



Evening PTSA Meeting Meet our New Administrators and Exchange Math Teacher Wednesday September 10, 7 pm

Please come and meet our new principal, our two new assistant principals, and our Fulbright exchange math teacher from India at our first PTSA meeting on September 10 at 7 pm. We want to welcome them to Tam and give all of the Tam High parents an opportunity to get to know each of these extraordinary administrators and our Fulbright exchange teacher who will be working with the faculty, staff and our students this year.

The meeting will be held at the home of Beverly Robertson (mom of senior Matt Robertson) at 23 Glen Drive in Mill Valley. There is parking available; however, we encourage those that are able to carpool or walk.

YOU ARE THE TAM PTSA! Join and Volunteer!

Parental involvement is a key factor in a student's academic success. And the Tam PTSA has lots of ways for parents to get involved.

Join other parents and students planting and sprucing up on a campus beautification day. Drop off a dish one morning for a teacher appreciation breakfast. Help out in the school office. Decorate or chaperone at Safe and Sober Grad Night.

To join the PTSA, see the form on page 3.

A Note from the Principal

Thomas Drescher

Dear Tam Parents,

I am excited for the beginning of the new school year and wish you all a warm welcome back! Tam welcomes two new assistant principals this year: Corbett Elsen and Elizabeth Laborde. Mr. Elsen is a former math teacher at Drake, and will oversee students in grades 10 and 12. Ms. Laborde is a former English teacher and assistant principal, and will oversee grades 9 and 11. On behalf of the new administration team at Tam, we are excited to continue learning about the Tam community, and look forward to working with parents, students, and staff to move the school in an exciting new direction.

While the new Tam administration will spend a considerable amount of time with parents, students, and staff in establishing new goals and priorities, we will be moving forward in improving a few areas immediately. The athletic program will be a point of emphasis for Mr. Elsen and our new Athletic Director Christina Amoroso, both of whom participated in collegiate sports teams. Honor-T/CSF will now be led by Laura Garrett; I will continue the Tam Celebration Committee this year, with the first meeting taking place toward the end of August; Abbey Levine is overseeing Link Crew advisors during 9th grade tutorials to build school community and create a positive school culture. School-wide, we will all focus on teaching and learning to ensure all students have a rewarding learning experience.

Congratulations to our students for another year of outstanding performance on STAR testing last spring. Tam students improved in nearly every category at all grade levels. All indicators suggest our API will grow from last year's 857 score! We appreciate your support in encouraging your students to give their best effort on the tests.

I am pleased to announce that all modernization projects on the Tam campus are currently on schedule for their projected completion date. Keyser Hall is scheduled to be completed and open for classes in January; the new pool and weight room are anticipated to be completed in August 2009; the new student drop-off was completed just before the beginning of school and has been operating successfully. Some of the pedestrian paths on campus have been altered to provide a safe means of access during ongoing construction work. In addition, the Monday bell schedule has also been slightly modified to afford students additional time traveling between classes.



Tam's New Administrative Team: (L-R) Assistant Principal Elizabeth Laborde, Principal Tom Drescher and Assistant Principal Corbett Elsen.

Tam Welcomes New Teachers

(L-R) Dean Church, Social Studies; Lisa Ouse-Hicks, Art; Chelsea Springer, English; Aparna Naidu, Math; Harrison Hobart, English; Corbett Elsen, Assistant Principal.



Ready for Your Close-up?

Picture make-up day is Wednesday, October 8. Photographers will be in the Student Center from 7:30 until about 9 am.

Wednesday, October 8, the senior class panoramic picture will be taken during tutorial (from 9:45-10:45 am) in Mead Theater.

Exit Exam and Computer Proficiency Workshops Available

The District has scheduled workshops for juniors and seniors who have not yet passed the California High School Exit Exam. On Monday, September 22 (a staff development day), an English workshop will be held from 9-11 am, and a math workshop will be held from 12:30-2:30 pm. Both workshops will be at the District Office (room TBA).

A computer proficiency workshop (instruction only) will be held September 30, from 4:30-7:30 pm, at Redwood High School room 279.



The Tam Family

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Modernization information will be updated regularly on the school web site, tamhigh.org. In addition, downloads of the new bell schedule, the drop-off plan, pedestrian travel routes, etc. will be available on the website and in the AP office. We appreciate your patience as we enter the final year of modernization on the Tam campus. We are only a year away from the completion of modernization at Tam! When we open for the 2009-2010 school year our students, staff and community will be able to enjoy one of the most beautiful and historically significant high school campuses in the country.

2008-2009 Tam PTSA Executive Board Roster

President

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YOU ARE THE TAM PTSA! Join and Volunteer!

Connect with other Tam Families and get to know the Tam staff. Just a few hours of your time sprinkled here and there can provide much needed service and support for our school. Many of the volunteer opportunities take very little time, but are fun and help build a strong community.

Parent/Guardian Name (1) _____ (2) _____

e-mail is the best way to receive updates on important school information!

e-mail (1) _____ e-mail (2) _____

phone (1) _____ phone (2) _____

address (1) _____ address (2) _____

student _____ grade ____ student _____ grade ____

Please put a check mark next to your areas of interest:

Campus Beautification –our efforts can make a big difference even as construction continues.

Star testing BBQ April 2009

Baking for a school event including Staff Coffees, Open House, Senior Awards Night and Graduation

Event Participation in conjunction with Leadership Class

Graduation Reception (families of juniors)

Safe and Sober Grad Night (families of seniors)

Exam Proctors (parents of AP students, especially)

Tam Holiday Tree Lot –assist leadership handing out preordered trees (December)

Staff Appreciation Luncheon (March)

School Office Assistance – a great way to get to know the staff

Traffic Safety Committee

Tam Family –newsletter mailing-(a few hours once a month)

Emergency Preparedness

Please join and contribute

Annual PTSA Dues \$25. _____

Web Master – help fund this position (maintenance, new features, programming) \$25. \$50. \$100. _____
(goal \$5,000)

Campus Beautification (With your help, we can improve the Tam environment over the short and long term (cleanup, temporary irrigation, plantings) \$25. \$50. \$100. _____

General Fund (merit and community service scholarships for seniors; newsletter, event hospitality and more. Any amount appreciated.) \$25. \$50. \$100. \$200. _____

TOTAL : Please make your check payable to Tam High PTSA \$ _____

Questions or Comments? Contact Us:

Leslie Wachtel, PTSA President Leslieann@ix.netcom.com 990-1415

Maggie Floum, PTSA EVP maggieod1@aol.com 383-6173

Mail to: Tam High PTSA, 700 Miller Avenue, Mill Valley, CA 94941

**Have your student bring this form and your check to the school office or mail to:
Tam High PTSA, 700 Miller Avenue, Mill Valley, CA 94941**



Welcome Back Breakfast Planned for Faculty & Staff

Our first Faculty/Staff Appreciation Breakfast is scheduled for **Friday, September 19**. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the program, five times during the course of the year, the parents of the PTSA provide a lovely array of breakfast foods and goodies for the faculty and staff. Food and juices are provided by volunteer parents who drop off their contributions to the Hawk's Nest (staff lounge adjacent to the Student Center) as close to 7:15 am as possible on the morning of the event.

