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# Westlake Pride



Monday February 22, 2016

WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL ATLANTA, GA

2016 Issue 16

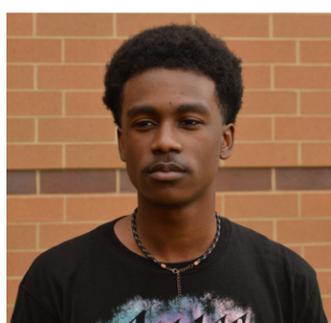
## OUTLETS FOR POETRY INCREASE SCHOOLWIDE

**STUDENT WOWS CROWD AT POETRY OUT LOUD**



Quion Douze memorized two poems and recited them this weekend at the Poetry Out Loud recitation competition (CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

**STUDENT HEADED TO KOREA FOR WORLD POETRY COMPETITION**



Emmanuel Griggs traveled to Venice, Italy, where he won the preliminary rounds of the World Poetry Competition. (CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

**SPOKEN WORD EVENT SCHEDULED FOR THIS WEEK**

**BY AMINATA SECKA**

**ATLANTA** -Do you like expressing your thoughts? Are you into poetry? Do you have a poem yearning to be heard? If so, what better way to celebrate your writing than to read them out loud in an authentic cafe setting?

Come join Westlake's teeming poetry culture at Last Poet's Café, an experience put together by the amazing Ms. Woods, who promises it will be a magical night filled with lyrical journeys.

Last Poet's Café is a chance for students to read their own poetry out loud for supportive peers. It is going to be a night of positive energy and support, so take a step forward and share your heart and soul within an encouraging environment.

Perhaps you have seen spoken word poetry on YouTube, whether it is new poems from *Button Poetry* or clips from *Def Jam Poetry* classic performances.

Perhaps you have been to the Teen Poetry Slam at the High Museum or to one

of the other poetry readings around town at Java Monkey, Apache Café, or Kat's Café,

Perhaps you are brand new to the poetry scene and have been writing poems in a journal that are itching to be read on stage.

Either way, we welcome you to the Last Poet's Café will be Thursday 2/25 in the Westlake High School Black Box from 4:00pm - 8:30pm.

Don't let people explain this amazing night too you. Be sure to be the one describing it for yourself. **W**

## BASKETBALL TEAMS READY FOR NEXT CHALLENGE

**BY STAFF**

**ATLANTA** -Westlake's basketball program is making a statement this playoffs by passing two highly touted Norcross teams in their quest to reach the finals.

Westlake's twin victories over Norcross sent the Lions to the Elite Eight, shorthand for the final eight teams in the State Playoff bracket.

With a victory this week, Westlake will be in the Final Four and only one game away from playing for the state title.

"This is a HUGE accomplishment. We are so proud of our students and coaches for making it to this level in the state competition," said principal Alexandra Bates.

Last week, Ms. Bates put on a pep rally where the school celebrated the successes of the basket-

Boys Team 2/20	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FINAL
Norcross (26-4)	17	15	11	7	50
Westlake (24-4)	16	11	19	15	61

Lady Lions 2/19	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FINAL
Norcross (23-5)	6	11	11	9	37
Westlake (25-5)	6	11	14	8	38

ball team with games, a high-flying dunk contest, and special guest performer Red Coldhearted.

The full gymnasium of students at the pep rally were electrified with spirit for the soaring basketball teams, and their spirit translated into a packed house for the boys' home game and a strong turnout for the girls' away game, a fact that did not go unnoticed by Ms. Bates.

"Thank you parents, students, and community members who drove to Gwinnett Friday

night and who came to Westlake Saturday. The students were really encouraged by the support," said Ms. Bates.

The friendly crowds helped the teams put together strong third quarters that proved to be the difference in the games.

The boys were able to post a whopping 19 points in the third, outscoring Norcross by 8 points, which proved to be the source for Westlake's winning margin of 9 points.

The girls added 14

points in the third, giving them a three point lead in the previously tied game.

The girls ended their game in dramatic fashion, when with only 20 seconds left on the clock, Kennedy Hansberry made two successful free throws to erase a one point deficit and put Westlake ahead by one. Talk about eventful!

This week, the boys will face Shiloh, and the girls will face McEachern. Both games will be placed at the University of West Georgia. **W**

Please come out to support  
**WESTLAKE**  
 Round 3 AAAAAA State Playoffs (Elite 8)  
 at the University of West Georgia

**Westlake Boys vs. Shiloh**  
 Thursday, February 25th at 8:15pm

**Westlake Girls vs. McEachern**  
 Friday, February 26th at 6:30pm

**WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL!!!!!!**



PRESENT THIS NEWSLETTER AD TO YOUR CASHIER AND RECEIVE A FREE Chick-fil-A BISCUIT...

\*\*\*ONLY AT THE CAMP CREEK PARKWAY LOCATION\*\*\*  
 OFFER EXPIRES: 2/26/2016

## CONGRATULATIONS, TOP 25 SENIORS

Last week's Winter Pep Rally was not just about sports. One of our main events was the unveiling of the this year's Top 25! The Top 25 is a collection of the 25 seniors with the highest GPAs. Congratulations, seniors for your consistent classroom success!

Morenike Ididapo (Valedictorian), Dereka Thomas (Salutatorian), Alexis Austin, Breesa Bennett, Katelyn Burnett, Chloe Davis, Kyra DeLoach, Ronyiah Douglas, Ciarra Haney, Allana Hudson, Janay Jones, Ajia Kim, Kishone Lark, Liz Lowe, Deanna Moreland, Kinnae Ogle, Janice Poe, Al Sherrae' Ray, Harrison Skelton, Edima Ubom, Joi Wade, Daisha White, Nia White, Austin Wright

# TEACHER AND PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCED

*Congratulations to Ms. Gladden, our Teacher of the Year, and Mr. Wayne, our Professional of the Year!*



## LOOKING GOOD FOR PROM HAS NEVER BEEN SO EASY

**BY CIERRA BERRY,  
DESKTRIA SCOTT**

**ATLANTA** -Does prom have you stressed because you don't know which dress to get to match the theme or how to get your hair styled? The pressure is off as long as you have Savvi on your side.

Savvi Formalwear is a one-stop-shop for dresses, tuxedos, suits, vests, and ties where you can be measured for formalwear and rent for much cheaper than it would be to purchase.

Students wear their rented formalwear to prom and then return all the pieces after the event for Savvi to clean and rent back out to its next

customers.

Ashley Cissell, outreach coordinator with Savvi Formalwear, reached out to Westlake High School's Spanish teacher and Prom Coordinator, Ms. Tamani Wilson about two or three years ago, offering a partnership with Westlake to help students make their style decisions.

"Savvi Gives Back program is a great way for schools to earn money with little to no effort all while assisting students in saving money for prom," explained Ms. Cissell in an email,

While Savvi enjoys being a big help to students preparing for

prom, the company takes extra pride in being able to assist schools financially through the Savvi Gives Back program.

Under Savvi Gives Back, students receive the perk of \$50 off their rental, and the school receives \$10 for each Westlake rental!

Savvi's workers will also coordinate with the students to match their personal interest, as well as the individual school's prom theme.

After several years of working with the company, Ms. Wilson has become a believer.

"I love it. Sometimes you all don't know how good you look dressed up, and it doesn't mat-

ter how much it costs, but Savvi makes sure to have reasonable and affordable costs," expressed Ms. Wilson happily.

Savvi's website goes to great lengths to promote the experience of prom, especially with its mission statement, which we have reprinted below.

"Express yourself with confidence from the perfect time to bring out your best and uniquely you. Carry on the tradition of prom your way and dress it up right and make an entrance that gets the wow you deserve!"

For students like Joshua Rich, Savvi is the perfect opportunity.

"I am definitely unprepared and need to go somewhere to get a tux" said Joshua.

Other students, who are excited that prom is close, haven't yet thought about the specifics and need to get the details figured out.

Savvi Formalwear politely asks to get ready three weeks prior to prom make sure that there is enough time for any changes.

If you are one of the unprepared, then here are the top 5 tips that are here to SAVE the day, PROM day!

