

Gleneagle’s Student Voice  
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# theEdge

## Student excellence celebrated at year end ceremonies

**IZZY DOCTO**  
staff reporter

It was *Oscars* night last night as Gleneagle was filled with proud parents and camera flashes during the annual year end Awards Ceremony. Students were recognized for their excellent achievements during the school year.

“Awards night allows the school to celebrate the success of students. It also allows us to celebrate the success of parents and teachers who work well with their children or students,” explained **Gerald Shong**, principal.

**Bindy Johal**, counselor, explained how this year promoting the exemplary accomplishments of Gleneagle students was very important.

“We as teachers and staff...think it’s so fabulous that kids make honour roll and participate in clubs and athletics,” she said.

**Tammy Ough**, counselor agreed. “We just want parents and teachers to be able to come together and celebrate those kids who have been doing amazing work.”

Under the guidance of the Master of Ceremonies, **Andrew Lloyd**, social studies teacher, major awards and awards for each subject were handed down to the deserving students.

Academic awards were presented to the top student in each grade. The winners were **Kimberley Chang**, grade 12, **Paolo Mercado**, grade 11, **Won Tae Lee**, grade 10 and **Joyce Chang**, grade 9.

Academic athlete awards were given in recognition of great work in academics and participation in sports. The winners were **Kimberley Chang** and **Michal Jurkowski**, grade 12, **Kathleen Chu**, **Jessica Jazdarehee** and **Jonathan Tan**, grade 11, **Andrew Chang** and **Kristyn Zoschke**, grade 10 and **Hannah Tvergyak** and **Ryan Arce**, grade 9.

Winners for subject awards were chosen based on overall subject excellence within each course.

“I think some students are going to do well with or without rewards, and [for] others I think that is an incentive for them... it depends on the individual student,” commented Johal.

“I would hope that they have intrinsic motivation to do well,” explained Shong. “There are definitely advantages to doing well in school... but it’s more just a celebration...than an incentive,” he added.

## Graduating class of 2011 shoots towards Starry Nights

**EVANGELINE SHIH**  
staff reporter

With the grad dinner and dance less than three days away, emotions run high as most grade 12’s are gearing up for their big day with enthusiasm. “I’m nervous and excited at the same time,” said **Antoinette Lee**, grade 12, “both for the dinner and dance, and after-grad.”

Taking place this Saturday, June 4, at the Westin Bayshore, downtown, many students are making reservations for limos and special transportation with their friends. “My friends and I are going by limo,” said **Jeresa Li**, grade 12. “With two hours to get downtown, we are planning to go to Stanley Park to take pictures, and go around downtown for fun.” Others prefer to travel alone for convenience’s sake.

This year’s after-grad theme is Starry Nights. The meticulous and detailed planning was not an issue for this year’s 11-membered grad committee, according to **Mark Liao**, the teacher in charge of this group of students. “The planning was very smooth,” said Liao. “The students were broken up into sub-groups, and different groups had their own area of responsibility; for example, hotels, fundraising, P.R, music and decorating,” Liao praised the committee for the smooth

sailing of each part of the planning process. “This is why I handpick the group,” said Liao. “I try to pick a group of students who were known to get the job done.”

For many students, another exciting aspect of grad is the awards, including the coveted Talon and Eagle Awards. These awards are presented at the Commencement ceremony which will be held this year at the Orpheum Theatre on Sunday, June 19.

A huge honour for a graduate is to be chosen as class valedictorian. The Valedictory Address will also be given at Commencement. The nominees for valedictorian gave their speech for the prompt “Believe” this past Tuesday, and the top four nominees were **Reza Sheikhzadeh**, **Jacquie Bolster**, **Erin Bodin**, and **Steven Black**. The valedictorian will be announced tomorrow.

**Bindy Johal**, head counselor, said “I believe that the valedictorian should be someone who is well respected among their peers, someone who is a good citizen, and someone who is comfortable speaking for and in front of this graduating class.”

Post secondary education at a university, college or technical institute is a scary but anticipated goal for many of the grads, but it comes at a hefty price. There are numerous scholarships that help students achieve their dream education, but Johal feels students are not taking advantage of these sources.



MICAH LAO PHOTO

***Tweaking the nest:** Grade 12 student fine-tunes the headpiece of birds for the scholarship board in the Coquitlam Centre Art Show. Zhu was awarded two scholarships for her original pieces. (SEE STORY PAGE 5)*

This year, the qualifications for receiving subject awards acquired some minor adjustments.

“The reason we’re doing that is because some courses have a lot of different teachers and it’s uncomfortable for one teacher to say their student is better than someone else’s student when they maybe mark differently or teach differently,” explained Shong.

Last year, the minimum awards a student had to obtain in order to be invited to the year end Awards Ceremony were two.

This year, the minimum was brought down to one, in order to recognize the great accomplishments of more students.

The students were also encouraged to play up their wardrobe with smart-casual attire.

“It’s such a special night and the parents are so proud of their kids, so it’s always nice to dress up for the occasion,” said Johal.

The evening also included a musical performance by **Bryan Jackson**, guitar teacher, with a few Gleneagle students.

“There are entrance scholarships and applied scholarships,” said Johal.

“Entrance scholarships are automatically given if the university finds the student outstanding, but applied scholarships are only given to students that apply and qualify. There are many exceptional students in this graduating class, but the problem is not enough students apply.” She hopes this will serve as advice for future graduates.

“High school was a maturing experience for me,” said **John Kim**, grade 12. “I started to realize the reasons for which I study and pursue higher education.” As an international student, he speaks for a major group of the student body. “I have been here just under eight years, which is unusual for an international student,” said Kim. “Initially I felt intimidated and restrained by my inadequacy with the English language. However, if I had not felt that way, I do not think I would’ve had the same motivations and incentive for striving to become fluent.”

After applying for numerous schools in the US, he chose University of California, Los Angeles to pursue a career in business. “As an international student, I know that most of us have had to deal with certain sacrifices and hardships,” said Kim, “whether it’s separation from family, adjusting to a new setting, or learning a new language. Being an international student is a privilege; not many people

are blessed with the opportunities that are provided to us. Whether or not we take advantage of those opportunities is up to us.”

“I feel like I’m ready to move on,” said Bolster. “I’ll miss Gleneagle, but I’m ready and excited to move on to bigger things.” As the school year is drawing to a close, this is probably what is going through every grad’s mind. “High school made me less afraid of getting to know other people,” said Bolster. When asked about advice she would give underclassmen, she said “People are open and welcoming if you let them be. Have as much fun as you can, get involved, make friends, [and] enjoy yourself.”

