

Vol. 29 ■ Issue 6
April, 2015



the bookend

IOWA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

Regents on campus April 22 & 23

Knock down those cobwebs and spiff up those desks!



Iowa School for the Deaf, which is governed by the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, is hosting the April meeting in the Lied Multipurpose Complex.

Most of the meetings will take place Thursday, April 23, but some meetings will take place the evening of April 22. Several new Regents have just been appointed by Gov. Branstad, to take the place of those whose terms have expired. This will be their first visit to campus.

A tour for current Regents is scheduled for 5 p.m., April 22. Planned areas to visit are careers, cafeteria, elementary and science center.

The 4PLUS department is scheduled to make the faculty presentation in the afternoon of April 23.

Full agendas and live streaming (audio only) will be available **HERE.**

Fire & Ice theme for 2015 prom

Tuxes have been ordered, dresses purchased and last-minute

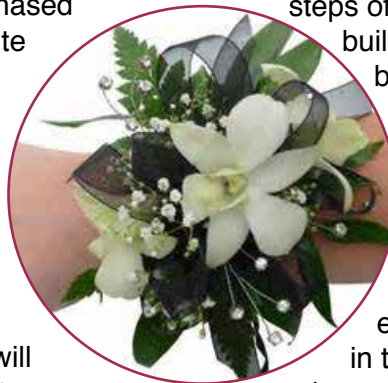
touches are being made in the auditorium for the 2015 ISD prom, to be held this Saturday, April 11.

Although the personal primping will start much earlier, 4 p.m. will be the public's first peek at our student body in their finery, as they

begin the promenade on the front steps of the administration building. Prom royalty will be named at this time.

The alternate site, if weather doesn't cooperate, will be the Lied Multipurpose Complex gym.

The group will then eat at the Twisted Fork in the Old Market, enjoy a dance in the ISD auditorium and celebrate post prom at Sky Zone, an indoor trampoline park.



Save the date!
Wednesday, May 6, 2015
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Iowa School for the Deaf
Lied Multipurpose Complex

Tickets: \$50
Table & Scholarship
sponsorships available
Call 712.366.3213 for details.



Sound futures

**Iowa School for the Deaf
Foundation fundraiser
supporting scholarships
& student programs**

**Featuring students
Carmita Wilson & Izzy Schon
and their families**

*If you did not receive an
invitation and would like
one, please contact us at
712.366.3213.*

Celebrate ISD sees best profit yet



Celebrate ISD coordinator Geri Knoebel says the work of staff, students and volunteers made the annual carnival event the most profitable in its 21-year history.

Knoebel knows it's not possible to name everyone individually who contributed to the event's success, but a few stand out:

- **Cindy Schrum** who handled all of the mailings, made flyers and then worked helping to set up on Friday morning
- **Scott and all of his crew** involved in moving stuff, setting up and tearing down
- **Powerhouse and grounds guys** for hauling the bouncy house and making needed repairs to games.
- **LeeAnn and Rhonda** for staffing concessions at such a short notice
- **All the class sponsors and students**
- **Brent Welsch, Danny Case, Ty** (from Deaf Missions), and **Superintendent Gettel** for allowing themselves to be creamed in the pie booth
- **Deaf Missions students Lauren, Joel and Chase**, who worked their tails off helping with set up all Friday afternoon



One of us! Congratulations to Superintendent Gettel who survived the true barometer of being a new hire at ISD- the Celebrate ISD pie booth.

How My Optimism Will Help Me Press-on to Greater Achievements of the Future



(Whew!) The Optimist oratorical contest doesn't shy from a challenge when choosing topics for its annual contest, and ISD students don't back down from meeting the challenge!

Ten middle and high school students from ISD presented their essays in front of an audience of peers and judges in March, after advancing from classroom competitions. Division I winners were Emma VandeLune, first (winner of \$250 Optimist scholarship); Katie Brown, second; and Erica Bloomhall, third. Division II winner was Elizabeth

Through various qualifying rounds, 44 ISD middle and high school students participated in this year's Optimist oratorical contest.

Van Camp, who earned a \$500 scholarship for first place; Annie White, second place and Brianna Vargo, third place.

