



# The Watershed Community School

NEWSLETTER 3.2 December 9, 2005

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Dear Parents, Students, Faculty, and Friends of the Watershed Community School,

Snow plows are scraping away outside my office window. Our snow-day warning system was not in working order for many of you this morning. Here's the basic plan: if the Camden Hills Regional High School is closed, then we are closed. For those of you with internet access please look at the Village Soup "school closing" site: <http://knox.villagesoup.com/cancellations/> We try to list Watershed on that site as early as possible. However if you don't see Watershed listed then follow as per Five-Town CSD. You can also listen to Coast 102.5 F.M. for the latest school closing information. And of course you can always call someone on our phone list if you're uncertain!

Below are brief descriptions of recent and upcoming events at Watershed. The winter can be challenging to students: short days, bitter weather, and a closed-in aspect to life. We try to account for the season's challenges and realities with a calendar punctuated by innovative programs and lively events!

Best wishes for the Holidays....Phil Gerard

## Mid-Semester Exhibition:

Our November 22 Exhibition was a great success. More than 70 people attended and had a taste of what the Watershed Community School offers.



11/22/05 Watershed Exhibition

## Global Quest:

December 9, Tim Ellis visited Watershed to describe the Global Quest programs in Thailand and Ecuador. There are many remarkable opportunities out there for travel learning – we encourage students to consider living in another country as part of their highschool experience. Please talk with Phil if you are interested.

## Planning for spring semester courses:

Students had an opportunity to suggest courses in the arts and movement for the Spring semester. The 28 suggestions ranged

from Art History to African Drumming, Ceramics to Sewing, and Fencing to Latin Dance. Students voted on these options and we've narrowed down the choices. Now to find excellent and available teachers!

## Physics:

John Blodgett, a luthier ( and sailing coach to several of our students) visited the Physics class to discuss practical aspects of the physics of sound.



John Blodgett generating sound waves

## Chinese History:

Constance Evans, an Occupational Therapist and Acupuncturist at Pen Bay Medical Center visited the Chinese History class to discuss traditional Chinese medicine. Several students have also attended lunch meetings of the Mid-Coast Council on Foreign Relation including a presentation by former Iraq Charge D'Affairs, Joseph Wilson.

## Upcoming Events:

### Coffee House:

Sunday December 11 at 5:30 p.m. St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Rockland. Watershed Community will put on a coffee house. Everyone is invited and adults and students are invited to perform. If you'd like to put on a performance of any kind (singing, dancing, playing an instrument, telling a joke,...?) please call Sam Auciello at 273-3065

### Secret Santa:

Students and faculty have pulled names from a hat to select a secret recipient for their handmade presents. This present-giving will happen during the week of December 12.

### Friday Afternoon Dec. 16th:

At 2:45 p.m. on the last day of school before winter holiday we will get together for cocoa and cookies and find out about our secret santas. You're welcome to join us – potluck treats would be appreciated.

### Winter Holiday:

Saturday December 17 – Sunday January 1. School begins Monday, January 2.

### Junior's meeting:

On Tuesday, January 3 2:30 –3:30 Juniors will meet to discuss Senior year at Watershed and begin planning for life after high school.

### Communications Workshop:

Tara Faiola will visit Watershed on January 6. Tara, community education specialist with Family Planning of Maine, will lead a workshop on "setting boundaries in relationships."

### End of First Semester: January 12

There are no classes January 13 – Faculty planning day

## Fall-Semester Evaluations:

Mailed out by January 19, 2006

### Martin Luther King Day:

On January 16, 2006 the Watershed School will travel to Bates or Colby College to attend their Martin Luther King Day conferences. Volunteer drivers would be appreciated.

### Project Week: January 17 – 23

No classes as usual! Students will be working all week on projects of their choosing. We'll be meeting with students this week to begin to help them plan their projects. More information about this event will be provided soon.

### Midcoast Forum on U.S.-China Relations:

The Watershed Community School is coordinating a high school "Midcoast Forum on U.S.-China Relations ." Students from local high schools will participate in the Forum at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast on January 28, 2006, and then present results of their efforts at the Camden Conference. The theme of this year's Camden Conference is "China and the World Stage."

### Quebec Trip: February 3-5, 2006

We'll all be heading up to Quebec City to take part in the Carnival and enjoy a foreign city and country. We may need a few more drivers/chaperones – any interest?

### All-School Snow-Fun Day off:

Date: When you least expect it! Purpose: a surprise day off to play outside in the snow to ski, sled, skate, and play snowball capture-the-flag.