



CCA Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 2

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Raven art by featured CCA artist, Monica Bielawski

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Envisioning Excellence

Is your student dancing around the kitchen, painting on the walls, singing at the top of their lungs, constantly found with a camera in their hand...all in the name of homework? Chances are your son or daughter is enrolled in an Envision class. Envision is the visual and performing arts program at Canyon Crest Academy. The program has two components – classes during the school day and Conservatory. The classes during the day are open to all students. Offerings include anything from Rock Band to Sculpture, several different dance classes, cinema, theatre, vocal and instrumental music, digital and fine arts, and everything in between! The goal of the Envision Day classes is to ignite the spark, curiosity and appreciation of creativity as well as challenge students to embark on a personal journey as artists, whether they take only one class or sixteen! 1200 out of our 1700 students at CCA participate in Envision during the school day.

The second piece of the Envision program is Envision Conservatory,

an extended day 5th period class that students gain admittance to in grades 10 through 12 by interview and/or audition only. Envision Conservatory students who



Envision Theater presents:
South Pacific character
Nellie portrayed by CCA
actress Emma Stratton.

Photo credit:
Andy Ribner

are highly-motivated and extremely passionate artists, desire to be challenged further on a daily basis. The goal of Envision Conservatory is to offer a pre-professional training program that places graduates ahead of their counterparts whether they choose to go to college or enter directly into the professional world. Students enrolled in Conservatory grades 10 through 12, would have the opportunity to complete 600 hours in their discipline! The students who complete the three years of rigorous Conservatory training receive special Conservatory Honors at graduation. Beyond our own amazing staff, a crucial component to the success of Envision Day and Conservatory classes is the use of professional artists to teach classes. On any given day you will find guest artists in any Envision Day or Conservatory classes sharing their knowledge with all Envision students. Funding for Guest Artists is made possible through designated "Envision" giving to the CCA

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Dollars for Scholars

Canyon Crest Academy Dollars for Scholars (DFS) awarded over sixty scholarships to graduating seniors last year who demonstrated a passion for academics and extracurricular interests, as well as those with financial need. We are looking for committee and board members, (Indians and chiefs both are welcome) to get

involved on campus in this rewarding, exciting and minimal time commitment endeavor.

We invite you to attend our next DFS meeting and meet a dynamic group of hard working, involved parents. Specific skills are not required, just a desire to support and enhance the ongoing

education of our greatest resource, our students.

Please feel free to contact CCA DFS for more information or the meeting date.

jennt@san_rr.com or
mitgang4@yahoo.com

Getting to know an AP



**Assistant Principal
Mrs. Elloise Allen**

Photo credit:
Keane Studios

This is my first year as a member of the Raven team - and I love it! I shifted to CCA from Torrey Pines, where I was an AP for the past 3 years. Before that I taught AP World History, World History and Psychology at TP. I also taught at Coronado High School - where I worked as coordinator for both AP and International Baccalaureate programs and taught honors, AP and IB history courses and English college prep classes. I also taught grades 7 and 8 at the San Diego Jewish Academy. I feel a connection with many

of our students who are first or second generation immigrants into the United States since my family immigrated to the US from South Africa when I was a freshman in high school. That experience has made me critically aware of not only the experience of immigrants in our schools and trying to assimilate into a culture, but also the difficulty of English language acquisition since my native language is Afrikaans.

My experience in the US has been incredibly positive though overall - I enjoyed American high school and went on to

earn a BA in History and Religious Studies and an MA in Education at the University of San Diego. I also had an opportunity to complete another Masters in Early Modern European Material Culture at the University of London, Royal Holloway.

CCA has been a wonderful new addition to my experience list - I've had the opportunity to guest lecture in some classes on Art History, immigration and more, and enjoy working with the incredible ASB student team!

- Mrs. Elloise Allen

Principal's Corner



Principal Mr. Brian Köhn

Photo credit: Natalie Morris and Alex Allen

Parents have a variety of questions for me when we have the opportunity to chat. Here are a few of the questions I see most often: What is the single most distinctive characteristic of CCA? That one is easy, our high achieving and compassionate school culture. Our staff really cares about the students here and that influences every aspect of CCA.

How well do students do on the standardized tests

(Advanced Placement, STAR, etc.) on the 4x4 schedule? The proof is in the results. No other school in SDUHSD has a higher Advanced Placement pass rate than CCA; 85%. In addition CCA consistently ranks among the top 3 schools in the county on STAR test results. Our graduates are now attending the finest public and private schools across the nation (you can visit our counseling website for a complete list).

