



MONARCH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Summer/Fall 2013

MONARCH SCHOOL

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Monarch Parents Foundation

www.MonarchAlumns.org



Monarch Greenhouse Flowers



AP English at Monarch

In keeping with our mission to provide a rigorous, college preparatory curriculum, Monarch School has now been authorized by the College Board to offer an Advanced Placement English course for Literature and Composition. Monarch's traditional twelfth grade English curriculum focuses on Modernism in 12A and Postmodernism in 12B, and our senior AP class builds upon this blueprint. Students in AP English read everything that other seniors read, but they will have an opportunity in an elective portion to do more: read additional texts; write longer and more focused analyses; workshop and revise additional drafts; present and defend formal interpretations; prepare to take the AP test; and negotiate the more exacting expectations that come with an AP course. Students who successfully complete this class will gain the confidence that comes from reading, analyzing and writing about literature at the college level.

*~Brian Grosenbaugh,
English Teacher~*



Brian teaching class in Walden.





TRANSITION - MONARCH PARENTS FOUNDATION

Winds of change...the board of the *Monarch Parents Foundation (MPF)* held their annual meeting last September to discuss our accomplishments and outline goals for the year. Through our discussions we realized that the primary goal of the MPF for upcoming years would be to take steps to create a sustainable organization for future Monarch families.

We realized that one key aspect involved recruiting new members to serve on the MPF board: alumni parents whose children recently finished the Monarch School program. Our current board includes members whose children graduated 3-9 years ago. We need input from families who were recently at Monarch School. We are excited to announce that we have three new members joining the Executive board this September: *Alan Cohn* (father of Eli), *Nina Rego* (mother of Andrew), and *Ben Chant* (father of Mikaela). They are currently participating in orientation activities; our initial plans are that Ben will be working on Fundraising, Nina on the National Meeting, and Alan on Financial Assistance.

Inge Jechart (member since November 2008), has graciously agreed to be the president. The annual board meeting (September 26 – 29) will be held in Cleveland, Ohio where we will develop the strategic plan for the upcoming year. Analee Wufkuhle and I, who both joined the board in June 2007, will be working with the board this year to transition areas of responsibility to other members, as we wrap up our last year. Antonia Grifo will be focusing on Communication; Amy Kekst will serve as the Vice President and oversee Parent Programming, while Robb Fishman continues to serve as the Treasurer.

If you have ideas how we can better support and assist Monarch parents, please let us know. If you want to give back to the Monarch parent community through financial contributions, serving as a parent mentor, or serving as the Alumni family conducting a Graduation Workshop, please contact Amy Kekst (amk1218@aol.com). The sustainability of our organization depends on you! ~Cheryl Messick - MPF – Departing Board President~

Parent Shares Rafting Experience

I just wanted to take another moment to thank you for your part in what I feel was one of the most beautiful, meaningful, and altogether memorable experiences I have enjoyed with my daughter, and in general, for many, many years. I came home, prepared to share the story of the long weekend in full with my husband, who could not make the trip. As much as I tried, I could not summon the words to adequately describe the experience. Sure, I tried to share what it felt like to feel soft moss under my feet for the first time; to look through crystal clear water at the mosaic of river rock below while bobbing at the end of the raft, holding my daughter's hand; to realize how much richer my life is today because yesterday strangers generously introduced me to their worlds; and to shed a tear because I was moved by a peaceful vision that was the sight of soon to be young adults, heads rested on the shoulders of their respective parents while making that final bus trip back to where our adventure started. How do you paint a picture of the surprise and sheer joy of witnessing a family of water fowl shooting the rapids? Nature provided us with such awesome symbolism in that moment. I had to trust that the near petrified smile upon my face told my husband all he needed to know. Fortunately, I didn't need to try to explain how it feels to know that our struggles, both ours and our childrens', are not suffered alone, and pride in our successes is, indeed, collective. Quite simply, the trip was glorious.

Thank you.

~Rena, Monarch Parent~



Introducing James Hyman, Primary Therapist

James graduated from the University of Georgia with a B.S. Degree in psychology, religion, and nutrition. After residing in Israel a short time, he pursued graduate work at Naropa University where he received his Master Degree in wilderness therapy. He currently holds a license as a Clinical Professional Counselor in the state of Montana.