1. Think outside the box and prevent matching when choosing your formalwear.

2. Follow the theme of prom, "A Night in Paris."

3. Be sure you are confident in your dress or tuxedo.

4. Wear shoes that are comfortable for you.

5. Plan ahead, because time management is key.

The closest Savvi Formalwears are located at the following locations:

1. Greenbriar Mall Shopping Center, 2841 Greenbriar Pkwy SW, Atlanta, GA 30331

2. Lenox Square, 3393 Peachtree Rd, Atlanta, GA 30326

3. 2980 Cobb Pkwy, Atlanta, GA 30339

4. Northlake Mall, 4800 Briarcliff Rd NE, Atlanta, GA 30345 **W**

## REMINDER: MORNING TARDIES

**BY MS. BATES**

**ATLANTA** -It is critical that our students arrive to school on time each day. The first bell rings at 8:20am. Our highest rate of tardies occurs during this time.

We are seeing an increase this semester specifically with carpool riders who are late. As we prepare for EOC and

Advanced Placement (AP) exams it is critical for students to arrive to school on time. The first 15 minutes of each class begins with test preparation.

We have about instructional days (considering our A/B schedule) for these exams. If a student is just 5 minutes late for these 30 days that e-mails to 150 min-

utes of lost instructional time. We are here to ensure that every child reaches their full potential, but can only do that when they are present.

Students that ride the school bus even if its late will not be marked tardy, so please encourage your child to ride the bus.

The following are the consequences for being tardy to school:

## REMINDER: STUDENT LUNCHES

**BY MS. BATES**

**ATLANTA** -When enjoying lunch, please be reminded about the following guidelines.

First, students are not permitted to leave campus during lunch. As tempting as it might be for students with vehicles to drive to get food of their choice, it is NOT permitted due to safety concerns.

Second, parents may drop off money if needed to purchase a school lunch, however, no food should be brought to students during lunch. We simply do not have the resources in our front office to facilitate that process.

Third, students are permitted to bring in lunch from home, but please keep in mind that

there will be no access to microwaves to warm up the food.

Unfortunately, the county has explained that we cannot purchase microwaves due to concerns about food safety, food sanitation, and student safety.

With these three details in mind, we hope all enjoy their lunch period experience! **W**

Cumulative Tardies (Per Semester)	Consequences
1-3 Tardies	Warning
4-6 Tardies	After-School detention
7-9 Tardies	Saturday School/ISS
10+ Tardies	Report to ISS for the remainder of the period; ISS/OSS

Please be advised that juniors and seniors desiring to participate in prom and other activities will have additional behavioral and attendance expectations in order to participate. These expectations will be clearly

communicated to students and parents

Also, please be advised, that student drivers may lose their on campus driving privileges if they are found in violation of our tardy policy. **W**

# STUDENT HEADED TO SOUTH KOREA FOR WORLD POETRY COMPETITION



**BY DEREKA THOMAS**

**ATLANTA** - Westlake's Emmanuel Griggs has been taking his spoken word poetry to competitions for years, and he has evolved into a successful, jet-setting poet, hopping from one competition to another.

Most recently, Emmanuel travelled to Venice, Italy, where he spent a week in the preliminary rounds of the World Poetry Competition, ultimately emerging the champion of his bracket.

To some people, the words poet and competitor may seem a bit incompatible. In fact, upon hearing the word poet, many people imagine unemployed twenty year olds wearing turtlenecks and berets in poorly lit poetry bars.

These people, however, fail to realize that there is a diverse group of individuals who consider themselves to be poets, including striving, competitive students.

Competitive poetry allows writers to take a well written poem and turn it into immediate opportunities, including the chance to network between artists, to learn from peers, and to emotionally move an entire audience.

"I want to give my audience a glimpse of who I am and the things that run through my imagination, because poetry can be a chain reaction of inspiration," explained Emmanuel.

Some poets participate in poetry simply because they enjoy it; their writing is a form of artistic expression. Other poets embrace the idea of poetry as a competitive event. Emmanuel finds himself attracted to both uses for poetry.

Emmanuel's love for poetry began as soon as

he learned to write

"My passion for creativity was the main reason I gravitated toward poetry," started Emmanuel.

"But when I discovered spoken word and competitions, I knew I had truly found something that I loved."

When writing, Emmanuel's creative process is complex and nearly inexplicable, like a rubber band ball of ideas, as he put it.

When Emmanuel thinks up a new idea, he places that idea onto his others how a person builds a rubberband ball. His collection of ideas grows bigger and bigger until he has a giant collection of ideas, held together in tension. When it is time to write, Emmanuel begins to unravel the rubberbands.

Confusing, huh?

When it comes to giving advice to other students aspiring to write poetry, Emmanuel is a bit more straight forward.

"I suggest writing from the heart and staying genuine to those what you want to say," said Emmanuel.

Early on in life, Emmanuel found inspiration in Maya Angelou, as well as Ralph Waldo Emerson and David Henry Thoreau, poets of the Transcendental Period, a time characterized by strong beliefs in the power of philosophy when acquiring knowledge.

When he's not writing poetry, Emmanuel is sharing it in hopes of starting a chain reaction of inspiration similar to the one created by Maya Angelou or the Transcendentalists.

"Before performing, I think of the audience and all the speakers

## The Sakura Trees by Emmanuel Griggs

You said we'll live together  
With the sakura trees  
As the both of us walked down  
The colonnade blooming by the riverside  
Even if I'm devoured  
And expelled by the world  
I just want to be by your side,  
More, and more, and more

But I fell into the gap between the flow of time and love  
And I lost you

When I close my eyes nostalgically  
There's the two of us from those times  
I will never forget that sakura-colored you  
Forever, and ever  
I understood myself  
After you left  
I want to get closer to my dreams  
More, and more

Even when I'm crushed by words of rejection I crawled up  
and continued to fight

When I close my eyes in pain  
There's myself from those times  
I will never forget that sakura-colored me Forever, and ever

Even now, home is resounding  
Gently in my heart  
That's the song I hear now

When I close my eyes nostalgically  
There's the two of us from those times  
That sakura-colored you  
And those sakura-colored times  
Are things I will never forget

they've heard before me," said Emmanuel.

"I want to make them think, and to be inspired, they need to hear something new and honest."

These expectations for the audience, which may cause some to experience stage fright, only make Emmanuel more comfortable with the audience and the stage.

"Without the audience's opinions, I wouldn't be on the stage in the first place," admitted Emmanuel, showing that he truly cares for his audiences, understanding that they are the foundation for what he does.

His competitors at the World Poetry Competition at Venice had come from all over the world.

Some of the nations represented included Canada, Russia, Mexico, Spain, China, and Japan.

Yet, despite all the international competition, after just one week of deliberation, Emmanuel and his original poem, *Babylon*, won first place in his region.

With this success, Emmanuel will now advance to the final rounds of competition,

which will take place in South Korea in a matter of months.

He will compete alongside twenty-four of his fellow finalists who also won their preliminary region brackets. So, with all this excitement early in his career, what are Emmanuel's plans for after the competition?

"In five to ten years, I actually want to publish a book with all my poetry in chronological order," said Emmanuel.

We at the *Westlake Pride* look forward to reading it and being inspired by his words.

In the meantime, if you would like to read more of Emmanuel's writing, then we will publish a few here.

More of Emmanuel's writing can be found in last year's *ROAR Literary Magazine*, a Westlake production of student writing that numbers 228 pages.

To download a free copy of the *ROAR Literary Magazine* or place an order for a hard-copy, please visit [www.magcloud.com/browse/issue/940354](http://www.magcloud.com/browse/issue/940354) **W**

## Magnolia by Emmanuel Griggs

Your lie lies on frozen lips  
as pale petals about to fall off.  
Hopefully I'll get used to this  
hoax that our love made.

Wind whines through broken tips  
as our memories die off.  
Hopefully you'll get used to my  
hugs - meaning good-bye.

Loves me, loves me not.  
Tried to get a rise out of  
magnolia petals but  
soon scattered them over you.  
Watch me fall and drop away.

Full of tears shall be stream.  
Life ends up *Lacrimosa*  
Shattered heart, burnt my life out.  
Why you still my remedy.

Loves me, loves me not.  
Tried to get a rise out of  
magnolia petals but  
soon scattered them over you.  
Watch me fall and drop away.

Loves me, loves me not.  
Tried to get a rise out of  
magnolia petals but  
soon scattered them over you.  
Watch me fall and drop away.

Hear me cry,  
Our love's dead dried

## Deemo & The Girl by Emmanuel Griggs

There is a land where no mortal has walked, a land known as Grand Gaea. It is a beautiful grassland that spreads throughout the land. The sun is always at its brightest, and this land has a certain persona of happiness to it.

The only inhabitant of this mysterious land is a tall slender being known as Deemo. Deemo is generally peaceful and compassionate, living alone by routine. He wears a black tuxedo that blends in with his body, which is coated in black. He has no mouth, and the only part of his body that's recognizable is his small white eyes.

