations are real gold. Sometimes these ingredients are mixed with a glue made out of ground fish scales and bones. Today, making a shadow puppet wouldn't take that long. It would take month at most. Kaja McGowan says "Elegant puppets made for the palace in the past could take six months or more...There is no set time really" \$\diamonth{\psi}\$



# Adventures in the Mundy Wildflower Garden

#### By Keira Burton, 4th grade



In 3rd grade, as you may already know, all students go on a TKED-sponsored field trip to the Mundy Wildflower Garden at the Cornell Planta-

tions. It is a two-part event. In the first part, volunteers from the Garden visit the classrooms and students have the chance to dissect flowers, learn about a plant's life cycle, and observe plant's rhizomes (root structures).



In the second part, students go to the Mundy Wildflower Garden. During the trip, volunteers guide groups

of students around the big garden filled with plants such as skunk cabbage, trillium, and even a sycamore tree. On their tour the students look for the native wildflower that they've studied and learned about. Once students find it, they teach their group about their flower. After walking the flower trail,



they come to a rest for lunch. Finally there is a scavenger hunt. Students follow the directions on a map to find letters on trees, benches, and rocks. If they do it all correctly it will spell out a secret message!

I interviewed Mr. Burton, a third grade teacher, who has been on the trip four times.

I asked him what students learn on the field trip. He said, "They learn about the native wildflow-



ers of our area and the local ecosystem, how the different plants live together." I also asked him what students enjoyed most. He said, "Exploring the Garden and hunting for their wildflowers." Lastly I asked him, "On the way back to school how can you tell that students had a good time?" He answered, "Watching their excitement as they share stories and experiences."

The Mundy Wildflower Garden trip is lots of fun! Third graders are lucky to have the opportunity to be able to go! ♦



## Trumansburg After School Program Wins Grant By Ariel Maroney, 4th grade



This year, the Trumansburg Central School District (TCSD) Foundation gave a grant to the Trumansburg After School Program (TASP) for the purchase of music supplies.

The grant was titled "Move to the Music / Sound." It awarded funds for a multi-use "boom box" so music could be included in the afterschool programming. One of the other things TASP bought was special socks for the kids to put on over their own socks so they could use

half the gym as an ice skating rink while listening to music, wearing socks instead of skates. The boombox TASP was originally using was small and could not be heard very well, so the new boom box

was a big help.

TASP was awarded two-hundred dollars for this grant in January. Lisa Collins, Director of TASP, said that the after school program has been awarded three different awards from the TCSD Foundation this year, but this award was especially popular with the students. "The boom box was very welcome by the students, because they just love having music," said Lisa.

The TCSD Foundation receives between ten to twenty grant applications each year. Jennifer Wofford, The TCSD Foundation board president, says they are usually able to award at least 50% of them, depending on how much money they have to award. The TCSD Foundation is a group of volunteers who raise the money in different ways. Sometimes community members donate it, and sometimes they have fundraisers, like the annual district student art auction, and the recent Atlas Bowl Sneak Peek event, which raised over \$2,400 hundred dollars! Atlas Bowl invited Trumansburg families to come to bowl and eat before Atlas was open to the public. It was a crowded event, and helped the

TCSD Foundation raise money to award more grants to help students in the elementary school, middle school, and high school.

"The Foundation is committed to children's education in Tru-

mansburg," said Jennifer Wofford. She says the Foundation decided to award the music supplies application because, "we liked the way TASP was planning to use music and sound to promote physical activity." TASP hopes to continue working with the Foundation in the future, as new needs come up. Thank you to everyone who has participated in fundraising events for the TCSD Foundation. Your help has made a difference to the students throughout our district.  $\diamond$ 

# Art in Trumansburg Elementary School By June Wofford, 1st grade





There is a lot of art going on in Trumansburg Elementary School. My art teacher is named Miss Plank. We go to art on Tuesdays. I also have art on Mondays. I think Miss Plank is a great teacher. Miss Plank is substituting for

Mrs. Apker who had a baby. I asked Miss Plank some questions.

