



COMMUNITY Connections

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Innovative High School Opens at SU

Seattle University recently launched an innovative, alternative high school aimed at students who seek a small setting to complete their high school graduation requirements and prepare for success in college, careers and life.

Located in Loyola Hall on campus, Middle College High School at Seattle University is administered by the Seattle Public School District and intended for students between ages 16 and 20.

It's a dynamic collaboration between SU's College of Education and Seattle Public Schools (SPS) that has been many years in the making, according to Charisse Cowan Pitre, associate professor in SU's Master in Teaching program and the Middle College partnership director. SU faculty and students contribute advice, advocacy, resources and support for the school in exchange for real-life learning opportunities.

The school, which opened in mid-November with 25 students, is designed for a maximum of 40 to 50 high school juniors and seniors. Recruiting students who live near the university is a goal.

Beth Brunton, SPS site coordinator and a humanities teacher, says factors that draw teens to the transformational learning environment of a Middle College are adversity at home and challenges at a traditional high school. Community building, leadership and setting norms—all common threads at Middle College—help students develop resilience and college readiness, according to Brunton.

Julie Hungar, who received her doctorate from SU in 1982, introduced the idea of Middle College to Seattle. Based on a proven model that started in the 1970s in New York City, Middle College high schools first appeared locally in 1991. The Middle College program now thrives with nearly 200 students at five locations throughout the city.

The individualized attention students receive blends group learning with digital curriculum, says Brunton, who taught at the Middle College in Northgate for 11 years before the SU location opened. Students focus on core classes of humanities, math and science in the morning. Afternoon classes provide college and career preparation and include special programming with guest speakers and career panels.



Middle College High School students Kymberli Gonzalez, left, and Nahje Taylor-Woods, right, take part in digital learning with teacher Beth Brunton.

Jennifer Spigner, administrative coordinator for the SU site, meets with and screens all prospective students to learn more about their lives, dreams, career goals and what may have interfered with their success.

Brunton says believing in the students and creating bridges for them is a big part of teaching in Middle College.

"I don't want this to sound like a fairytale. It's hard work," Brunton says. "The best part is seeing the transformation in students, from the very beginning to when they come back to see us after they've graduated and share how their hard work paid off."

MIDDLE COLLEGE OPEN HOUSE JANUARY 24

Seattle Public Schools' Superintendent Jose Banda and Seattle University President Stephen Sundborg, S.J., will be among the speakers at an open house for Middle College High School at Seattle University, 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 24, in the atrium of the Casey Building. After short talks and music from some of the current students, there will be a walking tour of the new school's home in Loyola Hall. To find out more about the event or the school, contact Jennifer Spigner at (206) 720-3078.

Irish Pub Owner Fosters Community Spirit

Peter Johnson knew 12th Avenue near Seattle University was missing a true neighborhood pub, the kind that brings to mind the classic television series “Cheers.”

He and his wife Adrianna already owned McGilvra’s Irish Pub in Madison Park and Finn MacCool’s Irish Public House in the U-District. When an old nightclub location opened up, Peter Johnson knew he’d found a great spot to grow the business and the Chieftain Irish Pub & Restaurant was born.

Why a third Irish pub?

“Six kids, that’s why,” he says with a laugh. “Three of them are at St. Joe’s, two are at Seattle Prep and one’s still at home. That’s a lot of tuition and it doesn’t stop!”

What to call the new place at 908 12th Ave. presented a bit of a quandary. There was controversy over calling the pub and restaurant the Chieftain, what SU’s athletic teams were named before they became the Redhawks. Johnson, however, was born in Belfast, Ireland, where the Chieftains are the name of an immensely popular Irish band as well as Ireland’s respected leaders from the past.

Irish history and lore won out and the Chieftain name has become a big draw for alumni of SU’s Chieftains era. Johnson says Ed and John O’Brien, twins known for their impact on SU basketball and baseball in the 1950s, occasionally pop in with a sizable entourage. The pub has more than sports alliances with SU, too. When an SU staff member recently had a devastating house fire, the Chieftain hosted a fundraising benefit for his family.



