



PTSA BOARD

President: Joel Niemeyer
bhs.ptsa.pres@gmail.com

Vice Presidents: Teresa Moore
bhs.ptsa.vp@gmail.com
Florence Deleranko
florenced@ud.thompsonhowle.com

Treasurer: Carolyn Stalter
bhs.ptsa.treas@gmail.com

Secretary: Christine Segat
bhs.ptsa.sec@gmail.com

Volunteer Coordinator:
Britta Bowman
bhsvolunteer@hotmail.com

Legislative Liaisons: Demian Godon
dgodon@gmail.com
Heidi Bennett
heidi@bennettdirect.net

Nominating Committee Chair:
Chris Witeck
cwiteck@gmail.com

Building Leadership Team:
Lori Bjorklund
bhsvolunteer@hotmail.com
Pam Dundas
pameladundas@comcast.net

BALLARD HIGH SCHOOL
1418 NW 65TH
SEATTLE, WA 98117-5237
206.252.1000

Principal: Keven Wynkoop
kswynkoop@seattleschools.org

Main Office..... 252-1000
Attendance..... 252-1009
Counseling 252-1014
Career Center..... 252-1011
Nurse..... 252-1007
Teen Health Center..... 784-2142
Fax 252-1001

BALLARDHS.SEATTLESCHOOLS.ORG

BALLARD HIGH SCHOOL PTSA PTSA NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XIX, ISSUE 1

PTSA NO. 6.15.460

OCTOBER 2015

WELCOME BACK FROM THE PTSA PRESIDENT

Welcome back to school everybody! While waiting for the 2015-2016 school year to begin, your PTSA has been going strong. We are very lucky to have been able to assemble a wonderful PTSA Executive Board—we have a great mix of new people, and people that have been around several years, as well as a great mix of skills and perspectives. I look forward to accomplishing much with their help.

At the Ballard High School PTSA, one of our goals for this year is to provide the best education possible to all students by engaging with our community through communication and fundraising activities to ensure that teachers, families and all students have access to the resources, tools and support they need for the best education possible.

By the time you read this article, we will have kicked off our **2015-2016 Direct Appeal campaign**. Direct Appeal is a simple appeal for donations of your hard earned dollars, which are used to fulfill grants requested by the people that know what it takes to create the best education environment—Ballard High School staff. Details about how specifically these funds are used can be found at our website at www.ballardhighschoolptsa.org, as can information about how we determine how this money is spent.

We understand that it must feel like you are being asked for money every day. This is why we want to make it very clear what we, the PTSA are doing with your dollars, and how we determine your money will be spent. I hope you'll feel free to contact me personally if you have any questions.

We have a couple of new programs being coordinated by our Family and Community Engagement committee: the Weekend Backpack program and Dinner For Three (D43).

Weekend Backpack is a wonderful program that Ballard High School has been working on in conjunction with the Ballard Food Bank. It's a program in which food is supplied every weekend for BHS kids that are in need. We'd like to form a core group of volunteers to really ramp this program up and help as much as we can. If you have time to volunteer regularly, or would like to donate money or food, please feel free to contact us here at the PTSA.

Dinner For Three (D43) is a program created and run by the parent of a new freshman here at BHS. In Dinner For Three, families of new high schoolers are randomly placed together in to groups, then get together for dinner, coffee, dessert—whatever, to share their thoughts and ideas on having kids in high school, and anything else they feel like talking about. It's a great way to build community, and we hope that this new program really takes off!

You can find more information on both of these programs on our website at www.ballardhighschoolptsa.org

And don't forget, we are building a fantastic community in our Friends of Ballard High School group on Facebook. Log in, search for Friends of Ballard High School, and join up—we welcome you!

Here's to a great 2015-2016 school year. And remember: it's always great to be a Beaver!

