

# Connections

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR GRAND TRAVERSE ACADEMY FAMILIES

## Dates to remember

**Now through Thursday, March 9 – 2023-24 Open Enrollment Period**

**Now through Friday, March 17 – Read-a-Thon Returns!**  
(see details at right)

**Tuesday, March 14 – 2025 Washington DC Information Meeting, 6:00 pm, MPR 1 & 2 (current 6<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents)**

**Thursday, March 16 – Band Jam 2023 Fundraiser, 6:30-8:00 pm, Big Gym (see details on page 2)**

**Friday, March 17 – Mustang & High School Chamber Choirs Midwinter Concert, 6:00-7:00 pm, Big Gym**

## Band and choir concerts next week

Mark your calendars for next **Thursday and Friday,**



**March 16 and 17**, when our Bands and Choirs will showcase their talents in individual concerts.

On **Thursday at 6:30 pm**, join us for **Band Jam 2023**, a fundraiser concert featuring classic rock from the '70s and '80s. Admission is \$5 per person at the door and donations are welcome. Proceeds will go toward a scholarship fund to support our students' musical endeavors and the purchase of additional band equipment. Feel free to bring family and friends!

**Friday's Midwinter Choir Concert at 6:00 pm** brings seasonal selections, including some Irish favorites! This one is free and open to the public. Both concerts will take place in the Big Gym.

## Drop-in soccer concludes Saturday

The final drop-in soccer session for GTA students in grades 6-12 will take place on **Saturday, March 11**, from 12:00-2:00 pm in the Big Gym. One more adult session will follow from 2:00-3:30. We hope to see you there!

## Read-A-Thon continues!

The GTA Family Council reminds you that our two-week Read-A-Thon fundraiser for grades K-8 **continues**

**through Friday, March 17.**

Paperwork has been sent home with your reader explaining how to activate their personal Read-A-



Read·A·Thon™

Thon page. By using the promotional tools found there, friends and family anywhere in the world can show their support for your reader by making a donation to our Read-A-Thon. So far, just over half of our eligible students (grades K-8) have registered for Read-a-thon and about a third of the way to our goal for minutes read. We encourage you to activate your reader's account today by visiting <https://www.read-a-thon.com/readers/r/kmvyqa/1>. Once they're registered, be sure to log in all the reading they do at home – it just takes a few minutes!

➡ **IMPORTANT UPDATE:** Thanks to your generosity and enthusiasm, **we have already raised almost \$8,000 in Read-A-Thon donations!** With everyone's participation, we think we can raise a total of \$18,000...imagine what that could do to add to our teachers' classroom library shelves and activity accounts! Anything you can contribute will be greatly appreciated and will benefit all of our students.

## GTA announces girls' elementary running club

Girls Take Action will start on **April 11, 2023**. Led by GTA teachers Ms. Kipke and Ms. Callahan, this program teaches girls in grades 3-8 to be self-confident and is based on the GTA character traits. Practices will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school until 5:00 pm. Please see the attached flier for more information. Forms are due back to school by April 7.



## GTA student art featured in exhibit

The crooked Tree Arts Center's annual Youth Art Exhibit features the works of students in the Greater Grand Traverse Area. We are pleased to announce that the following GTA students have art on display at the exhibit, located in the Center's gallery at 322 Sixth Street in Traverse City.

**Lower Elementary:** Lailah Teasdale, Wesley Williams, Willa Hubble, Ella Lake. **Middle Elementary:** Evan Weaver, Lydia Maidens, Hadassah Canfield, Jackson Hannon, Emma Allarding, Colette Dennis, Daphne Diephouse. **Upper Elementary:** Katie Toth, Lincoln Klooster, Bishop York, Matthew Smith, Kaiya Newman, Autumn Patrzik. **Studio Art:** Noah Kinney, Gabe Waligorski, Josie Ettawageshik, Mabel Clausen, Madelyn Tessin, Zoey Turowski.



The show will be open through April 15 during gallery hours and closed during Spring Break (March 27-31). An awards presentation will take place on March 19 from 1:00-3:00 pm. For more information, visit [www.crookedtree.org/tc](http://www.crookedtree.org/tc).