The affable Peter Johnson, owner of the Chieftain Irish Pub & Restaurant, creates a community vibe.

The pub attracts a great mix of younger and older customers. “People wave at each other when they walk in,” Johnson says.

The menu is a mix of traditional Irish fare including shepherd’s pie and corned beef and cabbage as well as American bar food staples of hot wings and mozzarella

sticks. Some unexpected offerings are kobe beef sliders, hummus, crab cakes, even a taco Tuesday. Happy hour at the Chieftain is all day Monday and 3–6 p.m. Tuesday–Friday, with drink and food specials. There’s also live music Saturday nights.



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COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

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Photos by Chris Joseph Taylor, university photographer, and Morgan Rodriguez.

David Dologite

Director of real estate and sustainable communities, Capitol Hill Housing

In his work at this nonprofit, Capitol Hill resident David Dologite is responsible for affordable housing and development of community facilities. One of his priorities is the commercial vitality among small businesses along 12th Avenue from East Jefferson Street to the Pike/Pine corridor. Neighborhood planning for 12th Avenue includes new facilities for the performing arts, an effort that has been a decade in the making.

► *Can you describe 12 Ave Arts, the new mixed-use building now under construction at 1620 12th Ave.?*

► There has been less and less affordable art space on Capitol Hill. With 12 Ave Arts, we'll add two performing arts theaters to the neighborhood, one with an 85-seat capacity, another with 150 seats. They'll operate in partnerships with Strawberry Theatre Workshop, Washington Ensemble Theatre, New Century Theatre Company and Cornish College of the Arts. We'll have community-oriented office space for nonprofits that have been displaced by high rents. Capitol Hill Housing will be located there, too. There will be retail on the ground floor, including a restaurant. We'll also have 88 workforce housing units affordable to lower income, working families and individuals.

► *What was the appeal of the 12th Avenue location?*

► What we have here is the genesis of a Capitol Hill arts district. Velocity Dance Center is right across the street. At Seattle University, there's the Lee Center for the Arts just a few minutes south on 12th. And at Seattle Central Community College, there's Erickson Theater Off Broadway and the Broadway Performance Hall. There are possibilities for cross promotions and joint programming, much like the First Thursday Art Walk in Pioneer Square, although this would be for the performing arts—theater, dance and music. I predict this will turn 12th Avenue into a mecca for the arts. Providing affordable space for the arts is part of our neighborhood planning for this area. We work together with many groups and Seattle University has been a strong partner, given its 12th Avenue visibility.

► *Other Capitol Hill Housing projects that might interest neighbors?*

► Recently we completed The Jefferson at 12th and Jefferson, a 40-unit workforce housing project—affordable to lower income, working families and individuals—with commercial space on the ground floor.

David Dologite predicts 12th Avenue will be a mecca for the performing arts.



12 Ave Arts is now under construction.

You're Invited

SU's neighbors and community partners are encouraged to attend these public events, free unless otherwise noted.

JANUARY

► **International Photo Competition: A Retrospective Exhibition**

KINSEY GALLERY, ADMISSIONS BLDG.
Jan. 7 to March 28, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
weekdays only

Student photography spanning the past five years including photos from students studying abroad and international students at SU. Information: (206) 296-5360.

► **Faith and Values in the Public Square Lecture Series**

SEATTLE TOWN HALL
Jan. 11, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

The speaker is Ray Suarez, senior correspondent for "The NewsHour" on PBS and author of a book examining the tightening relationship between religion and politics in America, *The Holy Vote: The Politics of Faith in America*. Hosted jointly by the School of Theology and Ministry in partnership with the Presbytery of Seattle and Elliott Bay Book Co. Information and tickets (required): (206) 296-6978.