Joel Niemeyer
Ballard High School PTSA President

A NEW SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM AT BHS

Teachers Samantha Maykut, India Carlson, Gordon MacDougall and Eric Muhs are excited to announce a new "Sustainability Program" at Ballard High School. Here is a sneak peek at the innovative plans they have in store for the school:

- While we will look in the future to perhaps adding classes in this area, such as the UW in the High Schools class on Climate Change or alternative courses such as Sustainable Business and Environmental Engineering, we realize that is a slow and arduous process. We can in fact start NOW in focusing student interest in the various aspects of sustainability. We have vetted our plans with the BHS Instructional Council, and received an enthusiastic response.
- We'll do this by offering a certificate, without specific classes, that recognizes student work and achievement in and outside of school.
- Many classes at Ballard already tackle aspects of sustainability. Of course, some students are already involved outside of class in activities such as recycling with the Earth Service Corps.
- Students will keep a portfolio of all of their work towards the certificate.
- Students will develop and present an innovative design project that addresses a sustainability issue.
- Teacher meetings are held every Tuesday during both lunches in NW220.
- We are projecting an annual event to coincide with Earth Day in April 2016.
- We are developing partnerships (eventually including internships and projects) with local and regional organizations like Bonneville Power, Seattle City Light, and Sustainable Ballard.
- We eventually envision different levels of certificate—obviously, this year's seniors have limited ability to participate, but we are open to all grades.



PTSA[®]
everychild.one voice.[®]

GENERAL MEETINGS:

September 24, 2015 7:00pm
March 2, 2016 7:00pm
June 8, 2016 7:00pm

Here is the meeting schedule for the 2015-2016 school year. Board meetings are open. General meetings are for all PTSA members in good standing, and we always have a good reason to attend. Agendas for general meetings will be published at least 72 hours in advance on the PTSA website at: ballardhighschoolptsa.org/ptsa-meetings/

BOARD MEETINGS:

November 5, 2015 7:00pm	March 2, 2016 5:30pm
December 3, 2015 7:00pm	April 7, 2016 7:00pm
January 7, 2016 7:00pm	May 5, 2016 7:00pm
February 4, 2016 7:00pm	June 8, 2016 5:30pm

It's always great to be a Beaver!

EXCITEMENT BUILDS AROUND A NEW COMMUNITY EDUCATIONAL RADIO STATION

BHS Teacher Eric Muhs has been very busy indeed. He is also involved in a project to bring a new educational radio station to the north end of Seattle. After 2 years of waiting, the project team is pleased to announce that they expect to be on the air within a year at 107.3 FM, call letters to be determined. Check out the website at fulcrumcc.org.

Although low-power, the signal will be able reach about 100,000 residents of North Seattle. They also plan to webcast simultaneously.

The charter requires us to fulfill a broad educational mission, and requires that the broadcast includes a substantial proportion of locally originated programming. They would REALLY like to present student voice as an integral part of what they do.

Teachers around the north end of Seattle have been asked to consider assigning audio projects: presentations, interviews, oral histories, reviews, news, concerts, drama, podcasts, and to submit any finished audio projects students produce to the station.

They do plan to have a regular studio, and students and adults will be able to put together shows live, on-the-air. But students and adults can also produce programming from any decent computer, and upload it from the comfort of a classroom or school library or media center.

They of course need all kinds of things in addition to programming, like gear and money and technical expertise, and welcome anyone who wants to get involved at that level. Please consider joining the project!

WE ARE A NEW **HYPER-LOCAL** **FM RADIO STATION** **AND COMMUNICATIONS HUB**

for North Seattle, serving 100,000 residents of Ballard, Fremont, Magnolia, Queen Anne, Phinney Ridge, Greenwood, Wallingford, Greenlake, Loyal Heights, and North Beach.

We received a construction permit from the FCC in June 2015, and are building our station from the ground up. We hope to be on the air by September 2016.

WE'LL BE AT 107.3 FM
and available by streaming on the web.
WE NEED YOU! JOIN US.
WWW.FULCRUMCC.ORG



**THE BEAVER BEAT IS PUBLISHED BY THE BALLARD PTSA FOUR TIMES PER YEAR.
TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE, CONTACT NICOLE ASHFORD AT NDASHFORD@COMCAST.NET.**



Stolen – a film by Ballard High School Digital Filmmaking students Coleman Andersen and Leo Pfeifer, won Best Drama at the All American High School Film Festival in New York City. The award was presented on Sunday, October 11 at the 2015 Teen Indie Awards in Manhattan's historic Kings Theater.

Pfeifer, a 4th year student in the Digital Filmmaking Program who plans to study film in college, travelled to New York to attend the festival. Anderson (BHS '15) is now a freshman studying film at New York University. The two co-produced **Stolen** at BHS last fall.