The faculty and staff really love being catered to in this way, and are extremely grateful for the effort shown by the parents. This is a fabulous way to get involved with the PTSA and the school – and convenient for parents who are passing by the school on their morning commute. By signing up to volunteer, you are only committing to participate at your comfort level whenever possible.

If you are interested, please contact me: **Helene Siegel-Fotos, Bash5@sbglobal.net, home (415) 389-8598, cell (415) 717-7189, fax (415) 389-5498.**



FOUNDATIONS

News from Parent to Parent Connection

by Janet Miller and Linda Siegel

p2p Co-Coordinators

Does your student have learning challenges that are causing difficulties in school? Do you have questions about his or her IEP (Individualized Education Plan) or 504 plan, or do you need to know more about such plans and how to make them more effective? If the answer to any of these questions is “yes,” you can find help at Parent to Parent Connection (p2p), a Tam District support group for parents of high school students with learning challenges. Our parent meetings offer information from dynamic speakers on a wide variety of topics, and we open each meeting an hour before the program to allow for informal discussion and networking with other parents.

As co-coordinators of p2p, we meet monthly with Tamalpais Union High School District administrators Karen Mates and Bob Hamilton in order to plan p2p programs and also to voice your questions and concerns about how well the district is serving student needs. If you would like to receive e-mail notices of meetings or have comments or questions, please contact p2p@tuhsd.marin.k12.ca.us. To find out more about p2p, visit our website at tamdistrict.org/p2p.

Please join us for our first meeting on September 18 at 6:30 pm. This will afford you the chance to meet us and other like-minded parents AND get off to a good start for the 2008-09 academic year. Our meeting agenda follows:

p2p 2008-09 meeting schedule

Second or third Thursday of the month; 6:30-9 pm, Kreps Conference Center, Redwood High School; program at 7 pm, informal parent meeting time at 6:30 pm

Date	Topic
9/18/08	A cooperative model for advocating for your special needs student. Also, planning for high school success. Speaker: Diane Provo.
10/16/08	You do have choice for high school: Which high school best suits the needs of my student? Student and parent panels on TUHSD high school options.

11/13/08 What's next? Four-year colleges for students with learning Issues. Which ones to pick, how to get in. Everything you wanted to know about four-year colleges but were afraid to ask. Speaker: Jane McClure.

1/15/09 High-risk behaviors. Speaker: Andrew Bailey.

2/12/09 Four-year college isn't the only way. Other options, including two-year college. Speakers: Robert Flynn from College of Marin, and Barbara McCune, Drake High School College & Career Counselor.

3/12/09 Get me outta here! Meeting graduation outcome and high school exit exam requirements/issues for LD kids.

4/22/09 Social/Emotional Challenges.

5/14/09 Help! My kid forgets everything and is disorganized! Executive functioning problems and how to solve them. Speaker: Dr. Barbara Easterlin.

Welcome back to school! We hope to see you at one of our meetings.

Please Tell Me Again ... What Does the Tam High Foundation Do?

By Julie Kertzman



Welcome back! The new school year is an exciting time for students, parents and staff. Our campus continues to be a work-in-progress, but as we see Keyser Hall rising and the landscape changing we can all start to visualize the incredible campus that will be home for the Tam community for the next 100 years.

Many new and returning families at Tam ask questions about the role of the Tam High Foundation. Simply stated, the parent volunteer run Tam High Foundation exists to provide additional funding for public education at Tam High School. Through generous donations from community members and local businesses, the Foundation funds academic and student life programs that enhance teaching and learning for all Tam students. Look around campus and you will see the results of the Foundation's work in every corner. The language lab, extended library hours and aide support, laptops, laptops, laptops, guest artists for drama, documentary film lab equipment for AIM, the alignment rack lift in auto shop, literacy tutors and readers for 9th and 10th grade, the list goes on and on.

The Foundation has a very simple business model. Every year there is a Fall Campaign to raise money from the community followed by a Spring Campaign to raise money from local businesses. In the spring the Foundation solicits grant requests from teachers and administrators. The all-volunteer board of the Foundation reviews the projects and works with the administration to prioritize investments. Then the money is allocated. Last year the Foundation invested over \$300,000 in teaching and learning at Tam!

This year the investments include:

- ◆ 21st Century Literacy – New laptop lab, literacy tutors/readers for 9th – 11th grade, guest artists
- ◆ Teacher Innovation Grants – program and equipment support across many disciplines
- ◆ Technology and Tools – Journalism computers, AIM documentary film lab, library laptops
- ◆ Specialized Expertise – Drama guest artists, library aide, website coordinator
- ◆ Building the Tam Community – “Breaking Down Walls,” LINK Crew, Grad Night, Tam Family newsletter

So it's that time of year again! You all received a donation envelope in your first-day packet and we hope that you sent in your donation. An investment of \$50 per month will impact your student every day. We are asking \$500 per student or whatever you can give to help us achieve our goal of 100% participation.

Here's how you can help the Tam High Foundation:

- ◆ Contribute to the Annual Fall Campaign
- ◆ Become a Business Partner – have your business buy an ad in the THF Directory (call 380-3565)
- ◆ Participate in local shopping programs and re-register for e-Scrip
- ◆ Volunteer your time – Committee work, campaign help, event support

To learn more about current and past projects or to GIVE ONLINE, please visit our website at: tamhighfoundation.org

Innovation is the fuel of progress at Tam High and the teachers and new administrative team are eager to put new ideas to work in the classroom and throughout campus life. The Tam High Foundation exists to enhance the high school experience at Tam and together we have the power to “Light Their Minds!”

