



2727 College Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94705

www.maybeckhs.org

January 2011

As We Finish the Fall Semester, 2010-11

Yes, it is a lot of hard work, it is not easy staying on task, there are times it all feels overwhelming, and worse, lonely. But there are also moments when the lights go on and perceptions are made, when you produce a piece of writing that is so very clear and thoughtful, when the ideas you present are original and insightful, when your work is so much better than it was just a year ago. There are also times when we get to see you connect intimately with friends and

it looks like you understand each other in ways you never thought possible.

It is simply a wonderful gift to be allowed to work with you as you challenge yourself, attempt new skills, sometimes succeed, sometimes have to try again in a different way, always becoming more skilled, stronger. Thank you for letting us join you in this wild educational process.

—john

News From the Academic Counseling Office

- The schedule for final exams will be issued and posted in the hall after Winter Break.
- We've finished the first round of elective sign-ups for next semester. If you didn't get the chance to sign up, you can do so after the break. Late sign-up won't have any effect on your priority.
- Remember that the schedule will change in the second semester, so pick-up and drop-off times may differ.

Maybeck Calendar Reminders

January

- Monday 3rd: Fall Semester classes resume
- Friday 7th and Saturday 8th, 7:00 PM: One-Act Play Festival
- Wednesday 12th: No block schedule - all classes meet
- Thursday 13th: Berkeley Rep outing
- Friday 14th: First day of finals
- Sunday 16th: Bob Smart Theatre Festival
- Monday 17th: MLK Jr. Day - no school
- Tuesday 18th, 7:15 PM: MPA meeting
- Tuesday 18th - Friday 21st: Finals
- Monday 24th - Wednesday 26th: Semester Break - no school
- Friday 28th - Deadline for ACT trip signups
- Monday 31st, 6:30 PM: Information Night for prospective students and parents

February

- Friday 4th - 6:40 PM: ACT Outing, Clybourne Park
- Saturday 12th: Parent Staff Potluck

News from the Finance Office: Tuition Assistance, Special Programs, and Paperless Billing

Financial aid packets for the 2011-12 school year will be sent by January 14, 2011. Please pay careful attention to the instructions included. Financial aid awards are decided on a first-come, first-served basis, so it is to your advantage to complete your 2010 income taxes and submit your financial aid application by early March 2011. Continuing families must renew their financial aid application on an annual basis to receive a tuition reduction for the next school year. Families receiving full academic scholarships must also complete financial aid applications each year to renew their scholarships.

Special Program 2011 billing: Watch for installment payments on your bill starting in January for travel programs. Local programs will be billed in one installment on February 1. All Special Program fees must be paid and tuition payments must be current in order for students to participate.

Paperless billing statements: We would like to convert our monthly billing statements to a greener way of life by providing you with statements via email. In January 2011 we will provide both email statements along with the traditional mailing of statements so families can experience both methods and make a choice. If you do not want to use your email address as listed in the Maybeck Directory 2010-2011, please let us know as soon as possible by calling Sherry Jacobs at (510) 841-8489 Ext 208, or by emailing her at sherryj@maybeckhs.org

Friday & Saturday, January 7 & 8, 7:00 PM

Students Produce One-Act Plays

Join over 20 Maybeck actors in the Fireside Room for a panoply of one-act plays. The students in the Acting and Theatre

Production classes will dazzle you with their ability to create laughter, tears, joy, and sorrow out of a couple of folding chairs and a prop or two. The show will include selections from a variety of modern playwrights, and the premiere of

Vali Forte-Hernandez' "The Cutter's Club," on its way to the Bob Smart Theatre Festival. This challenging work will transport you into the fears and friendships of a young adult support group. An evening of theatre not to be missed. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for adults. (Warning: some scenes contain Mature Subject Material, Language and/or Stage Business that may not be appropriate for young audience members. Think of this evening as being "R-rated" and plan accordingly.)



**Wednesday, Jan. 12th: all classes meet
No block schedule this week**

Thursday, January 13

All-School Berkeley Rep Outing



"The show must go on? But the actor is mute, the director is crying, the dancer is lazy—and the composer is dead!" The entire student body and staff of Maybeck High School will attend Berkeley Rep's world premiere of *The Composer is Dead*. Featuring the work of beloved Bay Area artists Lemmy Snicket and Nathaniel Stookey, *The Composer is Dead* has been called "part Monty Python's Flying Circus, part Cirque du Soleil, and part Tim Burton." We'll be leaving Maybeck at 11 AM to catch a matinee performance.

Sunday, January 16

Thesians Compete in Annual Festival

The cast of Maybeck High School's 2011 production of "The Cutter's Club" by senior Vali Forte-Hernandez will travel to the annual Bob Smart High School Theatre Festival in Sacramento. The team will leave Saturday afternoon, to rehearse and spend the night in Placerville. On Sunday, the Maybeck thespians will present the play and several monologues in competition, view other student work, attend the awards ceremony (with hopes of bringing home additional medals to add to the 16 already won over the past four years) and return home late that evening. If you would like to join us in Sacramento for the day, please contact Eric.