It was a good night for the Ballard filmmakers. In addition to Best Drama, **Stolen** was also a Finalist for Best Screenplay and Best Overall Film. **Clipped Wings** – also by Coleman Andersen and Leo Pfeifer, with Duncan Gowdy – was a Finalist for Best Directing, Best Documentary, and Best Overall Film. The films were judged by a prestigious jury including professionals such as screenwriter Diablo Cody, documentary filmmaker Morgan Spurlock, and actors Kristen Stewart and Dylan McDermott.

Air Pressure – (again by Coleman Andersen and Leo Pfeifer, with Josh Vredevoogd) was also an Official Selection of the festival.

Stolen questions the cost of revenge. **Clipped Wings** tells the story of those most affected by the Boy Scouts of America's ban on gay members. **Air Pressure** examines the aftermath of a disaster at the Balloon Animal World Championships. To see the films, visit the Ballard High School Digital Filmmaking Program vimeo site at www.vimeo.com/bhsfilmprogram. For more information on the program, visit www.bhsvideo.blogspot.com.

SIFF GRAND JURY PRIZE-WINNER ADDS MORE FESTIVALS

Last June, the Grand Jury of the Seattle International Film Festival (SIFF) selected the short documentary **Audio Input**, by Ballard High School Digital Filmmaking students Duncan Boszko, Jack O'Neal, Piper Phillips & Sho Schrock, for the WaveMaker Award. The prize was presented at the Golden Space Needle Awards, the culminating event of the festival. The WaveMaker Award is given annually to the best film shown in the FutureWave screening. This screening features the best shorts by filmmakers younger than 19 from around the world. The jury selected the production "for its insightful and engaging portrait of podcasting, an audio art form, through a collage of interviews and images."

Audio Input has since earned a place in a number of other international festivals, including the Tumbleweed Film Festival and the CineShift Film Festival. To screen **Audio Input**, visit the Digital Filmmaking Program's vimeo page at www.vimeo.com/bhsfilmprogram.

DON'T MISS NEW SHORTS FROM BALLARD'S AWARD-WINNING FILMMAKERS!

Everyone is invited to a screening of new work by students in the Ballard High School Digital Filmmaking Program. The Ballard Film Festival (BFF) will be on Saturday, February 6 and Friday, February 26 at 7 pm in the Ballard High School auditorium. The screening will feature short comedies and dramas, advertisements, news features, and documentaries. Tickets (\$10 for adults and \$5 for students) will be sold at the door. Films that first screen at the BFF routinely win awards at prestigious national and international film festivals and the Northwest Regional Emmy Awards.

Funds raised will benefit students in the Digital Filmmaking Program. Students in the program regularly travel to Los Angeles to tour college schools of film and television, visit program alumni enrolled in these colleges or working in the industry, and meet with film and television professionals. Students have visited Jason Cahill (Writers Guild of America Award winner for *The Sopranos*) to discuss screenwriting, and Visual Effects Supervisor Bill Powloski (*Breaking Bad*) to discuss special effects. Ticket sales and donations will make these trips possible for all accepted students and also provide additional production equipment.