Deemo was not born in this land but was stranded many years ago. He lives in a tower that's in the center of Grand Gaea with his piano, because in another world, before he traveled to this one, he was once a pianist, a great master of the grand piano. This world, however, has no music. It only has basic sounds, like creaking hinges and door slams. So, when he pressed the keys of his piano, no music came out. Instead, the keys made wooden clicks so small that they were nearly inaudible. To cope, Deemo made his own idea of what each note sounded like through tapping his feet.

One day, clouds covered the sun, and it started to rain. This was the first time it had ever rained in the beautiful grassland. Deemo was confused and afraid of what was happening. He sat under his piano and looked at the window as rain pelted against it. Then, the rain stopped almost suddenly, and the light from the sun pierced through the clouds.

Then, he heard a *THUD!*

Deemo was afraid to go outside and see what had hit the ground, but eventually, his curiosity got the best of him. He slowly opened his front door and peeked out.

It was a little girl. Deemo had never seen a human being before or anyone except for his own kind. For that matter, it had been years of lonely existence on Grand Gala, so he had almost forgotten about the existence of others.

The little girl was about ten years old. She had long brunette hair that stopped at her back and was

# STUDENT HEADED TO SOUTH KOREA FOR WORLD POETRY COMPETITION

wearing a white dress. Something was wrong, though. She was unconscious. He opened the door, walked outside, and picked the girl up. As he picked her up, her hand opened, and she inadvertently dropped a seed that he did not notice. He took her to the top of his tower and laid her next to his piano.

In about two hours, the little girl woke up and screamed, "EKKKK! Ma-Monster! Stay away!"

She crawled away and sat in fear in a corner. Deemo walked cautiously towards the girl. She was paralyzed in fear. Deemo touched her shoulder, then patted her head. Her nerves started to calm.

He then pointed to his piano. He sat and played his piano, tapping his feet as he pressed the keys. She smiled and said, "You're a nice monster?"

Deemo shook his head in disagreement.

Then she said, "Are you even a monster?"

Deemo shook his head in disagreement once more.

"Then what are you, and why do you look so scary?"

Deemo stood up from his piano and pointed his finger at himself and then her, did a full turn, and then starred back at her. She took the gesture as an invitation and approached Deemo's piano. He gently alighted his hand on her shoulder and shook his head in agreement.

She looked at him with her big blue eyes and said, "It's okay. I won't break it. Promise."

She sat at the piano and read the engraved text above the keys. "Dee-mo? Is that your name?"

Deemo nodded his head, agreeing with the girl.

"I...I don't have a name, but the clouds called me Melody. Hmm. Melody and Deemo. Do you like the way that sounds?"

Deemo gave her a thumbs down. Then, she sighed and said, "Fine. Deemo and Melody."

Deemo gave her a thumbs up.

She started to play his piano, but it made no sound. "Is it broken?"

Deemo shook his head. He sat next to her and started to play. For every key he pressed, he tapped his feet or heels.

"That's beautifully creative."

Deemo gave her a thumbs up.

Before the girl could say anything else the ground shook. The tower quaked along, rattling Deemo and the girl.

"Uh-oh."

Deemo looked out the window and pointed. She moved next to Deemo and then stood on the tip of her toes and looked out the window. About a meter away from them was a leaf bud that glowed white with a teal overlay.

"The Great Tree," she said.

Deemo looked at her and tilted his head to the left in confusion.

"The clouds, they have given me a seed and prayed that I'd guard it with my life. I am only to plant the seed in a place that I could call home. They always referred to the seeds as notes."

Deemo pointed at the door.

"You want ME to go out there?! I don't know what to do with that thing!"

Deemo guided her back from the window and to the door.

"Okay, okay I'm going."

She walked outside with Deemo watching her from the window. She approached the bud and turned around, looking at Deemo. She then shrugged her shoulders and walked back towards the tower.

"Deemo, maybe it's just a normal glowing bud. Maybe there's nothing to worry about. I think the clouds gave it to me as a decoration present."

Deemo patted her head and she smiled. Deemo then walked back to his piano and started to play it with his footsteps. The girl watched him.

"I'll be your audience," she said with laughter.

Deemo played the last note on the piano, the *E*, and as soon as he touched the key, the rumbling began again. Then, there was a sound that could only be described as crackling.

Deemo looked at the girl.

"It's your turn," she said.

Deemo went outside, and this time the girl was watching him from the window. As Deemo approached the bud, he started to feel very weak. The closer he got, the weaker he became. Then, he started to fade as if dropping in and out of reality itself.

Deemo quickly ran away from the glowing bud.

"HURRY, DEEMO! HURRY!" the girl was screaming out the window.

When Deemo reentered his tower, she ran toward him and hugged his leg saying, "I'm sorry, Deemo! I'm so, sorry. I didn't know."

Deemo felt warm inside. He put his hand on top of her head, then he knelt down and gave her the thumbs up. The girl laughed and said, "Why? And how did that happen?"

Deemo shrugged.

"Hmm. Maybe I shouldn't think about it too much it."

Deemo nodded. Then, he sat back at his grand piano and played *E* again. *DING* the note sounded.

"What the---" the girl said.

Deemo loved the way the note sounded. *DING-DING-DING-DING-DING-DING*. Deemo constantly pressed the key.

"But how? It made no sound before."

Deemo tried playing other notes, but they made no sound.

"I think I know why!" she shouted.

She ran outside toward the bud. The bud had grown to the height of the girl's knee, and the bud didn't just glow anymore. It had an aura of the same white and teal overlay emitting from it.

"Whoa," she said. "The Great Tree lives. Deemo!" she shouted. Deemo opened his window. "IT GREW! THE BUD IT GREW!"

Deemo gave her the thumbs up, and she danced around the bud. The girl then started to skip back to the tower. She entered the tower, walked up the stairs, and found Deemo lying next to his piano, fading again. She panicked.

"Deemo is it the tree? What's wrong?"

Being relatively smart for a ten year old, she played *E* repeatedly on Deemo's piano, and even more music poured forth than should be possible with one note. *DEE-DA-DA-DEE-DA-DA*. As the music increased, Deemo's fading stopped, and he felt his strength returning.

"Somehow you're in close connection to The Great Tree."

Deemo nodded in agreement.

"But how?"

Deemo shrugged.

"Deemo, teach me to how to play this instrument."

Deemo knelt in front of her and nodded.

"YAY!" She jumped around merrily, then regained herself and sat at the piano. Deemo sat to the left of her shortly after. He assisted her with the position of her fingers to the keys.

"So what now?" she asked.

Deemo pressed a silent key, and she mimicked Deemo. *DING*. The girl's key rang. Deemo's middle finger slowly pressed the key once more. The key rang *ding* once more, but this time, the note was very quiet.

"That's so cool," she said, smiling.

They practiced for hours, days, weeks, and months. Each day was a different lesson on this one note piano. Then it started to happen again. The rumbling.

"Not again!" the girl yelled.

The tree started to grow and die at the same time. The white with the teal overlay turned red, and although the tree got taller, there were no leaves growing.

"Deemo there are no leaves on the tree," she stated in wonder. Just then, Deemo weakened and started to fade even more rapidly this time. The girl started to cry.

"Deemo please don't leave me."

The little girl dashed to the piano and played a melody in way that would be impossible to play with one note. *DEE-DEE-DA-DEE-DA-DEE-DEE-DAAAA. DEE-DEE-DA-DEE-DEE-DEE-DEE-DEE*.

The rumbling stopped. The tree's aura returned back to its normal color, and then leaves started to sprout. She dried her tears, and she smiled as wide as Grand Gaea's grassland. Deemo's fading stopped, and he was able to stand up again.

"Deemo, are you okay?"

Deemo nodded.

"Good. I'm glad that you're okay."

Deemo looked out the window in awe.

"What's going on, Deemo?" she asked. The girl approached the window and couldn't believe what she saw.

The Great Tree had grown about 10 meters, and it was as if the world had changed. The aura from the tree made the sky look teal, the bark on the tree was a caramel brown, and the leaves had a mixture of tan and green. The tree was almost fully grown.

"DEEMO! It's gorgeous!"

The girl thought to herself for a moment while Deemo sat idly at the piano.

"Deemo! Play your instrument, but don't tap your feet!"

Deemo played the piano, and every right hand key made a distinct and beautiful sound. The girl could tell that Deemo was very excited from the way his right hand moved.

"Deemo it's like you and the keys and the tree are closely connected."

Deemo was happy to hear that, and to show it, he made a superhero-like stance.