A separate contest, the Iowa Communication Contest for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ICDHH), is open to all students in Iowa who

are deaf. Held at ISD, there were 11 contestants this year. Junior division students earning gold, silver and bronze medallions for their first, second and third places were ISD students Emma VandeLune, Alondra Regalado and Erica Bloomhall, respectively. Senior division winners earned scholarships of \$2,500, \$1,500 and bronze medallions. Jayden Van Sant of Sully, and ISD students Elizabeth Van Camp and Anna Cullen earned these awards, respectively. ■



Buy one, get one free at the ISD bookfair

An amazing selection of books is headed our way in the high school library! You will find the latest and finest titles for kids, as well as books of interest to parents. The bookfair is a great way to get everyone excited about reading.

Bookfair schedule

Tuesday, April 21

Wednesday, April 22

8:15 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

(closed 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.)

Thursday, April 23

open during parent/teacher
conferences

8:15 a.m. - 6:15 p.m.

(closed 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.)

Congratulations to ISD 4th grader Chaleaha Faatz who participated in the local Miss Amazing pageant in late March.

Faatz is wearing a tiara and holding a trophy awarded to the girls in her age category. The mission of Miss Amazing Inc. is to provide opportunities for girls and women with disabilities to build self-confidence in a supportive environment.



Employee news – Jeanette Watson (high school faculty) and her husband, Chuck, welcomed grandson Henry Matthew Watson March 18. Henry was born in Iowa City weighing 9 pounds and 6.1 ounces. Parents are Nicole and Matthew Watson and he joins 10-year-old twin sisters.

Special Olympic Bobcats brought home 3rd place honors

from the state competition in March. Team members were Jose Ureste, Shannon Clingenpeel, Matt McArthur, Carmita Wilson, Brian Johnson, Ma Ma Sharal and David Schrieber. Skills competition participants Chaleaha Faatz and Holly Schroeder placed 2nd and 3rd, respectively.



Upcoming events

April 11	Prom
April 15	Early dismissal day
April 16	Capitol Day
April 17	Bloodmobile, LMC
April 20 - 24	Bookfair, ISD high school
April 22 & 23	Regents meetings on campus
April 23	Parent/teacher conference
April 24	No school/in-service
May 2 - May 8	Close Up in Washington, DC
May 6	Sound Futures fundraiser, LMC
	Early dismissal
May 16	Celebrate CB parade
May 25	Memorial Day/School closed
May 26	Student travel day
May 28	Ice Cream Social

High school track meets

All meets are at 4:30 p.m. unless noted otherwise.

April 13 Monday
(Boys) Tri Center

April 14 Tuesday
(Girls) @Lewis Central
4:30 p.m.

April 20 Monday
(Boys) @Treynor Relays

April 21 Tuesday
(Girls) CAM Relays @ Atlantic

April 25 Saturday
(Coed) GPSD @ Arkansas

April 27 Monday
(Coed) @ Essex

April 30 Thursday*
(Girls) Nishnabotna @ Hamburg

May 2 Friday *
(Coed) CB Relays @ Lewis Central)

* Start at 4 p.m.

Second floor dorm boys take the (cheese)cake — Who needs the state fair when we have our own blue ribbon bakers on campus?

In late February, the dorms held an apple bake-off contest. Each floor submitted their best apple dessert, judged by Deb LeHeup, Marlene Turk, Danny Case and Kathy Churchill. "Judgment Day" was Thursday Feb 26 at the cafeteria.

Anthony Maginity is proud of his second floor boys, who won first place with their delicious caramel apple pecan cheesecake. "There were a lot of competitions and kids being creative," Maginity said. "The staff were really proud of how these kids took on the challenge!"



These student pastry chefs won first place in the apple bake-off with their caramel apple pecan cheesecake.

Ready to whisk up the recipe at home?

Click [here](#) for ingredients and directions. Maginity hints that his crew substituted melted caramel bits for the caramel sauce.

