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RITON VOICE

Triton High School

Triton's Student-Produced Newspaper

June 7, 2019

An Inside Look at THS Music

A day-in-the-life of a musician, a band class, a THS concert

Spring Concert Recap

Band & Singers Delight Audience
By **Glory Trelfa & Karoline Jacobs**
Staff Writers

As the auditorium filled with friends and families and the stage lights began beaming down on the stage, it was clear that the annual spring concert was underway.

The spring concert is an annual event filled with performances by the various performing arts groups including, Singers, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Jazz Choir, Mens Choir, and Women's Choir. This year it was held on Thursday May 16 at about 7 p.m.

Usually, concerts are followed up by a review of each song the next day in class. This helps students hear how they performed and lets them critique themselves. However, this was not the case.

Susan Densmore - concert band, jazz band, and chorus director - had minimal comments and each one was positive.

"I thought it went quite well. The groups were solid, and the music was enjoyable," said Densmore. "The singers were particularly strong in the concert - which was gratifying, considering they only rehearsed once all together! Same goes for the [concert] band. The jazz groups were as strong as they typically are."

Sophomore Samantha Mariniello said that her women's choir director, Robert Lathrop, was very supportive as well.

"He said we did an awesome job with each of our songs. He [Lathrop] was most proud of our ability to perform while using the water glasses in *And In the Evening* [by Audrey Snyder] to make a chord," said Mariniello.

In this song, each girl held a wine glass filled about halfway with water. At certain points in the song, they would dip a finger in the water and rub it around the rim of the glass. This created a "singing" noise. The chords were created because each glass had a slightly different volume of water inside.

Concerts are comprised of multiple performances performed by the various arts groups of Triton. Not only were the performances top-notch, but the transitions between groups were executed nicely as well.

"They [transitions] were as smooth as we could make them. The people moving part is always just what it is!" said Densmore.

Overall, the performing arts students were very pleased with their performances. When looking back, junior Mackenzi Kimball couldn't believe how good one of the concert band songs came out.

"Oh wow, that sounds really good!" said Kimball. "Wow, I wasn't expecting some of those songs to sound good at all. They really came out good. Check it out online *Triton Voice* readers!"

Musician Q & A

Butler Details Passion for Music

By **Karoline Jacobs & Glory Trelfa**
Staff Writers

Being a musician is not easy. With endless hours of practicing and people constantly telling you that it is an E natural and not an E flat. However, senior Maddi Butler is ready to conquer the music world in this *Triton Voice* Q & A session.

Q: When did you start playing the flute?

A: I started playing the summer after third grade and I started taking lessons in fourth grade.

Q: Why did you choose to play flute?

A: I chose flute because my mom played it, and when I was little I thought it was so cool to play something my mom had from high school.

Madi will be attending the University of Massachusetts in Lowell in the fall to pursue music education.

Q: What inspired you to pursue music education?

A: I really want to give kids a place to be creative. In a world that is so focused around rules and confining expectations, I want kids to be able to step out of that and have fun and learn new things and be able to make mistakes. I know that I have always been afraid to make mistakes throughout school, but when I get to play music I want to, I don't care how many mistakes I make because I'll fix them and it isn't the end of the world, and when it's done and learned I feel so accomplished and happy. I want everyone to be able to have that.

Q: What age group are you going to focus on teaching?

A: I want to teach in a high school.

Q: What's your favorite thing about music?

A: Music expresses things words cannot. If there is an emotion of feeling happy and sad at the same time, it can be hard to express. But with music, there can be a major and minor part that clash during one cord and there is something that I sometimes understand better than words. I can feel it and relate to it better.

Q: What's your favorite piece you've ever played?

A: I love all the pieces in a book from the **See BUTLER on page 2**



Triton Senior Madi Butler (courtesy photo).

A Passion for Politics

Godfrey, Valianti Share Love for Debate

By **Joe Luciano & Robert Maggiamo**
Staff Writers

When politics are brought up in conversation, many students lack either knowledge or interest in following the subject.