► **Albers Executive Speaker Series**

PIGOTT AUDITORIUM
Jan. 15, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Steve Davis, president and CEO of PATH, is the featured speaker.

► **Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration**

PIGOTT AUDITORIUM
Jan. 22, 7 to 9 p.m.

Event speaker is Congressional Gold Medal winner and civil rights hero Carlotta Walls LaNier, who in 1957 joined eight classmates to desegregate Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. The courage of the Little Rock Nine catalyzed the civil rights movement and mobilized desegregation of public schools. RSVP: oma-rsvp@seattleu.edu.

► **Interfaith Prayer for Peace**

CHAPEL OF ST. IGNATIUS
Jan. 24, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Join as members of the community from different faith traditions lead prayer for peace all over the world.

► **Catholic Heritage Lecture Series**

PIGOTT AUDITORIUM
Thursday, Jan. 24, 7 to 9 p.m.

Conversations about Vatican II on its 50th anniversary, featuring Mary Ann Hinsdale, Boston College associate professor of theology and author of *Women Shaping Theology*.

► **Connecting the World: 2013 International Dinner**

CAMPION BALLROOM



Jan. 26, 6 to 9 p.m.

Food and live entertainment from around the world. Tickets: \$10 students, \$20 staff/faculty/general public. Information: (206) 296-6260.

► **World Class Opera Divas**

PIGOTT AUDITORIUM
Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m.

Soprano Indra Thomas and mezzo-soprano Melissa Parks perform arias and art songs. Made possible by the Pigott Family Endowment for the Arts. Tickets: \$5 students, \$8 faculty/staff and \$25 general. Information: (206) 398-4994.

FEBRUARY

► **Albers Executive Speaker Series**

PIGOTT AUDITORIUM
Feb. 7, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

John McAdam, CEO of F5 Networks, is the featured speaker.

► **Buried Child by Sam Shepard**

LEE CENTER FOR THE ARTS
Preview Feb. 20 at 7:30 p.m.; Feb. 21-23 and Feb. 27-March 2 at 7:30 p.m.; Feb. 24 and March 3 at 2 p.m.

This darkly comic masterpiece and winner of the 1979 Pulitzer Prize is directed by Rosa Joshi, associate professor of Fine Arts. Tickets: \$6 students, \$8 faculty/staff, \$10 general. Information and tickets: Lee Center Box Office, (206) 296-2244, 1:30 to 6 p.m., Wed. through Sat.

► **Social Media: Changing the Landscape for Nonprofit Communications**

STUDENT CENTER, ROOM 160
Feb. 22, 8 a.m. to noon

Facebook, Twitter and blogs are rapidly changing how nonprofits engage their supporters and communities. Sponsored by SU's Institute of Public Service. Zan McCulloch-Lussier, who helps organizations amplify their missions, leads the workshop. Cost: \$75 general, \$50 students/faculty and staff/alumni. Information and tickets: (206) 296-6143 or potterd@seattleu.edu.

MARCH

► **Search for Meaning Book Festival 2013**

SEATTLE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS
March 9, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Pulitzer prize-winning author Michael Chabon and acclaimed scholar and author Reza Aslan will be among 40 authors at this annual festival focused on themes of human meaning. Sponsored by SU's School of Theology and Ministry and co-sponsored by Elliott Bay Book Co. and SU Bookstore. Tickets required: www.brownpapertickets.com; information: www.searchformeaning.us.

APRIL

► **Imagining the World: Study Abroad Photography Exhibit**

KINSEY GALLERY, ADMISSIONS BLDG.
April 1-May 24, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
weekdays only. Artists' Reception and Awards: April 11, 5 to 7 p.m.

Photography exhibit featuring works from student participants in the global community. Information: (206) 296-5360.

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► **Spirit of Community Celebration**

CAMPION BALLROOM
April 30, 4 to 6 p.m.

The Center for Service and Community Engagement hosts this celebration of the many community and SU partnerships. RSVP (recommended): csce@seattleu.edu.