How will the state budget short-

falls affect CCA? No doubt as the state of California is asked to make adjustments due to the budget shortfalls, public education will be asked to do the same. How this will affect staffing and services at CCA is unknown at this point simply because there is no indication yet from the state just how much adjusting will need to be made and when it must be done. One thing is for certain, the fund-raising efforts of our CCA Parent Foundation have never been more critical.

- Mr. Brian Köhn

ASB Activities What's happening around campus

CCA Students participating in our 1st annual Mock Election.

Photo credit:
Danielle Troha



09°Belo Winter Formal is just around the corner on January 10th, 2009 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Belo in Downtown, San Diego! Only about one month left, and tickets are now on sale! Tickets begin at \$50 with an ASB card and \$55 without, and guest tickets are \$65. All guest passes must be turned in by Wednesday, January 7th; no exceptions. Students will need a completed guest contract to

purchase their tickets. The attire is formal and appetizers and drinks will be provided. This night is going to be filled with fun and excitement-so hurry and purchase your tickets!

Thank you for all of those that participated in CCA's first annual mock elections! We had over 50% of the student body participate. Our results matched very closely with that of the state of California with Obama as

Continued on page 4...

D/FA Conservatory Students Chalk Little Italy



Digital and Fine Arts Students working hard on their colorful chalk mural.

Photo credit: Steven Anderson

weekend of October 11, India Street is shut down and artists are given blocked off areas on the street in which they

create amazing colorful chalk murals. This idea originated a long time ago in Italy, in a small town called Verona. The town would have a giant festival with hundreds of murals lining the small streets. Little Italy has translated this event into today's Gesso Italiano Festival.

CCA has been participating in this event for the last three years, with teams from the Digital/Fine Arts Conservatory volun-

teering their time to go down over the weekend to participate. This has always been a favorite event of the student artists to participate in, so they willingly organize themselves into teams of students from varying grades and skill level and choose their own images that they would like to draw. Once the image is decided upon, the kids learn the process of gridding, enlarging, and drawing the image all on their own. The students plan practice sessions in advance, where they stay after school on Mondays and Fridays and practice working as a team to get the proportions of the image correct as well as the colors. Two teachers, Rachel Edwards and

Continued on page 4...

Once a year in Little Italy, there is a giant festival celebrating all things Italian - food, music, novelties, and ART. On the

Athletics

CCA would like to congratulate our 2008 Boys Tennis and 2008 Boys Volleyball teams for bringing home our first CCA school banners!! We are so proud of all your hard work and commitment... GO RAVENS!!

Boys Tennis Co-League Champions

The 2008 Boys Varsity Tennis team brought home the first league championship in school history with an outstanding regular season record of 17-3 (12-2 in Coastal League) and a semifinal appearance in the CIF Team Championships. The boys nearly beat reigning champion La Jolla H.S. in an incredible match losing by a score of 10-8 and put the rest of the county's teams on notice that CCA Tennis is not only on the map, but here to stay.

Boys Volleyball Coastal League Champions

Last spring, the CCA Boys Volleyball team notched the 1st ever 20+win season in school history, a #2 seed in the CIF playoffs, and a coastal

league championship banner. It was a nice way to send off our First 3 seniors who helped begin the school on such a strong note. We look forward to adding many more championships to the Raven volleyball program in the future.

CCA Fall Sport Highlights:

Cross Country

The Cross Country teams are doing well, Adam Rolph has proven himself one of the best in the league, placing 2nd at our first southern coastal meet. The girls team placed 2nd overall in our first league meet, losing to Bishops by only 3 points. Could be a battle for final championships. The Girls JV team won the team event at the Jaguar Invitational led by freshman Emily Deams who placed second overall. The Girls Varsity team placed third behind Claremont and Pt. Loma. Only Claremont is in division 3 for CIF state meet qualifications. The last 3 weeks of the season should be very exciting!

Girls Golf

The CCA Girls Golf team wraps up the season this week with the Coastal Conference Tournament on

Wednesday at Encinitas Ranch. The girls team has had a great year going 5-9 overall and 5-7 in league. Sara Mark and Gracie Baker have been extremely consistent this year leading the way for the Lady Ravens.

Girls Tennis

Girls Varsity Tennis is currently 7-6 and poised for their 3rd consecutive CIF Postseason appearance. Great job Lady Ravens!

