



UPCOMING MARCH EVENTS

- 1-2 – Middle School All state band @ Huron
- 3, 3:00 PM – FA Creative Arts Feature at Salem Zion Mennonite Church
- 6 – High School Instrumental Contest @ Lennox
- 7 – All school Spiritual Emphasis Day @ FA
- 8, 12:50 PM – Dismissal/Staff Cont-Imp meeting
- 13, 2:30 PM – Dismissal/Staff meeting
- 15-18 – Senior Skip trip
- 21-23 – All State Band @ Aberdeen
- 29-30 & April 5-6 – Schmeckfest

Schmeckfest Workers Needed



Have you signed up to work at Schmeckfest?

Freeman Academy's major fundraising event will be held on March 29, 30 and April 5, 6. We depend on FA students, staff, parents, alumni and the larger Freeman community to ensure a successful, enjoyable festival!

The Auxiliary welcomes everyone to take part in the satisfaction of working together for the common cause of Christian education! Consider inviting extended family members to help also. Opportunities are available in the kitchen, waiting on tables or helping in demonstrations. **It's never too late to volunteer as last-minute conflicts of illness, etc. occur.**

Contact Debra Schmeichel, 605-648-3430 or ssag@goldenwest.net, or Vernetta Waltner, 605-321-7351 or vwaltner@freemanacademy.org, for more information or to volunteer your time.

TRIP News and Updates (Tuition Reduction Incentive Program)

TRIP Tip for March

Community Member **LaVonne Brockmueller**: *I love using TRIP cards to purchase items, especially in Freeman. I believe it is a responsible way of shopping where you pay forward instead of using credit cards to pay afterwards. And the fact that Freeman Academy receives a donation makes it particularly sweet.*

Share your best TRIP tip with us for a chance to win a \$25 gift card to a local business of your choice! The next drawing will take place in June 2019. Please submit to Barb Yoder, at mbyoder@goldenwest.net, a quote we can publish in a future monthly newsletter.

TRIP Schedule

Orders Due / Pick Up Days

Friday, March 8 / Friday, March 15

Friday, March 22 / Thursday, March 28

Blow Your Horn at Kids Club

The learning adventure at UB Bearcats Kids Club on **Monday, March 11**, will help children make a horn Dr. Seuss would be proud of! Band director Donna Ries and math teacher Craig Wollman will lead this musical craft project. Active games will include bouncing and tumbling on the big high-jump mats.

Kids Club is 5:45-7:15 pm at the gymnasiums on the Freeman Academy campus in Freeman, SD. All children age 4 through 4th grade are invited to attend.

RSVP by Friday, March 8, to Lynnelle Allison at 605-925-4237 extension #225 or email: lallison@freemanacademy.org



Contest Results!

The Freeman Academy vocal department took 21 entries to the Region I Vocal/Piano contest on Wednesday, February 6, 2019. Freeman Academy received 18 Superior ratings (6 Perfect Scores) and 3 Excellent ratings for the day.

The following solos received a **Superior** rating:

Voice: Andrea Wollman (perfect score), Maria Cortes, Kate Tivert, Areli Cortes, Alyssa Fink, Josie Epp, Oscar Chen

Piano: Phillip Balzer (perfect score), Josie Epp (perfect score), Jessica Sun (perfect score), Meredith Graber

The following solo received an **Excellent** rating:

Voice: Tyler Brockmueller

The following Freeman Academy Ensembles and Groups received **Superior** ratings:

Mixed Vocal Group (perfect score): Meredith Graber, Alyssa Fink, Kate Tivert, Emily Heeg, Josie Epp, Jessica Sun, Beatrice Nelson, Aidan Kesteloot, Oscar Chen, Kade Rupp, James Xian, Angel Hernandez, Jaden Thomas, Thomas Pietrzak-Schroeder, Phillip Balzer-accompanist

Mixed Vocal Group: Andrea Wollman, Areli Cortes, Kelly Liu, Maria Cortes, Autumn Hare, Tyler Brockmueller, Paul Hoff, Luke Allison, Phillip Balzer, Beau Miller, Gavin Haggerty, Meredith Graber-accompanist

Girls Ensemble: Andrea Wollman, Kate Tivert, Meredith Graber, Kelly Liu, Emily Heeg, Jessica Sun

Boys Group: Tyler Brockmueller, Paul Hoff, Aidan Kesteloot, Angel Hernandez, Luke Allison, James Xian, Harry Fu, Gavin Haggerty, Gabe Miller, Kade Rupp, Phillip Balzer, Thomas Pietrzak-Schroeder, Charles Hu, Oscar Chen-accompanist