LEGOS COME TO LIFE

Larger-than-life Lego sculptures were the collective take-home "wow" when the ISD high school toured Lauritzen Gardens in late February. Students were awed with the use of more than 300,000 Lego bricks. Aside from the sculptures, students toured the facility's news building and participated in a Lego building activity. English students wrote short essays after the trip, and photography students captured many moments during the tour. Trip was made possible by a grant from Lauritzen Gardens.

Look out, Michael Bennett! There's a giant grasshopper behind you! The grasshopper was one of 25 garden-themed sculptures students saw at Lauritzen Gardens.



2 locations!

IOWA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF 2015 Summer Camps



3 great choices!

Register by clicking **HERE** or at
www.iowaschoolforthe deaf.org.

All camps just \$50 a week for Iowa residents* I register by May 15 I campers should be independent with eating, toileting and activities of daily living I
*Nebraska residents should contact camp registrar

Click **HERE** or contact
Camp Registrar
jsmith@iowaschoolforthe deaf.org
712.366.3237

Questions?

#1 Sports camp

When: June 14 - 19

Who: Students entering
7th - 12th grades

Where: Council Bluffs
Golf, basketball, volleyball and tennis offered at this camp which welcomes all skill levels. Register for these camps if you are up to the challenge of all-day physical activity! Learn moves for the court back at home or enjoy a life-long recreational activity!

#2 Discovery Zone

When: July 12 - 17

Who: Students entering
preschool - 12th grades

Where: Council Bluffs
Discover your inner inventor during this week! We'll look at what inventions changed our world and let our creativity soar as we create our own, too!

#3 Imagination station

When: July 19 - 24

Who: Students entering
preschool - 12th grades

Where: Vinton, Iowa
If you liked Discovery Zone, you'll love Imagination Station! Through the week you'll be making "K'nexions" and Lego creations that will amaze and delight yourself! You'll spin your noggin's gears, too, as you experience physics and science concepts while you construct!

eastern iowa
site!

Curtain rises on young actors

In February, the K-5th grade students attended a 1 1/2-day workshop at The Rose Theater in Omaha, made possible by special funding and an invitation from the theater.

The first day, the students were introduced to a basic acting class. They learned how to warm up prior to an acting lesson and how actors prepare to tell a story.



Trenton Morse and Sterlyn Aragon work on the mirror game.

The second day, students learned the full experience of how a play is actually put together including all the technical elements such as lighting, costumes and set design. Backstage and onstage tours were offered. This enabled students to get a close up look to the current set of *Zen Ties* which was being performed on the main stage.

Backstage, students experienced the Green Room (where actors wait to go onstage) dressing rooms, and the costume shop. During the tour, students met the playwright Y York, and the director for the current show, *Zen Ties*. They also briefly saw some actors rehearsing for that show.

Swing for Bobcat athletics

Mark your calendars for the 13th annual golf tournament to benefit Iowa School for the Deaf athletics.

June 27
Shotgun start: 9 a.m.
\$280/4 person team
Fox Run Golf Course*
Council Bluffs

This is a best ball/scramble tournament. Mens, womens and coed four-person teams welcome. Cost includes golf, cart and lunch.

Contact Karen Lechner at klechner@iowaschoolforthe deaf.org or voice/text: 402.616.7816.

**Fox Run requests no tank tops or denim shorts. Must have own clubs and proper shoes.*



Welcome new students! Iowa School for the Deaf enrolls students at every grade level, and in every season. New students this spring are (left to right, back row:) Jorge Yepez Morales, Eric Yepez Morales, Karina Vallin (front row) Owen Gearhart and Lily Boese. Gearhart is from Clarinda; the other students live in Council Bluffs.



The ASTRA (ISD student service club) students are hosting the spring blood drive Friday, April 17. There are places available from 8 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. Donations will be received in the Lied Multipurpose Complex. To reserve your spot, contact senior Brianna Vargo [here](#).

Survey says 16-year-olds should not be able to marry



Katie Brown and Ana Rosa Torres conducted a study among ISD faculty for fulfillment of a social studies assignment in Roxie Stevens' class. Their questions and responses are listed below.