Girls Volleyball

Girls Volleyball is currently 16-7 overall and 2-3 in league. We are rated as one of the top 10 teams in San Diego County by both local newspapers. We placed 7th in the prestigious Beach Cities Invitational and 5th in the Fall Classic tournament.

Boys Water Polo

Canyon Crest Academy Boys Water Polo is having a great first year in the 2008 Valley League. They have a record of 7

Continued on page 4...

"CCA Tennis is not only on the map, but here to stay!"

2008 Girls Varsity Volleyball team with Coach Haas.

Photo credit: Miles Munson





Students prepare for Some Enchanted Evening

Photo credit: **Andy Ribner**

Envisioning ...continued from page 1

Foundation, which is the sole funding source of our Guest Artists. (As always, an enormous thanks to them!!)

Our remarkable students, amazing staff, stellar guest artists and consistent collaboration make Envision Day and Envision Conservatory an extraordinary program; a program that is used as a model for high schools of the arts around the state. For more information please visit www.cca-envision.org.

Athletics ...continued from page 3

wins and 1 loss, and that was by only 1 point. We are very excited to have Ian Davidson as our Varsity Coach once again and Charlie Equels as our new Jr. Varsity Coach. Coach Davidson is doing an outstanding job with Varsity, developing skills and leadership needed for the scholar athlete. Coach Equels has the job of training our incoming players to take on the roles necessary to carry on the winning tradition created by our Varsity team. Make sure you attend some of our home games at Cathedral Catholic HS Pool.

The Spring Athletic Packet deadline will be Tuesday February 17th.

ASB students Cindy Li and Isabelle Giapp working the CCA mock election polling station.

Photo credit: **Danielle Troha**



What's Happening...continued from page 2

the clear winner.

This event successfully educated the student body with information regarding the presidential candidates and the propositions.

The Athletics Committee has unveiled their Giant Calendar to all of CCA. All athletic events of December are displayed on the calendar to alert the student body of our upcoming games.

We are tentatively planning a dodge ball tournament on December 8-12. There will be 16 teams with five people on each team. You can sign up at lunch from December 1-6. We hope you can come and watch or participate!"

Thanks so much to everyone who helped us make the November 18 Senior Souplantation fundraiser a great success!

The CCA Student Store has just undergone remodeling and is featuring all your CCA Spirit Wear and School Supplies. The CCA Student Store is Located to the Right of the ASB Room next to the Student Parking Lot. Stop by any day at Lunch, and come check out what the CCA Student Store has to Offer. A Personal Favorite of the students are the Frozen Fruit Popsicles, so come try one any day at Lunch.

Finally, thanks to all of the students who donated items to the Monarch School Supply Drive, which was a drive directed to help the homeless children of San Diego.

Chalk...continued from page 3

Jessi Matthes, helped out this year with logistics and critiquing the student work. Parents were also vital in supporting the kids by supplying them with food, encouragement, chalk, and various other items.

On the weekend of the event, the kids worked on their murals over a span of two days as passersby marveled at their skill level and how well they worked together. The student artists got a chance to talk to reporters, other artists, and were even invited to participate in another similar event in La Jolla, coming up in June of 2009!



Far Right-Angela Zumaya, Kaori Nakami, Tyler Lampe, Miranda Ciotti and Courtney pose over their completed chalk mural in Little Italy.

Photo credit: **La Strada**

DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
7 <i>Canned food drive 8th through 12th</i>	8 <i>Progress Report period ends</i>	9 <i>Music Concert</i>	10 <i>Late start 8:00 am Senior Class Photo</i>	11 <i>10th grade Parent night presentation 6:30 to 8:00 pm</i>	12	13
December						
14	15	16	17 <i>Progress Reports to be mailed (approx.)</i>	18	19 <i>Last day to drop with a W</i>	20
January						
4	5	6	7 <i>H.S. Selection Web Opens—Due Feb 4 Deadline to purchase Formal guest ticket</i>	8	9	10 <i>Study skills workshop Winter Formal</i>
11	12	13	14 <i>Late start</i>	15	16	17
18	19 <i>School Closed for ML King Jr. Day</i>	20	21 <i>Late Start</i>	22 <i>Finals Schedule</i>	23 <i>Finals Schedule</i>	24

Envision Arts News

- Envision Conservatory application deadline is **December 12, 2008**. Students can turn in applications at the Student Services (Counseling) building.
- **Sophie Needleman** is performing with the professional company Evoke Dance Theatre in December.
- Envision Instrumental Music PRIM3 a jazz, funk, fusion student ensemble is working with Mike Bogart, trumpet player from Tower of Power.
- Envision Theatre Conservatory has had master classes with the cast of SPRING AWAKENING and Thom Christopher Warren, currently Broadway's THE LION KING.