That is definitely not the case with juniors Andrew Valianti and Tyler Godfrey who are caught up with and interested in the world of politics. But though they share an interest in politics, they do not share the same views on policy. Valianti is a democrat who has written an article on democratic socialism, and Godfrey is a well-known student libertarian-leaning republican.

With them being so informed it's fair to ask where they get their news. Valianti said,

"Mostly my phone i.e. the news, also from the TV channels." And Godfrey said, "On the internet, reading articles and on TV."

Politics are often overlooked or simply disliked by many; however, they are essential to a functioning democracy. "They form the basis of our world," said Valianti. One should certainly consider paying more attention to politics "because they dictate how you have to live your life," said Godfrey.

To those who don't care about politics, Valianti had this to say: "They impact the world around you. Ignoring them will do more harm than good."

In the world of politics, there is a great difference of views and much debate to be had with neither side necessarily being right nor wrong. Valianti had this to say to Godfrey, "We ought to sit down and have a nice, civil discussion regarding policy."

While they both disagree with each other, they respect each other's right to their own opinion. "Andrew can have his own opinion, but he should do some more thinking on it," said Godfrey.

The Fashion Beat

Musings on the Met Gala

By **Bridget Tucker**
Staff Writer

Perhaps the most regal and luxurious annual social event, the MET Gala was held May 6th, 2019. People are just buzzing about which celebrities were hot, who was not, who stuck to the theme of the night, and who stuck out.

The MET Gala is an annual fundraising ball for the benefit of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute.

Each year, there is a different theme based upon the exhibit held in the museum. This year, the exhibition theme of the Gala is *Camp: Notes On Fashion*.

Camp is an aesthetic style and sensibility that regards something as appealing because of its bad taste and ironic value. Originally, those invited to the Gala would be high end New York fashion designers, but the event organizers have since been known to invite Hollywood's favorite starlets.

The co-chairs of the event this year included Lady Gaga, Harry Styles, Alessandro Michele, and Serena Williams. The honorary chairs of the night are yet to be announced. *Triton Voice* asked

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A sampling of the fashion pieces from the MET Gala included Zendaya dressed as Cinderella and Billy Porter in a bejeweled catsuit (MET Gala photos).



Triton Arts Head of the Teachers Association and band, chorus, and jazz band director Susan Densmore leading the jazz band in the spring concert (Jacobs photo).

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Never a Boring Day

A look into a typical band class

By **Glory Trelfa & Karoline Jacobs**
Staff Writers

Squeaks, honks, trills, and vibrations fill the room. Sheet music rustles around and instruments desperately express the notes. Nearly every student scrambles to get last-minute practicing in.



Junior Mackenzie Hamilton wets her clarinet reed and mentally prepares for warm-ups (**Jacobs photo**).

Each band class, every note is played multiple times, each time signature counted many times. The band director counts off but only three people know where they're coming in.

Each band class feels similar but the young musicians improve daily. The following is the general breakdown of a daily band class.

11:58 am :

The class period begins. Students are catching up with friends and talking about how impossible a piece is even though they never practice.

12:00 pm :

Students begin assembling instruments and gathering music. The band director, Sue Densmore, has arrived and is looking to start class.

12:05 pm :

The students have gathered in the risers and are playing random bits of music. Some are scrambling to get a part down that they should be able to play by now. *Careless Whisper* is heard across the room thanks to the saxophones.

12:07 pm :

The director has taken attendance. Some people are skipping class as per usual but no matter, it's time to start the warm-ups. Students tune their instruments using their phones even though everything will probably still be out of tune.

12:10 pm :

Students begin talking again as sheet music is being pulled from folders. The director cracks jokes with students and tries to quiet everyone down. Nearly everyone is quiet but one person says something that causes an uproar of laughter, affecting the director as well. Some students realize they never got the music.