James first began at Monarch School as an intern eight years ago. Subsequently, James returned to Georgia where he served as a mentor for a teen aftercare program. James concentrated on experiential and interactive techniques with his caseload, focusing on the specific challenges inherent with transitioning home from boarding school. James continued his career with adolescents by joining the clinical team for a wilderness program in the southeastern US, specializing in family programming and equine therapy. James supervised and trained field staff in effective strategies and outcomes for students. He also facilitated student groups, conducted family sessions, and created individualized programming for specific therapeutic needs. Most recently, James served as clinical director for a therapeutic boarding school on an island in the South Pacific.

James' clinical areas of familiarity have included:

ADD/ADHD, opposition and defiance, depression and anxiety, substance abuse, social struggles and Spectrum disorders. James' professional orientation has emphasized family therapy, group facilitation and experiential therapeutic techniques. He makes honesty, sincerity, and acceptance the foundation of his work with students and families. Many years of growth and deepening in experience has culminated in his return to Monarch School, where, in many ways, his professional journey began.

James has a passion for the natural world and all time spent with his beloved wife and son. In addition, they are the owners of a very large, very sweet registered therapy dog, who accompanies them as often as possible!

~James Hyman, Monarch Primary Therapist~

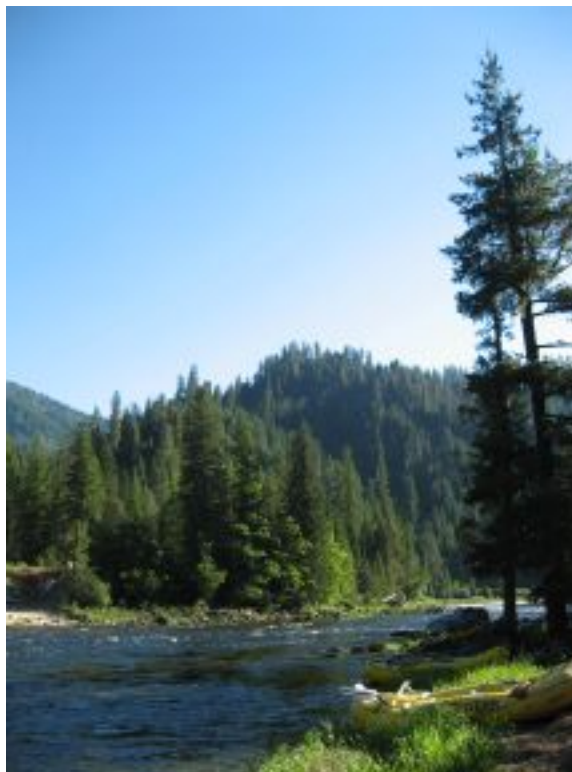


James with his students.

Happy Rosh Hashanah 9/4/13 - 9/6/13



Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, is one of Judaism's holiest days. Meaning "head of the year" or "first of the year," the festival begins on the first day of Tishrei, the seventh month of the Hebrew calendar, which falls during September or October. Rosh Hashanah commemorates the creation of the world and marks the beginning of the Days of Awe, a 10-day period of introspection and repentance that culminates in the Yom Kippur holiday, also known as the Day of Atonement. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are the two "High Holy Days" in the Jewish religion.



The Beauty of the Lochsa.
Monarch's June Rafting Trip!



August 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- 3 Missoula Art Workshop
- 9 Legacy Night
- 10 **Graduation!**
- 11 2nd HV 8/11 - 8/17
3rd HV 8/11 - 8/18
- 12 1st HV 8/12-8/16
- 23 Parent/Student Rafting Trip 8/23-8/26

September 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

- 2 Labor Day
- 4 Rosh Hashanah 9/4-9/6
- 7 End of Block Theatre Performance
- 9 Finals Week
- 13 1st HV 9/13-9/17
2nd HV 9/13-9/19
- 16 3rd HV 9/16-9/25
Ashland 9/16-9/21
- 26 Student Rock Climbing Trip 9/26-9/29
- 30 Fall Quarter Begins

October 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

- 4 All School Conference 10/4-10/6
- 5 SAT Testing
- 14 Columbus Day
- 26 ACT Testing
Challenge Night