BALLARD HIGH SCHOOL FILMMAKERS WIN BIG AT EMMY AWARDS

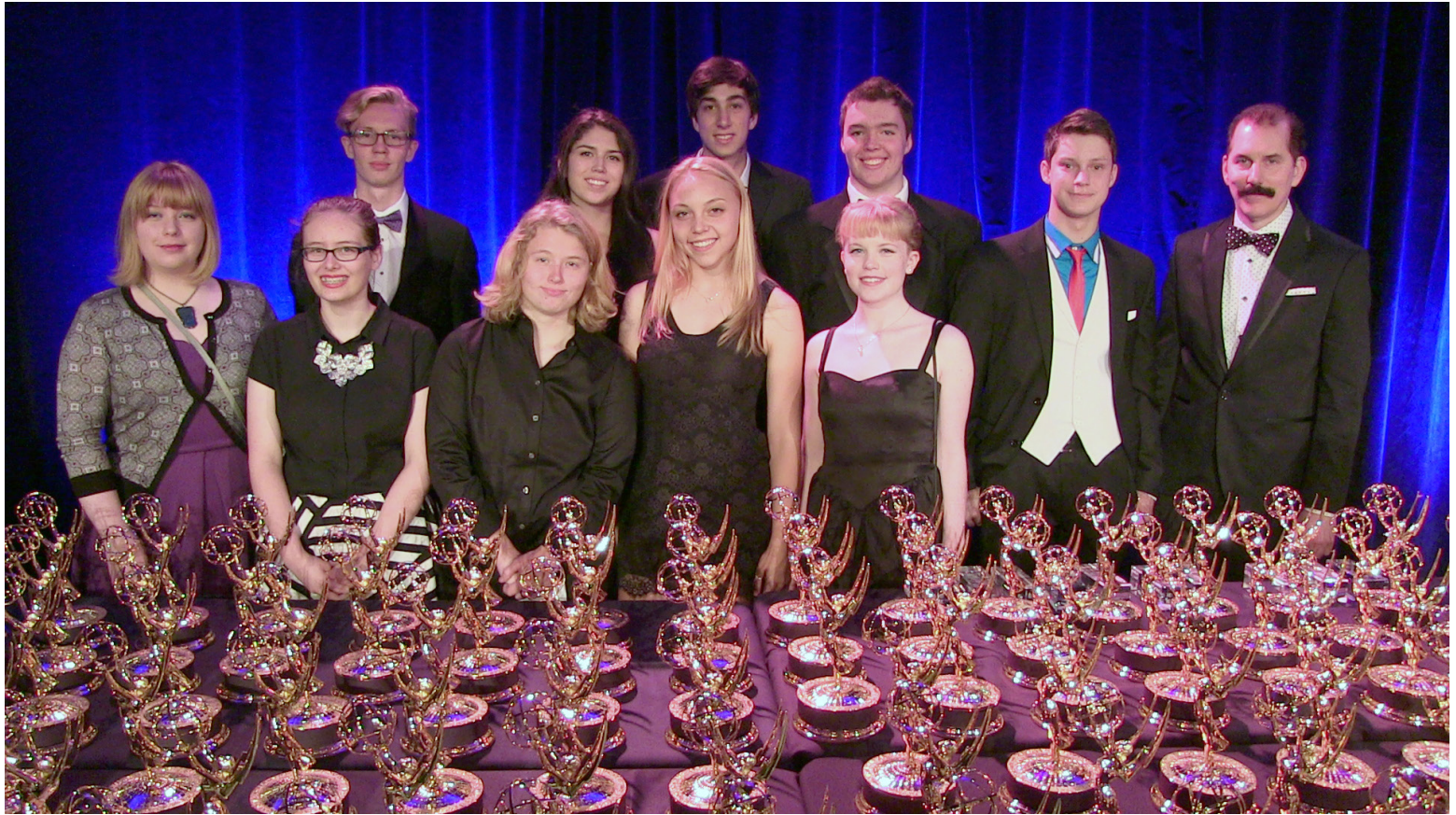


Photo courtesy of Matthew Swager

Students in the Ballard High School Digital Filmmaking Program won five High School Awards of Excellence at the regional Emmy Awards last June. Coleman Andersen & Leo Pfeifer won the awards for Short Form Fiction and Writing for their film *Stolen*. The drama concerns the price of revenge. For their documentary ***Clipped Wings***, Coleman Andersen, Duncan Gowdy and Leo Pfeifer won the awards for Long Form Non-Fiction and Photographer/Editor. (This is the fourth year in a row that the award for Photographer/Editor has gone to Ballard film students!) ***Clipped Wings*** explores the impact of the ban on gays in the Boy Scouts of America. Finally, Leo Pfeifer and Raven Two Feathers won the Short Form Non-Fiction award for ***GeoForce: A Journey to Understanding***. This promotional

documentary examines the strategies and success of a University of Alaska field geology program for rural youth.

The Northwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS) presents High School Awards of Excellence to celebrate and promote the most outstanding high school television productions from five Northwest states: Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and Alaska. Students from the BHS Digital Filmmaking Program led the pack of winners this year, taking awards in five of the six categories in which they had received nominations.

The award winning productions can be screened on the program vimeo site at www.vimeo.com/bhsfilmprogram.



CHECK OUT THE FRENCH CLUB!

The French Club will be meeting on selected Tuesdays after school this year. No knowledge of French required, all welcome. The French Club organizes cultural events like trivia, cooking, and other activities and games. Announcements are posted on the bulletin board outside of S207 and in the school bulletin. For more information, contact Annaïck Sturgeon, French Teacher at amsturgeon@seattleschools.org or one of the officers below.