- 1.) **Do you support the idea that teenagers, age 13, should learn how to drive and get a permit license?** Of 29 responses, 4 said yes and 25 said no.
- 2.) **Do you support the idea that teenagers at the age of 17 years do not need their parents' permission to do certain things, such as getting married?** Of 29 responses, 4 said yes and 25 said no.
- 3.) **Do you support the idea that the students, who are not involved in sports, should have one tray (in cafeteria) and the ones, who are involved in sports, should have two trays?**
Of 29 responses, 8 said yes and 21 said no.
- 4.) **Do you agree with Michelle Obama's rules about lunch for children?**
Of 29 responses, 12 said yes and 17 said no.
- 5.) **Do you think 16 year-old-teenagers should be able to marry each other?**
Of 29 responses, none said yes and 29 said no.
- 6.) **Do you think that it is okay when teenagers run away?**
Of 29 responses, 1 said yes and 28 said no.
- 7.) **Do you think the teens should have a job after school?**
Of 29 responses, 26 said yes and 3 said no.
- 8.) **Do you support the idea that teenagers should use cell phones during class time?** Of 29 responses, 3 said yes and 26 said no.
- 9.) **Do you support the idea that the teenagers should have a neutral advocate to help them solve problems?**
Of 29 responses, 25 said yes and 4 said no.
- 10.) **Do you support the idea community leaders could influence the way teenagers become positive, responsible young adults?**
Of 29 responses, all 29 said yes and none said no.

36 years of contests

According to Cheryl Banks, who coordinates the annual event with Sue Miles (both speech-language pathologists at ISD), this is the 36th year of the ISD oratorical competition, which began in 1980.

Optimist International chooses a new theme every year without any repetitions. "Of course, optimism is always a main component," said Banks.

This was the 23rd year for the ICCDHH. (See story on p. 2 for details.) The Council Bluffs Optimist Club has sponsored these competitions at ISD with scholarships since it began in 1980. "ISD is very fortunate to have such dedicated support," Banks added.



Emma Vandellune won first place in the junior division at the ICCDHH contest.

Mistakes welcome here

3 decades of inspiring creativity in ISD students

Editor's note: Art teacher Cindy LeMaster was asked to share her thoughts on teaching at Iowa School for the Deaf. The following is her response to questions regarding her experience.

How did you end up teaching art to students who are deaf?

I guess I really was in the right place at the right time. I was substitute teaching in Council Bluffs and Tri-Center schools and looking for a full-time elementary position. I saw a job opening advertised for the ISD preschool aide. It sounded much more interesting and challenging than subbing. I started working with Melodee Hielen, Sharon Farrell and Elizabeth Peters. It was wonderful learning experience from some great leaders. That year the art teacher resigned and I was asked to fill the position. (I have degrees in both art and elementary education.) I started back to school at UNO that summer for an endorsement in deaf education and have been here since (fall, 1981).

How are art classes at ISD different now than when you started teaching?

The biggest difference in teaching art now is the influences of visual culture on art with the internet. Technology changes so quickly art teachers are all trying to teach students to happily live within both the art and visual worlds. The internet also makes teaching about different art styles and history so accessible, with virtual tours at museums any place in the world. But I still want my students to develop an appreciation for different artworks, to be able to create and "read" an artwork thoughtfully. I hope that art helps them connect with other academic and personal areas.



How is teaching art to deaf students different than teaching to hearing students?

Teaching deaf students is the same and different from teaching hearing students. I teach the same concepts, history, and processes as are taught in hearing art rooms. The way I teach these includes more emphasis on vocabulary, demonstrations and visuals. I think when students can see how art is a reflection of our world histories or how it relates to science and mathematics- it reinforces learning in all areas.

How did you start teaching high school art?