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Saturday June 4**  
**Grad Dinner and Dance**

**Thursday June 9**  
**Year End Concert**

**Sunday June 19**  
**Commencement Ceremonies**



# High school still has impact after graduation

The worst part about summer vacation is the feeling you get, at the beginning of July, when you realize that it's all going to be over in two months. You have only 60-odd days to soak up your freedom before you have to get back to whatever you're getting back to.

In a way, the beginning of June almost has an easier feeling to it, like you're watching the clock, waiting for the school days to run out, restless out of your mind and ready to break free of routine.

But why do we wait in anticipation for school to end? Why, even since the end of winter break, do we want so *desperately* to get out of school and jump into summer?

In high school, it's really easy to feel like you're just following the same path as everyone else, that you're just moving along like we're supposed to, that it's not really *your* life. It's really easy to feel like you're not really living so much as you're filling in the blanks of what someone else has written for you.

Summer is a breath of fresh air; we really get a taste of what feels a lot like freedom. We realize what we want to do and we can actually, for the most part, *do it*. We're almost desperate to just get it out of our system.

But we forget that it's still *our life*. We're still making choices and decisions, and despite how predictable it can become, we're still shaping our experiences and our character and learning every single day.

And we take that with us everywhere and always because it becomes a part of us. There's no way that four years, restrictive or mundane or not, don't shape us, because they do. They shape us in a way that we don't really understand yet.

So whether you're coming back for another year or two or three, or you're leaving to get to wherever you're headed, you have to remember to leave behind everything that you don't really need (drama, stress, all that negative stuff), and take with you everything that makes high school somehow enjoyable.

Because even if you hate it here, even if you're planning



never to ever touch a pencil again once you cross that stage and you're handed a diploma, you can't deny that high school forces you to decide what you're going to do *after* high school. It's a stepping stone to something else, a step-

ping stone that's undervalued in its impact. High school is our life for four years, and after that we're kind of forced to decide what kind of person we are and what that means before we do anything else.

## Combatting laziness with productivity during summer



edge columnist

Summer! Summer! Summer! It is June and it's finally exam month. This month is always the most hectic, tiring, and stressful month of the whole school year.

But before too long, exams will be part of the past and we'll all be anticipating the wonderful days of summer vacation ahead.

Paint a picture in your head.

You're on the beach feeling the breeze pushing you back as you walk along the coast, listening to the waves lapping on the

*I suggest that you go out there,  
and have as many adventures as you can*

shore, smelling the fresh air and the freshly cut grass.

Yes, it's a lovely scenario isn't it? So please do not sit around at home just thinking about it.

DO IT.

We have two months of summer vacation, so please do not waste it just staying in the house with a laptop in front of you.

I suggest that you go out there, and have as many adventures as you can. Perhaps start now.

Look for a job or volunteer work. Jobs may be competitive, but if there is a will, there

is a way.

Doing nothing productive during the summer is not going to get you anywhere, and I really think it's not healthy for our bodies to be lazy all day.

Last summer, I didn't do any volunteering or work, so what else was there for

me to do?

I'd wake up so late in the day, perhaps past noon, and what would I accomplish that day? Eating, watching TV, going on the internet, sleeping late? Yes, it's a nice, relaxing day, yet, what have I done, really?

Statistics show that 26% of the youth in our generation are physically weaker than youth ten years ago.

This worries me. I do not want our generation to lower our health standards, or lose interest in other physical activities.

Yes, our summer vacation is the time to relax from the stress we put upon our-

selves during school, but we should also keep in mind that summer is also a time for us to explore and discover things that we are not able to do during the regular school year.

If one is too lazy to head outside and prefer to stay at home, why not choose to read a book for the fun of it?

I would also suggest walking in the park. Just enjoying the weather along with beautiful scenery during the summer is something we should not take for granted, because when else do we get to spend a full day in sunshine, right?

Not to sound like a hypocrite, I may not accomplish all my own goals. I may not get hired right away, or I may be too lazy to go out for a jog at Lafarge, but at least I have the initiative to do something active during my vacation.

Summer should not be taken for granted; it's the only time of the year that we have two full months off, so I really want to make my summer meaningful enough to remember, so that ten years from now, I can say that I enjoyed it.

theEdge

Gleneagle Secondary  
1195 Lansdowne Drive  
Coquitlam, BC, Canada  
V3B 7Y8  
604 464-5793  
fax 604 464-5796  
theedge@sd43.bc.ca

The Edge is the independent voice of the students of Gleneagle Secondary produced by the Journalism 11/12 class. It conforms and adheres to the standards and style of the Canadian Press.

Letters to the editor are welcome and will be printed as space allows; letters must be signed and

free of libel. The Edge reserves the right to edit for accuracy, spelling, and grammar.

Additional articles, opinion pieces, and features may also be submitted and will be printed as space allows. The Edge reserves the right to edit any submitted material for brevity and style.

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What is your favourite memory of Gleneagle?

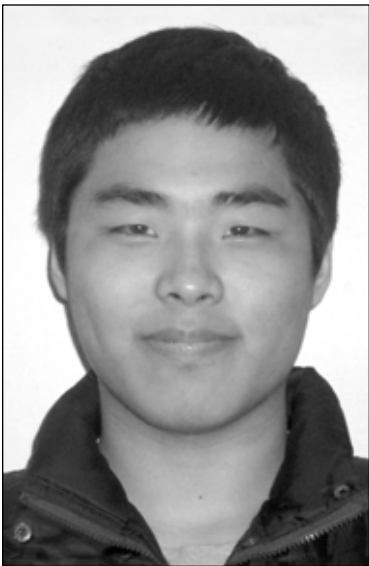
YOU  
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IT!



grade 12  
"Hanging out at the lockers with TJ McLean, just playing Hacky sack and listening to his boom box."



grade 12  
"My friends; I'm so glad I spent my time here with them."



grade 12  
"When I wrestled as a member of Gleneagle's wrestling team."



grade 12  
"I think it's actually coming here in the first place."

Graduation celebration worthwhile after many years of education



Edge Columnist

The school year is coming to a close. The grad class of 2011 is anxiously awaiting the day when they will finally be able to walk across the stage and accept their high school diploma in front of their family and friends. But not everyone is so excited.