THE NEXT FEW EVENTS:

October 13, trivia
October 27, Crêpes
November 10, French week activities
December 8, Bûche de Noël contest

THE OFFICERS:

Co-President: Rachael McDonald and Chloe LeComp
Co-Public Relations: Bryn Templeton and Lilli Barlow
Secretary: Claire Lynch
Treasurer: Asa Campbell

AFTER-SCHOOL HOMEWORK HELP

Ballard students are lucky to have an after-school program that provides free homework help to students in need of an extra boost. Monday through Thursday tutors meet in the library after the final bell and continue until students have finished, usually around 4:00/4:30. Tutors come from the local community (one a PhD in math) as well as from the UW and from BHS's own National Honor Society students. Tutors specialize in math but can also help with physics, chemistry, L.A., science, history—just about every subject. Students can work one-on-one with a tutor or can work alone and ask for help only when stuck on a problem. Tutors can also provide help with college essays and scholarship applications. Visit them on the video production side of the library.

If your student has after-school sports, the tutor coordinator has a list of private tutors with more flexible hours. To learn more, email Diane Steen, tutor coordinator: ddsteen@seattleschools.org.



From the Nurse

NO LATEX BALLOONS AT SCHOOL

Due to several students having severe anaphylactic reactions to latex, we cannot have latex balloons in the building. Mylar balloons are just fine! People like to celebrate with balloons and we love for that to happen, but we need to avoid any latex balloons. Thank you!

Meg Carlson, MSN, RN, NCSN
Ballard High School Nurse



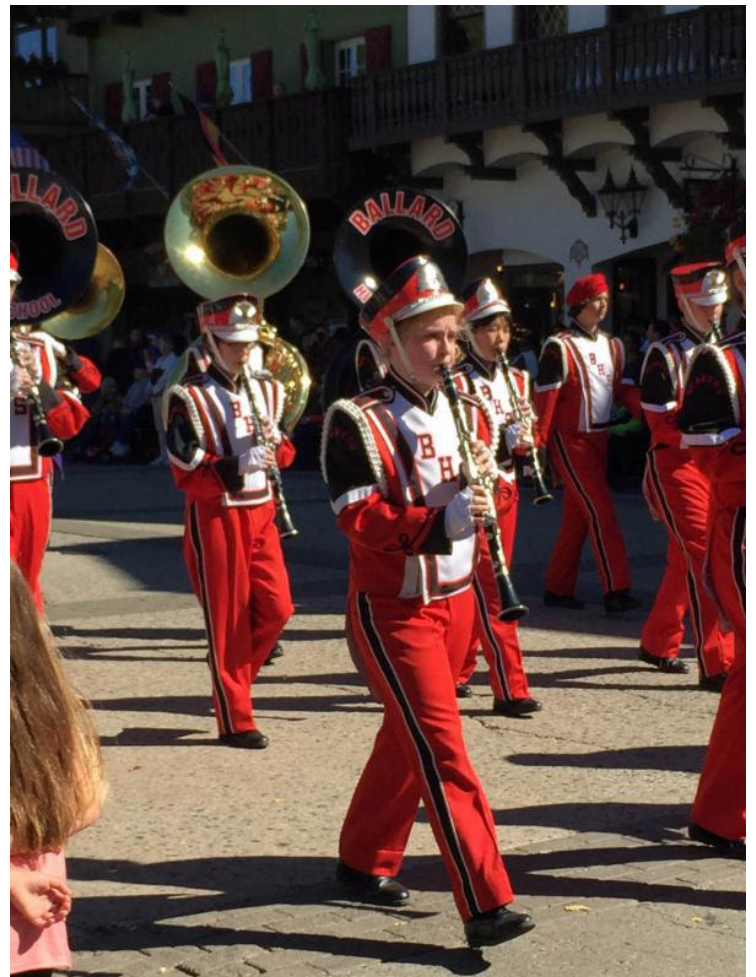
BALLARD PERFORMING ARTS LAUNCHES INTO FALL...