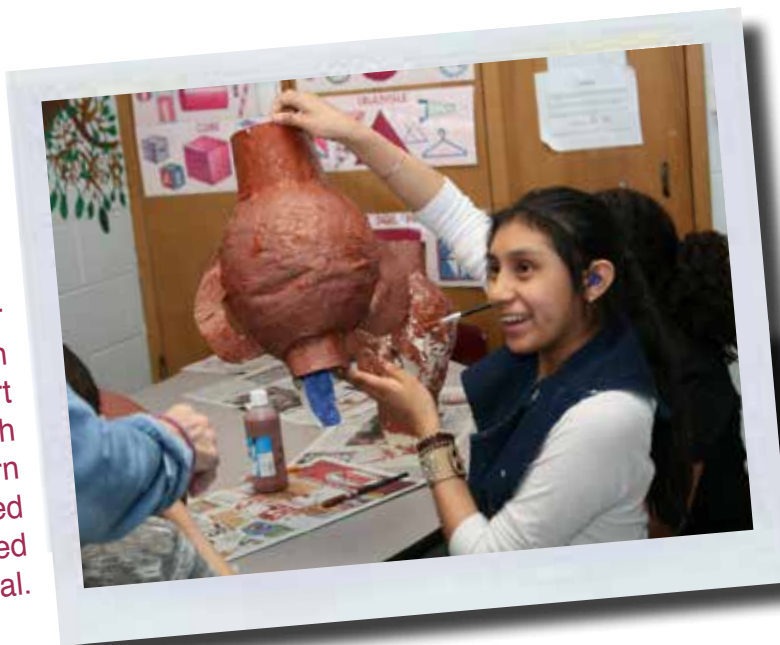
I did start teaching high school art classes again when Rebecca Gaw was principal the first time! She asked if I would take classes to get my high school endorsement and now I have a high school class each trimester.

What do you want your students to "get" out of your art classes?

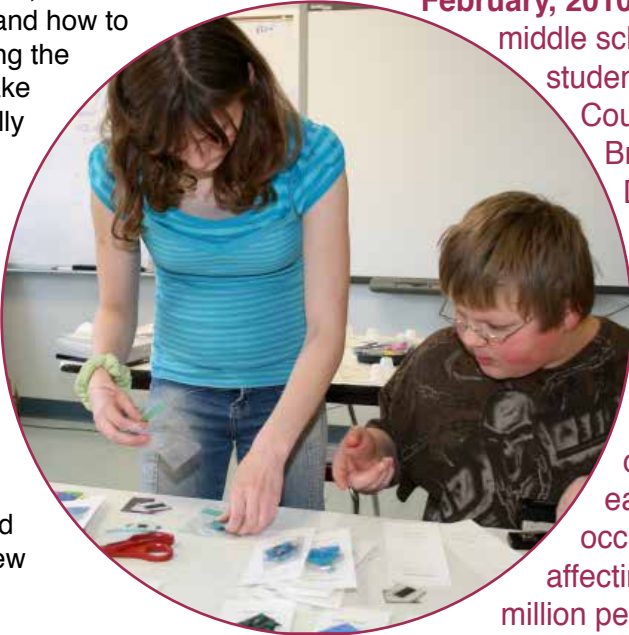
I hope my students get that the art room is an acceptable place to make mistakes. I always stress

"I hope my students 'get' that the art room is an acceptable place to make mistakes.

Water bottle waste around the world inspired LeMaster to engage her students in recycled art projects, such as the urn freshly painted by a pleased Ashley Pascual.



the only way to learn is to make mistakes and there are many ways to create something, solve problems or express something. I like to tell them stories about some of my epic art blunders..., what I learned from them and how to avoid making the same mistake again. I really hope my students develop the ability to think of new things, see things in a different way and not be afraid to create new kinds of art.



another art class. They have the ability to see things differently and will make a difference in whatever they do in the future. Just the power of art!

February, 2010 – Then middle school students Kalynn Coulter and Brandon Dunlap work on the ISD art class Houses for Haiti fundraiser after a devastating earthquake occurred, affecting three million people.

The way I approach that lofty goal?

I give students lots of time to experiment with different kinds of media, processes and tools. I try to make them feel comfortable here at a young age when they are more willing to express themselves more freely so that when they are older they don't lose that kind of natural expressiveness.

Do you apply art therapy principles in class? How do you see students express themselves in their work regarding the challenges they experience?