The girl said, "Deemo, you're so silly," and she laughed.

The duo laughed and relaxed for about an hour. Deemo sat at his piano, and the girl lay next to it. Then, there was a sudden shift in the atmosphere. The rumbling started once more, and this time it was intense. Deemo fell to the ground.

"Deemo? Deemo?!" she repeated.

Deemo didn't respond. She played Deemo's piano, but it wasn't working. She tried playing her special melody, but nothing worked. Deemo was dying. The girl started to sob and weep. She was confused by what was happening to her only companion. She regained her composure, then thought to herself, "Deemo, somehow you, your keys, and The Great Tree are connected. But how?" She paused for a moment and then said, "I...I hope this works."

She tried to pick up Deemo, but he was too heavy, so instead, she put his arm around her and dragged him outside. She dragged him across the yard until she approached the Great Tree. Deemo faded with each step she took. She noticed he was getting lighter, so she picked him up piggyback style, his long black arms hanging down her shoulders like a untied scarf. She continued to tread onward, now just inches away from the tree. Deemo was transparent, resembling a ghost.

"Deemo I don't know how and I don't know why, but you and this tree have a what seems to be a deadly connection. If my idea doesn't work...you'll...die...but if it does, we can go back to making our pretty instrument make music again."

She was sure that her plan wouldn't work, but she knew she had to try. She placed Deemo on the ground and gave him his last rites. Then, she picked him back up and passed him into the tree. Inches before actually touching the tree, Deemo faded completely.

The little girl's tears began to run again. She dropped to her knees, put her palms to her eyes, and screamed, "I'm sorry, Deemo! I'm so sorry!" She continued to weep until she was interrupted by a loud *BOOM!*

With tears still in her face, she looked up at the tree. A huge wave of energy emitted from the Great Tree, pushing the little girl feet backwards. The Great Tree's aura changed color, from white and teal to white and pink.

The little girl, being dazed from the wave of energy, looked at her left leg. Blood dripped from it. She had a painful cut that thankfully was not deep enough to be lethal. Then, she looked up again at the tree, which was now glowing brighter.

She limped back toward The Great Tree. The closer she got, the more she could hear the sweet music from a piano. It was the melody she played to save Deemo the first time, but it was much more detailed because it wasn't just a one note melody this time. She continued to limp, and the closer she got, the bigger her smile became.

She now had a clear view of the tree and she couldn't believe her eyes! Deemo sat in front of the tree, playing a grand piano that grew from its roots.

Deemo looked different. He had beautiful wings. They were angelic wings that stretched almost the same height as the tree. He emitted the same white with pink overlay as the tree. Deemo certainly had a celestial appearance.

"Deemo! You're alive!" she yelled.

Deemo stopped playing the piano and turned around. When he saw his only companion, he knelt and reached his arms out. She limped as fast as she could towards Deemo until she finally made it into his long black arms.

Deemo saw the cut on the girl's leg. He put his index finger on it. Her cut glowed pink, then the cut slowly faded away. It looked as if she had never injured her leg.

"Wow, Deemo. That's so cool," she said.

Deemo gave her the thumbs up, then he tapped the girl's shoulder and pointed at his tower.

"What is it?" she questioned.

Deemo played the girl's melody on the piano that grew out of the tree. Then, he pointed at the tower

## STUDENT HEADED TO SOUTH KOREA FOR WORLD POETRY COMPETITION

once more.

"Right, I'll do it," she said. The girl ran as fast as she could to Deemo's tower. When she reached her destination, she dashed up the stairs to the top. She opened the window and yelled, "Deemo I'm ready when you are!"

Deemo gave her the thumbs up. She closed the window and played her melody, but something was different. All the keys on Deemo's once silent piano made a different and beautiful sound. This excited the girl, and she played her melody using almost every key on the piano. Deemo heard the girl playing her melody and mimicked it perfectly.

The two pianos started to harmonize, then reality started to ripple between them. A square portal opened between the Great Tree and Deemo's tower. Notes began to materialize and flow into the portal. This portal led into a land where mortals roamed.

The little girl glanced out the window and saw what was happening. She saw the notes that they played float into the portal and spiral around one another, creating a tornado of notes. Then, the notes fused themselves together, creating a semblance of a piano.

"Whoa," the girl said as she watched in awe.

As the little girl played the final measure of her melody, the portal began to close. When she finished the melody, she stood up from Deemo's piano and made another dash down the tower stairs and outside.

"Deemo! Deemo! Deemo!" she yelled. "That was a nice thing we did. We gave them our instrument and the beautiful sounds that it made."

Deemo gave her the thumbs up and patted her head.

"Hmm. I want my melody to have a name. Something that stands out but is memorable to you and me.

Hey, I know! How about The Great Tree Melody?"

Deemo patted her head once more, and then they both walked back to the tower.

"And when you play my melody with one note, that'll be called friction, and when you play it with a bunch of notes, that'll be called magnolia!"

She poured out all her ideas to Deemo as they walked back to his tower, but when they reached the tower and looked out the window, a sense of extreme fear raced down their spines. The leaves of the fully blossomed tree were falling at a moderate speed.

There was a small lady about the size of the little girl standing at the trunk of the tree. She wore a white hooded ceremonial cloak of a culture they did not understand. She also wore a mask that covered her face. She caught one of the falling leaves and crushed it in the palm of her pale hand. **W**

## STUDENT WOWS CROWD AT POETRY OUT LOUD

BY STAFF

**ATLANTA** -Over the weekend, the Atlanta History Center hosted Poetry Out Loud's regional competition, where 35 different students from local high schools dramatically recited poems that they had memorized.

A panel of three judges listened to the poems and rated students on their vocal, physical, and emotional interpretations of the poems, and a fourth accuracy judge read along with the students' recitations to verify that students got every word perfect.

Westlake's own Quion Douze participated in this exciting but grueling intellectual process, performing two poems that he chose,

Paul Laurence Dunbar's "Invitation to Love" and Stephen Dunn's "Sweetness."

After working hard to memorize the poems, Quion performed them excellently, captivating the audience with his stage presence.

Quion's performances elicited many compliments from the audience after he was done, and Quion found himself doing the same, meeting other competitors and talking about the poetry that they had memorized.

The Poetry Out Loud Foundation fosters this sense of communication between competitors by creating a common pool of over 900 poems for competitors to choose from. This allows for

students to choose diverse and unique poetry to memorize, but it also allows for students to become familiar with each other's poems as they are making their selections.

Overall, the Poetry Out Loud Foundation has been going strong since 2005.

In fact, last year, 365,000 students in 2,300 high schools participated countrywide, and the ultimate winner of the national competition received a \$20,000 prize.

While Quion did not move onto the State level, he was one of the elite performers of the afternoon, had the audience abuzz, and represented Westlake superbly! **W**



## SISTER SCHOOL ANNOUNCES SPRING PERFORMANCES

BY MS. FIELDS

**ATLANTA** -Tri-Cities High School Visual and Performing Arts Magnet Drama Program will step into the world of Tony Award-Winning Musical *Cinderella*,

*Cinderella* has been delighting audiences with its surprisingly contemporary take on the classic tale.

This lush production features an incredible orchestra in an outstanding rendition that includes our own cultural traditions in an exciting, upbeat and up-to-date fashion full of surprising new twists!

Be transported back to your childhood as you rediscover some of Rodgers and Hammerstein's most beloved

songs in this hilarious and romantic experience for anyone who's ever had a dream.

The show will run from Thursday through Sunday, March 17, 18, 19 at 7:00 p.m., March 19th and 20th at 2:00 p.m.

The performance will be held in the Viola Turner Theater on the campus of Tri Cities High School.

Tickets are \$15.00 general admission, \$10.00 for senior citizens and students, and \$10 for group rates of 10 or more in a party.

A happily ever after that the entire family can enjoy, be sure to purchase your tickets now! There is limited seating available for this production. For more information call 470-254-8010. **W**

Dr. Dan Sims, Principal | Zoie Sykes, VPA Magnet Director

# CINDERELLA

R&H: A Tri-Cities High School Musical | Director: Hilda Willis

**Showtimes & Prices**

March 17th	7:00 p.m.
March 18th	7:00 p.m.
March 19th	2:00 p.m.
March 19th	7:00 p.m.
March 20th	2:00 p.m.