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

High Notes from the Music Department

Spiro Tsingaris, Music Director, Sacha Bunge, THUMB President

Welcome new and returning music students and parents. We have an exciting year planned and hope you will join us for the Music Department's events, performances, competitions, and festivals throughout the year. We ended last year on a high note with our “Day on the Green” to celebrate Tam High's centennial. The lineup of alumni and students playing side-by-side in the symphonic orchestra, and in a large array of jazz and choral ensembles, was truly inspiring. We plan to bring this energy and momentum to 2008-2009.

A record number of students has enrolled in the music program, which this year consists of orchestra, chorus, beginning/intermediate band, advanced band, and jazz band. We will again feature the symphonic orchestra (a combination of the orchestra and advanced band) and take this talented group of musicians to the annual music festival in New York.

THUMB, the Tam High United Music Boosters, is the parent support organization for our music program. Over the past half year THUMB has been developing a three-year plan to

expand its support for the music program in new and exciting ways. The three-year plan will be discussed and finalized at the first THUMB meeting this fall. We invite all parents to join THUMB and to attend this meeting to discuss the plans for the year and to hear about the variety of opportunities for participating in our support for the Music Program.

First THUMB Meeting:

Thursday, September 11
7-8:30 pm
Greenwood Music Building

We look forward to an exciting year!

College and Career Center Services

Susan Gertman, College and Career Specialist
Sgertman@tuhsd.marin.k12.ca.us 380-3582

The College and Career Center can help you and your student research colleges and post-high school programs, financial aid, scholarships, college admissions tests, summer programs and volunteer opportunities. Students may check out college catalogs and test prep materials. There is also a job board listing part-time jobs. For the most current information about college and career events, check the Tam High website at www.tamhigh.org.

Keep Current with Email

The College and Career Center sends occasional grade-specific emails to remind students and parents of special events, college visits, scholarship opportunities and last minute scheduling changes. We do not share email addresses with anyone outside of Tam. All families, particularly junior and senior parents, are encouraged to sign up.

The Career Center uses PrepHQ, the district's student organizer, to send emails. If your student has already registered with PrepHQ, make sure he or she has included your current email address. Emails are sent directly to your account. If your student has not registered, here are instructions to get started: Log on to prephq.com and enter "Tamalpais" in the box on the upper right. Once on the homepage, go to "click here to register" and follow the instructions. Students will need their student number to register, and each student in a family needs to register separately. Information about Career Center events will still appear in the Tam Family and Daily Bulletin, which may be accessed through tamhigh.org.

September 10: '08 Grads Advise Seniors on College Process

Five graduates of the Class of '08 will tell seniors what they learned about the college application process at a grad panel during tutorial on Wednesday, September 10, in the Student Center. The grads will tell the class of '09 what they wish they had known at this time last year, how they selected the colleges they applied to, how they got their applications done, how they made their selection and how they handled the stress of getting it all done. Seniors are encouraged to attend, ask questions and benefit from the experience of recent Tam grads.

September 18: College Seminar for Seniors and Parents

Tam will sponsor a seminar for college-bound seniors and their parents on Thursday, September 18, at 6:30 pm in Tam's Student Center. Tam counselors will provide such need-to-know information as how to obtain letters of recommendation and the fall schedule of events. Joy Biscornet, assistant director of admissions at Boston College, will be the guest speaker. She will discuss how colleges read applications and view the admissions process. College-bound seniors and their families are encouraged to attend.

PSAT

Juniors and Sophomores: The PSAT (Preliminary SAT) will be given Saturday, October 18, 8 am to noon, in a location to be announced.

Taking the PSAT gives students an opportunity to become familiar with the SAT and may help to improve future scores. Juniors who took the test last year are strongly encouraged to take it again this fall.

Students may sign up September 8 through October 10 in the Counseling Office during breaks, lunch and after school. The \$30 fee is non-refundable. Checks should be made payable to Tamalpais High School. Additional information will be mailed home this month.

SAT & ACT REGISTRATION DATES

SAT and Subject Tests for 2008-2009

Test Date	Registration Deadline (Regular Fee)	Late Registration Deadline (Late Fee)
October 4	September 9	September 16
*November 1	September 26	October 10
December 6	November 5	November 18
January 24	December 26	January 6
**March 14	February 10	February 24
May 2	March 31	April 9
June 6	May 5	May 15

* The Language Tests with Listening are offered only in November **SAT Reasoning Test only

ACT Test Date	2008-2009 Registration Deadline (Regular Fee)	Late Registration Deadline (Late Fee)
October 25	September 19	October 3
December 13	November 7	November 20
February 7	January 6	January 16
April 4	February 27	March 13
June 13	May 8	May 22



Students may sign up online for the ACT at act.org and SAT at collegeboard.com. Register early for a convenient test site. Tam is not a test site.

Students applying to the University of California must complete all testing by the December test date. Certain impacted California State University campuses, including San Diego and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, require students to complete testing by November. For more information on the admissions requirements of the California State University and the University of California, go to: csumentor.edu and universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions.

Fee waivers are available for eligible juniors and seniors who cannot afford SAT or ACT fees. Students who receive SAT or ACT fee waivers may also be able to waive some college application fees. Talk with your counselor if you think you may be eligible.

Learning disabled students should contact their creative learning teacher for details on SAT and ACT procedures for students with learning disabilities.

College Representatives at Tam and in the Bay Area

Many college admissions representatives visit Tam in the fall to meet with students. Seniors and juniors are urged to take advantage of these opportunities. The visit list, available in the Career Center, on tamhigh.org and on PrepHQ, is updated regularly. Announcements of visits also appear in the Daily Bulletin. Students need a pass from the Career Center and permission from their teacher to attend a college meeting during class time.

Among the first schools to schedule visits to Tam this year are: Bowdoin, Colby, Colgate, Drew, Evergreen State, George Washington, Haverford, Ithaca, Middlebury, Mills, Mt. Holyoke, Northeastern, Ohio Wesleyan, Oregon State, Pitzer, Reed, Scripps, Seattle U., Skidmore, St. John's, Stoney Brook, Suffolk, U of the Arts, U. of British Columbia, UC Davis, U. of Puget Sound, U. of San Francisco, USC, Vanderbilt and Western New England College.

