



Join us on Tuesday, December 12 at 6:30 in the Tysinger Auditorium as our choir, under the direction of Mr. Aaron Jacob, performs holiday selections. In addition, our advanced drama team will present "*A Christmas Carol*" by Andy Pavey.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Admission is FREE.

Royalty-free plays are part of a fantastic collection for kids and teens on Drama Notebook. <https://www.dramanotebook.com/plays-for-kids/>

The Nutcracker at HA

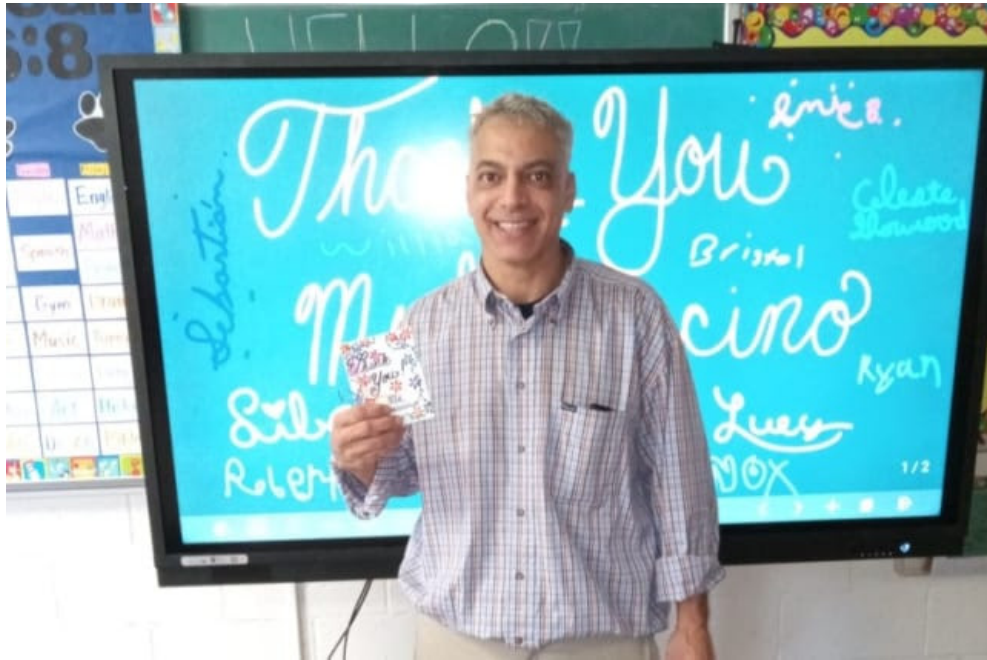


This past week, our students, faculty, staff, and many guests enjoyed the abbreviated "The Nutcracker" presentation by the Genesee Dance Theater company in the Tysinger Auditorium at Houghton Academy.

Genesee Dance got its start in Houghton and still has many Houghton-based dancers, so it was a full-circle moment to return as a company to perform!

The performance featured our own Houghton Academy dance teacher, [Charlotte Meilaender](#). A beautiful and delightful experience.

MS Students Say "THANKS" to Mr. Scapaccino



Mr. Derek Scapaccino, our Facilities and Grounds Manager, was recently honored by the Middle School students with a hand-crafted booklet of personalized thank-you notes. Mr. Scapaccino is a deeply appreciated staff member, as he and our entire facilities crew continue to maintain and improve our campus daily. THANK YOU, MR. S!

Int'l Students Experience Xmas Traditions



Houghton Academy Boarding ladies experienced a classic American tradition-cutting their first Christmas tree at Lukzak Christmas Tree Farm.



The girls finished the day with some cozy Christmas cookie-making at the Gates household. Thank you, Mrs. Gates (MS History Teacher).

Lakota Sioux Tacos

Three cheers for Patricia White Lightening and her



family (Renita Buss and Liberty, William, and Nassim Monroe) for treating us to Lakota Sioux Tacos.

This was a labor of love—Patricia was frying bread by 6:30 a.m!

Another example of the multi-cultural experience of an international Christian school!

Thank you, Patricia and family! Delicious!

Faculty Spotlight



Doug Flitcroft

Social Studies Teacher

- M.A. Grand Canyon University
- B.S. SUNY Brockport

Favorite Quotes:

"The best means of forming a happy people will be found in the right education of youth. Without this foundation, every other means, in my opinion, must fail." - George Washington

"Without God, there is no virtue because there is no prompting of the conscience ... without God, there is a coarsening of the society; without God, democracy will not and cannot long endure ... America needs God more than God needs America. If we ever forget that we are One Nation Under God, then we will be a Nation gone under." - Ronald Reagan

Mr. Flitcroft has over a decade of experience in teaching Social Studies. This experience has been in public and private schools for all types of students. This experience has allowed him to create a positive learning environment and teaching methods to meet the needs of all his students.

He has shared that "Working at Houghton Academy allows me to use these skills as well as my passion for my faith and history. The greatest way to understand history is through the context of the creation of humanity by a loving God. Through this lens, I can present the facts of historical events while also pointing students back to God. I also believe in the importance of creating positive relationships with all my students. The family-like environment of Houghton Academy fosters many opportunities to create positive, long-lasting bonds with everyone on the campus."

Coming Soon...

- December 11 - Middle School Field Trip to The Strong National Museum of Play
- December 12 - Christmas Concert and Drama
- December 14 - Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) about Christmas
- December 15 - Christmas Celebration - sponsored by the Student Council
- December 16 - Christmas Break Begins
- January 3 - Classes Resume
- January 15 - No Classes (MLK Day)
- January 18 - Club Fair



View times and details on the Academy Calendar [HERE](#).

View the Athletic Calendar [HERE](#).

GIVE WITH PURPOSE

2023-2024 ANNUAL FUND



Every week, we continue to see progress in reaching our *Annual Fund* goal for the 2023-2024 school year through the generosity of alumni, parents, grandparents of alumni and students, and many other friends of the Academy.

Thank you for your generosity, especially as you consider a year-end donation. Your donation of any amount today makes a difference in the lives of our students, faculty, and staff.

[DONATE SECURELY ONLINE TODAY HERE](#) or mail your donation to Houghton Academy Annual Fund, 9790 Thayer Street, Houghton, NY 14744.

Did you miss an earlier communication?

Visit the Academy website's "[Recent News](#)" page to catch up on recently published Head of School Memos, Newsletters, and Ministry Updates.



"...that they might be called trees of righteousness." - Isaiah 61:3



Houghton Academy
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