

RHS Weekly View

A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

5/24/2013

Princeton Honors Kirtane



Princeton University will honor Ridgewood High School social studies teacher, Medha Kirtane, as part of their annual Distinguished Secondary School Teaching Award. She is being recognized not only for her exceptional teaching but her devotion to her students and to improving the curriculum of Ridgewood High School.

"She possesses the unique ability to harness her intellectual passion and curiosity, and effectively translate it into the classroom environment," says principal, Dr. Thomas Gorman.

The Distinguished Secondary School Teaching Award is given out each year to four outstanding New Jersey teachers. Kirtane will be honored at the Princeton Commencement in June.



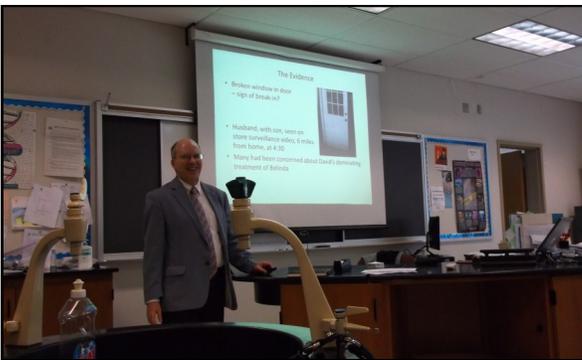
Saxophonists Emmett Rapaport and Daniel Kim, and trombonist Marshall Case pose with Region Jazz Conductor Jim Salzman. The RHS trio successfully auditioned for the Region I Jazz Ensemble. Rapaport was also accepted into the New Jersey All State Jazz Ensemble as lead alto saxophonist. The All State Jazz Ensemble performs each year at the NJEA Teachers Convention in Atlantic City, and at the NJ Performing Arts Center in November.

Grammy Quarterfinals



It was announced this week by the Recording Academy that the newest Grammy Award presented by the Academy, the Music Educator Award, has narrowed its quarterfinalist list down to just 217 teachers from across forty-five states. Among the names found on the list is music teacher, Jeffrey Haas, of Ridgewood High School.

The list will eventually be narrowed down to ten finalists and the winner will be announced during Grammy Week at the Special Merits Award Ceremony and Nominee Reception. The semifinalists will be announced in August.



Professor Michael B. Sponsler from Syracuse University speaks with Dr. Walters' forensics class about an actual crime scene investigation.

FAST FACTS...

Preliminary numbers for the 2013 HSPA show that RHS has moved up by 1% in Language Arts Literacy and by 5% in Mathematics.

Upcoming

May 27:
MEMORIAL DAY;
School is closed

May 28:
A Cappella Concert;
7:30; Little Theater

May 29:
RHS High Times Scoop
Night; 6:30; Ben and
Jerry's Ice Cream

May 30 to 31:
RHS Celebration of the
Arts

May 30:
Celebration of the Arts
Gala; 6:00; Campus
Center

UNIVERSITY OF LIFE

An original student
written production by
the RHS New Players.

June 1 & June 2

[Order your tickets now](#)

SALADWORKS GIVEBACK

Saladworks will donate
5% of the store's net
proceeds received
every Sunday and
Monday to RHS.

The program will run
through Memorial Day.
Saladworks is located at
37 Chestnut Street
Ridgewood, NJ 07450.



Members of the RHS Garden Club and other organizations work on planting a garden by the school's tennis courts.

A Growing Education

On May 11, thirty-one members of the Ridgewood High School Garden Club joined together with student volunteers and members of the Yale Day of Service team to transform a barren 27 by 80 foot site into an environmentally friendly garden classroom.

The garden consists of a water retention system, an herb spiral bed, tree trunk seats, raised vegetable beds, and an edible forest garden. It was designed by teacher, Mike Hoogerhyde, who will also use the garden to help teach science to his students.



RHS Saxophonist Robert Schablick and the RHS Big Band and Jazz Lab play with legendary jazz trombonist Tom "Bones" Malone. The concert took place on May 19 at Chakra.

Faculty Highlight: Ruth Parks



Ruth Parks has been working at Ridgewood High School for twenty-seven years teaching German and sometimes French in the school World Languages department. She graduated from Douglass College Rutgers (NJ), with a Bachelors of the Arts in French with a minor in English, from Boston University (MA) with a Masters of Education in English, and from Montclair State University (NJ) with a Masters of the Arts in Supervision and Administration. Parks also acquired her German language certification and credits from several universities and workshops located in Austria and Germany.

One of Your Favorite Memories of Your Time at RHS:

I have traveled abroad with students twelve times (to France, Taiwan, Germany, and Italy) and have loved every minute of it! The German Exchange is now in its fifteenth year and nothing has been more satisfying than watching my students form lifelong friendships with their German counterparts. The German Exchange of 2010 was the most memorable, because the ash clouds from an unexpected volcanic eruption in Iceland closed down European airports and we were stranded in Germany for an extra ten days. Our return flight was canceled three times, once by phone, and twice after we had checked in at the airport! Luckily, our host families were incredibly gracious and welcomed us back to their homes. The principal of our German partner school assigned us our own classroom and, with the help of email, our students were able to keep up with their assignments.

What Advice Would You Give Every Student:

See as much of the world as you can while you are young and live or study abroad, if possible. Travel will change you in ways you can't imagine. You cannot appreciate what it means to be an American until you have lived somewhere else and experienced another culture firsthand. When you can communicate with other people in their language, you will begin to see yourself – and them – from an entirely different perspective.

Something You Don't Know About Me:

I have studied at ten different European universities in Austria, England, France, Germany, Switzerland and Scotland. Although I take students to the opera every year, my favorite music is Broadway music and I have a very large collection of albums.

A Window Into Ridgewood High School



Engrossed students taking their end of the year biology exam.



Freshmen dance out on the dance floor during the annual Freshman Semi-Formal. The semi-formal gives 9th graders a chance to celebrate the end of their first year in high school and interact with their fellow classmates.



The Maroon Men and AcaBellas perform together at the First Presbyterian Church of Ridgewood.



The Ridgewood Crew Team celebrates their various awards, medals, and trophies at the Stotesbury Cup Regatta last weekend.

Girls' Lacrosse Triumphs

The Ridgewood Crew Team dominated the competition at the Stotesbury Cup Regatta. The team brought home four gold medals and one silver. This is the most gold medals that the Ridgewood team has ever won at the national competition.

The Stotesbury Cup Regatta is the largest high school rowing competition in the country, with almost two hundred high schools competing in over thirty categories.



Vidushi Sharma, Simone Dupont, Claire Walter, Mary-Gwendolyn Taylor, Kathryn Leung, and Allie O'Brien pose at the Senior Art Showcase



RIDGEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Website: <http://rhs.school.ridgewood.k12.nj.us/>