Like Cars?

Learn about cars and earn high school credit at the Regional Occupational Program's evening Auto Technology class at San Rafael High School. Students receive credit for the number of hours they attend. The class is offered Monday and Tuesday evenings, 6-8:30, in the auto shop. The class is free to high school students. This is a year-long class but students can enter at nearly any time. Students register by going to the class. More information is available at the ROP office, 499-5860.

Work Permits

Work permits expire in September. Students under 18 need to get a new work permit from Jane Shapiro in the counseling office whether they are starting a new job or continuing a summer one. All jobs except babysitting and yard work require work permits.

Job Board

Do you have a job at home or at work suitable for a Tam student? Call the College and Career Center at 380-3582 to have it posted on the job board. Thanks for helping Tam students earn work experience and extra money.

Tam Drama 2008-09 Season: from "Grimm" to Avant-Garde

By Susan Brashear, CTE Co-Director and Tam Drama Instructor

A new school year brings with it much anticipation and excitement as former students return and new students begin their time at Tam High School. Conservatory Theatre Ensemble (CTE), Tam's student theater company, usually begins with a flurry of activity as students sign up for shows, crews, production teams and intern positions. Third-year students prepare to take on new roles as student company leaders, while seniors decide on their priorities for their last year of running CTE. The new season is announced to the community as our prospective audiences see what we have to offer for the upcoming year.

This year we anticipate a season of plays that will offer our audience a spectrum of entertainment that we hope will entertain as well as provoke thought and discussion in the Tam community. With the first two plays already cast last spring, we are off to a quick start.

The fall season opens with a new adaptation of the Grimm's fairytales called "Grimm Tales" (think more "Sweeney Todd" than "Little Mermaid"). This version was first developed for the Young Vic Theatre in London and was part of its touring shows. Our version, directed by guest artist Joe Lucas, will utilize his extensive background in theatrical training (including study at Julliard) to interpret the stories with great physicality and vocal energy. Rounding out the performance will be live sound/music that will help bring out the macabre stories. Student designers are working on the visual presentations such as set, props, costumes and lighting that add to the theatricality and underlying moods and themes.

Other mainstage shows continue to challenge both audiences and performers with a variety of styles and themes. In October, "Living Out" explores the collision of cultures as immigrants face the challenges of living in contemporary Los Angeles. Julia Mueller will direct the play ("Dead Man Walking" in 2007-2008). Next is the Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy "You Can't Take It With You" directed by drama instructor Ben Cleaveland in November. February will welcome the return of Bay Area improv artist Regina Saisi ("True Fiction Magazine") who will direct students in a "long-form" improv show. The classic tragedy "The House of Bernarda Alba" will play in March, directed by Julianna Rees-Cleaveland with an all-woman cast.

New plays are a big part of CTE. We have pioneered many original adaptations and new works in our 30-plus year history. Premiering new works by current students, alumni and commissioned playwrights has been a cornerstone of the season every year. This year, we have an original play scheduled for the Mother Lode Drama Festival that began its development with last year's seniors in writing workshops led by guest artist Robert Ernst. This year, he will direct the play with a group of advanced students to bring it to full production.

A new season addition will be a play to be performed at the Lenaea Festival in Sacramento in early February. This play is "to be announced" as we explore whether to take an original work or possibly a student-directed play to this large high school drama festival with about 80 schools participating. We will also be able to bring scenes and monologues to compete for awards.

Besides the mainstage plays, we will present two one-act festivals that first and second year drama students will act in while being directed by students enrolled in Honors Theatre Directing. The Winter One-Act Festival features classic or contemporary plays by leading playwrights; the Spring One-Act Festival will follow last year's formula of presenting entirely student-written plays. Last year the festival produced about 20 new plays that were very well-received by our audiences. That support for young writers was an added boost for all involved.

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Other exciting news: Ben Cleaveland and Susan Brashear were announced as winners of the Milley Award, Mill Valley's creative achievement award to artists in our community who make significant contributions to the community as well as to their art form. It is a great honor for us. (More information to come in the October Tam Family.)

We are very excited for another great year at CTE with all our wonderful students. See you at Back to School Night when we will welcome the incoming students and parents and get reacquainted with our continuing students and parents.

To check on announcements and updates to the season, visit our website: ctetam.org



Choreographing stage combat Grimm Tales, directed by Joe Lucas, guest artist. pictured above: Charlotte Thomas and Alex Bond Bishop.



Students with CTE Co-Director Susan Brashear on last spring's Global Studies trip to London.

On the Shelf

from the Mill Valley Public Library

As the school year begins, we at the Mill Valley Public Library would like to remind students and parents of some excellent tools available for homework help. Many resources are available through our website, millvalleylibrary.org. Of particular interest, however, are two services: AskNow and Live Homework Help.

◆ **AskNow**, is a free 24-hour, seven-day-a-week reference service where questions are answered in virtual real-time by reference librarians. This service is great anytime, day or night, when you have specific questions or need web resources.

◆ **Live Homework Help** is a virtual real-time tutoring service, available every day from 1-10 pm, where students can get help in specific subject areas. Students work with trained tutors, and instantly identify with the chat technology utilized by this service. Both services are compatible with Mac as well as PC computers. The service is also available in Spanish from 1-7pm Sunday-Thursday.

For more information about programs and services for teens at the Mill Valley Public Library, contact **Donna Brown at 389-4292 x125 or email dbrown@cityofmillvalley.org**.

Conservatory Theatre Ensemble

2008-2009 Tam High Drama Season

*Program Directors: Ben Cleaveland
and Susan Brashear*

*Guest Artist in Production Management:
Heather Basarab*

Mill Valley Fall Arts Festival

Face painting fundraiser
September 20-21

“Grimm Tales”

Adaptation of Grimm’s Fairy Tales.
September 23-27
Guest Directed by Joe Lucas

Dance-A-Thon Fundraiser

Ruby Scott Gym
October 11

“Living Out”

Three El Salvadoran nannies encounter challenges in contemporary Los Angeles.
October 21-24
Guest Directed by Julia Mueller

“You Can’t Take it With You”

Pulitzer prizewinning comedy from 1937.
Production made possible by a Tam High Foundation Family Theater Grant.
November 18-22
Directed by Ben Cleaveland

Winter One-Act Festival

Advanced juniors and seniors direct 9th and 10th grade actors.
Thirty classic and contemporary published one act plays.
January 7-10/13-16/20-23

AIM Welcomes Class of 2010

by Emily Bernstein, AIM student author

The 2008-2009 school year is finally upon us, and AIM (the Academy of Integrated Humanities and New Media) is getting ready for another great year of new classes, films and students.

