



GrandPartners GAZETTE

4th EDITION | SPRING 2022
MACLARENSCHOOL.ORG | (719) 313-4488

Spring is here, GrandPartners, with all its new growth. Our MacLaren students are growing, too, learning and mastering new skills. They are led by their teachers, whose students — our grandchildren — are reading and writing and solving math problems and doing science experiments and playing sports and making music and drawing and painting. In the midst of an ongoing national conversation about education, we can assure you that **there is no finer curriculum, no finer faculty and no finer school than ours.** Enjoy learning more!

LOWER SCHOOL: Fine Arts & Phonics The fine arts are an integral part of the MacLaren Core Knowledge Sequence curriculum. In fifth grade art, the students are learning to paint landscapes in watercolor. Take the opportunity to talk with your MacLaren student about the art he or she is creating. Pull up pictures of some of your favorite paintings to look at with your student. To your right is one of the pieces from the 5th grade.



In second grade, students are immersed in phonics and word study. They're tackling concepts many of us didn't learn until we were older: synonyms, antonyms, homophones and homonyms. Remember them? Ask your 2nd grade student to explain what she or he has learned and then take turns giving words to illustrate the concepts. (What are synonyms for "friend," or what we hope you'll join us in becoming to the Thomas MacLaren School? Supporter? Ally? Partner? YES!)



UPPER SCHOOL: Project Week Project Week in early January is a chance for students to work immersed in the MacLaren vision of learning, not for a grade, but learning for its own sake. In **12th grade** this means harnessing all that these students have learned, and are learning, in math and physics and fine arts to build a bridge. Their bridges must be able to bear weight and the testing, weight upon weight, leads to bridge breaking.

In the **7th grade** MacLaren students study the Middle Ages. They take what they have read and discussed and use it to make models from that time: a battering ram, say, or a set of chain mail (as pictured here), a Book of Hours, a model of a notable medieval castle. Each **6th grader** did a research paper on an animal and followed that with a diorama, like the one with the ostrich pictured to the left. The students learned all they could about habitat, distinctive characteristics, diet, mating habits, predators and prey. They learned by reading, writing and crafting. If you have a middle or high schooler, ask about Project Week. You'll learn something, too.



Our Mission

From the seminar to the science lab, from the music room to the playing field, we begin with the conviction that all human beings can know truth, create beauty and practice goodness. To that end, we expect students to develop basic tools of learning, ordered basic knowledge, moral seriousness, breadth and depth of imagination, artistic ability and sensitivity, and a sense of wonder.

STAY IN CONTACT WITH US FOR VIDEOS, PICTURES AND MORE STORIES!

FACEBOOK.COM/THOMASMACLARENSCHOOL

YOUTUBE.COM/THOMASMACLARENSCHOOL

INSTAGRAM
@THOMASMACLARENSCHOOL
@TMACATHLETICS

TWITTER
@THOMMACSCHOOL
@TMACATHLETICS

MACLARENSCHOOL.ORG



ORCHESTRA: Spring Fine Arts Night The Pikes Peak Center in downtown Colorado Springs is a venue famed for its design and its acoustic quality. Each spring, the Upper School orchestras and selected 6th grade Public Performance students take the stage for an audience of fellow students, friends, family and community members. (And, honestly, when's the last time you heard "Jabberwocky" or "The Charge of the Light Brigade" declaimed in a 1,171-seat capacity concert hall?) Listen for Dr. Keith Redpath directing the 9th grade orchestra in "Point Lookout – A Fantasy of Civil War Songs" by Brian Balmages, a stirring patriotic piece complementing 9th graders' study of American History.

This year, we're pleased to announce: **A GrandPartners VIP Reception at the Pikes Peak Center before the performance begins on April 29.** Have you thought of traveling to see your MacLaren student? Late April may be just the right time for a visit. We hope to see you there, but, if you are unable to attend, please enjoy watching and listening to the professionally recorded performance on the Thomas MacLaren School YouTube channel. Stay tuned for information on when its available.

HIGHLANDER SPORTS: Our High School Boys' Basketball Team Wins 2A Regionals and Goes to the Regional Sweet 16! The #7 ranked Highlanders lost a hard-fought game (52-46) to #8 ranked Denver Christian in the regional tournament. In victory and defeat our students showed the MacLaren values of good sportsmanship



and respect. **High School Girls' Basketball** players will have to wait until next year for their shot at a Regional Championship, but their talent is never in question. These Middle and High School players can handle a bow and a basketball!

There are spring sports to follow: Middle & High School Girls' Soccer and Middle & High School Boys & Girls Track and Field. Check out the school athletics calendar on the website for games and meets.

Fear the Deer! (And, yes, please Feed the Deer, too!) Your contributions to the good work of the Thomas MacLaren School and to your grandchild's flourishing are greatly appreciated!



GRANDPARTNER EVENTS

Spring Fine Arts Night

Friday, April 29

6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Pikes Peak Center

All GrandPartners are invited to attend the annual Upper School (6th thru 12th grade) orchestra performance.

GrandPartner VIP Reception

ANB Room at Pikes Peak Center

Enjoy early entry, refreshments & talk with school leaders

Watch email for more information!

Junior Drama III

The Feast at Solhaug

Mon., May 9 & Tuesday, May 10

Junior Drama IV

A Doll's House

Thurs., May 12 & Friday, May 13

MacLaren Auditorium

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Graduation 2022

Friday, May 27th, 10:30 a.m.

Wasson Auditorium

Questions? Contact Joy Oram at

719-313-4488 x107

JOram@maclarenschool.org

MACLAREN GIVING

MacLaren is a tuition-free public charter school. Though our parents and grandparents pay the same property, sales and income taxes as others in our school district, we receive a fraction of the funding given to district public schools. So we rely on, and appreciate, generous people like you — people who value excellence in education — to help support us. We can't do it without you, our valued GrandPartners. So please, when you receive the Spring Appeal letter, reply with a donation to the Annual and/or the Master's Fund. We thank you.