**\$15.00 Adults**  
**\$10.00 Students**  
**\$10.00 Senior Citizens**  
**\$10.00 Group Rates (10 or more)**

Music by: Richard Rodgers  
Book & Lyrics by: Oscar Hammerstein II  
Adapted for Stage by: Tom Briggs  
Teleplay by: Robert L. Freedman

**Viola Turner Theater**  
2575 Harris Street | East Point, GA 30344

Tickets can be purchased at:  
brownpaperickets.com

TRI-CITIES HIGH SCHOOL MAGNET DEPARTMENT  
DAN A. SIMS PRINCIPAL | ZOIE SYKES MAGNET DIRECTOR

**ART SHOW | FREE**  
APRIL 14TH @ 5:00PM to 6:30PM  
TCHS ART GALLERY

**ORCHESTRA SPRING CONCERT**  
APRIL 14 & 15TH @ 7:00PM  
VIOLA TURNER THEATER

**JAZZ A LA MODE**  
APRIL 24TH @ 4:00PM  
TCHS COMMONS

**SPRING DANCE CONCERT**  
APRIL 29TH & 30TH @ 7:00PM  
VIOLA TURNER THEATER

**SPRING BAND CONCERT**  
MAY 3RD @ 7:00PM  
VIOLA TURNER THEATER

**CHORUS GOSPEL CONCERT**  
MAY 6TH @ 7:00PM  
VIOLA TURNER THEATER

NOTE: UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, THERE IS A FEE FOR EACH EVENT.

CONTACT: 470.254.8010  
2575 HARRIS STREET | EAST POINT, GA 30344

## FUTURE ENTERTAINMENT STARS WEIGH-IN ON OSCAR DILEMA

**BY JUSTICE MARSHALL, AMINATA SECKA, NADIA JACKSON ATLANTA** - If you haven't stopped to check the entertainment section of any newspaper or channel surfed past a recent episode of *Entertainment Tonight* then you're one of the few people who knows nothing of the recent Oscar nomination drama.

It can best be summarized in the trending twitter hash-tag: #OscarsSoWhite.

For the past 2 years all 20 acting nominations have been given to Caucasian actors, despite the cinematic jewels people of color have produced within this timespan like: *Selma*, *A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night*, *Belle*, *Chirag*,

*Dope*, *Creed*, *Straight Outta Compton*, *Beasts of No Nation*... the list is endless.

But why hasn't the barrier been broken?

Junior Ebony Strong, known for her beautiful performance as Effie White in our 2015 school production of *Dreamgirls*, says the problem is rooted in time.

"It goes back the fact that the Oscar's were never diverse in the first place, and recognition for people of color has always been sparse because of who they have voting," said Ebony.

And she's not wrong.

In 2014, *The LA Times* did a survey of the 6,028 Academy voters and found that 94% of voters were white, 76% were men, and the average age was 63.

Junior Danielle Patterson who one day hopes to go into costume design believes that the first step to a more diverse Oscar nomination pool is to diversify the Academy.

"There should be more people of color voting, along with younger people who have a fresher take on film," explained Danielle.

Senior Naehr Williams, however, a director, took another opinion.

"I'm indifferent on the social issues of it all, so let's not jump and call racist. Let's not water down the accomplishments in today's film industry just because of race," cautioned Naehr.

His point of view is understood, because marvel's of this year are

well deserving, such as *The Big Short* or *The Danish Girl*, but the snubs are overwhelming.

No Michael B. Jordan or Tessa Thompson for *Creed*? No Idris Elba or Abraham Attah for *Beasts of No Nation*? No Will Smith for *Concussion*? And the cast of *Straight Outta Compton* was also shut out.

And let's not forget Ava Duvernay's famous best director snub last year for the Martin Luther King biopic, *Selma*, as well as the snub for the man who played King, David Oyelowo.

With this in mind, I challenged our Westlake Stars to come up with an alternative nomination list that held these results:

**BEST PICTURE:** *Beasts of No Nation*, *The Big Short*, *Carol*, *Chirag*, *The Danish Girl*, *Dope*, *The Hateful Eight*, *Mad Max: Fury Road*, *The Revenant*, *Room*.

**BEST ACTOR:** Leonardo DiCaprio for *The Revenant*, Idris Elba for *Beasts of No Nation*, Michael B. Jordan for *Creed*, Shamiel Moore for *Dope*, Eddie Redmayne for *The Danish Girl*.

**BEST ACTRESS:** Cate Blanchett for *Carol*, Brie Larson for *Room*, Jennifer Lawrence for *Joy*, Teyonah Parris for *Chirag*, Charlize Theron for *Mad Max: Fury Road*.

**BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR:** ASAP Rocky for *Dope*, Tom Hardy for *The Revenant*, Samuel Jackson for *The Hateful*

*Eight*, Jason Mitchell for *Straight Outta Compton*, Jacob Tremblay for *Room*.

**BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS:** Kiersey Clemons for *Dope*, Rooney Mara for *Carol*, Mya Taylor for *Tangerine*, Tessa Thompson for *Creed*, Alicia Vikander for *The Danish Girl*.

Maybe next year we'll see more just nominations as Academy President, Cheryl Boone Issacs, who herself is a one of the few African-American board members of the Academy, announced January 22nd that later this year, the Academy will be diversified with younger more active voices in film.

Will this make a difference? We'll have to wait and see. **W**

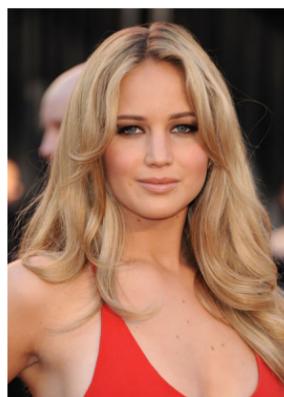
### BEST ACTOR

Leonardo DiCaprio  
Idris Elba  
Michael B. Jordan  
Shamiel Moore  
Eddie Redmayne



### BEST ACTRESS

Cate Blanchett  
Brie Larson  
Jennifer Lawrence  
Teyonah Parris  
Charlize Theron



### BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

ASAP Rocky  
Tom Hardy  
Samuel Jackson  
Jason Mitchell  
Jacob Tremblay



### BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Kiersey Clemons  
Rooney Mara  
Mya Taylor  
Tessa Thompson  
Alicia Vikander



## TESTING CORNER

## STATE MILESTONES RESULTS

## BY STAFF

**ATLANTA** - State scores from the 2014-15 administration of the Georgia Milestones Assessment System (Georgia Milestones in grades 3-8 and Georgia Milestones EOCs in grades 9-12) were released.

These preliminary scores reflect the first administration of Georgia's new comprehensive testing system.

This year's assessment results establish a baseline for the progress we expect student to make over time.

According to the Georgia Department of Education, the state showed overall lower results than in past years.

"These results show a lower level of student proficiency than Georgians are used to seeing, but that does not mean Georgia students know less or that teachers are not doing a great job - it means they've been asked to clear a higher bar," State School Super-

intendent Richard Woods said.

**State Results for GA**  
9th Grade English (25% Beginning, 39% Developing, 29% Proficient, 6% Distinguished)

American Lit (25% Beginning, 39% Developing, 29% Proficient, 6% Distinguished)

Algebra (31% Beginning, 36% Developing, 26% Proficient, 8% Distinguished)

Geometry (32% Beginning, 35% Developing, 25% Proficient, 8% Distinguished)

Biology (37% Beginning, 25% Developing, 29% Proficient, 9% Distinguished)

Physical Science (36% Beginning, 33% Developing, 26% Proficient, 5% Distinguished)

US History (27% Beginning, 34% Developing, 30% Proficient, 9% Distinguished)

Economics (30% Beginning, 31% Developing, 30% Proficient, 9% Distinguished)

SCHOOL GOVERNANCE  
COUNCIL ANNOUNCED**Representatives****3 Parents:**

Chris Lennon  
Keisha Minter,  
Christel Jackson

**2 Teachers:**

Yoshana Jones,  
Ashley Barker

**2 Community:**

Suzanne Wilborn,  
Rhonda Hudson

**2 School Employees:**

Chantrise Holliman,  
Estella B. Cook

**FY16 SGC****Meeting Calendar****Location:**

Westlake High School  
Media Center

**Time:**

Tues. 4:30-5:30 PM

**Dates:**

12/01/15, 1/26/15,  
2/23/15, 3/22/15,  
5/10/15

## COUNSELING PROGRAMS

School Programs .....

- Counselors' Corner will be held in the school cafeteria (November 3rd)
- Apply to College Day (November 5th)
- Counselors' Corner will be held in the school cafeteria (November 17th)

9th Grade Programs .....

- 9th Grade BRIDGE Law Benchmark Activity: Career Interest Inventory (October - November)
- Suicide Prevention Classroom Guidance: Signs of Suicide (October - November)

10th Grade Programs .....