Toward the end of summer the construction workers had some company as the AIM interns and teachers worked hard preparing the room for the first day of school. We have completely cleaned, reorganized, and color-coded our equipment so that everything will be easier to use during projects. A group of seniors reunited for “boot camp,” where we got a refresher on the camera and computer skills that we will soon pass on to the juniors.

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Lenaea Festival Competition at Sacramento State University

Student-directed one act play/scene and monologue competition.
Play TBA.
February 1

Long Form Improvisation Comedy Show-

February 10-14
Guest Directed by Regina Saisi

“The House of Bernarda Alba”

A new translation of Lorca’s powerful drama; set in Spain.
March 24-28
Guest Directed by Julianna Rees

London and Stratford-upon-avon Global Studies Trip

April 6-17

Mother Lode Festival at Amador High

School, Sutter Creek, California
One-act, scene, monologue festival.
April 24-26

Mother Lode Play showing at Tam

New play developed with advanced students and guest artist.
April 29-May 3
Guest Directed by Bob Ernst

Spring New Play Festival

Thirty student-directed & new student-written one-act plays.
May 13-15/19-21/26-29

Tam’s Centennial Celebration Continues with the Milley Awards

by Patti Boston

Hollywood has its Oscar but only in Mill Valley can you receive the coveted Milley. A Milley is a bronze statuette to be bestowed upon five recipients at a gala event on Sunday, October 19. The Milley Executive Committee, in keeping with this year’s theme of Tam’s Centennial, is excited to honor drama teachers Ben Cleaveland and Susan Brashear and also Lucy Mercer, a Tam parent and owner of 142 Throckmorton Theatre.

The Milley Awards for Creative Achievement are an opportunity for the citizens of Mill Valley to nominate those among us who, through their accomplishments in the arts, have brought recognition to our community. Supported by the Mill Valley Arts Commission, the Milley Awards honor artists, artist-teachers and community members who were born in Mill Valley, or went to school here, or work here, or have made their home here, and who have enriched our lives.

Tam As An Incubator of Artistic Talent

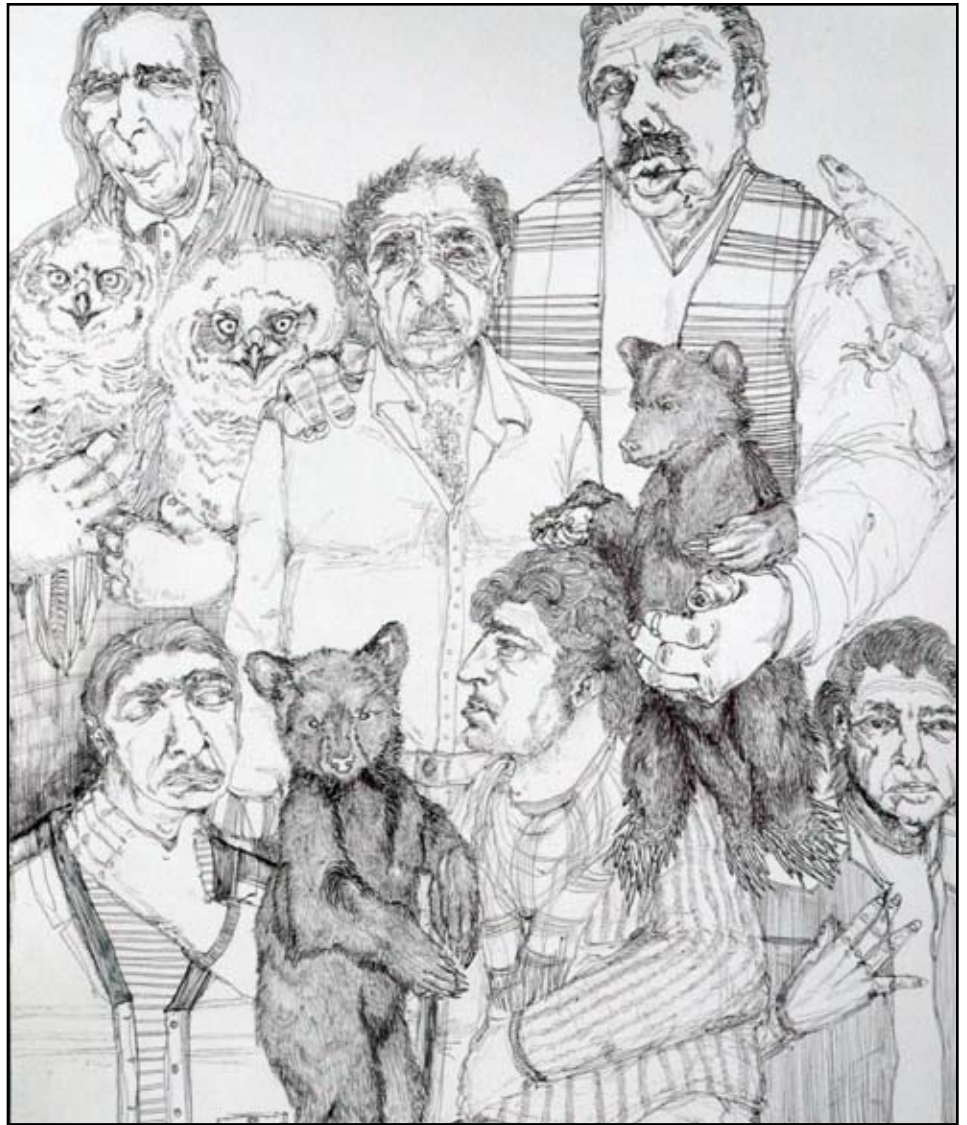
Past Milley recipients who were Tam teachers and left lasting legacies at Tam are Henri Boussy, Dan Caldwell, Bob Greenwood, and Kett Zegart. And now, in 2008, Susan Brashear and Ben Cleaveland, co-directors of Tam’s award-winning Conservatory Theatre Ensemble (CTE), will join this legendary group. Their students who received have Milley recognition include Chester Arnold, Steve Coleman, George Duke, John Goddard, Tom Killion, Rob Nilsson, and Kathleen Quinlan.