For the past few months I have heard many people talking about how high school grad "isn't such a big deal" and not really worth so much celebration. I've listened to classmates and even my own family arguing that the expenses involved in the grad dinner-dance aren't worth the experience, since high school graduation is nothing compared to that of a post-secondary institution. And I can understand their points. However, I strongly disagree. Ever since we were five years old—or younger, for some of us—we've been attending school every weekday for 10 months of the year. We are forced to wake up early, pack a lunch, and lug our heavy backpacks to school. I can't even begin to count the hours I've spent in the classroom, or the number of homework assignments I've completed over the years. Each time summer comes around, I've always felt like a tiny victory has been won, a small milestone reached. But after the two short summer months of bliss, we're all carted back to school where our boring, monotonous routine begins again, and it

feels like our small victory was for nothing. For 13 years we've endured school, but it wasn't exactly time wasted. We've learned about algebra and geometry, physics and biology, Canadian history, and the English language. We've studied Shakespearean plays, taken language classes, and learned about World War II. And if I ever need to calculate the length of the hypotenuse in a right-angle triangle, I'll be well-armed with my knowledge of Pythagoras' Theorem. Some of my biggest achievements thus far have happened through school, and it has had an enormous impact on my life. I think these achievements deserve to be recognized. It's true that most people graduate from high school, as long as they make an effort to dot their "i"s and cross their "t"s. It's obviously not a competitive achievement. But it's still an achievement. To me, graduation isn't celebrating the fact that I completed all the required courses. It's celebrating the fact that I worked hard to get to where I am today, and it recognizes all that I've accomplished. In addition to recognizing 13 years of hard work, graduation also doubles as a "coming

of age" party. Since most of us are turning 18 sometime in 2011, it marks the time when we become adults and enter into the real world. For the first time, we're forced to make our own decisions about which direction we want our lives to take. I think this is a significant, albeit intimidating change that deserves to be celebrated, and grad provides the perfect opportunity. It's true that the costs of the dinner-dance can easily get out of hand. But for those of us moving on to post-secondary school, there won't be too many chances in the near future where we're able to party and celebrate for a night with the people we grew up with. I think we deserve a chance to bid our childhood years farewell with our closest friends. It's more than just a boring, meaningless obligation that our parents force us to participate in. It's a recognition of all the hard work and tireless effort we've put into our education so far, a recognition of all those small milestones we reached after each year of grade school. And I think this celebration is very worthwhile.

Letters to the editor:



[Re: "Penny dilemmas: keep or discard? That is the question"]

Even though the penny has a low value, it's still money. After collecting a bunch of change, you can keep it in a jar and, eventually, in a savings account. It may not seem like a lot, but it accumulates. You'll be surprised by how much money you can collect in a year just by picking up change off the floor.

- Marvin Dejasco

[Re: "Somewhat paradoxical: when death becomes reason to celebrate"]

Overcoming differences is easier said than done. I do strongly agree with your statement, "Even though cultures may be different, the idea is to accept them." However, society itself these days still does not get the idea. Many novels and stories contain that clichéd moral, and many parents tell that to their children themselves, but no one is putting it into action; therefore, I'm glad you chose to write about the celebration of death, and how we need to make the world better. I hope many people will realize the truth that's been hanging in front of them for their entire lives; they just need to open their eyes.

- Joyce Chang

[Re: "Royal wedding overdone, overly expensive, wasteful"]

Dear Cassie Gibbons, I strongly agree with your statement about how the royal wedding was overpriced, over exaggerated, and wasteful. The only reason half the world tuned in was to see some sort of "history," but it's not—people with money can attract anyone. Sure they were royalty, but you don't need to invite half the world's politicians who you don't even know, and Lady Gaga, and what's his name...Elton John, yeah, that guy. Costing millions, plunging England into debt, all for one man and one woman to kiss, hold hands, and that's basically it. It's all a show for nothing.

-Arman Bondar and Mitch Howey

I found Gibbon's article rather blunt and ignorant. First off, of course the royal wedding was going to be extravagant and "overdone," as it is the English monarchy. England is known for its monarchy, which brings much media and tourism to their country. A wedding for a future king is not going to be a cheap ordeal. English citizens only pay around 66 pence annually in taxes towards monarchy, which is a very insignificant amount. The majority of wedding costs most likely came from the royal family's money; therefore, it was their decision to go "over the top." The royal wedding was also, of course, going to be surrounded by media—it was a historical event that brought much pride and nationalism throughout England.

-Natasha Rambaran

I agree with what Cassie Gibbons said, "a wedding is something that is supposed to be shared within a circle of close friends and family." Yes it is overly expensive, but I do not think it is wasteful. I think they want the whole world to their wedding because I think all of us are their family or we are their friends; they want us to know that they are loving each other, and they want us to give them our happiness, our love, and our support.

-Rodica Jasper

# Greater good more important than minor discomfort

ANDREA KLASSEN  
staff reporter

Saving lives has never been so easy. Up to 33 lives were saved two weeks ago by Gleneagle students who donated a little of their time and 450 ml of their blood to help people all over B.C. who need it more.

“There is a shortage of blood in the province,” said organizer and

teacher **Peri Morenz**. “Our hospitals have to borrow blood from other provinces, and only three percent of people who can donate blood do.”

“I wasn’t looking forward to it,” said grade 11 student **Clare Chiu**, “but I focused on why I was doing this and all the people I was helping, and it was over in a flash.”

Blood donation takes only an hour of your time in all. “Since I have blood I can share it. Why not?” said **Ariana Vaisey**, grade 11.

“Overall it went well, except for the fact I almost fainted after, but all the nurses were really nice and took care of me,” Vaisey said.

The feeling of being well taken care of was echoed by Chiu. “They gave us blankets and juice and just made sure that we had the best experience possible,” she said.

Morenz said “It was just a trial run to see how the experience would go, but we had to book even more appointments than we had because so many students

were interested and that was really exciting.”

“Most people don’t understand how easy it is to do and how many people are helped by the simple act of giving blood,” said Chiu.

Vaisey said, “I just helped to save over three lives!”

According to Canadian Blood Services, a Canadian needs blood every minute of every day and that adds up.

There will be a new clinic opening next year much closer to the

school so that students can go during an off block or lunch and not have to take the shuttle, according to Morenz.

“It opens a lot more doors for more students to donate,” said Morenz.

“We are aiming for 50 grade 12’s to donate in the next year,” said Morenz

“I am definitely doing it again,” said Vaisey.

“And they gave us cookies!” finished Chiu.

# Imagine a world without money: some students do

JOSH PATTEN  
staff reporter

An international movement that includes millions all over the globe is alive and well here amongst students at Gleneagle. The movement is none other than the Zeitgeist Movement.

The Zeitgeist movement is a movement that was started with the release of the documentary film *Zeitgeist: Addendum*, which was a sequel to the film *Zeitgeist: The Movie*.

The concepts of the series, and ultimately the movement, are for current civilization to evolve, for surrounding conditions in society to change, and for human civilization to achieve a “resource-based economy,” rather than one based

on the monetary system.

The Zeitgeist Movement is a branch of the larger Venus Project, directed by **Jacque Fresco**.

Fresco travels the world giving lectures, teaching people, and promoting the Venus Project. According to **Pedram Milani**, grade 11, “money creates separation between people, and desperation.”