12:13 pm :
Everyone has the music now. At this point the class can go one of two ways: with successes or annoyances. The playing begins at a certain point in the song, usually one that needs the most work. One group messes up something they've done correctly a million times. Begin again. Another problem arises. Fix it and try again. This goes on several times until a certain section has to play without the rest of the band, making the others sit and wait. This is the most frustrating time of the day.

12:35 pm :
The class is almost over but we must play one more song. The performance is in [insert time that makes it seem hopeless here].

12:42 pm :
Students scramble to put away equipment, humming songs that will be stuck in their heads for the rest of the day. The bell rings and they file out, thanking the director in the process. Meanwhile, instruments and sheet music are left behind when they should be brought home for practicing, but this would mean students started class right away and didn't spend 15 minutes practicing things they've done a million times before.

Saying Goodbye to McInnis

Athletic Director Takes Job in Norwell

By **Jeremy Duford, Andrew Valianti, Alexander Michaels, & Eric Desprez**
Staff Writers

As the Triton school year is finishing up, some of the staff are enjoying the end of their careers here at Triton. One of these is none other than Triton's Athletic Director, Sean McInnis.

McInnis is going to be heading to Norwell High School this summer, ending his six-year tenure as Director of Athletics here at Triton.

The Triton community is now looking to the future to see who Triton's next AD will be. At the same time, students are voicing their hopes for the future of Triton athletics.

For the past six years, McInnis has served Triton, attending sports events, planning athletic endeavors, and attempting to give Triton students the best climate to compete at the highest levels while adding new sports.

McInnis has always had a love of sports, but in the past half decade, that love has shifted to a definite love of Triton sports, and the students who call Triton their home.

"This was a very tough decision for me," says McInnis. "At the end of the day it just came down to being closer to my family-I live an hour and a half away. But I love it up here, all the student athletes and the families, you couldn't ask for anything better."

McInnis went on to claim that this position at Triton is in his opinion the best athletic job on the North Shore, a lofty statement when you look at all the competition in Massachusetts.

Many students at Triton have strong feelings about the departure of the AD. Especially the graduating seniors who have seen McInnis stay with them since they came into the middle school 6 long years ago.

Track star Anthony Farago, who has also played sports for Triton since middle school had this to add.

"Personally, I'm torn," said Farago. "I'm leaving, but my brother will be a senior next year. So, we'll see how it goes for him."

Triton senior Spiros Markopoulos had this to say on McInnis' impact here at Triton "I hope the next athletic director can build off of the foundation McInnis has been able to create," says Markopoulos. "Continuing all the success that Triton Athletics have always had."

It is not just the seniors who have feelings about their AD leaving, it is also the juniors who are going to have a new AD for their senior year.

"I'm definitely sad to see McInnis leave, he's always been really great to all the athletes but it's exciting to see a new AD coming in and what changes he or she might bring with him or her to Triton sports," said Triton junior Anthony Ostrander, a member of the wrestling program.

"He was really good while he was here but there were some things he wasn't able to accomplish," says junior Katherine Quigley. "I hope our next athletic director can fulfill some of his promises."

A rigorous process has begun as the school looks to find its next athletic director to fill the shoes left behind by Mr. McInnis. That said, not just anybody can try on those shoes. The procedure that the Triton school board is undertaking is hoping to make sure to find the absolute best candidate to join the school system and continue the upward trend McInnis had started.

"They've put together a list of applicants and have assembled a committee made up of students, parents, community members, coaches, educators, and administrators who are going to select the candidates who move onto the next round," says McInnis about the process of selecting his successor. "That group then will go and interview with the superintendent and if all goes as planned, there will a candidate selected to go in front of the school committee by mid-June."



Outgoing Athletic Director Sean McInnis (**Sun-Chronicle photo**).

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some fashion-forward students their thoughts on who looked the best.