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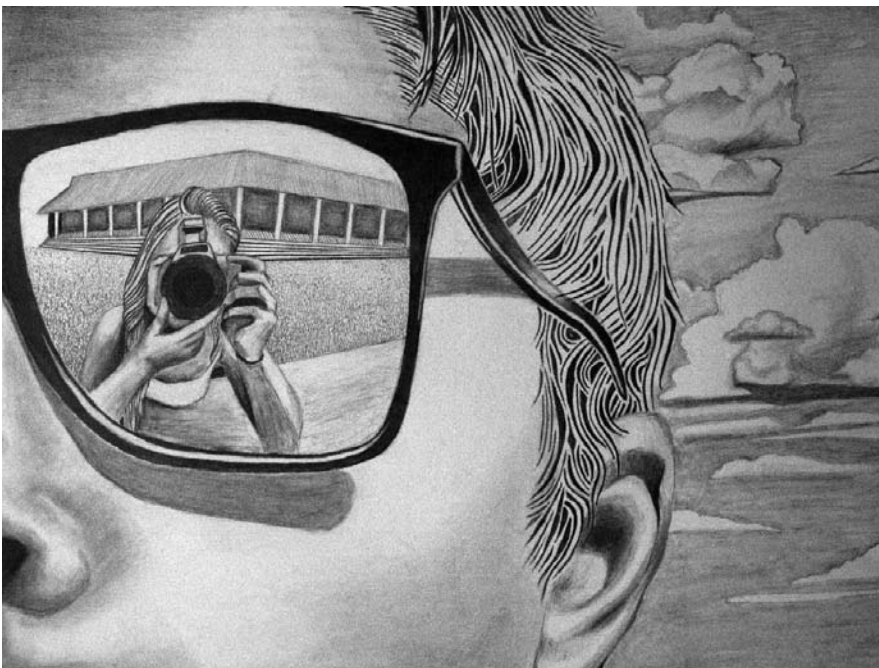
Aside from the new equipment and colorful storage bins, the new addition to AIM that everyone is the most excited about is the class of 2010. We're going to hit the ground running with fun bonding activities and informative classes the first week of school. We will also start our first movie, the "Mandy" project (so named thanks to Barry Manilow's hit song), where groups of juniors and seniors work together to create a short film that includes a variety of scavenger-hunt like items, all set to a teacher-selected song (such as "Mandy"). It is sure to be a great experience with this 77-person class.

On Thursday, September 4, a panel of students will join Mr. Tarpinian, Mr. Goldstein, and Ms. Scharf in the Student Center for a brief presentation during Back to School Night. The teachers as well as the students will be available to meet with parents and answer any questions about the program. Back to School Night is always a nice event to kick off the year and learn about the life of an AIMster.

As the fog rolls in and we dust off our school supplies, we know that summer is coming to a close. Though it is always a rude awakening when the alarm clock goes off on the first day of school, it's good to know that a new and exciting year is about to begin in AIM!



*Above: Varian art.jpg:
By Tam Senior Kelly Varian.*



*Left: Husted art.gif
By AP Studio Art Drawing student and '08 graduate Dana Husted.*



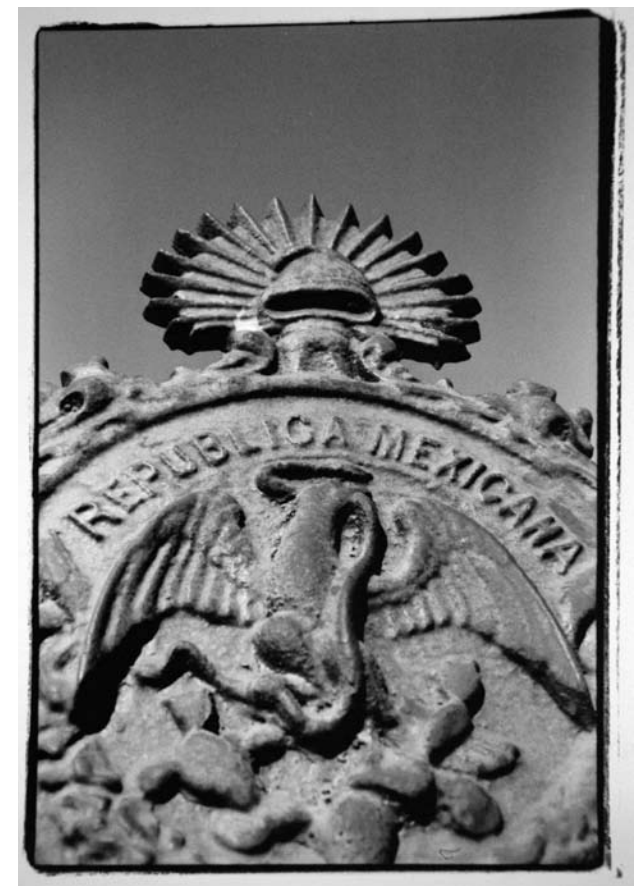
Exhibits Showcase Student and Faculty Art

Work from Tam students from AP Studio Art, Art Exploration, Draw/Paint, Ceramics and Photography classes will be showcased at an exhibit booth at the Mill Valley Fall Arts Festival on September 20 and 21 in Old Mill Park.

CTE drama students will also be at the fair for their annual face painting fundraiser. Volunteers are needed. Contact the MVFAF <http://www.mvfaf.org/volunteer.htm> online or email Lynne Klein at Tam High School lklein@tamdistrict.org.

Faculty Art Show

Artwork by Tam district visual arts teachers is currently on exhibit at the district office in Larkspur. The art will be on display in Kreps Conference Center throughout the month of September.



Photographs from AP photography student and Tam '08 graduate Jenessa Neugebauer.