Classes Do Not Meet Monday, January 17

Maybeck will be closed on the 17th in honor of the life, leadership and impact on our lives of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Tuesday, January 18, 7:15 PM

MPA Meeting

The next MPA meeting will be held at Maybeck on January 18 at 7:15 PM. Please join us!

Semester Break

Monday, Jan. 24 - Wednesday, Jan. 26

We'll wind down after finals with a three-day semester break: no classes from the 24th to the 26th. Classes resume Thursday, Jan. 27

Friday, January 28

Deadline for Feb. ACT Outing Signups

Students should sign up by noon on Friday, January 28 for our February 4th trip to ACT's world premiere of *Clybourne Park*.

We'll meet at North Berkeley BART at 6:40 PM sharp on February 4 to make our way into the city. *Clybourne Park* is Bruce Norris' tale of



"race and real estate in America," in which the same house is the site of racial uproar in 1959 and 2009. It's been described as "outrageously funny and squirm-inducing" - and who could pass up that combination? Tickets will cost \$35-\$40.

Monday, January 31, 6:30 PM

Info Night for Potential Students

Maybeck will be holding an Information Night for prospective students and their parents at the end of the month. This last meeting gives us a chance to introduce the Maybeck community, answer questions, and make connections. If you have friends who are looking for a Maybeck high school, experience, please bring them or inform them of this last Information Night.

Upcoming Standardized Test Dates

Saturday, January 22: SATs

Saturday, February 12: ACTs

Saturday, March 12: SATs

Saturday, April 9: ACTs

A Wilder Christmas Evokes Holidays

Maybeck's recent production of *A Wilder Christmas* transported the audience into their own holiday memories.

The show's three one-act plays by Thornton Wilder (with holiday music by a number of contemporary

American composers) evoked pain, pleasure, joy and sorrow at the trials and traditions of

the holiday experience. Standing ovations for Hannah Cantor, Stacy Canzoneri, Carrie Carpenter, Genevieve

Gorjance, Sophie Gorjance, Iris Haas-Biel and Gabe Vergez for playing multiple roles over the course of the evening;

for Mari Campos-Seligman's touching guitar solo and outstanding bass playing; and for Brendan Hale's solid technical support. The simple staging and the beautiful St. John's Christmas decorations brought the



words and music to the forefront and will linger long in the memories of those who attended. Thanks to the staff and parent volunteers who helped make this production a success.



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Maybeck Community Work Party Set for January 29, 9AM to 2PM

The MPA and some Maybeck Staff members are organizing a Parent-Student-Staff Work Party for the 29th of January, from 9AM to 2PM. This party will give members of the Maybeck community the opportunity to work together adding flooring and organizing the attic, building a storage space, repairing furniture, painting walls and installing bookcases in our library / computer lab. We will provide lunch and all supplies. Skilled or unhandy, it is a chance for students to work with parents and friends to contribute to Maybeck. Please let the office know if you can join us.



Message to Senior Families from College Counseling Office: Fill Out Your FAFSA!

To receive student financial aid in college, you need to fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) every school year. FAFSA on the Web (www.fafsa.ed.gov) allows you to complete and submit your financial aid application electronically on January 1st. It's in your best financial interest to submit this form earlier rather than later.

Special Program Updates

New Local Program: The cancelled Guatemala trip has been replaced with a new local program: Hiking and Biking in the Bay Area, led by Vlad (\$300). Students will be able to sign up for this program on a first-come, first-served basis after the Winter Break. Forms will be available in the office in January.

Changing Your Program Assignment: Forms to request a change in Special Program assignment will be available during Finals Week. The deadline for changes is February 18. We encourage students to request changes as soon as possible so as to give wait-listed students some warning. As a reminder, you will need to get your form signed by the teachers from both the program you're leaving and the program you're transferring into. Please also note that you may forfeit some or all of your deposit on your original program. This fee covers expenses such as deposits, nontransferable plane tickets, or supplies already purchased.

Passports: If you're traveling this year, make sure your passport is up to date sooner rather than later!

MPA Pick-a-Party Events

After last year's successful fundraising events, Maybeck families are once again hosting a series of fun parties to raise money for our school. Everyone's invited – parents, students, staff, alumni, friends, and friends of friends.

This year, instead of signing up for the parties in advance, we will be announcing each party 4-6 weeks prior to the date. All you have to do to attend is call or email the party coordinator, mark your calendar and show up! Yes, it's that easy. Each party costs a small amount (\$20 - \$30) and we will collect money at each party. All of the money raised will go to improve the new facility, support teacher development, and add new equipment to classrooms. We hope many of you can join us for many of these parties!

Thank you in advance to all of the families, teachers, and students who are helping to make these parties great.

Upcoming Parties

Sunday, February 27: Oscar Party

Saturday, March 5: Persian Feast

Full Moon Trip Goes to Point Reyes

On a stormy weekend in December, the intrepid Full Moonketeers set forth to Point Reyes. Aside from a little drizzle on their hike in, they managed to stay dry, and enjoyed a glorious waterfall, an evening bonfire, and curry for dinner. Of particular note was the appearance of yet another full-on double rainbow - the second the Full Moonketeers have observed this year. Clearly a good omen, and a sign that you should join the next excursion.

