Hawk Talk

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A MAGIC MOMENT
by Mr Ken Green, Principal

What a wonderful way to finish the year! Organised by our Gold Leaders this year along with other seniors, every single student and staff member of HSHS gathered together in unity and spirit on our oval in a carefully prepared formation, for a plane flyover and aerial photo of "I Love Harristown SHS" and another, the logo of our supported charity, Assert Services. The atmosphere in the gym in readiness for the photo shoot was electric with excitement.

ENGAGE ACHIEVE EXCEL
OUR VISION REALISED

Celebration is the focus of this edition. Our students have achieved at all levels on an array of fronts in 2012, taking advantage of the range of opportunities provided. Presentation Night was an outstanding success with literally hundreds of students walking across the Empire Theatre stage to receive their awards while family and friends looked on with PRIDE!

ORIENTATION DAY - Year 7
Tuesday 11th December, 9.00am - 2.30pm
Experience being a Harristown Hawk, in preparation for 2013

December, 2012
A small selection of students achieving great heights

ACADEMIC
Twenty-eight students gained Distinctions and 70 gained Credits in the Australian Mathematics Competition and International Science Competition held earlier this year. Shane Jones Year 12 gained a High Distinction finishing in the top 1% nationally in this Maths Competition, while James Hogg Year 12 saw similar success in Science.
Our first group of students to be accelerated through our Academic Academy finished their studies this year. Many completed university subjects with universities such as USQ, UQ, Griffith, James Cook and CQU, whilst in Year 12 and achieved very credible results, an amazing head start when enrolling in university programs next year.

THE ARTS
Numerous students were involved in the school drama production of Little Women with 4 casts performing a total of 8 shows for school and community audiences.
As well as up to 30 HSHS mass dancers performing in Creative Generation State Schools Onstage at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, a number of individual students were selected in specific fields of endeavour: dance, drama, visual art, technical crew. 4 HSHS students went through months of gruelling auditions and rehearsals to be included as core and featured dancers: Julia Winning Year 9, Jazz Hunt and Chloe Dalamaras Year 10, Lauren Dalamaras Year 11. Johanna Lyon Year 12 was the first HSHS student to win a Dramatic role.

Maddie Grünke-Visser, Peta Berghofer, Kate Bolitho and Dominique Schefel each have had art works chosen for inclusion in the Creative Generation Excellence Awards in Visual Art and Design. Chosen works are displayed in the Queensland Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA), placed online for public viewing and sent on tour through regional centres; a great honour indeed.
Five of our students were accepted this year into the Queensland Conservatorium of Music State Honours Ensemble Program through Griffith University: Theresa Barnes (alto sax); Tina Black (oboe); Andrew Hallas (Tenor voice); Emma Thrussell (Alto voice); Kean Wayman (Tenor saxophone).
Stage Band and Symphonic Wind Ensemble received a variety of awards this year, of particular note was the Gold Awards won by both at the Fanfare Competition, while our Concert Band received a Silver Certificate. The Symphonic Wind Ensemble also won the A grade Concert Band section at the Toowoomba Eisteddfod.

Three HSHS students have recently been awarded the 2012 Empire Theatre Foundation Youth Bursary for specific development short courses at leading Australian performing arts institutions.

SPORT
Maddie Staff Year 11, member of the Australian Women’s Hockey Team, is currently preparing for a tour of NZ and Argentina. In September, our Senior Girl Football team won the Darling Downs Schools’ Championship, our 9th year in succession, and then the overall State Schools’ Championship. In September they flew, together with the Open Girls’ Volleyball team, to the USA to take on some of the best in Colorado and Phoenix. The boys’ softball team won the Queensland Championships, our 3rd year in succession.
Representing Queensland: Ashley Taylo (Touch); Jarryd Dodd (Rugby League); Tristan Hope (Rugby League); Maddie Staff (Hockey); James Rahder (Volleyball); Darren Auchter (Volleyball); Tessa Knight (Volleyball).