



Graduation

# A Class Act

A reminder that graduation will be held on Friday, June 4, 2010 at the San Mateo Performing Arts Center (behind San Mateo High School). The ceremony will begin at 10:00 a.m. and, upon conclusion, guests are invited to enjoy refreshments in Hayden Hall at Stanbridge.

At left is this year's Stanbridge Academy Senior Class of 2010, all of whom will be honored at this year's graduation ceremony. (Not pictured: J.P. Downing).

  
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# THE STANBRIDGE NEWSLETTER



Spring 2010

## It's a Jungle Out There

Stanbridge artists take top prizes at EdRev

See our special "Focus On Art" section inside

Plus: Highlights from the WASC visit and EdRev 2010

Also Inside



Stanbridge students help raise the roof



Stars shine at first-ever school prom



Marilyn's Desk

# From the classroom to the ballpark

## A spring semester filled with activities and events

The second semester of the 2009-2010 school year has been filled with a variety of exciting activities and events.

The most vital to our continued success was the visit in March by an accrediting committee from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). The committee spent four days meeting the students, staff, and parents that comprise the Stanbridge Community. The committee reviewed our curriculum and textbooks, which are based on standards set by the state of California; and observed our small class sizes, which allow for optimal teaching and learning. The accrediting committee marveled at how well our students advocate for themselves. During WASC interviews with students and parents, there was the resounding theme of Stanbridge as a caring community, a home away from home, and a family. They recognized that Stanbridge provides a warm and welcoming environment where the social, emotional, and academic needs of students are addressed and developed. I could not

have been more proud of their final remarks: "There is visibly a strong connection between students and staff, a quality that separates Stanbridge from other schools."

**"It is gratifying to know Stanbridge is on the right path."**

I joined a group of Stanbridge teachers and students at the Education Revolution 2010 Conference, which was sponsored by Parents Education Network and held at AT&T Park on Saturday, April 17th. One of the themes in the keynote address by Dr. Edward Hallowell was the topic of accommodations for students with learning differences. He conveyed that even more important than accommodations is the value of strong connections between students and the adults in their lives. Hearing this, and reflecting on the comments of the WASC committee members, it is gratifying to know Stan-

bridge is on the right path.

A number of our students entered their works of art into a competition held at the Education Revolution conference. One of the judges, an owner of a local art museum, contacted Stanbridge to compliment our students on their amazing creativity and artistic talents. A list of the award-winning students, as well as photos of their projects, can be found in our newsletter's "In Focus" pullout section that highlights Camille Geraci and the Stanbridge Art Program. Student art is always on display throughout the school, so be sure to visit and see some of the amazing artwork.

My sincerest thanks for the partnerships we have formed throughout this past school year. Working together as a team—students, parents, and staff—we have achieved our goals in providing a nurturing, academic, and social setting where our students meet success.

Have a safe, relaxing, and enjoyable summer!

*Marilyn*

Prom 2010



# Dancing with the Stars

## Students dress up, get down at Stanbridge Academy's first-ever prom

Tuxedos, ties, satin dresses, a formal dinner and lots of dancing under the stars. It was a scene that would give the Oscars a run for their money, but Stanbridge high school students showed that they could glam it up with the best of them for the school's first prom, held on campus the night of April 30th.

With students arriving in

suits, ties and party dresses, the event began with soft drinks and a catered dinner in Hayden Hall. But the formality of the dress and dinner didn't discourage the party atmosphere that followed—hours of dancing to music provided by a live DJ.

With a turnout of over 40 students and guests (along with a few faculty chaperones), the

overall sentiment was that the prom was a success, and likely to become an annual Stanbridge staple.

Even if you weren't there, you can still see video highlights of the evening's festivities. Visit the Stanbridge Academy website and click the prom video link on the front page:

[www.stanbridgeacademy.org](http://www.stanbridgeacademy.org)



## Focus On Art

*These students were recognized for their artwork at EdRev 2010:*

### High School Art:

- Michelle Murillo - 1st place Portrait (at right)
- Lana Frankle - 2nd place Hand Sculpture (bottom left)

### High School Technology:

- Anthony Cepe - 1st place Multimedia Video

### Junior High Art:

- James Woodward - 1st place Jungle Painting (bottom right)
- Jeffrey Tan - 2nd place Jungle Painting (front cover)



## Helping Hands

### Building bridges (and houses, too)

This past March, Stanbridge students participated in three days of community service, assisting in a local Habitat for Humanity project. Students from the 11th grade worked at a Habitat site in Hunters Point, performing jobs such as putting siding on houses, setting up scaffolding and site cleaning. Eight students participated in the event.

# FOCUS ON The Art Program



## Strokes of Inspiration

A look at Stanbridge's award-winning art program

Art teacher Camille Geraci is one of the few Stanbridge faculty members who teaches students from all divisions, elementary through high school. Over the course of her three years at the school, she has developed art classes into dynamic, multimedia programs that let students express themselves through a variety of projects.

## Focus On Art



The mission for students who have classes in the Art Room at Stanbridge Academy is to provide a virtual learning environment for exploring the world of Art and how Art relates to many different subject areas as well as different aspects in life.

Students learn about different styles of art and artists, engaging in the creative process from the past and the present. Looking at artwork from our culture and other cultures, both past and present, is essential to the art program.

Students are shown how to create artwork using a variety of different mediums and different techniques. Drawing, Painting, Sculpture, Ceramics and Mixed Media are the main areas of concentration for Art classes.

The art making process is the main focus of Art classes where students are encouraged to try different mediums and techniques. Creative ideas may be explored during this time. Students become more flexible in the creative process and are able to change their ideas as their artwork develops. Sometimes students hit technical issues as they work and need to use problem solving skills to figure out what to do next in order to reach their desired outcome for their work.

Responsibility is stressed in Art classes. Students must be able to follow step by step processes when working on their projects, clean up their area and tools, as well as put all their supplies away.

Self-Assessment for students is provided by a rubric system. Upon completion of their artwork, students perform a self-evaluation on their work by using a rubric scale to help them determine how they did on their projects. Students have the chance to write about areas of strength and challenges that came up during a particular project.

Students learn about the elements of art and the principles of design. They are introduced to art vocabulary which they use to describe their own work as well as other people's artwork.

***The next page features student artwork that was recognized at this year's EdRev conference, held at AT&T Park on April 17th.***