ANNUAL MUSIC CAMPS

This school year started with very dedicated program directors, parent volunteers, and administrators pulling together to make the annual music camps happen. Kudos to Director Courtney Rowley Pelavin, Director Michael James, Director Brittany Newell, Assistant Principal Elizabeth Guillory, Assistant Principal James Slaid and Assistant Principal Dr. Barbara Casey, who all slept in camp beds, wrangled students, managed ferry commutes, and in the case of the administrators, surrendered all prior weekend plans to depart on the spur of the moment! And thanks to Principal Keven Wynkoop who won't take "no" for an answer. Their commitment to Ballard teamwork and to our kids is phenomenal. The beautiful camp settings, the camaraderie, and the progress made with such concentrated practice is the perfect way to launch the music programs for the busy year ahead.

MARCHING BAND had a busy performance schedule from the start, with football games and, on September 29th, the Leavenworth Parade where they placed 3rd. Don't miss the Homecoming Game on 10/16 vs. Franklin; they are going to rock the halftime show, "Legends of Rock"! The football season continues into November. Fall Band Concert is on November 5th at 7pm in the Earl Kelly Performing Arts Center. Jazz Bands, Wind Ensemble, Percussion and Symphonic Band will appear.

Looking ahead, the Wind Ensemble will travel to Vancouver B.C., and Jazz I will perform at the Reno Jazz Festival.





BALLARD CHOIRS

The Fall Choir Concert, on October 28, will be the first performance for Ballard Choirs. Concert Choir, Vocal Jazz, Men's Ensemble, Women's Chamber Choir, Treble Choir and Advanced Women's Chorale will appear. Get ready for some harmonizing at 7pm in the Earl Kelly Performing Arts Center. Vocal Jazz will be at the Olympic College Jazz Classic on 11/21. Looking toward spring, the Advanced Women's Chorale and Concert Choirs have been invited to participate in the Choirs of America's Nationals for Top Choirs program. They will travel to New York City where they will work with nationally recognized clinicians, premiere composers, and choirs from across the country, with the culmination being a performance at Carnegie Hall!

ORCHESTRA is excited to announce that the Ballard Chamber Orchestra has been selected as one of ten Chamber Orchestras from across the country to perform at the National Orchestra Festival and ASTA Conference in Tampa Bay, Florida this coming March 2016! They look forward to representing Ballard on a national stage while working with leaders in Orchestral conducting, string performance and string pedagogy from top conservatories across the country. Congratulations, Chamber Orchestra!

- The Ballard Orchestras invite you to a Fall Concert on Tuesday, 11/3 at 7pm in the Earl Kelly Performing Arts Center. You'll hear exciting works by Mozart, Rossini, Glazunov and Sibelius, plus a few traditional tunes from our Fiddlers.
- Join the Chamber Orchestra this winter for their side-by-side performance with local professional Orchestra, Philharmonia NW on Saturday, January 24th at 2:30pm at St. Steven's in Laurelhurst.



THE BALLARD PLAYMAKERS

present their fall play, Eurydice, a retelling of the classic myth of Orpheus as seen through the eyes of his heroine. On the day of her wedding, Eurydice falls victim to a tragic accident that sends her hurtling into the Underworld. Separated from her beloved Orpheus, Eurydice is reunited with her father in the Land of the Dead. Full of dark humor, lyrical beauty, and wit, Sarah Ruhl's Eurydice transforms a traditional myth into a visceral, contemporary meditation on love, loss, and the pleasures and pains of memory. This is bound to be an unforgettable theater experience.