- 10th Grade BRIDGE Law Benchmark Activity: Dual Enrollment and College Credit Now Opportunities (November 18th - 19th)

11th Grade Programs .....

- Applying to College Guidance Lesson (November 10th - 11th)
- Fall Junior Classroom Guidance: What Colleges Consider in Admissions (November)
- 11th Grade BRIDGE Law Benchmark Activity: Virtual College Search (November)

12th Grade Programs .....

- Please see School Programs

Counseling Programs Reaching 11th - 12th.....

- College and Career Center
- College Representatives at WHS (Grades 11-12)

Counseling Programs Reaching 9th-12th .....

- New Student Enrollments
- Academic Advisement
- Post-Secondary Planning and Advising
- Dual Enrollment Information
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Summer School Information
- Community Agency Referrals
- Collaboration with Teachers, Administrators, School Social Worker, and School Psychologist
- Care Team Referrals
- SAT and ACT Information
- Crisis Intervention
- Career Guidance and Exploration
- Transcribing Student Records

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

PARCHMENT REGISTRATION  
FOR SENIORS

**ATLANTA** - To make it easy to send transcripts to colleges, Fulton County Schools has partnered with Parchment to provide secure online transcript ordering available

24/7.

Creating the account is free and only takes a few steps. All seniors received their Parchment registration codes on September 24th and/or 25th and should register with Parchment right

## SIGN UP FOR REMIND 101

**ATLANTA**- Join our distribution list to receive texts and/or emails with information on upcoming college representative visits and scholarship updates.

Both students and parents are encouraged to register.

Don't be left out of the loop—join today.

To receive messages via text, text @566a2 to 81010 or to receive messages via email, send an email to 566a2@mail.remind.com.

## CHECKING SENIOR STATUS

**ATLANTA**- On May 20, 2016, senior students will be closing this chapter on their high school career.

Congratulations to all the senior students and parents of senior students who have almost made it to the graduation milestone.

Counselors will begin senior status checks immediately following the schedule change window so we can inform you of your student's specific status.

Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

## CONTACTING COUNSELORS

**ATLANTA**- As the year advances, you may find yourself in need of contacting one of Westlake's counselors.

When that happens, we want to make sure that you know the correct number and can quickly get in touch with the person who can best help your student.

Below, you will find a list of useful contacts for

the counselors.

If you need to set up a parent-teacher conference, we can set up a conference with all your student's teachers if you contact the Student Services office.

Please either call the school at (404) 346-6400 and request Student Services or email Jeanine Griswold at the email address posted below.

## STUDENT SERVICES' CORNER

## CONTACTING STUDENT SUPPORT STAFF

Please use the following numbers to contact the school in times of need.

**Student Services Administration**

**Curriculum Assistant Principal:** Cecelia Johnson,  
johnsonc5@fultonschools.org

**Administrative Assistant:** Candice Hickman,  
hickmanc@fultonschools.org

**Student Support Staff**

**College and Career Advisor:** Steven Johnson  
johnsons16@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46462

**504 Coordinator and Graduation Coach:** Twanda Harrison,  
harrisont1@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46428

**Instructional Support Teacher:** Jennifer Swint,  
swint@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46444

**SEC Department Chair:** Andrea Freeman,  
freemana1@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46444

**Data Specialist:** Jan McLemore,  
mclmorej@fultonschools.org

**Back Up Data Specialist:** Mesi Spencer,  
spencerm@fultonschools.org

**Records Clerk:** Jenna Bannister,  
bannister@fultonschools.org

**Guidance Secretary:** Donna Carter,  
carterd2@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400

**School Social Worker:** Willette Stephens,  
stephensw@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46483

**School Psychologist:** Judith Perkins  
perkinsj@fultonschools.org

**School Psychologist:** Elizabeth Scott,  
scottea@fultonschools.org

**9th Grade (A - Z):** Antonio Grissom,  
grissom@fultonschools.org  
470-346-6400 x46429

**10th - 12th (A - E):** Anthony Decosta,  
decosta@fultonschools.org  
470-346-6400 x46434

**10th - 12th (E - K):** Beatrice Ford,  
fordb@fultonschools.org  
470-346-6400 x46482

**10th - 12th (L - Q):** Shelia Reese-Jackson (Head),  
reeses@fultonschools.org  
470-346-6400 x46433

**10th - 12th (R - Z):** Dawn Perry,  
perrydb@fultonschools.org  
470-346-6400 x46432

**Guidance Secretary:** Donna Carter,  
carterd2@fultonschools.org  
470-346-6400

## KEEP UP WITH ALL THESE SCHOOL EVENTS

## Culture Week

Mon. February 22nd - Color Talk

Tues. February 23rd - Hidden Colors  
& Privilege CircleWed. February 24th - Movie Night RACE  
@ MoviesATL

Thurs. February 25th - Dashiki and Pride Day

Fri. February 26th - Black to the Future



**College of Pharmacy  
Center of Excellence  
High School Summer  
Enrichment Science  
Academy**

Only 20 students selected  
Application deadline is  
March 7, 2016  
Program begins  
June 18, 2016

This 6wk summer program is for high school students interested in careers in pharmacy, science & other health professions



**Program Highlights:**

- Exciting and educational field trips
- Research experience & interaction with award-winning Professors
- Exploration & exposure to a variety of healthcare professions i.e., PA, PT & Dentistry, Nursing and Medicine
- Shadowing & internship opportunities
- Challenging curriculum & acclimation to college life
- Continued partnership with local high school & Community Colleges
- Housing, meals, course materials are included upon selection

- Participants will work with Researchers in their labs
- Coursework WILL prepare participants for college
- Selection is competitive
- Students will become acclimated to "real" college life
- Professional Skills Workshops
- Problem-solving and independent living skills will be sharpened
- Career exploration will be fine-tuned
- Six-week Academic Summer Program for high school rising Juniors & Seniors.

*"Producing the Best Pharmacists in the World"*

Alex Adams  
Outreach Coordinator  
College of Pharmacy, Center of Excellence  
Email: [coepharmacy@howard.edu](mailto:coepharmacy@howard.edu)  
Phone: (202) 806-4212

To download application go to:  
<http://healthsciences.howard.edu/education/colleges/pharmacy/center-excellence/components/summer-enrichment/high-school-academy>

Sponsored by  
  
Department of Health and Human Services  
Administration's  
Center of Excellence Program

Dear Parents,

I am excited to inform you that Westlake High School has partnered up with Savvi Formalwear to participate in the "Savvi Gives Back" program/fundraiser for the 2015-2016 school year!

This program is not only beneficial for the School, it's also beneficial to YOU as a parent by offering you a discount on your child's tuxedo rental!

Your local Savvi Formalwear is giving Westlake High School \$10 for each rental that you refer! And for the students, they receive \$50\* off their tuxedo rental!

All you need to do to receive this discount is use our **Rep #SGB46** when you place your child's order for Prom. It's that simple!!

Savvi Formalwear asks that you bring your student in at least 2 weeks before the prom to place the tuxedo order and receive this discount, don't forget to mention the **School Rep # SGB46** at the time you place the order so that your school receives the credit and earns the CASH!!!

Thank you for helping Westlake to earn some extra funds!

Westlake High School is proud to be a partner of Savvi Formalwear where you, your child(ren), and Westlake High School can benefit!

\*Restrictions Apply. See Store for Details. Order must be placed one week in advance of use date. Discount applies to Fashion and Luxe Collections.

## 8TH ANNUAL YOUTH ANTI-VIOLENCE CONTEST



**CALLING ALL STUDENTS!**  
FEELING CREATIVE? WANT TO WIN \$500?

The Ryan Cameron Foundation is looking for your original artwork, poetry or :60 sec skit about bullying or teen safe driving.

1st - \$500  
2nd - \$300  
3rd - \$200

There will be a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winner chosen.

**CONTEST DEADLINE: 2/19/2016**

For contest rules and to view highlights from previous years visit: [ryancameron.org](http://ryancameron.org)  
For questions contact [contest@ryancameron.org](mailto:contest@ryancameron.org)

Submission of someone else's language, ideas or other work will be subject to disqualification. Original works are created by the submitters and not another person or entity.

Well we have Westlake Senior Hoodies for only \$30.  
These hoodies are comfortable, warm, and help you show your Westlake Spirit.  
These hoodies are available for pick up today with Mrs. Johnny or myself.  
Don't miss out on this awesome opportunity.