#### $\Diamond$

#### How did you learn to do art?

My parents had a few friends who were artists, and they took me to gallery openings and museums. I studied drawing and painting at a local college during the summer. Art takes a lot of practice! I studied Art Education at Ithaca College. I interned at the Ink Shop Printmaking center in Ithaca, and then I went to SUNY New Paltz for a Master's degree in Printmaking.

#### What do you like most about teaching?

As a teacher, the best feeling is when a student says, "OH! I can do that!" to something they previously thought was daunting or impossible.

#### Who was the art teacher you liked best?

Definitely the most interesting character was my Printmaking professor at New Paltz, who was an eccentric artist from Uruguay. He always had a story to tell. He often found dead birds to photograph, and kept them in his freezer.

#### Do you do art at home?

When I want to make art I go to the studio at the Ink Shop in Ithaca. Printmakers need a lot of tools like presses and brayers to make their work.

#### What do you like to teach?

This year I really liked teaching how to make optical illusions with the fourth graders. It took a lot of work, but the results looked impressive.



In art there are different units. Like for example, paint or clay, even sculptures I can take home! We paint things like murals. The paintings look like

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# Student Leadership Opportunities (continued)

working in an environment like the Robot Raiders, you have to not take criticism personally but instead use it as a way to find the best possible design without taking ownership over one particular idea." Max believes that participating in clubs like this can help students discover what paths they'd like to travel down later in life, "It gives you hands-on experience and exposure to things you otherwise wouldn't have encountered, and can help you decide what field you'd like to explore."

Trumansburg also offers a class called Leadership in Action to all Charles O. Dickerson students. Leadership in Action works closely with the high school's student council, the Trumansburg PTO, and the TCSD Foundation to execute different events throughout the town and community. Will Westlake, a Trumansburg senior, describes Leadership in Action: "Although many of the events we organize are pre-planned by the school or the TCSD Foundation, such as Pumpkin Fest and Winterfest, there is also a lot of room for student-led initiatives like the Ice Bucket Challenge, and a stress presentation for 8th graders, which were both the product of student vision. The final project for the class this year was a mock job interview, allowing students to prepare themselves for the leadership ahead of them in college and the workforce."

Outside of the school, there are a myriad of opportunities for students to get involved in their communities. Trumansburg Youth Services and Tompkins County Youth Services both offer amazing programs for students to strengthen their skills, step out of their comfort zones, and improve themselves as well as their communities. Trumansburg/Ulysses Youth Services (T/UYS) works with the Cornell Cooperative Extension to provide students in the community with meaningful activities including Big Friend, Little Friend, the Earth Day Cleanup, and job training and interview skills. Tompkins County Youth Services annually releases a compilation of ways that area youth can get involved, called "The O.J. Guide: Teen Services and Activities in Tompkins County." In this booklet, there are fifty-five pages and three sections—"Know the Community and Get Involved," "Build Skills," and "Get Help and Support." The booklet is bursting with community resources and ways to get involved, including access to internships, jobs and job training, community service and leadership opportunities, and sources for help and support for various issues throughout the community.

Becoming involved in your community can be daunting, especially for a teen. You may not know where to start. However, there are an abundance of resources available if you just know where to look. Strong student leaders are vital to the health of both ones school and community. Between robots, gender equality, and the Ice Bucket Challenge, there are a plethora of ways that you can get involved and make a difference.  $\Diamond$ 



# Interview of Ms. DeCarlo By Alison Latini, 4th grade



Megan DeCarlo works at Trumansburg Elementary School as a K-2 special education teacher. Like every teacher, Megan has goals. One of them is, "to be the best teacher I can be." She was twenty-seven when she first started teaching in Trumansburg. She was twenty-five when she first started substituting at BOCES. Teaching was not Megan's first job. She said, "I chose to be a teacher because, I wanted to help

children learn and grow." Megan has been teaching for four years, and hopes to teach for many more. Megan went to college for five and a half years. She went to S.U.N.Y. Cobleskill in Cobleskill N.Y., S.U.N.Y. New Paltz N.Y., and Daemen

College in Amherst, N.Y. She has two, going on three, degrees. These are Students with Disabilities Birth through second grade, Students with Disabilities first grade through sixth grade, and she is almost done with the third one, which is Students with Disabilities seventh grade through twelfth grade.