## Tuesday Talks continue

If you have a question or concern, want to know more about Choice Theory, character education or other GTA topic, **Michelle Floering**, superintendent, will be in the south entrance lobby (outside the Elementary Office) every Tuesday

morning from 8:00-8:30 am. No appointment necessary!

## Donations still accepted for Band Jam 2023!

We hope you'll join us on **Thursday, March 16**, when junior high and high school bands will perform Classic Rock from the 70's & 80's from 6:30-8:00 pm. A \$5 donation per person will be collected at the door. Proceeds from this popular event go toward both a scholarship fund to support the musical endeavors of our students and the purchase of additional equipment for our



## BAND JAM 2023

band program. If you, your business or your workplace are interested in becoming a Band Jam sponsor, contributors of \$25-1,000+ will be recognized both at the event and in the program if received by Tuesday, March 14. Checks may be dropped off or mailed to GTA at 1245 Hammond Road East, Traverse City 49686 with "GTA Band Jam" written on the memo line.

## Important carpool information

If you pick your children up at south carpool (elementary entrance) after school, please know that our preference is that you use the carpool lanes in order to keep exiting traffic moving. If you choose to park in the lot and walk children to your car, be aware that it may take some time to exit the lot and get into the traffic flow to turn onto Hammond Road. Thank you for your help in keeping carpool as quick and efficient as possible.

## Simply the Best is back!

Nominations for the Record-Eagle's Simply the Best



2023 are underway. Grand Traverse Academy is in the running for Best School and several of our teachers have

been nominated for Best Teacher. If you are so inclined, we invite you to visit <https://www.record-eagle.com/simplythebest> and cast your votes in support of Grand Traverse Academy. Best School and Best Teacher can be found under the Children, Family &

Education category. **Note that you may nominate an individual or organization once per day and nominations may be submitted until May 14.** (If you submit at least 25 nominations, you might be one of three lucky winners to receive a \$100 Downtown Traverse City gift certificate!) Voting for the top three nominees in each subcategory will run from May 22-July 30 and winners will be announced in September.

### **School absences or late arrivals**

If your child will be late for school or absent for the day, **please call the office by 8:30 am.** Parents will be contacted to verify any unexcused absences after that time.

**Elementary 995-0665 / Secondary 932-6038**

### **Registration deadlines approaching for some spring sports**

If your children are interested in track & field or boys' golf, the deadlines for registration are coming soon:

Elementary Track & Field – March 22

Junior High Track & Field – March 22

Registration forms for both [elementary](#) and [secondary](#) are available on the GTA website or on the rack outside the Secondary Office.

### **2023-24 secondary school registration in process**

Our course catalog for junior high and high school classes offered in the 2023-24 school year has been published! You can find it on the GTA website under the Students tab by choosing [Secondary Course Catalog](#). Current 7th -11th graders and their parents should review the 2023-24 course catalog and select and register for classes via the registration portal on PowerSchool. The portal will remain open through the end of March. Mrs. Patzik and Mrs. Wahl have been visiting classrooms to meet with students to provide guidance and answer questions.

### **Congratulations to our honor roll students**

Students in junior high who earn all A's and B's and high school students who earn a cumulative 3.4 GPA or higher qualify for the GTA Honor Roll. See the attached lists for first semester honorees.

### **Huffman Basketball Skills Camp returns**

Huffman Basketball Skills Camp will return to Grand Traverse Academy on **Monday, June 19-Friday, June 23.** For details and registration information, see the attached flyer or visit [www.trevorhuffman.com](http://www.trevorhuffman.com).

### **Ongoing events**

**Med Club Muffin Sales (Secondary)** – *Every Monday from 7:45-8:00 am, \$2.00 each for several varieties, Multi-Purpose Room*

**Sophomore Class Bagel Sales** – *Every Wednesday from 7:40-8:00 am, \$2.00 each for several varieties, Multipurpose Room 4 and the Intention Room (Mrs. VanHouzen's office)*

**Elementary Pizza Days** – *Every other Wednesday, as follows: March 22, April 12 & 26 and May 10 & 24 (order and pay by the preceding Monday using forms sent home on off weeks), \$1.50 per slice of pepperoni or cheese*

