O'Neill PA News

MAY 2022

Hey PA family! These past few months have flown by and so much is going on. So here is your spring update on all the happenings here at O'Neill.

WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- Performances!!
- The return of our ensembles
- Workshops for all disciplines
- And more!

Fundraising

2 GIRLS AND AN OVEN

Cookie Dough Fundraiser

O'Neill's most recent fundraiser just came to a close. PA students have been working tirelessly to sell as many orders of cookie dough buckets as possible in partnership with 2 Girls and an Oven. We were able to raise over **$1000** !!

We were able to accept not only cash but now with our new fancy tap square we can accept debit, credit, Apple Pay and Samsung Pay. This will also be useful for future concerts and showcases, because you no longer need cash to purchase tickets!

Even though ordering buckets has ended, we are still going to sporadically be selling cookies during lunch. So listen to the announcements because they sell out fast!

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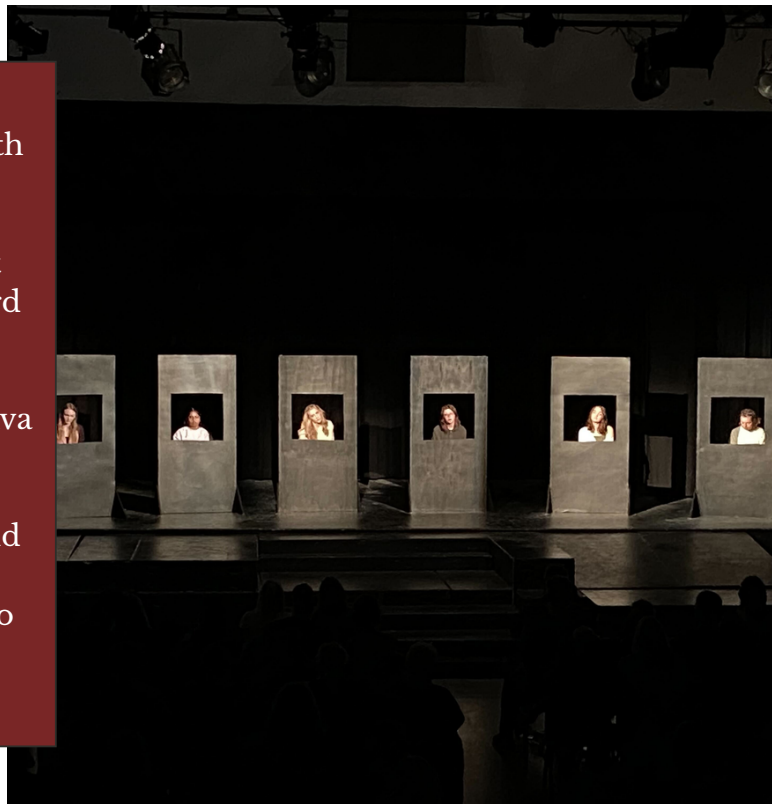
Past Performances

VIRTUAL PLATFORM

O'Neill Theatre Troupe

What a beautiful production the O'Neill Theatre Troupe was able to perform on April 28th for the National Theatre School Drama Festival. 'Virtual Platform' is the first play our school has been able to put on with a live audience in over TWO YEARS! Over the past few months, we have observed both cast and crew working tirelessly to set up the show and it was all worth it in the end with the exceptional performance they put on on opening night.

The adjudication was very positive and some small pointers were made about both actors and production crew. Our production received the 'Outstanding Production Award', finishing first in front of all other entries. Additionally, an 'Award of Merit' was presented to Julia Ward (Acting) and our entire production team (Production). Congratulations as well to Ava Kosurek and Matthew Popadyn for their 'Awards of Excellence' for lighting design and operation. O'Neill is immensely proud of everyone who was helping in the production and thank you to all those who came out to support and watch our show.



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Past Performances

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O'NEILL HOUR

Our ongoing lunch time shows!

O'Neill hour truly showcases the amazing talents we have at our school. Singers, choirs, bands, dancers, actors and instrumentalists are all welcome to sign up for our weekly showcase in the auditorium every Monday. Check out our OCVIPA Instagram for great footage from the past couple of weeks. It's honestly mind-blowing the artistic gifts our students have. Don't be shy, come out and perform or just come and support those who choose to perform.

GRANDVIEW RECORDINGS

The O'Neill Chamber Choir recently recorded some pieces for the Grandview Children's Centre's Groundbreaking Ceremony, in celebration of their new site that will be built in Ajax. The Chamber Choir sounded incredible and we are excited to be able to share with you their hard work.

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Past Performances

MUSICAL THEATRE CABARET

The Grade 12 Musical Theatre class prepared a compilation of popular musical theatre pieces from Golden Age to Contemporary theatre, with each act preparing their own set and choreography.

SILHOUETTES AND CONNECTIONS DANCE SHOWCASE

For the first time since before the pandemic, we've had the chance to display the incredible work of our dancers! The showcase consisted of five Grade 11 duets and fourteen Grade 10 soloists.

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Workshops

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LATIN PERCUSSION WITH RODRIGO CHAVEZ

The incredible Rodrigo Chavez gave workshops to all of our instrumentalists, including intensives for our percussionists, on learning Latin percussion and rhythms. Here they are having a great time playing Latin music together!

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY INSTRUMENTAL AND VOCAL WORKSHOPS

Here are our grade 11/12 instrumentalists enjoying an exclusive Zoom intensive for their instruments from the music professors at Queen's University!