School to Career Partnership

By Nancy Westreich, School to Career Liaison



College and Career Center, Redwood High School (415) 945-3604

Tamalpais High School (415) 380-3558, nwestreich@tamdistrict.org

I hope everyone had a fun and restful summer. Thirteen Tam students were very busy exploring future careers during summer internships through the School to Career program. These six-week internships included political research and lobbying, film making, website development, physical therapy, newspaper reporting for Marinscope, interning with the Public Defender and District Attorney's offices, sound design for TV, the San Rafael Chamber of Commerce, a surgery internship at Kaiser, corporate video production at Fireman's Fund, and medical research at the Buck Institute.

Leadership News

By Peter Berkhout, Activities Director
pberkhout@tamdistrict.org

Hello and welcome back!

September always brings back memories of when we started school after Labor Day ... and having an awesome kick-off to the school year! We can't change the first, but we're working on the second.

Students interested in starting a new club can find a teacher sponsor and complete the chartering form (available outside Room 154) by September 12. Check out last year's list of clubs on the web at tamhigh.org by clicking on "activities" and selecting "clubs." We'll update the new list as soon as we can. Also, mark down that Club Day is October 3 at lunch. Come out to see what clubs are showing off and what they all have to offer!

Our fall Blood Drive (benefiting Blood Centers of the Pacific) is on September 15. Students can sign up outside the nurse's office for an appointment. Blood donors must be 16 or older (16 year olds need parent permission-slips available outside the nurse's office), weigh at least 110 lbs, and be in good health.

The Back-to-School Rally will kick off the school year with some zany antics. We are looking for some lip sync and game contestants from every grade. (If your student is interested in participating, have him or her email me!)

We are also looking ahead to Homecoming on October 25 this year. We are trying to expand our parade participation to include other fall sports, clubs or programs. If you are interested in helping build a class or club float, please be in touch with me!

4110: Junior Tess Rockers uses her finger as a fencing weapon at CASC Camp at Stanford University.

4132: Junior Claire Courtney swings across the void to meet her fellow travelers at CASC Camp at Stanford University.

We offer internships in the fall, spring and summer for sophomores, juniors and seniors. Fall internships will begin on October 6 and run through November 28. Applications are due on September 11 and are available in my office. Students must be available to work a minimum of six hours a week for eight weeks. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please stop by and see me.

Other School to Career Services

I am available in the College and Career Center at Tam on Wednesdays and Thursdays. I assist students with internship placement and preparation, finding job shadows and informational interviewing opportunities. I also help students with resume writing, interviewing skills, and I provide opportunities for students to participate in career-related field trips and activities throughout the year.



Join Alumni to Spruce Up Tam on Back to Tam Day, September 6

9 am – noon

Meet in front of Tamalpais High School Renew old friendships and reflect on the past while refreshing the campus by planting, fertilizing, and maybe some weeding. Water seal Mead Theater and paint wooden benches and tables as needed. Clean and power wash steps (the men really like to do this!). Bring your favorite garden tools, paintbrushes, dropcloths, power wash equipment, garden hoses, wheel barrows, heavy duty extension cords, etc. Label what you want to keep.

Noon

Picnic on the grass with your classmates.

(If your arthritis keeps you off the hill, you can help us with registration and the barbecue.)

Cost? Your time. Can't make it? Your contribution of \$10 will buy a gallon of water sealer

for Mead Theater or other needed supplies for the day. Send tax-deductible donations to the Tamalpais High School Alumni Association (write "Back To Tam Day" on your check) and mail to Bill Sefton, CPA, P.O. Box 1008, San Ramon, CA 94583-1008. (A couple of hundred people giving \$10 each made this a huge success last year.)

Call (800) 617-2455 to register so that we have a count for the organizers, how much food to purchase, and so we can keep you updated regarding any last minutes changes. Leave a message if you have any questions. We'll call you back.

Are you available with a pressure washer the weekend before? We would like to prepare the Mead benches before water sealing them. Give us a call at (800) 617-2455 and let us know.

**Volunteers needed for
Bloomathon Fall Planting
Saturday, October 18
9 am at the Community Center
in Mill Valley
For information contact
Mary Lou Ibershof at 383-5107**

SPORTS

Congratulations to the Tam girls' soccer team, and their coaches

Dustin Nygaard, Shane Kennedy and Michael Carbone, for the special recognition they received on June 16. The mayor of Mill Valley, Shawn Marshall, honored them as MCAL and NCS champions and presented the team with a City Hall Proclamation at a ceremony at City Hall!



Tam Boosters News

The return to school means the fall sports teams at Tam are gearing up. It also means the parent volunteer group that supports Tam's athletic programs in which 600 students participate is also getting organized.

This year's Boosters board is headed up by Patti Boston, parent of Maddy and Hannah – seniors on the tri-titled soccer team, and Kerry Huffman, new parent to Tam with a freshman, but old hand in being involved with local athletic organizations like CYO, the Dirt Bowl, Little League and Pop Warner. Wade Schlueter returns as the money guy with one daughter playing water polo and on the swim team and another daughter recently graduated from Tam continuing her stellar aquatics career at UC Davis. Also returning to head up the Business Banner campaign are Lisa Canepa (Patrick) and Tim Havernick (Gage), both with seniors on the baseball team. New parent volunteers on the board with incoming freshmen include Julia Abramson (communications committee), Jackie Raffa (membership chair) and Jim Simkalo (Business Banners committee). At-large members include Jim Wickham, Jamie Firmage and Elizabeth Suzuki and community member Diana Jansen.

The first Boosters meeting is on Wednesday, September 3, at 7:30 pm in the library on the second floor in Wood Hall. Meetings are always the first Wednesday of the month and are over by 9 pm. Every meeting has a sports update by the athletic director, Christina Amoroso, a school update by the assistant principal, Corbett Elsen, and potentially other speakers who will include Tam coaches and speakers on topics such as college recruitment, injury prevention and other relevant sports-related topics. Anyone can attend a Boosters meeting.

Thank you to the 200 families who have already signed up to become Boosters members. We encourage all families of student athletes to join. Our goal is to match the high percentages of Booster members enjoyed at other Tam District high schools such as Drake and Redwood. Tam Boosters raise funds to assist all Tam athletic teams where the District's funds fall short. Coaches submit requests for Boosters' funding through the Athletic Director. Boosters funds equipment, uniforms, transportation, academic tutoring, weight room supervision, the new Tam Hall of Fame and the senior athletic scholarships. Boosters provides guidance to new club sports, too, such as sailing and mountain biking.