"I think the look that surprised me the most was Dua Lipa," said sophomore Nora Marks. "She never really pops off with anything, and she's always so simple. The best look out of all of them would probably be Zendaya. I loved her Cinderella look, it was tacky like the theme suggests but still so amazing. She looked absolutely stunning and really stole the show. She put so much work into her outfit, and it all really meshed together nicely."

Dua Lipa, the *New Rules* singer, attended the MET Gala in a multicolor Versace leotard with a long train, which was very eye-catching. She accessorized with a jewel-encrusted headpiece. As for Zendaya, the former Disney star showed up in a light-up baby blue Tommy Hilfiger gown. The dress was based off her favorite Disney Character, Cinderella. She was accompanied by her stylist, Law Roach, who dressed as the Fairy Godmother.

"To be honest, I think a lot of the males took the approach of the 'anti-camp' camp aesthetic," said sophomore Andrew Babine. "Camp is all about going out and being ridiculous and clashy, and I feel like most males didn't take that opportunity. With that being said though, shoutout to Billy Porter and Ezra Miller for serving such looks, and staying loyal to the theme."

Billy Porter, a Tony Award winner, really stole the show when he arrived in 'Sun God ensemble' and was carried in by



Riccardo Tisci, left, arrives in a pinstriped suit with train and a mannequin mask; right, Dua Lipa climbs the stairs in a multi-colored Versace leotard with train and a jewel-encrusted headpiece (**photos courtesy E!**).

6 men. He arrived in a golden, bejeweled catsuit with 10-foot golden wings, and a 24-karat gold headpiece. He had custom gold-leaf Giuseppe Zanotti shoes. As for Ezra Miller, the *Fantastic Beasts* star arrived in an optical illusion. Miller arrived in a white cape, which he swept away to reveal a custom Burberry by

Riccardo Tisci pinstriped suit, accompanied with a train. He matched a white mannequin mask to the outfit.

"I think that Travis [Scott] and Kylie [Jenner] looked fantastic," said junior Cam Jolviet. "I know they're the most

hyped couple right now, but there's good reason for it."

Travis Scott, the *SICKO MODE* rapper, arrived to the event in Dior Men ensemble. He sported an agray top, trousers, and a harness, making it a Ghost-buster's inspired look. Kylie Jenner, one of the Kardashian sisters, also stole the show, wearing a lavender, feathered gown that matched her sister's orange gown. The two dresses were both Versace, and Kylie paired her dress with a set of lilac contacts.

With this year's theme being less controversial than last year's *Heavenly Bodies*, people were initially upset about how the celebrities would look 'campy' or 'corny' at the most prestigious event of the year. This seemed to be proven untrue by all the stars' stunning looks. It reminds this writer of a Gianni Versace quote, "Don't be into trends. Don't make fashion own you, but you decide what you are, what you want to express by the way you dress and the way to live."

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Paris Conservatory. They have a happiness yet also a darker part of each of them, and it is so beautiful.

Q: Can you play any other instruments?

A: I can sing and kinda play the piano, but that's it.

Q: What/Who is your inspiration?

A: It is more of a desire to be able to share the passion of music. I also want to be able to teach those kids who want to learn more about music rather than just the basics you get in school. I want to give them the option to learn more.

Q: How have you furthered your music career outside of school?

A: Outside of school I am part of the organization Northeastern Massachusetts Youth Orchestra (NMYO). In that I play in a select flute choir, a wind ensemble, and symphony. I also played with the New England Conservatory Flute Festival, the URI honors band, And I played in the senior districts band, which I was the first person since 2012 to get in.

Q: Do you have any advice for other students planning on going into the same profession?

A: Have a plan know what you want and get it. If there are obstacles, whether its people, or parts you can get through it. Push through and don't ever be afraid to speak your mind and make mistakes, you can only get better. Oh and criticism is your friend, other people's perspectives are important to listen to, you don't have to do what they say but just listen there are lessons to be learned from it.