# 2016 ATHLETIC CALENDAR AVAILABLE FOR PREORDER

**BY STAFF**

**ATLANTA** - If you are interested in supporting the Westlake Athletic Department, then please preorder a Westlake 2016 Athletic Calendar!

Each month of this 12 month calendar is dedicated to one sport (and in some cases two or three) and features top athletes galore.

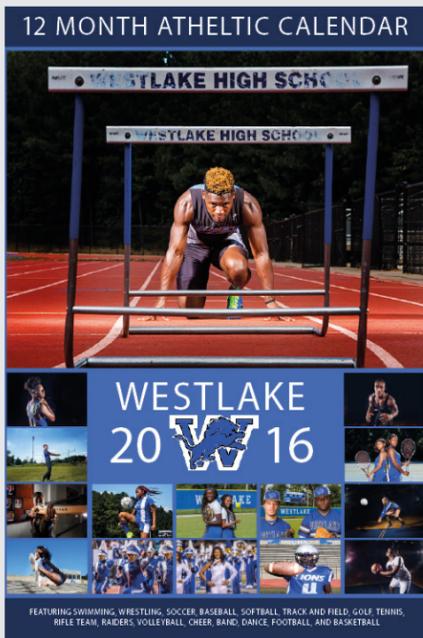
Nearly all pictures in the calendar were taken by CadyStudios, who gives an impressive professional edge to our student athletes.

You can look through

the thumbnails to the right to get an idea of the calendar's design, but when printed, the calendar will be full-sized and ready to hang on your wall or be displayed on your desk.

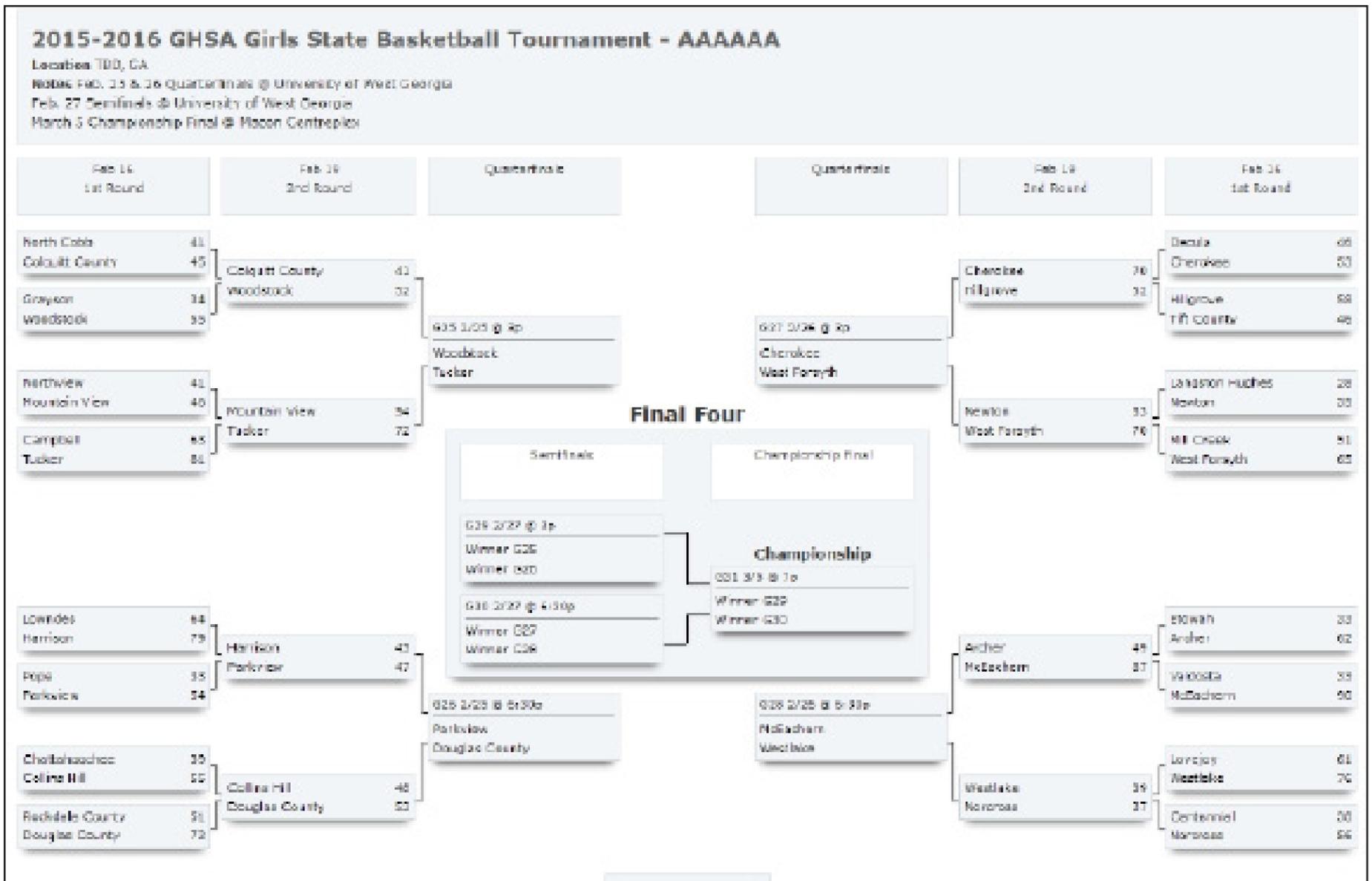
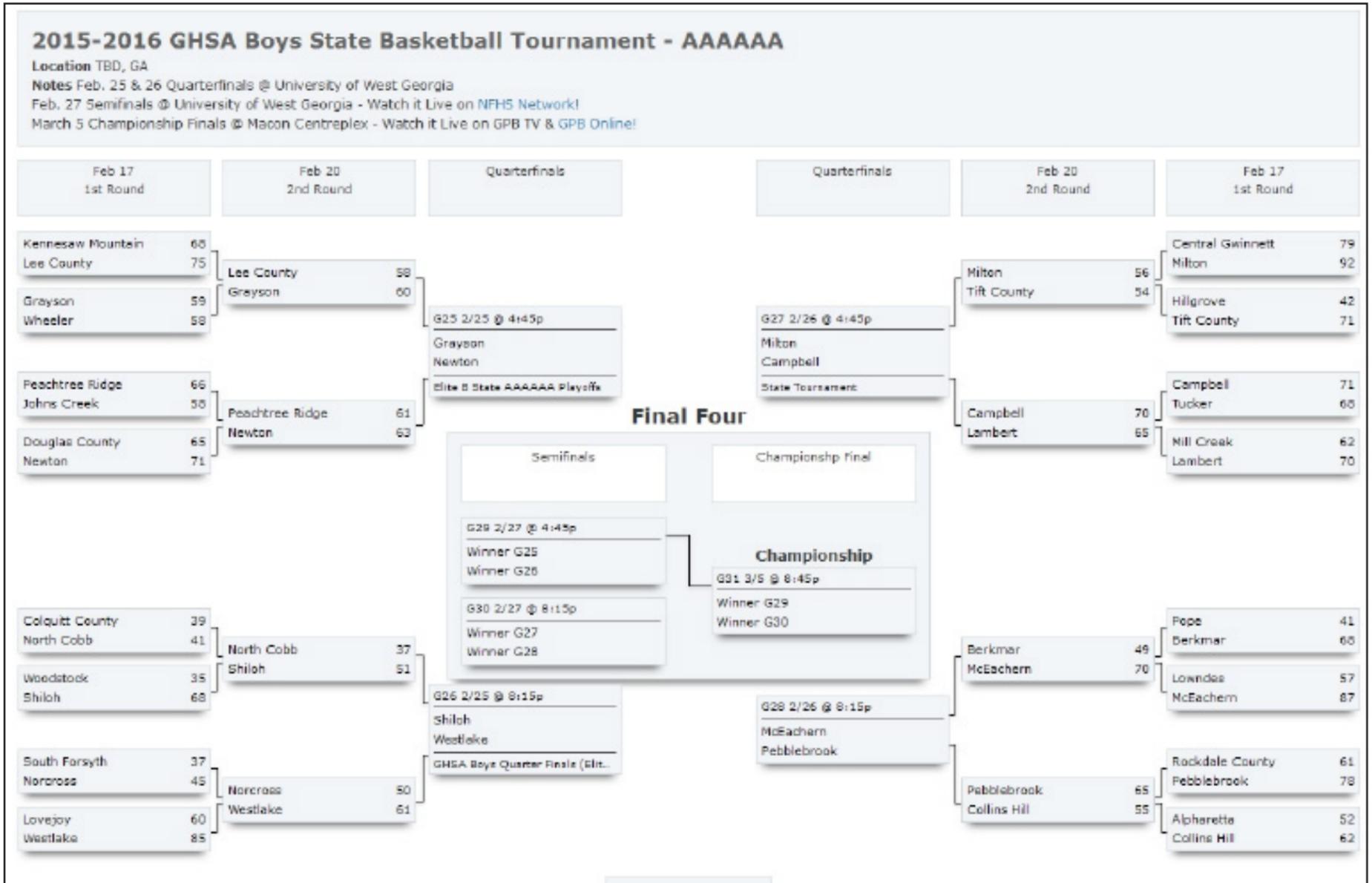
Featured sports include swimming, wrestling, soccer, baseball, softball, track and field, golf, tennis, rifle, volleyball, cross county, cheer, band, dance, football, and basketball.