EURYDICE - Izabel Mar

ORPHEUS - Diego Roberts Buceta

HADES - Kyus Bailey

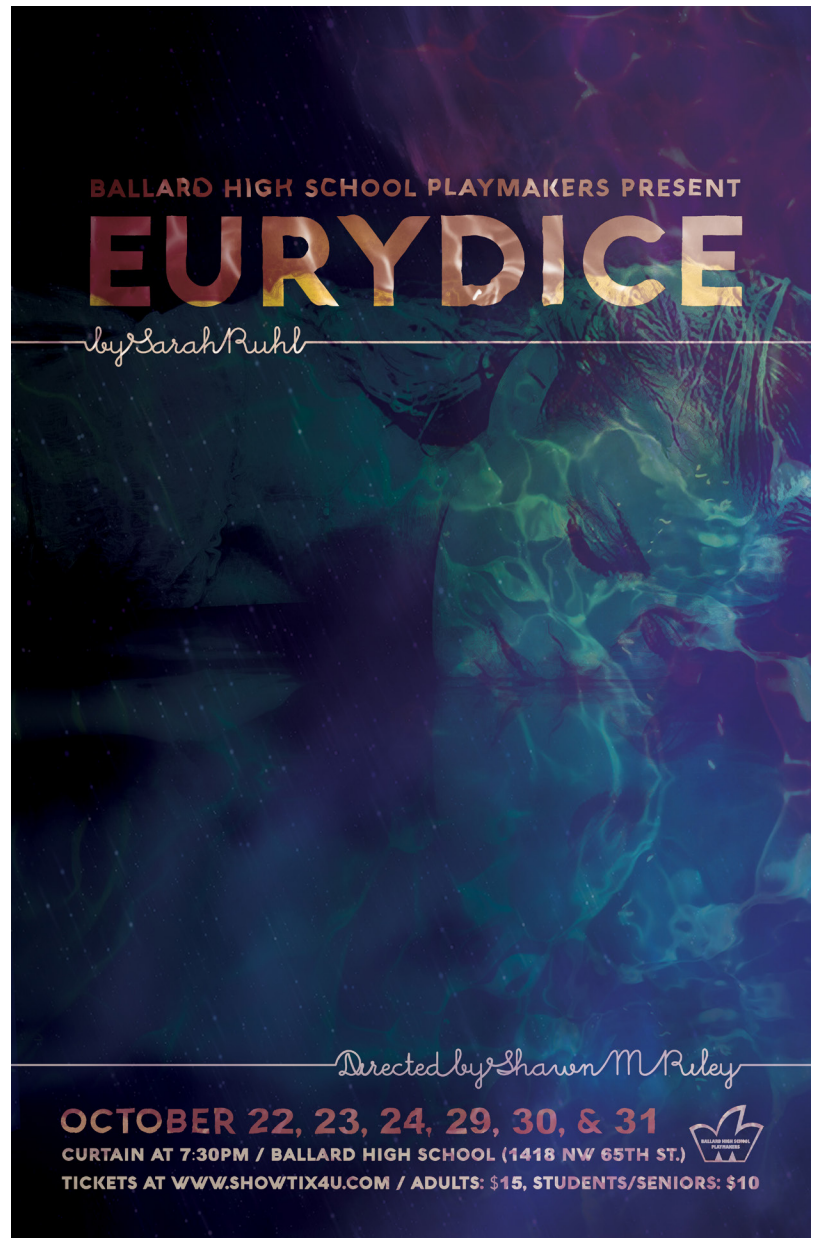
FATHER - Max Nelson

BIG STONE - Camaira Metz

LOUD STONE - Aisha Carpenter

SMALL STONE - Zoe Adamson

OTHER STONES - Elli McVicars
Madi Lieberman-Koenig
Riley Guiles
Madison Daniel-Smith



OCTOBER 22, 23, 24, 29, 30 & 31. CURTAIN AT 7:30.

Advance tickets at www.showtix4u.com - Adults: \$15, Students and Seniors: \$10

TALISMAN AWARDED CONSECUTIVE PACEMAKER AWARD FINALIST

For the second year in a row the **Ballard Talisman** was nominated as a **Pacemaker finalist** in the Tabloid category from the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA) which is considered the highest honor for a scholastic newspaper in the country. Many consider the Pacemaker award as the high school equivalent of the Pulitzer Prize for professional newspapers.

It marks the second Pacemaker nomination in the school's history. Winners will be announced at the **JEA/NSPA Fall National High School Journalism Convention** in Orlando, Florida, Nov. 12-15.

Staff editors submitted 5 issues from the last academic year that judges critiqued based on the following: coverage and content, quality of writing and reporting, leadership on the opinion page, evidence of in-depth reporting, design, photography, art and graphics.

In addition, **The Talisman** has had students receive story and design of the year nominations from the NSPA. Most recently, graduated managing editor Greta Rainbow's story, "Teaching the arts," was nominated for story of the year. She also won third place in the Edward R. Murrow high school competition for her news story, "Vapor Store Opens Steps Away From School." Current A&E editor, Elliot Bailey, won third place in the Murrow competition for his feature story, "A day at work." The Talisman also won first place as the best **website** at the Murrow competition.

Last year, the staff received 2nd place for Design of the Year in the NSPA Newsmagazine category. The newspaper, over the last few years, has also placed in the top ten in the best of show competition at two different JEA national conventions.



BHS journalism students at the WJEA state convention last April at Puyallup High School.