**Secondary Pizza Days** – *Every Thursday (order and pay by Tuesdays using forms provided in Advisory classrooms), \$1.50 per slice of cheese or pepperoni*

**NHS Secondary Doughnut Sales** – *Every Friday in Multipurpose Rooms 1 & 2, 7:40-8:00 am, \$2 each for several varieties*

**Secondary Beverage Sales** – *Monday-Thursday at Lunch in Bronze 1, \$1.50 each for Snapple fruit drinks*

**Fill the Pantry Jeans Days** – *Thursdays: March 23, May 25 (\$2 per person to wear jeans with a uniform top)*



*Girls Take Action* is an after school program for 3rd-8th grade girls offered at Grand Traverse Academy. This program will focus on all the things that girls can be empowered to take action on in their lives. The framework of the program will be the character traits taught at GTA. Girls will be split into groups of 3rd-6th grade and 7th-8th grade.

The program will begin at Grand Traverse Academy on Tuesday, April 11, 2023. Practices will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00-5:00 pm. We will meet in the classroom and will run in various locations around the school. The final run will be held on Friday, May 26th at 1:00 at GTA.

If you have any questions, please contact Coach Courtney Kipke at [kipkec@mygta.us](mailto:kipkec@mygta.us) or Annie Callahan at [callahana@mygta.us](mailto:callahana@mygta.us).

DUE: April 7, 2023

Keep Running!

Ms. Kipke and Ms. Callahan

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### Registration for Girls Take Action

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's/Guardian's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ T-SHIRT SIZE: Youth M L or Adult S M L XL 2XL

I, \_\_\_\_\_ give permission for \_\_\_\_\_  
(parent/guardian) (daughter)

to participate in the Girls Take Action program. I understand this is a non-competitive running program designed for girls in 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades. Along with physical workouts, coaches provide focused and age-appropriate discussions on certain areas based on the GTA character traits in order to prepare girls for a lifetime of self-respect and healthy living. The registration fee for Girls Take action is \$30 and includes a t-shirt and the final run.

☐ Enclosed is my \$30. Checks should be payable to Grand Traverse Academy. Please return the completed form, with payment, to the school office.



Crooked Tree Arts Center

# ANNUAL YOUTH ART EXHIBIT 2023

Featuring the works of students in the Greater Grand Traverse Area



MARCH 7 - APRIL 15

**AWARDS PRESENTATION MARCH 19, 1-3 PM**

**OPEN DURING GALLERY HOURS**

**CLOSED MARCH 27-31**

For more info, visit [crooketree.org/tc](https://crooketree.org/tc)





2022-23  
*Junior High First Semester Honor Roll*

Criteria: All A's and B's

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Acheampong, Akyedzi  
Adams, Teagan  
Bilderback, Call  
Clausen, Henry  
Deneau, Tyler  
Dennis, Claire  
Dombrowski, Olivia  
Gruennert, Darby  
Haase, Jacob  
Hadfield, Rhys  
Hartl, Henry  
Hassler, Theodore  
Kinney, Nathan  
McKinney, Amelia  
Meyer, Caden  
Nottke, Michael  
Nottke, Stuart  
Patzik, Addison  
Pfenning, Bella  
Smith, Evan  
Smith, Madison  
Stephen, Bailey  
Sterzik, Gracie  
VanWingerden, Lucy  
Walden, Isabella  
Wilcoxon, Lily  
Wildner, Michael  
Williams, Jordan  
Willoughby, Eli  
Wooters, Palyn  
Worm, Chase  
Worm, Travis Morgan  
York, Stella

**7th Grade**

Anderson, Ian  
Aristeo, Mario  
Bennecoff, Kallan  
Bright, Zaya  
Courtright, Henry  
Crowell, Elizabeth  
Dennis, Beckett  
Diephouse, Eliza  
Eskeli, Kalin  
Green, Payton  
Hadfield, Elicora  
Hadfield, Lylah  
Holcomb, Olivia  
Hubbell, Jacob  
Jones, Jessica  
Kohlmann, Alissa  
Komisarz, Jonathan  
Lazar, Gage  
Lindsay, Abigail  
Lindsay, Katie  
Link, Samuel  
Mesko, Molly  
Middaugh, Jaxtin  
Miller, Lilia  
Narolska, Rufina  
Newman, Zachary  
Peltier, Olivia  
Rose, Zion  
Ross, Saul  
Sailor, Hudson  
Schaub, Raphael  
Schwerin, Maria  
Shumar, Piper  
Tafelsky, John  
Vermilyea, Kylie  
Waligorski, Noah  
Wilcoxon, Cozette