Boys Ensemble: Luke Allison, Paul Hoff, Beau Miller, Thomas Pietrzak-Schroeder, Jaden Thomas, Angel Hernandez, Gabe Miller, Phillip Balzer

Girls Group (perfect score): Andrea Wollman, Areli Cortes, Alyssa Fink, Kate Tivert, Beatrice Nelson, Meredith Graber, Autumn Hare, Maria Cortes, Emily Heeg, Kelly Liu, Josie Epp-accompanist

Like Duet: Jessica Sun & Kate Tivert

The following duets received **Excellent** ratings:

Like Duet: Alyssa Fink & Maria Cortes

Luke Allison & Oscar Chen

Freeman Academy vocal department is under the direction of Amy Hofer Vetch. Instructors for Freeman Academy students in voice and piano are Amy Hofer Vetch, Sherilyn Ortman, and Dan Graber.

Freeman Academy Creative Arts Feature

Sunday, March 3rd at 3:00 pm

Dr. Russell Svenningsen, vocal & Dr. Anne Waltner, piano

Winterreise (Winter Journey) by Franz Schubert



Dr. Russell Svenningsen, vocal, and Dr. Anne Waltner, piano, collaborate on Franz Schubert's song cycle *Winterreise (Winter Journey)*, Sunday, March 3rd at 3:00 pm in the Salem-Zion (North) Mennonite church in rural, Freeman. The song cycle explores themes of unrequited love, despair, and isolation. Schubert's compositional artistry is on display in the beautifully interwoven conversation between piano and voice. The song cycle runs 80 minutes and will be performed with a brief intermission.

Russell Svenningsen is Associate Professor of Music at Augustana University where he teaches applied voice, aural skills and is the conductor of the University Chorale. He holds the D.M.A., Music Education from Boston University, a M.M., Choral Conducting from the University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music and a B.M., Music Education, from Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn.

Pianist Dr. Anne Waltner has performed on five continents in numerous solo and collaborative roles. Anne is regarded both as a demanding teacher and a highly artistic performer. She is currently serving as adjunct professor of piano at Northern State University in Aberdeen, SD. Previously she taught at Eastern Mennonite University, West Virginia State University, Woodstock School in Mussoorie, India, and at the Rainey Institute in Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. Waltner is a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music



with a doctor of musical arts degree and an artist diploma in collaborative piano. Waltner received her master's and bachelor's degrees in solo piano performance from Chicago College of

Performing Arts and from Goshen (IN) College, respectively.

Tickets may be purchased at the door and include a dessert reception after the performance. Ticket prices: \$15/Adult and \$8/student. FA students receive free admission.

Chamber Choir Fundraiser-Bierocks!!



The Freeman Academy Chamber Choir will be preparing and selling Bierocks for their next fundraiser at Schmeckfest! Bierocks are meat-filled buns that are baked and then frozen for easy keeping. Simply pull one out of the freezer and microwave for a couple of minutes and you have a meal! If you are interested in purchasing some bierocks please contact Amy Hofer Vetch. Bierocks are sold by the ½ dozen and dozen.

FA music Department to perform at Schmeckfest

March 29-30, April 5-6, 2019

Each year the FA music department provides a 2:00 pm concert each day of Schmeckfest. Attendance of chamber choir members is mandatory. The concert will be held in the FA Band Room.

South Dakota High School ACDA Honors Choir auditions

April 6th!

Auditions for the SD HS ACDA Honors Choir will take place Saturday, April 6th in Sioux Falls at Roosevelt High School. Auditions are open to students who are currently sophomores and juniors. Parents should have received audition information in February.



Freeman Academy One Act Team Goes to State

The Freeman Academy One Act team placed 2nd at the Region One Act competition in Mitchell on January 24 with all 5 actors receiving Outstanding Performer awards.

Their play, “A Human Write” by Amy Sutton, is about a writer trying to write that one great story, only to be bothered by competing voices in his head. Chaos reigns until they all discover what they really want—a happy ending.

This year’s One Act team includes Noah Hofer, Gabe Miller, Titus Roesler, Beau Miller and Meredith Graber with Jaden Thomas running the lights. The team then moved on to compete at the State level in Aberdeen on February 2 where Titus received an outstanding performer award. The team is part of Freeman Academy’s theater class, taught by Gwen Ortman.



