

Parkside Preparatory Academy



THE PPA STEAM TEAM NEWSLETTER

FALL EDITION

S In Ms. Ekpin's science class, select Parkside Preparatory Academy students have been immersed in scientific inquiry through their participation in the Billion Oyster Project. Through this initiative, PPA students will engage in 2-3 waterfront expeditions, centered caring for a local Oyster Research Station provided by Billion Oyster Project. In addition, students will explore New York's Urban Ecosystem, partake in Oyster Tank Investigation, and the process of Testing Water Quality to assist them in developing research skills and experience in designing and conducting experiments. At the close of the program our students will participate in a Research Symposium at the Harbor School on Governors Island.



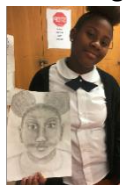
T PPA Techsters are on the move this year in Ms. Theobald's creative design classes. PPA Students have engaged in building avatars on software platforms, experimented with the APP development process from concept to wireframe development; inclusive of individually designed company logos. In addition students have been advancing their algorithmic skills through physical programming challenges with FINCH robots through a loan granted from **BirdBrain Technologies**. Recently six of our esteemed PPA's tech students were invited to compete in an APP design competition and were lent the unique experience of promoting their prototyped app to a panel of judges. In December, all PPA students will participate in a national computer science initiative called "**Week of Code**", to be exposed to the multitude of industries that are permeated by computer science, engineering and creative computing and to engage in block coding opportunities. In addition, Ms. Theobald will be hosting two evening sessions of TECH talks to educate, provide resources and build a supportive tech community amongst PPA parents.



E With support from **NYU's Tandon School of Engineering**, Mr. Foster has been incorporating engineering design topics into his science curriculum to bolster student understandings and academic accomplishments of science. Students in Mr. Foster classes are learning, brainstorming, experimenting and remodeling Lego Mindstorm EV3 robots to perform different tasks to solve problems. Robotic inclusion in Mr. Foster's classes affords PPA students multiple fun opportunities to apply scientific inquiry and engineering design principles to their mastery of foundational scientific principles while contributing to the development of their 21st century career readiness STEAM skills.



A In the Art Studio, under the direction of Ms. Jackson, PPA students are studying graphic arts and creating advertising ads exhibiting the conceptual stages of the creative design process. Students are also developing crests of their countries that illustrate key aspects of their diverse cultural identities. Their projects will be on display at the Winter Concert and Art Show in December. In addition, works of accelerated students will be featured in the District 17's Office Art Gallery at the District 17 Office. In November, members of PPA's esteemed Panther Explosion Marching Band performed an exhibition, at the Turkey Day Competition at Nazareth High School in Brooklyn. Lead by Band Director, Mr. Gatewood, PPA's elite band members performed before an audience of over four hundred spectators and earned highlights on local and national television programs. Recruitment for positions in the band are currently open. The commitment and dedication of PPA's music students will be exhibited during PPA 2nd Winter Concert on December 19th, 2018 at 6PM. Mark your calendars!



M Ms. Dawes engaged her math students in an extension of a lesson focused on the application of rational numbers. She challenged her students to develop unique projects that would serve to illustrate their understandings of rational numbers, while serving as an alternative resource for their peers. Students' response to the challenge resulted in projects consisting of integer raps, math stories, illustrative posters, math stories, artistic collages with multiple calculations and PowerPoint presentations to show how integers interact. PPA students were then afforded an opportunity to present and display their innovative applications of rational numbers in the library.





The Gardening Club, coordinated by PPA science teacher, Ms. Gazowski visits the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens

At Parkside Preparatory Academy, the STEAM Team is dedicated to equipping our students with extended opportunities that serve to develop their 21st century career readiness skills.

The STEAM Team is an initiative at Parkside Preparatory Academy to advance our school’s mission through a robust and interdisciplinary collective of colleagues that instruct STEAM (science, technology, the arts and mathematics) subjects and collaborate to provide rigorous instruction that incorporates notable and unique and engaging opportunities that extend PPA students’ understanding and application of foundational STEAM concepts beyond the classroom.

Parkside Preparatory Academy’s Administration & Leadership:
Principal Spencer, AP Castro, AP Hayles & AP Alcindor



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Editor’s Note: *Thank you STEAM Team for your continued dedication and collective contributions to our 1st published newsletter. Go STEAM Team Go!*