*2022-23*  
*High School First Semester Honor Roll*

Criteria: 3.4 Cumulative GPA

**Seniors**

Beaver, Bethaney  
 Cherup, Ashton  
 Deneau, Isaac  
 Dimitrijevic, Miles  
 Dunson, Isaac  
 Evans, Eliana  
 Foote, Petra  
 Froehlich, Ella  
 Gynn, Emma  
 Hahn, Zoe  
 Hanes, Kathryn  
 Harmon, Aariyah  
 Hensley, Carson  
 Holcomb IV, Stephen  
 Holcomb, Dalton  
 Hudson, Reed  
 Jones, Julia  
 Kornexl, Elizabeth  
 Lick, Courtney  
 Manthei, Colton  
 McMann, Isabell  
 Olshove, Britta  
 Pavwoski, Andrew  
 Sarya, Lilly  
 Schwabe, Ethan  
 Shimko, Jurnie  
 Snell, Chase  
 Stephen, Jocelyn  
 Thompson, Sofia  
 VanWingerden, Norah

**Juniors**

Bacon, Dana  
 Bell Jr., Michael  
 Bemeneck, Tristan  
 Butera, Ava  
 Cherkasov, Lily  
 Dent, Arabella  
 Dix, Alleah  
 Foley, Samantha  
 Mimnaugh, Peter  
 Novak, Jonah

**Sophomores**

Brown-Bannon, Sadie  
 Craig, Jack  
 Croff, Hattie  
 Dennis, Charles  
 Dickinson, Michael  
 Dreychan, Katie  
 Gamalski, Elisha  
 Hadfield, Eden  
 Haines, Dylan  
 Koumliene, Neilah  
 LaFaye, Lucy  
 Lau, Analese  
 Pavwoski, Mega  
 Riess, Phoebe  
 Riggs, Mason  
 Rose, Marcus  
 Ruiz Pino, Adela  
 Smith, Savannah  
 Stawowy, Madelyn  
 Williams, Carson

**Freshmen**

Anderson, Cole  
 Bilderback, Coby  
 Bourdkani, Yasmina  
 Cherkasov, Diana  
 Collier, Shenoah  
 Dix, Nathaniel  
 Hobbs, Maxwell  
 Howard, Emma  
 Klooster, Kaden  
 Long, Marcus  
 McMann, Samuel  
 McPhilimy, Maddison  
 Middaugh, Perry  
 Mimnaugh, Pearl  
 Mroczkowski, Eden  
 Narolska, Ilona  
 Needham, Emily  
 Niccum, Daisy  
 Schultz-Kloo, Jordin  
 Slepicka, Emerson  
 Thompson, Elijah  
 Threet, Jarom  
 VanWingerden, Zeeva  
 Vermilyea, Carson  
 Whipple, Isaac







**HUFFMAN**  
BASKETBALL



# **HUFFMAN BASKETBALL SKILLS CAMP**

**@ GRAND TRAVERSE ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL |**

**COST: \$250**

**SCHEDULE: MONDAY JUNE 19TH- FRIDAY JUNE**

**23RD , 2023**

**7TH-12TH GRADE BOYS/GIRLS: 5:00PM - 7:30PM**

## **HB CAMP NOTES & RULES**

***\*Check-in begins 15 minutes before each session***

***\*Offensive skill work: shooting, finishing footwork, triple threat, dribble moves***

***\*Pick and roll, shooting programs, post moves, BDT, and FIBA 3x3 concepts***

***\*Will have live games of 1v1, 2v2, and 3v3***

***\*Film breakdown studying game movements, spacing, situations etc.***

***\*Led by Pro Skills Coach Wills Lee***

***\*Trusted by the top youth to elite players in the state.***



**REGISTER @**  
**TREVORHUFFMAN.COM**