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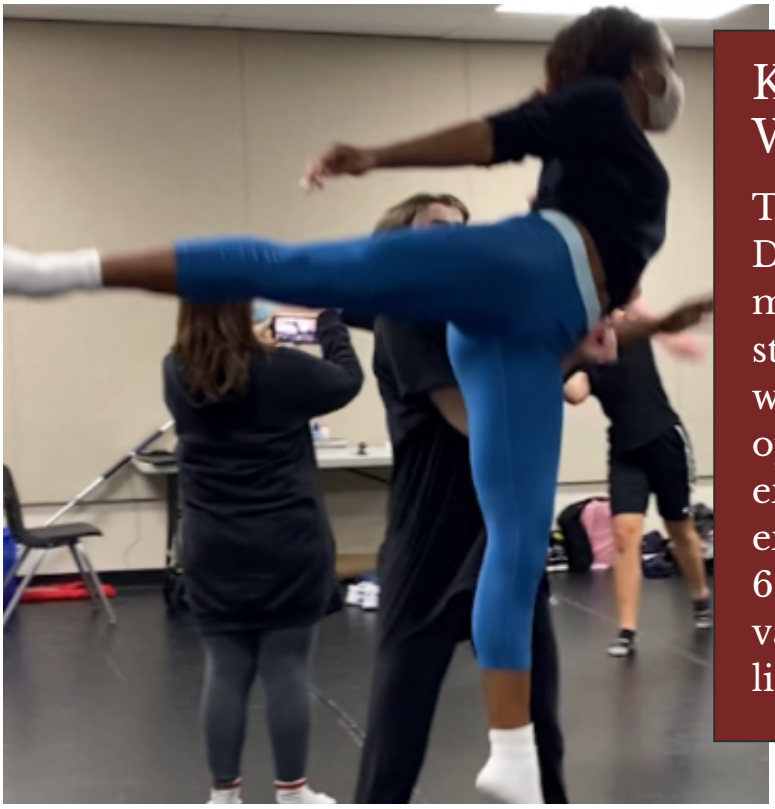
Workshops



KAEJA DANCE WORKSHOPS

This semester, we welcomed Artistic Director Allen Kaeja, and company member Mio Sakamoto to our studio! His Kaeja elevations workshop was an excellent opportunity for our dancers to extend their technique and experience. Between April 5th and 6th, grade 11 and 12 dancers learned a variation of improvisation exercises, lifts, and partner work.

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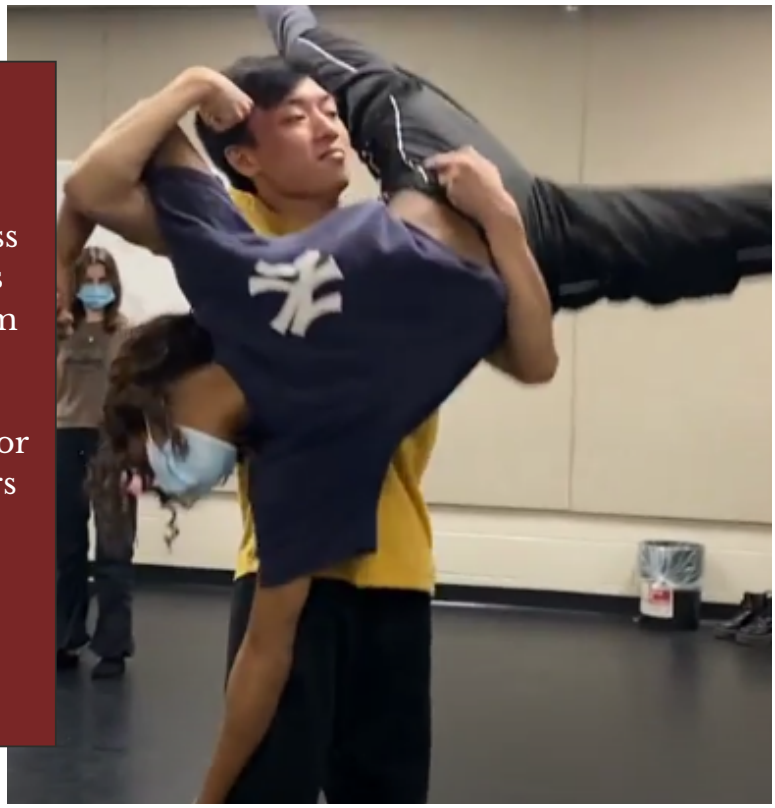
Allen and Mio also lead the class through movement and composition building activities to help support the Grade 11's in their Duet creative process and the Grade 12's with their Creations choreographic process. This gave them the opportunity to improve relationships, build confidence, and motivate each other, as well the tools for our creative process work. The dancers would also like to give a big thanks to Mrs.Ferguson for organizing these workshops! They are truly grateful for the experience Allen and his team brought to O'Neill.



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Ensembles

With restrictions finally lifted, many of O'Neill's ensembles have started meeting again, some for the first time in two years! Here are all of our current musical ensembles:

- **Chamber Choir**
- **Men's Choir**
- **Treble Voices**
  - Run by senior vocalists Aimee, Elisha, Amy, Sofia, Ella, Allison
- **O'Neill Jazz Combo**
- **Senior Jazz Ensemble**
- **Senior Winds**
- **Junior Concert Band**
- **Junior Jazz**
  - Run by senior instrumentalists Raul and Andy

Upcoming Events

MON / JUNE 13	Band Concert - A showcase of all our instrumental ensembles
WED / JUNE 15 THURS / JUNE 16 FRI / JUNE 17	Into the Woods Jr - Grade 12 Musical Theatre Class
MON / JUNE 20	Creations - Dance Showcase
TUES / JUNE 21	Senior Instrumental Recitals
WED/ JUNE 22	Choral Showcase - A showcase of all our vocal ensembles

TIMES AND ADMISSION TBD

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