Let's get to know Megan a little! Megan has a younger brother named Jeff. Jeff is twenty-two years old. Megan has been playing softball for twenty-six years and does not plan to stop any time soon. Megan came to Trumansburg for a job because, she says, "It was close to my house and I did not want to be far away from my family." Megan's favorite foods are Reese's Peanut Butter Cups and popcorn. Her favorite color is

green, she is partly Italian, and her favorite animals are giraffes. In her free time she likes to shop, play softball, and hang out with her family and friends. Her favorite subject to teach is math. She says that she likes math because there are lots of fun and different ways to do it.

Now, let's talk about what Megan thinks is important about special education teachers. Megan has taught third and fourth grade for three years, and this is her first

> year as a kindergarten to second grade teacher. Megan says, "I still don't have a favorite." She likes teaching elementary special education because, "No day is ever the same, and I like working with kids in

general." Megan says that the difference between special education teachers and general education teachers from her point of view is, "There are less kids so I can support them in different ways." She also says that special education teachers and general education teachers are similar because, "They both care about kids, enjoy teaching, and work really hard." Megan says that the key to being a successful special education teacher is having patience, flexibility, organization, and teamwork.

Megan DeCarlo currently works at Trumansburg Elementary School In a K-2 special education class of four students. She loves her job, and is amazing at it. If you see her at the school, make sure you say hello! ♦

#### Art in Trumansburg Elementary School (continued)

trees, frogs, anything really. We normally use watercolors. I make pandas, giraffes, leaves, butterflies, and skyscrapers.

After I paint I scrub my table with a small towel. If my paint job is beautiful but it gets my hands messy, there is a small sink where I wash my hands. When Miss Plank says everybody give me five, she means drop your things and put your hands up. If we were painting Miss Plank would say put your picture on the red drying rack, paint brushes away, wash your hands.

First-grader Abby Putman responded to two of my questions about art. She responded to what do you love in art. She said, "We get to make decorations and we get to paint." I asked, "What do you like to paint?" She said, "I like to paint flowers, people, and hearts."

I think Mrs. Apker and Miss Plank are great art teachers! I think art's amazing. Do you? Circle Yes or No. ♦





#### **Visit TCSD Foundation on the Web**

http://tcsdfoundation.org

TCSD Foundation, Inc., PO Box 486 Trumansburg, NY 14886-0486 contact@tcsdfoundation.org Special thanks to
Scott Dawson for his
exceptional work and
guidance in connection with our web
presence and social
media efforts!

#### TCSD Foundation 2014 Annual Report

The TCSD Foundation is pleased to present our 2014 Annual Report. With your support, the Foundation funded teacher grants in excess of \$8,300, in addition to continuing sponsorship of the KDT! Trumansburg (Kids Discover the Trail) program, where students pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade incorporate Discovery Trail visits into their classroom learning.

2014 saw the continued production of the district-focused community newsletter, *The Trumansburg Troubadour*, with two more our existing programs, launch new teacher-inspired initiatives, issues written by student journalists.

From January 1 to December 31, 2014, the Foundation raised a total of \$24,187.76 from individuals, business and other charitable organizations, including in-kind goods and services critical to Grant program can be found on our website at our success.

A total of \$32,910.82 in funds was spent in 2014 to continue the KDT! Trumansburg program, to launch eleven other grantfunded projects, and to grant our student Award for Community Service. We are thrilled to report that reimbursements from BO-CES for the KDT! Program makes up the difference between what we raised and the cost of programming.

Our campaign in 2015 will focus on raising funds to continue and increase our endowment to support our efforts to enhance the education of students throughout the district.