“Right now is the very beginning of a worldwide social movement. Organizations like the Zeitgeist Movement and The Free World Charter are out there trying to spread these ideas, increase awareness about the flaws of the monetary [system] and the problems it causes, and promote a better alternative for humanity,” said **Eric Milligan**, grade 11.

“The monetary system, almost all social problems are either di-

rectly or indirectly caused by it,” Milligan added.

“It stands in the way of our ability to solve all of the major problems facing us today, such as the energy crisis, poverty, overpopulation, climate change and destabilization of the earth’s natural systems.”

According to the ideals of the Zeitgeist Movement, the monetary system is not necessary in today’s civilization now that we have the technology available to us to provide resources to meet the needs of all people on the planet.

In the beginning of the film *Zeitgeist: Moving Forward*, Fresco describes how all the resources and money used in World War II for combat could’ve provided necessities for the whole world, rather than be responsible for one

of the most destructive periods in human history.

The people in the Zeitgeist movement use this as an example of why the current system has to go, and change is imminent.

“There are countless flaws with the monetary system...With the knowledge and technology we have today, we have evolved beyond any need for money and the survival of our species depends on our ability to progress beyond it,” said Milligan.

With a resource-based economy, rather than one based on profit, people would no longer feel the need to compete and take away from others to be better off.

According to Milani, change may start right in our own society.

“Our society itself is corrupt, unfair, and unjust,” said Milani. “It

is also fixed for society’s puppets,” he added.

“Violence, crime, and more [strife] comes from money. As the saying goes, ‘capital punishment, for those without any capital.’ Without capital, we would be left with the option only to strive and succeed, and violent crimes would go down,” said Milani.

“Crimes based on robbery, theft, and others would no longer be a virtue,” he added.

Regularly, the local chapter of the Zeitgeist Movement, Zeitgeist Vancouver, hosts meetings on the street outside the Vancouver Art Gallery every Saturday from 11 am, to 5 pm.

“When I am older I plan to contribute a lot more and dedicate a good portion of my life to this cause,” said Milligan.

# TALONS In-depth Night exhibits unique learning of gifted program

MARIANA GORJÃO  
staff reporter

Gleneagle’s TALONS program hosted In-depth Night last Monday, their final event for this year.

The TALONS students had been challenged to “know something about everything and everything about something,” said **Quirien Mulder ten Kate**, TALONS teacher.

“In school you are usually taught about many subjects. In this project, the goal is to learn a great deal about one field of activity...become an expert.” she said.

Students had been working on their In-depth project for five months. They kept bi-weekly posts on their individual blogs to demonstrate their progress.

“TALONS learners explore their passions for learning in their blogs,” said Mulder.

The event was held in the multipurpose room. Some of the Talons had their projects in displays, but there were also “performances from the students who have done more active things like dance,” explained, **Kelsey Williams**, grade 9, also the MC of the In-depth Night.

**Liam St. Louis**, grade 10, presented a “movie of me and someone else sparring. My In-depth project was medieval sword fighting. I take classes at a place downtown,” he explained.

“I started it a couple of months before In-depth and I was just getting into it. It’s really fun to just start holding a rapier from the fifteenth century, learning techniques, and all the different things you can do, and discover new skills. The [rapier] can be sharp though; I have a few injuries from them,” St. Louis said.

The projects went from food carving, by

**Jason Fong**, grade 10, to wire crochet, by **Louise Liao**, grade 9.

**Owen Tindel**, grade 10, decided to do computer programing.

“In our technology oriented world, computer programming is a extremely useful skill to have,” he explained.

“I’m studying two languages for computer programming: C and C++. For C I am programing a robot. I programmed it to do many things: move around, move towards the light source. I even taught it to do math. You just type the commands in the computer and send it to the robot. The robot does what it’s told to do,” Tindel added.

“[Each student’s project] had to be personal; if it’s not personal then it’s really easy for the person to get bored or annoyed,” said Williams.

“We had to meet a mentor; most of us have found someone but others have learned online,” he added.

“I decided I wanted to do contortionism,” said **Chelsea Henderson**, grade 9. “My friend is friends with someone who did gymnastics. She’s very good so she’s been helping me out. I’ve made a lot of progress and I’ve been really happy with how much I’ve been able to accomplish.”

Near the end of the night, both TAL-

ONS teachers, Mulder and **Bryan Jackson**, called to the stage the recipients of the Spirit Awards; **Daniel Luo**, grade 9, **Iris Hung**, grade 9, **Rebecca MacDonald**, grade 10 and the recipients of the Academic Awards; **Megan Edmunds**, grade 9 and **Liam St.Louis**, grade 10.

As the evening was coming to an end **Donya Pourtaghi**, grade 10 and **Andrew Chang**, grade 10, each gave a speech to their teachers, Mulder and Bryan Jackson.

After that all of the TALONS classes got together and sang an adapted version of Home by Edward Sharpe & the Magnetic Zeros.



**Testing the metal:** Grade 10 student models his fencing technique for a parent at the Talons In-depth night on Monday. TALONS students presented their learning in a variety of ways at this annual event.

MARIANA GORJÃO PHOTO



# Gleneagle maintains dominance at art show

MICAH LAO  
staff reporter

Gleneagle has walked away with the Top Male and Female Artist scholarship awards at the annual Coquitlam Centre Art Show.

**Shaelyn Zhu** and her fellow artist **Aaron Campbell**, both grade 12, were awarded the Top Female Artist and Top Male Artist scholarships of \$750 from the Canadian Federation of University Women. Along with **Gerri Jin**, grade 12, Campbell and Zhu submitted their artwork as the three notable nominees of the scholarship from Gleneagle.

**Aryn Gunn**, graphics and photography teacher, **Melanie Stokes**, drawing and painting teacher, and **Mike McElgunn**, ceramics and photography teacher, played a huge role supporting the students as they assembled their pieces of art for the show.

“Every school will promote three students for a scholarship, so these three students are making their work available for a jury,” Gunn explained. “Coquitlam Centre gives one student from each school a \$500 scholarship.” Zhu was the winner of this scholarship as well.

Gleneagle was joined by Heritage Woods, Charles Best, Centennial, Riverside, and Port Moody, each of which presented examples of

the type of work that the students had been doing in art over the past year. Through this process, Campbell, Jin, and Zhu presented their artwork for Gleneagle’s scholarship boards, featuring different styles of art.

As a digital artist, Campbell enjoys incorporating digital art and Photoshop as opposed to painting. “A lot of my pieces have a concept to them, like [a person] is afraid of spiders, the Photoshop [icons turned into] people break-dancing,” he commented. “I play on situations and words, like a cameraman is literally a cameraman.”

Zhu, on the other hand, finds her passion in art through fashion design. “I always want to push the boundary of fashion because I think fashion isn’t just a commercial product, but can also be meaningful art pieces,” said Zhu. “I find that birds are so mysterious...sometimes they appear in realistic form, and sometimes they are more abstract.”