- A Mira Costa Life drawing class is being taught at CCA during Envision Conservatory.
- Digital/Fine Art Senior Painting Exhibition is at E Street Café, Encinitas – 36 paintings are on display and for sale.
- CCA Assistant Principal **Elloise Allen** was a featured guest lecturer in Envision AP Art History Classes.
- **Brian Ducoffe**, an Envision Cinema Conservatory student, had his film *Sound Kills* selected for the Rooftop Summer Films Festival in New York and the Tallgrass Film Festival in Kansas. **Ducoffe** was also accepted to the Emerson Young Writers Program.
- Envision Cinema Conser-

vatory student **Mike Christy**, is working for the company DV Creations on the set of Disco Abs.

- **Mark Raines**, Envision Cinema Conservatory Coordinator, is presenting this week at the Association for Career and Technical Education Conference (ACTE) in Charlotte, N.C. **Raines** is the National 2008 Outstanding New Career and Technical Teacher.

- This Spring, Envision Instrumental and Vocal Music along with Envision Dance will present Carmina Burana. **Brian Kohn**, CCA Principal and Mike Bogart from Tower of Power will spearhead this dramatic and beloved piece of music.

Envision Arts Events

12/4 & 12/5 at 7pm, 12/6 at 1pm Proscenium Theater. Envision Dance's **Romeo and Juliet: A Hip Hop Love Story**.

12/9 and 12/10 Proscenium Theater. Envision Instrumental and Vocal Music **Winter Concert** featuring Choir, Orchestra and Jazz Ensembles.

12/11-12/18 (show times vary) Envision Theatre **Crimes of the Heart**, a Pulitzer Prize winning comedy, is playing in the Black Box Theatre.

1/15-1/17 Proscenium Theater. Envision Dance presents **The History of Us** – an all Envision, all CCA variety show, celebrating, both academically and creatively, the world in which we live.

2/6 **Recycled**, an Envision Instrumental Music collaboration with students from Greensburg, Kansas.

Canyon Crest Academy Recognizes...

Our Envision program received a letter of commendation from the Director of Admission at USC Thornton School of Music, for being a music program to watch!

CCA Math Team placed 10th in National Math contest! Administered by the National Assessment and Testing organization, several Canyon Crest Academy students received individual awards, helping their team to place 10th in the nation. **Raymond Wu** placed 25th in the 9th grade division, while **Marco Gentili** was 23rd in the 10th grade division. In the 11th grade division, **Leon Zhou** placed 12th and **David Ding** was 26th. National Assessment and Testing contests cover a variety of formats, including individual and team tests, as well as a variety of difficulties, from one hundred easy problems in thirty minutes to fifteen complex problems in one week.

Congratulations to **Tanooj Luthra**, who qualified as a semifinalist in the 2008-09 Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology. The Siemens Competition is one of the leading science and mathematics research-based competitions for high school students.

CCA is proud to announce the following students who qualified as National Merit Semi-Finalists for 2009:

- Ronit Abramson
- Nicole Depolo
- Katherine Lee
- Kevin Morgan
- John Warlick
- Julia Zhang
- Sara Zlotnik

CCA is also excited to share that the following students qualified as Finalists in the National Hispanic Recognition Program for 2008-2009:

- Michael Deluca
- Nicole Depolo
- Sarah Karpen
- Daniel Lipson
- Alexandra Lopez
- Sara Zlotnik

The following students received Commendations from National Merit: Hannah Belitz, Viktoria Betin, Francis Dang, Thomas Dial, Sean Engineer, Mallory Fallin, Christine Gaglione, Reuben Guberek, Samuel Huang, Annie Zia, Tyler Johnson, Sarah Karpen, Kara Levis, Xiao Li, Daniel Lopson, Alexandra Lopez, Irisa Mahaparn, Jaron Mercer, Steven Moffat, Miriam Neigus, James Perkins, Marck Reicher, Griffin Rousseau, Gil Tabak, Jessica Yuan, Michael Zhou

Just in time for Press: Coach Hayden reports the Girls Cross Country team results: the team finished 2nd in the coastal conference, only losing to Bishops by 5 points. 4 of the girls finished in the top 10 of the league; **Charlotte Kusminsky, Bri Bockman, Anabel Arredondo, and Sara Zlotnik**. Overall a very good season with lots to look forward to in the future!