Art Therapy? Yep that's exactly what it does for me when I create something! I always feel better, more relaxed, able to think clearly. I have a couple of 8th graders who I have taught since they were very young and they have said that coming in the art room always makes them feel relaxed and when they are really in the art-making-zone, they feel at peace and calm. They are truly artists at heart and will always be that way no matter if they never take

I really like to do service art projects like The Haiti Houses and craft sale to benefit a homeless shelter's art program. Students learn so much by creating art that will help someone else. I like the public art projects that are student-driven hanging around the campus... The tiled walls in the LMC, the Bobcat Pride Project, *We are ISD* copper hands and most recently, *Wired Together*.



Most of these works may be found in the ISD elementary/middle school on first floor. While there, visit LeMaster's classrooms on the second floor and see the creativity in progress. No erasers needed.



LeMaster has taught at ISD since 1981.

Her favorite projects

Projects that are memorable are some of the ones I have hanging around the art room, like a life-size mummy from a 4th or 5th grader from the '80s (I think!). Masks and sculptures that students let me keep. Every time I open a box with examples of student artwork from the past, I remember the students fondly and think, "Wow! Time goes by fast and I've been here a long time!" Scary.

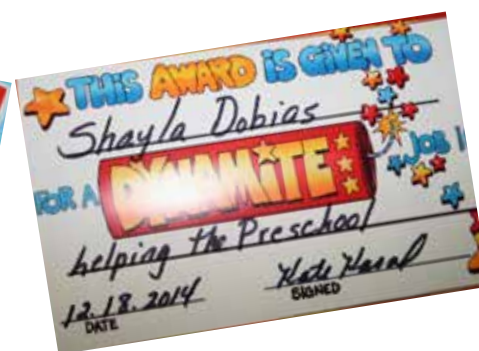
“Just the power of art!”

What do you wish we knew or understood about your classes? Sometimes the physical room itself looks like chaos because of so many levels of art in two rooms- but it is seriously organized chaos... Most of the time. ■



In February, LeMaster's class artwork was displayed at Starbucks in the Metro Crossing.

These students and more were caught being kind! Visit the display in the elementary to see more examples of kindness.



ISD sign language classes by the numbers

Brent Welsch, ISD's sign language instructor, reports the following stats:

- August – December, 15 sections of campus-based ASL
- Since January, 2015, 6 sections of ASL, 4 sections of Structure of ASL and 1 section of ASL Storytelling
- August – December: 77 students
- Since January, 2015: 85 students (some taking 2 classes)
- Tutoring for 6 staff, preparing for SLPs or for new staff "catching up" to their classes



Brent Welsch conducts a small group assignment with Melissa Seaman during a Structure of ASL class.

Who takes classes?

- Primarily full-time ISD staff, 1 substitute nurse, 1 weekend driver, 2 employees of Green Hills AEA, 1 employee of Vocational Rehabilitation

Off-campus sign classes

In late fall, Welsch began teaching two sign classes for teacher associates in Des Moines. A distance class is offered via the internet, which is ASL-based. The other class is "more workshop-type, focusing on aspects of ASL grammar," said Welch. This class of 8 students meets every other week,

and the format alternates between an online live class or Welsch teaching the class in person.

Parent classes

Since January, Welsch and Paul Dymoke (hired for these classes) teach a total of three sections of sign language, twice a week. Welsch teaches one section which averages three parents.

Dymoke's two sections average six parents. Parents are both those who have children enrolled at ISD, as well as mainstreamed or students of preschool children around Iowa.

To date, Welsch has taught 439 hours of campus sign language 17.5 hours of Des Moines sign language and 11 hours of parent classes.

Where it's *happening* at ISD



■ **1** Hide your eyes! It's time for one of Dr. Deb Cates' interactive ASL workshops! ■ **2** Katie Brown explains about Angelyne, the Deaf Cattle Dog, in an interview with CBTv. ■ **3** 4PLUS teacher Wendy Rustad provides lessons in living. ■ **4** Brendon Head Hardage takes a moment before an hour's session of driver's education. ■ **5** Timmmmmber! The cottonwood behind careers parking lot loses a limb. ■ **6** Greenhouse students take a break from transplanting to clean up the rain garden. ■ **7** This "thank you" from elementary students appeared on more than 300 tokens of gratitude for Iowa's legislators.