Jin finds her strength in drawing and painting, bringing out the cartoonish flare with the tip of her pen.

“I like to use things that are quite weird,” Jin explained, “strange [things], and turn them into stuff that you wouldn’t normally see or wouldn’t fit into a particular category.”

“Most of the show at the mall is a



MICAH LAO PHOTO

**Seeing ‘normal’ in new ways:** Grade 12 student interprets nature with unique vision through her drawing and painting. She was one of three students nominated for a scholarship.

showcase of excellence in secondary art as demonstrated by two boards of artwork from the majority of the secondary schools in the district,” Gunn commented. “It involves lots of different students from all grade levels.”

Several students who received

the opportunity to visit the scholarship boards of the secondary schools were thoroughly impressed.

“I felt the artwork was sparse this year,” said **Ashley Tam**, grade 12. “The mall’s cut down on viewing space was upsetting because it

left less opportunity to see more fantastic art. Out of all the scholarship boards, Gleneagle’s was by far the best!”

“It was amazing to find out how many talented art students we have in Gleneagle,” added **Yea Jin Kwon**, grade 12.

# Student talent in limelight at Reel Stars Film Festival

PAULINE MACAPAGAL  
staff reporter

Gleneagle film makers are debuting original movies at a film festival today at Heritage Woods Secondary School.

“Reel Stars Film Festival is an SD43 Film Festival that allows students to [enter] films in multiple categories,” said **Jodey Udell**, Digital Media teacher.

The festival is a yearly event when students from the Coquitlam district come together in celebration of student films. It can vary from “animation, documentary, narrative drama, narrative comedy, music videos and experimental,” Udell said.

This is “to give kids some exposure for their films, to try to give them a chance to get them out to a larger audience,” said Udell. “Most of them would have done their films through either Film and TV class, Digital Media class, or Animation class.”

“Only one student entered a film who wasn’t currently in one of my classes, but he has already been in three of my classes,” he said.

“It was a really cool experience because it was cool to go against people who were competing in the same level as I was,” said **Chelsea Forster**, grade 11.

Forster has entered the Festival before and she “wanted another chance” because she won in a category last year.

“The reason is because I want my art watched, seen or heard and it’s a place where students can come together to show their art work with one another,” she explained.

During this year’s spring break, Forster went to Cuba with the music department tour. Her entry is a documentary called *The Cuba Project*.

“The centre of the documentary was the cultural differences and similarities be-

tween our culture and theirs [along] with the experiences that the students and teachers came across,” she said.

“One of the main locations was [at] one of the schools. When we went there, we were dancing and singing together ... these kids from two very different cultures,” said Forster.

“They were working together really well, and it was an amazing feeling to be in that because you’d think that there are a lot of things that are very different there,” she added.

On the other hand, this is grade 11 **Liam Krider**’s first time to enter the Festival. “I have always been into making films,” he said.

“Usually, I like to make comedies, but I wanted to make something different this time, so I made a drama and it was about drinking and driving,” he elaborated.

“Originally, it was going to be a PSA (Public Service Announcement), but it ended up being too long, so I decided to make it a drama,” Krider said.

“**Shilp [Vaishnav]**, grade 12, and I were partners for a project, back when we were in Mr. Udell’s class and so we decided to enter. We made it a year ago and we wanted to see how it would do,” said **Jeff Huggins**, grade 12.

[The film] was called *Tracked* and it was a trailer for a movie that we never made. It was about a guy on the run from a secret society,” Huggins said.

“We had a good time finding locations for filming like broken warehouses, finding actors, script writing and everything,” he said.

“It was a cool experience. It’s probably the best video that I made,” Huggins commented.

“It is a great thing for kids to try to do. I specifically put things in my courses di-

rectly for it; we always want to make sure it runs,” Udell said.

“I took ICT 9, ICT 10 and Digital Media 11. We learned how to use ‘Final Cut’ [software] which was so helpful for me. I edit a lot of movies,” said Huggins.

“Digital Media and Digital Film Making helped me to plan ahead instead of just im-

provising,” Forster said.

“It’s more of a celebration of films as opposed to a competition,” said Udell. “For us it’s really a collaborative thing...so if we get everyone involved, it’s great,” he added.

Udell sees a lot of potential in the festival. “It’s emerging,” he said.

The show runs from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

# COAST goes one on one with nature on 11-day trip

YOUMY HAN  
staff reporter

As you are reading this story, Gleneagle’s COAST students are out in the wilderness, facing their longest and most challenging trip of the year. They left on Tuesday, May 24, and will be coming back tomorrow, after completing an 11-day canoe trip to Bowron Lakes.

The Bowron Lakes trip is a traditional event for COAST and has been going on for approximately 10 years. As the second last trip of the year, the class is scheduled to participate in several activities, including spending a night on their own in the wild, having a tour at the Historic Hat Creek Ranch located on the Caribou Gold Rush trail, visiting the infamous Barkerville, and spending seven and a half days paddling the Bowron Lakes.

“The kids are going to get a lot of exposure to BC history... [and they] really get to test the skills they’ve been honing for the first four trips,” said COAST teacher **Adam Hayes**.

The students were looking forward to this trip, and started preparing a week before

the actual event. They received work sheets to organize the food they were going to have on camping nights, and a list of items they needed to bring on the trip. They also practiced canoeing and kayaking.

“I’d like to show the kids what’s it’s really like to be in a part of nature,” said COAST teacher **Krista Bogen**. “People in guiding industries know that after three days, a person begins to relax into wildlife,” explained Bogen. “Most of our trips have been three days maximum; they haven’t had that experience yet. So this will be their chance,” she added.

“We’re really going to get in touch with outdoors,” said COAST student **Parham Laghaei**. “We’re all just going to bond.”

Hayes described the class as “a great group.”

“They really care about each other, which has been a great strength of theirs,” said Hayes. “I don’t expect it to be without any hitches. I expect, as we had with every one of our trips, there’s always something that happens, or comes up,” he added.

“It’s the best program in the world. It extends your comfort zone,” said COAST student **Alice Zhu**. “I can try other stuff that I’ve never tried before.”

# Body as artist’s canvas: allure of piercings, tattoos

CASSIE BARATELLI  
staff reporter

A new trend or an ancient tradition? Piercing has been around for a long time, whether it was for a rite of passage, to look good, or just to annoy your parents. Piercings are a come-and-go trend and have been for years.

“A lot of kids now are getting piercings and tattoos, but if you look at the previous generation before us ..., they didn’t really have tattoos or piercings,” said **Mika Speed**, grade 10. This generation is known for its crazy statements and risky looks.