For more info, contact Patti Boston at pj32flynn@aol.com or tamhighathletics.org.

BOOSTERS BUSINESS BANNERS

A bright, large banner displayed at Tam sports venues shows the ultimate support of Tam teams. A new banner is \$425 and a renewing Banner is \$325. This includes a banner with your business information, designed to your specifications, displayed at the football field in the fall, in Gus Gym during basketball season and at the baseball field in the spring. Contact Lisa: grdnquen@comcast.net

FALL SPORTS CAPSULE

These fall sports are up and running. Come out and support Tam teams! Here are the coaches and a couple of updates (with more updates to come next month):

Cross Country – Sylvia Goodman & Bob Friedlander

Football – Tony Keefer

Freshman Football – Jon Black

Freshman football is back at Tam this year with over 30 participants to date. The boys include experienced former Pop Warner players, but the majority of participants are new to the sport. The coaching staff of Jon Black, Larry Heiges and Rip Ridley is very excited about the turnout and the quality of athletes on the team. The coaching staff focuses on discipline, proper technique and fun. The Hawks have a tough schedule starting with De La Salle and finishing with Justin-Siena.

Girls' Golf – Kirk Hansen

Boys' Soccer – Dustin Nygaard

Girls' Tennis – Bill Washauer

Tam girls' tennis was 10-4 in MCAL last year, finishing tied for second, and then lost in the semifinals of the MCAL team tournament. They have lost only two starters to graduation, and the team, lead by senior co-captains Ariel Sultan and Katie Brigham, is looking to improve upon last year's finish.

Girls' Volleyball – Beth Maseuli

Boys' Water Polo – Bob Kustel

Girls' Water Polo – Brandon Williams

Tam Cheer and Dance Team – Kristy Campbell

Important Dates to Remember:

First Boosters Meeting – September 3, 7:30 pm, Wood Hall Library

Homecoming Parade and Football Game – Saturday, October 25

Boosters Annual Crab and Pasta Feed – Sunday, February 8, 2009

Tamalpais High School Emergency Phone Team 2008-2009

What is it?

The Reverse Phone Tree is to be used by parents should a significant emergency occur which affects the school operation. In a major emergency it is conceivable that the phone system will be unable to respond to the hundreds of incoming phone calls from parents and loved ones seeking accurate information on the status of Tam High students and staff.

When and how will it be used?

The Reverse Phone Tree system will be implemented should the school face an emergency which would preclude the school's ability to receive incoming calls. The parents listed on the phone tree will receive a call from a site administrator who will provide a status report on the school along with other important information. As a parent it is your job to call the appropriate person on the phone tree that will pass along information provided by the administration on the status of the school, staff, and students.

IF YOU LIVE IN:	PRIMARY	BACK-UP
BOLINAS/STINSON BEACH	Jayne Greenberg (h) 383-7364 (c) 640-0259	Karen Jernstedt (h) 388-5622 (c) 264-4321
MARIN CITY	Jen Nichols (h) 381-5157 (c) 816-3258	Leslie Wachtel (h) 388-7766 (c) 990-1415
SAUSALITO	Helene Siegel-Fotos (h) 389-8598 (c) 717-7189	Maggie Floum (h) 383-6173 (c) 250-2567
MILL VALLEY AREAS: DOWNTOWN & BLITHEDALE/CASCADE CANYON	Deb McNeil (h) 388-0655 (c) 328-1299	Janet Buder (h) 388-3154 (c) 317-1646
HOMESTEAD	Sylvie Silverstein (h) 381-5621 (c) 516-3583	Ilana Friedman (h) 389-0202 (c) 518-0860
SYCAMORE/GOLF COURSE	Patti Boston (h) 381-8959 (c) 215-8959	Ruth Rosenfield (h) 388-5738 (c) 307-4191
ALTO/SCOTT VALLEY/ENCHANTED KNOLLS	Jayne Greenberg (h) 383-9492 (c) 640-0259	Heather Schleuter (h) 388-6307 (c) 342-1430 (w) 924-7757
STRAWBERRY/TIBURON/BELVEDERE	Joan Prigian (h) 381-3992 (c) 203-6587	Patti Bertenthal (h) 388-5863 (c) 425-5431
TAM VALLEY/MUIR BEACH/OTHER AREAS	Dana Rieger (h) 389-6529 (c) 254-3933	Lisa Kirsten (h) 381-3621 (c) 706-7645

*Leslie will call all the Primary Numbers
Jayne will call all the Back-Up Numbers*





**PTSA
Tamalpais High School**

700 Miller Avenue
Mill Valley, CA 94941

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #59
MILL VALLEY, CA 94941

Date	Time/Event	Location
	SEPTEMBER 2008	
1	LABOR DAY – NO SCHOOL	
3	7:30 PM – BOOSTERS MEETING	LIBRARY
4	BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT	GUS GYM
	5:45 PM – JAZZ BAND	
	6:15-6:35 PM – PROGRAM	
	6:50-9 PM – CLASSROOM VISITS	
5	MINIMUM DAY – 12:35 PM DISMISSAL	
6	9 AM – NOON – ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BACK TO TAM DAY	
9	7 PM – TUHSD BOARD MEETING	KREPS CONFERENCE CENTER REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
10	7 PM – PTSA MEETING	23 GLEN DRIVE MILL VALLEY
11	7 PM – THUMB MEETING	GREENWOOD MUSIC BLDG
15	BLOOD DRIVE	STUDENT CENTER
18	6:30 PM – COLLEGE SEMINAR FOR SENIORS & PARENTS	STUDENT CENTER
18	7 PM – P2P MEETING	KREPS CONFERENCE CENTER REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
19	7:30 AM – WELCOME BACK BREAKFAST FOR FACULTY AND STAFF	HAWK'S NEST
19	9:45 AM – BACK TO SCHOOL RALLY	MEAD THEATER
20-21	CTE FACEPAINTING FUNDRAISER TAM STUDENT ART SHOW	OLD MILL PARK
22	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY – NO SCHOOL	
23	7 PM – TUHSD BOARD MEETING	KREPS CONFERENCE CENTER REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
23-27	7 PM – CTE PRESENTS "GRIMM TALES"	CALDWELL THEATRE
	OCTOBER 2008	
8	MINIMUM DAY – 12:35 DISMISSAL	