Projects funded in 2014 through the Foundation's Teacher tcsdfoundation.org/category/awards. ◊

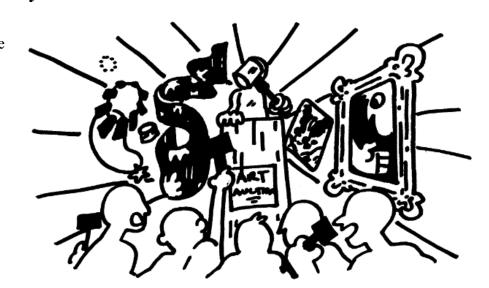
#### Thank you Atlas Bowl



We had a blast! What an honor it was to be invited to welcome everyone who came out to Atlas Bowl for a Sneak Peek March 21st. Atlas owners Todd Parlato, Jon Wagner, and Pete Browning and their team charmed Tburgers and friends of the Foundation with delicious finger foods, including a first taste of their signature tater tots and beer cheese. Thanks to Atlas and everyone who came out to support a new business in Trumansburg and TCSD. With your help and good cheer, we raised over \$2,400 for the school district. Eat, drink, bowl! ◊

#### Thank you Art Show and Art Auction Contributors

This year, in the midst of the darkest part of the long, cold, and seemingly endless winter. Youth Art Month began. The TCSD Foundation is proud to have sponsored Youth Art Month in our schools once



again. Youth Art Month provides special workshops for students that culminated this year in the 2015 Art Show and Art Auction on March 26th. With the help of community volunteers, our art teachers, and many valuable donations of artwork to the auction, we raised over \$2,000.

We received eighty-two donations of artwork from fifty-five students and community artists, including multiple donations by Kate Sinko, Denise Milito, Nikki Clark, Ellen Pennock, and Seegers and Fein Glass.

We would like to thank all our art donors, all our eager art consumers, our wonderful auctioneers Peggy Haine and Amy Brill, Good to Go!, and Pure Food Mind and Body Catering for making this such a great event and fundraiser!  $\diamond$ 

### Robot Raiders Go to World Championship (continued)

students from around the world. It is an opportunity to see how the world's best teams approached and solved the problem for this year's game. For our young team this was quite an experience. On the night before the competition started we were preparing for our first match and were of which was the defending world champions, Team 254—The Cheesy Poofs. After we had our strategy worked out for the match we continued to talk with their team and fix the problem. And the Ithaca Team members and mentors. Talking to students from other teams provides a unique insight This year Code Red let us borrow some into what makes the top teams tick.

That interaction and cooperation with other teams is one of the things that makes FIRST Robotics so cool and so much more each other even though they are competithan just building robots. Throughout the season our team was able to work with many different teams to help each other. We would work together sharing ideas, or borrowing parts or setting up alliances to combine resources at events. For our regional and national events we were part of

a match scouting alliance with Team 20 from Clifton Park, NY where both of our teams worked together to watch matches and record data about other teams' performances. They were also our alliance captain at our first event where we got to the finals. Then at championships we had a scouting meeting together on Friday night at their hotel to come up with a pick list for going into the playoffs because we were ranked so strategizing with our alliance partners, one high that we could have became an alliance apply to attend and it's invite only. This captain. Other teams helped us too. Another local team 1511 from Penfield NY, helped us diagnose a leak in our pneumatic system 639 Code Red has always been supportive. parts in the last few days of build season to help robot. A great thing about these events is that everyone is willing to help tors. It provides an appreciation for what sportsmanship is really all about.

> Some people call FIRST Robotics the hardest fun you will ever have, and this seems like a very accurate statement. The season began with an intense six-week build season. We then go to the competition season where we went to two regional events this year at RPI and RIT. Our

performance at those events then qualified us to go to the world championships. As for this year, even though the official competition season is over, there are still offseason events hosted by other teams that we can attend. With our performance this year we are going to apply for the Indiana Robotics Invitational, the premiere offseason event where the 60 best teams compete. For this event you must season has been an incredible success and experience for everyone involved. We are determined to make it back to the championship next year and continue the success of our team's first two years. ◊

The Robot Raiders are: Noah Back, Ashley Banta, Mason Bonn, Mitchell Denman, Harry Farnham, Coleman Free, Kevin Griswold, Marie Griswold, Henry Hanson, Caeln Honig, Ethan Hulle, Hanlon Hulle, Ben Jordan, Zoe Lincoln, Zack Martin, Maybeck McCann, Peter Stephens, Gage Stepp, Max Westwater and Mentors: Roy Westwater, Jim Perkins, Jeffrey Honig, Phil Van Wormer, Phillip Carubia, Stephen Fastow

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