“People I guess make fun of them, but over time, they just get used to it, right?” said Speed. “Kids get piercings done so they can be like ‘look at me,’ she added. “Sometimes kids get piercings to make statements,” added Speed. “Like ‘I have piercings, I look like a rebel’ but over time it does come and go.”

Piercings are a fashion trend of late and you see more risky kinds of piercings, such as nipple piercings, and meaningless tattoos. “Tattoos should be meaningful... they should have a story behind them,” said Speed.

“Most people come in for something meaningful, but we do have the people who are trying to be spontaneous and we do try to discourage them,” said downtown Next manager, **Jacob Johnson**.

Because of the popularity of tattoos and piercings, jobs in the industry are growing. Next offers a three-stage piercing course for people who want to learn more about piercing safely.

“I think it’s a great job for people, and it branches off into other things. You’re a piercer, you’re a salesperson, a sterile tech-

nician, you could go into nursing,” said Johnson. “I kind of stumbled into it, I guess. I mean I got my bellybutton pierced when I was fifteen but then I didn’t get many more piercings until I was 18. My brother is a tattoo artist so that’s how I kind of stumbled into it.”

Piercing as a career now seems to be a great idea – as long as you know what you’re doing and you have the connections to get known.

“You can make a lot of money if you know the right people or the right area and you’re good at it, and you have a passion for it. If you have a passion for piercing, I would say go for it. Tattooing is a little bit different; you have to have an art passion and you have to have a steady hand,” said Speed.

“Most people that get piercings do it for fun. Honestly, when I get my piercings done I get bored of them, and it gets addicting. The more piercings I have, the more I want. It’s also really hard to do that because it costs so much money,” said Speed.

“It’s more popular these days to do micro dermals. The price has come down a lot actually, almost to the same price as a surface piercing,” said Johnson, confirming the fact that every type of piercing is getting more and more popular as this generation grows.

“Some days I might do only a few and others we might do thirty [piercings],” added Johnson.

So who makes up the clientele of the piercing and tattoo industry? “Our main clientele is repeat and refer, because we have a ton of regulars,” said Johnson.

“I guess you could consider groups of people like emo and scene people as a really big trend for piercings because it makes you look at them,” said Speed.

“They’re just getting it done to get it done. I guess you could say that about the



CASSIE BARATELLI PHOTO

**Fashion, or cultural statement?:** Grade 10 proudly displays her tattoo of a dove. The tattoo contains the initials of her grandparent.

nose, but if it compliments your body I see no problem.”

Piercings and tattoos will always be seen differently by different people and differ-

ent points of view, and what matters is what people like on themselves. People will always get piercings and tattoos and society will always have its trends.

# Educational exchange allows students to gain world experience

EVANGELINE SHIH  
staff reporter

There comes a day in every teenagers’ life, where a comparatively restricted high school life meets with the big blue yonder of life after graduation.

Some students broaden their horizons even before they graduate by studying abroad.

“I turned 18 during the time that I was in France,” said **Erin Kipps**, a former student who studied in France for one year through Youth Rotary. “The experience was great and really opened my eyes to different cultures and viewpoints.”

The reasons many have for wanting to go abroad after graduation are basically the same: the freedom of being away from family, the freshness of the culture and environment, and the adventurous feeling of being in a totally different country.

“I simply attended the local high school in the city that I was placed – Lille, France,” said Kipps. “I did have some selection regarding exact classes, etc. Most classes were pretty standard, but I was also able to take a Spanish class, being taught in French!”

**Louisa Hardjasa**, grade 12 student from Gleneagle, chose to study in Japan because of the influence of her two sisters. “Before I went, they each had done their own little exchanges,” said Hardjasa.

“My eldest sister went to teach English in Japan for a summer, and my other sister went to work for a year on co-op a few years ago. When my other sister went, it kind of felt like it was ‘my turn’ to go. It seems like an impossible feat for most pre-graduates. “One of the biggest things that I prepared for was the language barrier,” said Kipps.

“In preparation for the year abroad, I found a French tutor and took courses three days a week for approximately six months.”

It is the most basic tool of survival anywhere, being able

to communicate. This is where most students struggle, because this takes the most preparation. Learning a language is not something that can be rushed; the intricacy and the detail requires patience to master, and even more so to be fluent.

So this is a very early choice to be made for a student looking to study abroad, which language does the country speak, and whether you are willing to put in the effort to learn that language.

“I couldn’t do most of the homework and exams,” said Hardjasa when asked about her school life, “but my teachers all gave me textbooks and encouraged me to participate, and my classmates were all unexpectedly friendly, so I was never alone.”

*“I found that I just needed to be open-minded and try to learn and understand why things were done as they were”*

Kipps’ decision to study abroad was also influenced by family. “During my high school years, my parents became involved in hosting exchange students from abroad,” said Kipps.

“I was lucky as I was young when I finished grade 12, and was able to graduate with my class and was still eligible to participate in the Rotary Exchange for the year after.”

Arranging a one-year study program in high school is also a very good way to get the experience of studying abroad.

“As I was travelling through an established exchange student program (Youth Rotary), there was a lot of help and assistance with the preparation and even guidelines of what to expect and how to deal with it. They actually have a weeklong course for all of the exchange students prior to any of us travelling abroad,” Kipps said.

“I had a lot of problems when I first started,” said Hardjasa. “I wanted to choose a program that put me in a host family so I could experience daily Japanese life. I started applications in January, but when I had finally chosen the

one which had a reasonable price, they suddenly cancelled everything on me in October due to ‘complications’ with their branch partner in Japan. All that work went down the drain, and I was lost on what to do.”

Luckily, she found out about Youth for Understanding, one of the larger foreign exchange companies. “The golden rule in exchange is to ‘expect nothing, and you’ll never be disappointed,” said Hardjasa. “It’s a very hard perspective to keep, but it’s nevertheless very true,” she added.

There are many other problems, like how to adjust to cultural shock. “I found that I just needed to be open-minded and try to learn and understand why things were done as they were,” said Kipps. “The people I met during my year abroad were very warm and open to helping me through

this process.”

Hardjasa, who stayed in Japan for ten months, said “the most challenging and disorienting part of my exchange was the change in family. My real family is a relaxed, easy-going household with few rules and lots of freedom. My host family was very strict. Being unproductive was not easily forgiven in my host family.”

Many cultural customs are left unsaid because it has been part of tradition and society over many periods of time. This often leaves foreigners between a rock and a hard place. “I spent a lot of time trying to figure out what was okay and not okay to do,” said Hardjasa. Going this route is never easy; you have to be open to changes and unfamiliar situations, be willing to adjust and compromise. “I could easily say the experience has changed my life forever,” said Hardjasa. “The experience has changed and shaped my ambitions and dreams for the future.”