For more information, please email the athletic director, Coach Wilson at [wilsonr3@fultonschools.org](mailto:wilsonr3@fultonschools.org)



# BASKETBALL TEAMS BOUND FOR GLORY; LOOK TO BRACKETS TO PLAN FOR NEXT OPPONENTS

Both brackets reprinted below can be found on [MaxPrepSports.com](http://MaxPrepSports.com), where they originated.



CALENDAR OF SCHOOL EVENTS

- 10th Grade Bridge Law** ..... 2/23  
*DATE:* Tuesday 2/23  
*PLACE:* Auditorium @ 8:30am - 3:30pm
- School Governance Council Meeting** ..... 2/23  
*DATE:* Tuesday 2/23  
*PLACE:* Media Center @ :30pm - 5:30pm
- ACT/SAT Mock Exam** ..... 2/24  
*DATE:* Wednesday 2/24  
*PLACE:* Auditorium @ 2:00pm - 6:00pm
- African Heritage Night** ..... 2/24  
*DATE:* Wednesday 2/24  
*PLACE:* Cafeteria @ 5:00pm - 7:00pm
- Last Poet's Cafe** ..... 2/25  
*DATE:* Thursday 2/25  
*PLACE:* Black Box @ 4:00pm - 8:30pm
- Black to the Future Fashion Show** ..... 2/26  
*DATE:* Friday 2/26  
*PLACE:* Cafeteria @ 6:00pm - 8:00pm
- Come West 8 Milestones Prep** ..... 2/27  
*DATE:* Saturday 2/27  
*PLACE:* Room 433 and 446 @ 8:30am - 12:30pm
- Black History Movie Night: Selma** ..... 2/29  
*DATE:* Monday 2/29  
*PLACE:* Auditorium @ 6:00pm - 8:30pm
- AP Human Geography Mock Exam** ..... 3/1  
*DATE:* Tuesday 3/1  
*PLACE:* Cafeteria @ 3:45pm - 7:45pm
- Pickup Course Request Night** ..... 3/3  
*DATE:* Thursday 3/3  
*PLACE:* Cafeteria @ 6:00pm - 7:00pm
- Blood Drive** ..... 3/4  
*DATE:* Friday 3/4  
*PLACE:* Auditorium @ 8:00am - 2:00pm
- HOSA Battlegroundz IV Step Show** ..... 3/5  
*DATE:* Saturday 3/5  
*PLACE:* Main Gym @ 1:00pm - 4:00pm
- Fashion Club Photo Shoot** ..... 3/8  
*DATE:* Tuesday 3/8  
*PLACE:* Cafeteria @ 4:00pm - 6:30pm
- No School - Student Holidays** ..... 3/11 - 12  
*DATE:* Thursday 3/11 and Friday 3/12
- Superintendent's Student Council** ..... 3/11  
*DATE:* Friday 3/11  
*PLACE:* Media Center @ 1:00pm - 2:30pm
- Come West 8 Milestones Prep** ..... 3/12  
*DATE:* Saturday 3/12  
*PLACE:* Room 433 and 446 @ 8:30am - 12:30pm
- Fourth Annual French Spelling Bee** ..... 3/12  
*DATE:* Saturday 3/12  
*PLACE:* Auditorium @ 10:00am - 1:00pm
- Westlake High School Graduation** ..... 5/20  
*DATE:* Friday 5/20  
*PLACE:* Georgia Dome @ 7:00pm

STUDENTS OF THE DAY



**MONDAY 2/22** Coron Green found another student's cell phone and made sure to find a teacher, figure out whose phone it was, and returned the phone to her. Thank you Coron for looking out for a peer and being someone's personal hero. (Nominated by Mr. Gossett)



**TUESDAY 2/23** Amoia Taylor is an example student in her classes. Amoia completes all of her assignments early so that she is able to ask questions prior to her assignments being due. She comes to all tutorials available, and her high A grade in the class is the result of her hard work. Amoia is a pleasure to have in class. (Nominated by Coach Clark)



**WEDNESDAY 2/24** Aya Walton and Kiara Booker volunteered to present during AP night on AP Statistics. They were very articulate and informative in their presentations. They showcased intelligence, poise, and ambition. Aya and Kiara are true born leaders. (Nominated by Ms. Belinga)



**THURSDAY 2/25** Coffy Brown is the student who greets me with the biggest and loudest hello. Coffy has made such improvement in French this year, and I'll miss her in class after she graduates. She's an amazing young lady I'm lucky to teach. (Nominated by Ms. E)



**FRIDAY 2/27** Micah Mason models Westlake P.R.I.D.E in his 10th Grade English classroom! His creativity and leadership in the classroom is refreshing and impressive. Thanks for taking the initiative to lead. (Nominated by Ms. R. Hudson)

CALENDAR OF SPORTING EVENTS

- Baseball vs. Creekside** ..... 2/23  
*DATE:* Tuesday 2/23  
*PLACE:* Baseball Field @ 5:30pm - 7:30pm
- Dance Team Interest Meeting** ..... 2/23  
*DATE:* Tuesday 2/23  
*PLACE:* Dance Room (101) @ 6:00pm - 8:00pm
- Soccer vs. Langston** ..... 2/23  
*DATE:* Tuesday 2/23  
*PLACE:* Football Field  
*GIRLS:* @ 5:00pm - 7:30pm  
*BOYS:* @ 7:30pm - 9:00pm
- Rifle Team Competition** ..... 2/23  
*DATE:* Tuesday 2/23  
*PLACE:* TBA
- Baseball vs. Villa Rica** ..... 2/25  
*DATE:* Thursday 2/25  
*PLACE:* Baseball Field @ 5:55pm - 7:55pm
- Soccer vs. MLK** ..... 2/25  
*DATE:* Thursday 2/25  
*PLACE:* Football Field  
*GIRLS:* @ 5:00pm - 7:30pm  
*BOYS:* @ 7:30pm - 9:00pm
- Rifle Team Competition** ..... 2/25  
*DATE:* Thursday 2/25  
*PLACE:* TBA @ TBA
- Boy's Playoff Basketball vs. Shiloh** ..... 2/25  
*DATE:* Thursday 2/25  
*PLACE:* West Georgia U. @ 8:15pm - 10:00pm
- Soccer vs. Paulding** ..... 2/26  
*DATE:* Friday 2/26  
*PLACE:* Football Field  
*GIRLS:* @ 5:00pm - 7:30pm  
*BOYS:* @ 7:30pm - 9:00pm
- Girl's Playoff Basketball vs. McEachern** ... 2/26  
*DATE:* Friday 2/26  
*PLACE:* West Georgia U. @ 6:30pm - 8:00pm
- Baseball vs. Mays** ..... 2/27  
*DATE:* Saturday 2/27  
*PLACE:* Baseball Field @ 2:00pm - 4:00pm
- JROTC Area 3 Drill Meet** ..... 2/27  
*DATE:* Saturday 2/27  
*PLACE:* Aux Gym, Cafeteria, Football Field  
*TIME:* 7:00am - 4:00pm
- Rifle Team Competition** ..... 3/1  
*DATE:* Tuesday 3/1  
*PLACE:* TBA
- Rifle Team Competition** ..... 3/3  
*DATE:* Thursday 3/3  
*PLACE:* TBA @ TBA

SENIOR BIRTHDAYS



**Wednesday 2/24**  
Ratnex Thomas



**Thursday 2/25**  
Kelley Greenwood



**Saturday 2/27**  
Kenneth Flynn



**Saturday 2/27**  
Javaris McClendon



**Sunday 2/28**  
Dayshona Riley



**Sunday 2/28**  
Deion Woody