INSTRUMENTAL DEPARTMENT

March will be a very busy month for the instrumental music department. It starts off on Friday and Saturday, **March 1 and 2**, when five of our 7th and 8th grade band students will be in Huron participating in the **20th Annual South Dakota Middle School All-State Band**. Students participating are: *Seth Balzer, Connor Epp, Jada Koerner, Angelyn Allison, and Stefany Cortes*. *Seth, Connor, and Jada* will each receive a Three-Year Member Award. Congratulations! (More student information can be found in last month's newsletter.) The concert will be held at the Huron High School Theatre Saturday, March 2 at 3:00 p.m. Admission is \$5.00 per adult and students 18 and under are free. Ticket sales for the concert will begin at 1:45 p.m. and doors will be open at that time. Jacob Wallace, SDSU, and Tyler S. Grant (b. 1995), conductor and composer, will be the guest conductors for the bands. Two works of Mr. Grant will be performed including "Shimmering Joy" and a commissioned work called "Banshee of the Badlands."

Our **High School Instrumental ensembles** have been preparing for contest and will have several opportunities to share their music. Monday, **March 4**, our wind ensembles will share in **chapel**. Wednesday, **March 6**, is the day of the **High School Instrumental Solo and Ensemble Contest** held at Lennox High School. Events from Freeman Academy include 19 solos and 13 ensembles. All events start at 9:00 a.m. and the public is welcome to attend. For a schedule of events for the day, please check the school website.

Some of our HS ensembles will also perform at **Oakview Terrace** on **March 15** at 2:30 and during **Schmeckfest, March 30 & 31** and **April 5 & 6** at 2:00 p.m. in the band room.

On **March 20**, from 1:35 – 2:30 in the chapel, three brass professors from USD will be sharing their music with us. We look forward to having them here sharing with the entire student body.

The next day, **March 21**, Joel Boettger, Instructor of Music and Interim Director of Jazz Studies at Bethel College will be on campus working with the high school band students.

Starting Thursday evening **March 21** through Saturday, **March 23**, four Freeman Academy high school students will be participating in the **69th Annual South Dakota High School All-State Band** in Aberdeen at Northern State University's Johnson Fine Arts Center. Students were selected through state-wide competitive auditions held at six audition centers throughout the state during the month of January. Auditions consisted of playing a solo, major, minor and chromatic scales, a sight-reading etude, a prepared etude and a written test. The four all-state adjudicators traveled around the state to each center to select the top high school musicians. Students selected this year from Freeman Academy are: *Phillip Balzer*, 2nd chair oboe in the Lewis Band, junior, son of Paul and Janet Balzer; *Josie Epp*, 3rd chair trombone in the Lewis Band, junior, daughter of John and Beth Epp; *Angel Hernandez*, 8th chair French horn in the Clark Band, sophomore, son of Elena Hernandez and Armando Cortez, and *Titus Roesler*, 2nd chair euphonium in the Clark Band, sophomore, son of Brian and Cathy Roesler.

The Lewis Band, directed by Dr. Courtney Snyder, associate director of bands and assistant professor of conducting at the University of Michigan, will perform in concert

beginning at **4:00 p.m., Saturday, March 23.** The Clark Band, directed by Dr. Paul Popiel, Director of Bands at the University of Kansas, will perform after the Lewis Band following a 15-minute intermission.

Tickets can be secured at <https://gofan.co/app/events/52160> beginning Friday, February 22, or at the NSU Johnson Fine Arts Center Box Office beginning at 2:00 p.m. on March 23. All seats are general admission with prices being \$15 per adult and \$10 per student.

Donna Ries, Instrumental Director

WINTER SPORTS BANQUET

Winter Sports Banquet will be at FA [on Monday, March 4, starting at 6:30](#) with a potluck meal, followed at [7:00](#) by the awards ceremony.

This will all be held in the dining hall. Families are each to bring a main dish as well as the following: last name A-L bring a dessert; last name M-Z bring a side/salad. Table service and drinks will be provided for everyone -- feel free to bring your own table service as well.

We will recognize 4-6 Girls and Boys Basketball, JH Girls and Boys Basketball, HS cheerleaders, Wrestling, and HS Girls and Boys Basketball.

Schmeck Jr.

When: 4-5:30 pm on Schmeckfest Saturdays: March 30 & April 6

What: A break for mom and dad while the kids have fun at Schmeckfest!

(Active games and a behind the scenes tour of the musical)

Who: ages 4-10

Where: Register at the concession stand. Limit 20 children