Once you’ve set your heart on this path, the experiences you have will be once in a lifetime.

# Provincial banner within reach for golf team

KEVIN CAWTHRA  
staff reporter

Who needs Tiger Woods, when Gleneagle has the best golfers in the Coquitlam school district, the Fraser Valley Zone and possibly the province?

Gleneagle put on a dazzling display, winning against other schools in the Districts and Fraser Valley Championships for both junior and senior divisions.

The senior team headed up to Kamloops this week for the provincial championships for the fourth year in a row, but results were not available at press time.

**Brian Unger**, head coach, feels that they could get the job done at provincials. “We’ve been there three years in a row, and we have the best golfers in the district and possibly Canada,” he said. Unger believes that they have a strong team. He says their best newcomer this year has been **Duncan Priestly**. “I liked the way [he] has played this year; he’s been practicing a lot and improving his game,” said Unger.

**John Kim**, grade 12, felt very confident before the provincial championships. “It was somewhat expected, but still I feel pride in my school. However, our team’s goal never was getting into the provincials but winning it,” he said.

“I believe our team has more than enough to take the provincial champion title,” he added.

**Brian Jung**, grade 12, felt the exact same way going into the provincials. “I feel really proud of our team for making it to the provincials four years in a row. It is obviously an awesome achievement by coach Unger and the school,” said Jung. “Yes, I believe we will



**Going for gold:** Grade 11 student drives for success. The Talons competed for provincial honours in Kamloops this week. Both senior and junior golf teams delivered an impressive season, chalking up wins in districts and Fraser Valley competition.

win the championship.”

“Our season went great. We had a really strong team and it showed. Every tournament I overheard other schools saying “Gleneagle’s going to win for sure....” and they weren’t wrong,” Kim said.

Jung agrees it has been a good year. “My season is going pretty well, both on my own career and the school team. I only played one

tournament for school, Fraser Valley, and I was third individual,” he said.

Unger believes with the young core still around for next year, Gleneagle could be a force. “We only have two seniors leaving us this year, so we will have most of our talent still intact for next year,” he said.

Jung hopes the young players will continue the winning record from previous years into

the future. “I hope that they will bring the same success since Gleneagle still [has] some young and talented players,” he said.

After high school, Jung for one, will still be striving to improve his game. “I will be pursuing my dream of [becoming a ]professional golfer at Oregon State University. I am recruited by OSU and I will be playing for them starting this fall,” he said.

# Girls rugby defeats rival Port Moody at BC competition

STEVEN BAE  
staff reporter

The girls’ rugby team ended their season on a high, finishing sixth out of eight in tier 2 of the provincial championships.

“I really didn’t know what to expect going into provincials,”

said **Alexis Latimer**, grade 12 and team captain; the ladies only brought 14 members to provincials, while 15 play on the field.

“I knew my girls were tough but they exceeded my expectations,” she said.

The team, although just managing to enter as the eighth

seed, bumped up two spots to claim sixth place – one up from last year’s seventh place.

The ladies knocked down Port Moody Secondary – their main rivals of the season – but lost to Carson Graham and Semiamoo.

“We gave our all, and it was great to have such a mentally tough team by

my side,” Latimer rejoiced.

“Our toughest competitors in provincials were Carson because they had enough girls to field two teams and we didn’t even have enough for one team,” she said. “But we played our hearts out and scored twice on them.”

Though this year does not boast

success in terms of medals or records, the team has a positive view of their season.

“It was a building season,” explained **Shaelynn Zaurrini**, grade 10, upbeat. “Almost everyone started fresh, so we improved on basically everything.”

“We went from pretty much knowing nothing to giving the top teams like Carson a run for their money,” agreed **Veronica Robbins**, grade 10.

Robbins said a close bond between the girls greatly contributed to their building success.

“We are very much a close team,” she said.

“We all vary in age but we are really close and it helps us a lot in this sport,” she added.

Most of the players hope to be back bigger and better next season.

“We’re hoping for better numbers because we’re going on tour next year,” Zaurrini said. “We’re going to Hawaii and so we need numbers and we want to do well in provincials.”

Latimer admitted a lack of players hindered their performance. “Throughout our season we had a tough time getting enough girls to come out to practice and at our games we were just having enough to make up a team which was hard especially because we have so many new people,” she said.

“We want to win games,” said Zaurrini. “It’s hard when you have small numbers.”

“The season went amazing – far better than expected,” Robbins concluded.

# Track & field athletes advance to provincials

EMMA ROBERTS  
staff reporter



**Leader of the pack:** Grade 11 student will compete for Gleneagle at the provincial track competition in Burnaby this weekend.

grade 12, and **Hodson Harding**, grade 11, all qualified in their events for the upcoming championship to be held at Swangard Stadium in Burnaby.

Leung will be competing in triple jump, Ayin will be running the 200-metre, and Harding will be participating in both the 200-metre and the 400-metre events on June 3 and 4.

**Billy Demonte**, who has been coaching the sport for six years, describes the athletes as “very coachable.”

“They really love the sport, and it’s evident in the results,” she added.

**Michele Morin**, co-coach, expressed the resolve that the team had. “It really says something, to have that kind of determination regardless of the competition out there. We’ve had a really talented group this year,” she said.

Harding, who hadn’t been introduced to the sport before being encouraged to join by Demonte and Morin last year, said he is ready for the challenge of provincials.

“I’m just really looking forward to good weather and running good times,” he said. “It’s been really good so far, to be able to have fun and improve so much. It’s been a fun season so far.”

Harding also says that his perfor-

mance has improved since he first started.

“The first race he ran, he puked, because he hadn’t been training properly,” said Demonte.

“I’ve been doing a lot of cross-country,” said Harding. “That’s definitely helped me a lot with my stamina.”

Morin said that, typically, track and field athletes all improve at different rates.

“Sometimes it depends on what’s happening personally in their lives, or how much stress they’re under,” she said. “Some improve, some don’t. It’s different for everyone,” she added.

“It’s harder to get students to join a sport like track and field, just because there are so many sports overlapping...and there are so many different events. And when everyone has other commitments, it’s definitely hard for consistency. That’s the difficult part, I’d say—getting a team together and getting people out on the field,” Morin added.

Demonte urges students to give track and field a try. “Once students join, I find they really do enjoy it,” she said.



# Exploring teenage psyche: *The Breakfast Club* resonates

**MACY LAO**  
Staff Reporter

“Powerful,” “incredible,” “humorously unexpected,” “like a spaceship ride,” are just a few ways that cast members describe *The Breakfast Club*.

The drama class had a successful run of their spring play last week.

**Ashley Freeborn**, director, said, “I would say [this play] is giving a voice to the youth culture... we get this glimpse into a culture that all of us feel so removed from as we grow older.”