Important!

Think about *your* future at CCA! High School selection site opens online on January 7. The selection deadline is February 4 at 4pm. The Lottery for CCA will be held on February 23rd. **All** current students must submit a selection of their high school of choice on the website by **February 4**.

Counseling News...

- **10th Grade Student and Parent Presentations** will be held 12/10 and 12/11.
- **NAVIANCE** - Be sure to try the new career and major program, "*Do What You Are*," in Naviance.
- **PSAT** results will be available shortly after the winter break.
- **Support Groups** Ms. Dexter and Ms. Pelzel (Counseling Intern) will be offering support groups covering a variety of topics such as: stress, body image, family life, relationships, academics, etc. Pick up a group request form in the Counseling Office.

CAREER CENTER COLLEGE VISITS

All upcoming College visits are listed in Naviance.

SENIOR NEWS

Scholarships are posted in Naviance.

Financial Aid Nights -1/7 and 1/20.

CCA Website will be down Dec 19—Jan 5!!

We apologize for the inconvenience, but due to necessary construction, no email to teachers will be delivered, no Aeries portal will be available, all teacher websites will be inaccessible. Please plan accordingly.



Quick Links

- [Donate online](#)
- [Donate by mail](#)
- [Sign up to volunteer](#)
- [CCAF Fact Sheet](#)
- [eScrip/shopping rebates](#)
- [Designated giving info](#)

We Did It!

eScrip & Shopping Rebate Registrations Are Up

We are pleased to report that eScrip, our passive fundraising program, has experienced a three-fold increase in CCA family participation since the beginning of the year! For more information on signing up for eScrip, use Quick Links (above) to go to the CCAF website.

President's Desk

November 2008

Welcome to the CCA Foundation's page in the school newsletter. We will use this format to bring you news of our events, activities, and accomplishments during the year. For starters, **Annual Report 2007-2008** is now available on our website. By eliminating printing costs of the newsletter and annual report, we are **saving nearly \$15,000** this year.

Another exciting development is the **rebranding** of the Foundation to better represent our spirit and purpose. Check out our new logo and mission statement on this page. Fundraising is in full swing and momentum is building toward the final stretch of the **\$100K in 100 Days** campaign. Also look for the **Legacy Wall** on campus. The plaques displaying qualifying donors from the 2007-08 academic year are now mounted on the wall.

Thank you all for your ongoing support of the CCA Foundation; with your help we can continue to offer our children an exceptional high school experience.

Mark Mimnaugh, President

Feature News

100K Deadline Ends December 3rd...
in one hundred days Only 17% of all CCA families have donated

We're close to the finish line of our fall fundraising campaign. Now's the time to give! [Donate what you can to the Foundation](#) -- make an investment in your child's high school education. Foundation funding impacts academics, performing and digital/fine arts, college and career counseling, student affairs, engineering and technology, CCA's athletics teams, and extended-day Envision Conservatory classes.

Save the Date: CCA Gala & Auction 2009

Our Gala & Auction 2009 will be held on April 24, 2009! The theme is **APRIL IN PARIS**. Early highlights include **Susan DeVincent** of the KyXy Morning Show as Mistress of Ceremonies and music by the **Ultratones**. The Gala will also feature a wine cellar and live auction, dancing, and fine dining at a premier venue in San Diego.

The Gala is the Foundation's biggest fundraiser of the school year. The goal of the event is to raise funds for the programs and priorities identified by the school's principal and staff. For more information and to get involved with this grand event, please contact Gala Chair Ellen Mitgang at mitgang4@yahoo.com.

The Fine Print

NEW MISSION STATEMENT: The Canyon Crest Academy Foundation is a non-profit, parent volunteer organization dedicated to realizing CCA's educational programs and priorities through financial, volunteer, and community support.

The Foundation meets at CCA on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 A.M. These meetings are open to the public, and parents and visitors are welcome. The Foundation is the primary source of private funding for the school. We provide the resources to give our children the exceptional educational opportunities that are the hallmark of Canyon Crest. Suggested annual contributions are a single donation of \$1,000 or \$100/month for 10 months; 25% of directed donations is allocated to the Raven Fund (Unrestricted).