The original film, directed by John Hughes in 1984, portrayed youths’ internal conflicts at the time.

“It’s sadly about how youth are alienated and how they feel alone amidst their families and in the school community,” Freeborn explained.

With a group of strong actors who were very familiar with each other, the cast was able to easily adapt and work well together.

**Erin Bodin**, grade 12, played Allison, who is labelled as “the-basket-case.”

“I kind of took my role as a challenge to be crazy and weird because I’ve never really had this kind of a part before,” Bodin said.

“The hardest part for me was keeping a straight face right when I come on stage.

“I always want to smile at the au-

dience because I know who’s sitting there.”

“What makes *The Breakfast Club* really fantastic is that there’s a mix of really strong personalities from very diverse places,” commented Freeborn.

“The kids playing these roles are also that way – they have very strong personalities and they’re all really passionate about what they do.”

**Ed Ross**, grade 11, who played Brian the nerd said, “We all just seem to be in our roles so easily; I remember in rehearsals, it seemed like we weren’t really doing any work but at the same time, we were still in character bodies.”

Overall, the cast has enjoyed rehearsing and performing this play.

**Alex Zielinski**, grade 12, played Andrew’s father.

“I think it’s fun, even though I’ve never actually seen the movie,” he said. According to the group, their greatest struggle was keeping focused during each of their rehearsals.

Bodin commented, “We all know each other and we’re all friends, so sometimes we want to have fun and get silly, so we became off task.”

Freeborn said, “At the end of the day, I think they’ve done an excellent job.”

“It all came together; I watch in awe at how amazingly talented they all are. They are doing such fantastic work. I’m really proud of them.”



MIKE MCELGUNN PHOTO

**Sometimes it’s hard to smile:** Grade 11 and grade 12 students evoke the ambivalent mood in this year’s spring play, *The Breakfast Club*.

## Gleneagle’s jazz programs shine at Music Fest Canada

**TAMARA BABCOCK**  
Staff Reporter

Gleneagle music students met with exceptional success during their debut trip to Music Fest Canada in May.

Vocal jazz won a silver and Jazz Band won gold at Music Fest Canada, held on Wednesday, May 18.

**Edward Trovato**, Gleneagle music teacher, is “really pleased with the results” and thinks the students “deserve to be congratulated.”

**Kate Beggs**, grade 12, and a member of vocal jazz, says Gleneagle performed extremely well overall.

**Jacqueline Bolster**, grade 12, and **Kyle Araki**, grade 12 won Awards of Merit at the festival.

In addition, both Araki and **Michael Kim**, grade 11, were offered scholarships at the Humber College Jazz Studies Program in Toronto, following their performance.

Trovato was very happy with the Jazz Band’s performance at the Music Fest. “They absolutely hit their stride; they nailed it,” he said.

In Trovato’s opinion, Vocal Jazz performed well considering the fact that several members were sick and unable to make the festival.

Trovato said “it certainly had an impact on our performance,”

but they were still able to pull it off. Beggs agreed that the Vocal Jazz performance went “very well considering the people that were gone.”

Because there were so many absences in Vocal Jazz, Beggs had to take on an additional solo unexpectedly.

“It was nice to have someone impressed by my singing,” said Beggs. One adjudicator was so impressed that she offered to “take [Beggs] out for lattes until the cows come home.”

Music Fest Canada is the largest music festival in the country. Schools from all across Canada participate, with the majority coming from BC and Ontario. The festival was held in Richmond this year.

Normally it is held in Ontario or Quebec, but it has taken place in BC a few times.

This is Gleneagle’s first time participating in the festival. It cost approximately \$3100 for the Jazz Band and Vocal Jazz groups to attend.

The PAC helped subsidize the costs, and the rest was paid by the music department.

The costs were very high, so only the Jazz Band and Vocal Jazz groups were able to go.

Endless preparations were involved beforehand, both individually and as a group. “We had to carefully select the pieces; we had to have a variety of styles that

demonstrated their musicality,” said Trovato.

After the Jazz Band’s and Vocal Jazz’s performances, they received feedback from the adjudicators.

Beggs thought “it was good to hear things that we need to im-

## Band hits high note at Rocky Point

**HELEN DOO**  
Staff Reporter

Gleneagle’s concert band jazzed up last Saturday morning with a few tunes at Rocky Point Park.

It is a district concert band festival and is a new tradition emerging in the past few years.

Held May 28, secondary and middle schools from all over the Tri-cities came and performed for guests at the band shell.

“It’s a celebration. It’s great and a fun, fun day and is well received by the public,” said **Ed Trovato**, the music teacher at Gleneagle.

“It’s a wonderful and powerful message that we send to the public that music is important in our school and that we need to support our band programs.”

“I play the Bari [sax]. I like playing the low end because playing low notes make me happy,” said **Jessica Ye**, grade 12.

“The concert was pretty good. Hearing Summit Middle School is really funny because that’s where I came from.”

prove on for future concerts.”

Trovato wants people to recognize that “music’s not a fluff course.” He believes students truly benefit from a variety of activities in high school.

“[Students] may not remember

their final exam mark, but they’re going to remember [experiences such as] Music Fest Canada,” claims Trovato.

He is proud of the fact that “students really respect the arts in this school.”

As she listened to the Summit band playing *Funky Town*, she added, “Yup, we played that too.”

“The concert went pretty well,” said **Benny Fang**, grade 12.

“I play the tenor sax. They have this really good bass sound and I like playing with the trombones. I think that it sounds really nice.

“I think that the festival is really good because we can listen to the other schools and see some of their music,” Fang added.

It’s a very good chance to get to play and I wish that we got more chances,” said **Angela Chi**, a French horn player, grade 10.

“We’re going to be performing a variety of music, basically some of the music that we did in Cuba. All the music is challenging and fun in their own unique ways,” said Trovato.

If the students had to pick [their favourite], it would probably be *Pines of Rome*. [It] is a ... piece of music that was originally written for symphony.

It was written by **Ottorino Respighi**, a famous Italian composer, and it depicts the sound of

a marching band coming from the distance.

“It starts very quietly and it takes a long time for the music to really climax and then it finally ends,” said Trovato.

And it’s not only the Rocky Point festival that Gleneagle’s music program participates in.

“We have several district events over the school year and each one highlights a different part of our music programs,” said Trovato.

“We have a Christmas sing-along, and a spring sing-a-long which includes all the choirs from the district, this one which is the concert band festival, and the last one of the year is the jazz night which includes all our jazz groups, the jazz band and vocal jazz,” continued Trovato. “So throughout the year, we try to highlight our music groups at these district festivals.

“It’s great. I think that we’re the only, if not [one of the] few, districts in the province that still does anything like this,” he added.

The final band concert of the year will be held at Gleneagle on Thursday, June 9, 2011.