

Students walk out

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Junior Carly Lewin said, "I went to the walkout to protest the current gun laws. I don't want to be the next victim."

"I hope this gets the government to think about gun laws and restrictions and school safety," added Morris.

While school safety is a common priority, not everyone was protesting gun laws. Junior Chaney Laros did not participate in the walkout because of the political elements.

"I knew it was going to be political because I saw them selling those shirts, but if it was just a memorial I definitely would have participated. It was just too political," Laros said.

"It's definitely a memorial, but obviously it has political undertones. I don't think this was organized to be a political movement but I definitely think that it was inevitable that there were going to be political undertones," added Hirschfeld.

While opinions vary on how the school managed the walkout, Eisenstein said, "It's a general mindset - the more people that come together, the better - it doesn't have to be political."

The NU hoax

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After the event, NU freshman Nora Crumley realized some differences between the safety procedures at highschool and those at college.

"In general, I think there is a lot more control in high school. In college, there is no advisor or teacher to check in with and who will reassure you everything it going to be okay," Crumley added. "No one is telling you what to do and you rely very much on your friends."

Hours after the hoax was called in, the university's president Morton Schapiro sent one final email out to Northwestern community members, assuring them of the campus' safety.

"This incident gave us the opportunity to test our response and our emergency notification processes that are used when receiving a report of an active shooter," wrote Schapiro. "On a day when many of us joined thousands around the country in calling for an end to gun violence, we are particularly thankful that our campus remains safe."

Local youth activists rise

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ABC News reported on Hillcrest High School in Idaho Falls, saying how counter protesters verbally attacked student protesters and leaders.

Regardless of the support, or lack thereof, there was a consensus of student activism and a rise of student power last Wednesday.

"Our school loves to describe itself as 'committed to doing justice,' but there were never any outlets for actual justice until this movement," said Jonas. "This was a walkout for Florida, yes, but many students made it about all victims of gun violence, to try and end it."

Music ensembles to play at Carnegie Hall

Music department will travel to New York City over spring break

by Jasmine Gonzalez

While many students will be spending their spring break traveling to exotic destinations or simply staying home, a group of student musicians will travel to New York City to play in one of the world's most prestigious concert venues, Carnegie Hall.

Within the music department, students from Wind Symphony will participate in the trip. Wind Symphony is the combination of Symphonic and Concert wind ensembles.

Overall, 150 students will attend with a few students overlapping to play with both the orchestra and the band from all grades represented.

Students and staff will depart early in the morning on Wednesday, Mar 28 and arrive back to New Trier late Monday, April 1. The group will be traveling on a total of four buses and will make a stop in Edison, New Jersey to play for the music department of J.P. Stevens High School before arriving in New York on Thursday.

Students will have clinics in New York with professional conductors and the opportunity to attend cultural events. They will view the Broadway play "Anastasia," attend the opera



Current seniors Roslyn Co and Faith Chen in Italy during the 2016 tour | Co

Lucia di Lammermoor, and visit the Museum of Modern Art, before playing to a full house in Carnegie Hall on Sunday, Mar 31 at 1 PM.

The music department has a tradition of going on tour; in previous years, bands and orchestras have toured other countries to perform at similarly distinguished concert halls. Among these trips were the performance tour of Italy in 2016, the tour of Australia in 2011, and the tour of Japan and China in the summer of 2000.

Aside from a few seniors and juniors that traveled to Italy in 2016 as sophomores and freshmen, this will be the first and only major trip that this group of students will take to showcase their music.

Among all these impressive destinations, Carnegie Hall stands out for a variety of reasons. As conductor of the symphony

orchestra Peter Rosheger explained, "Carnegie Hall is probably one of the best places to perform in the world, the acoustics there are second to none. To play there is a unique opportunity that, for most students, they will never get to do again."

Matthew Temple, who teaches the symphonic wind ensemble and will conduct three of the five band pieces for the performance, echoed these statements. "Performing a Carnegie Hall is definitely a once in a lifetime opportunity," he said.

Senior Mason Rodriguez Rand agreed and expressed his anticipation for the trip. "I'm most excited to spend time with the people I care about and enjoy a rare experience few people ever get to have," said Rand.

While Sunday's performance is definitely set to be the highlight of the trip, the chance to experience everything, from seeing an opera to

visiting Ground Zero, has not been lost on the students and faculty.

"I've never been to New York and I'm really excited to see the Broadway show, visit the 9/11 memorial site, and, of course, play at Carnegie Hall," said senior Emma Rohrer.

"Carnegie is the primary draw, but the cultural experience that New York provides is probably just as important," added Temple.

Although students won't be able to visit the Rose Museum, conductors were able to connect with an archivist of the museum to give the students a taste of Carnegie Hall before their trip. This week they participated in a Google Hand during which the archivist presented historical documents and other memorabilia to some of the students.

In addition to the virtual tour and hours of practice that have taken place in preparation for the trip, the bands have will perform a few other concerts before Carnegie Hall.

This past Tuesday, the Wind Ensembles held their Home Concert at the Cornog Auditorium at the Northfield Campus. They will also be performing at Northwestern University's Band Festival.

All that's left to do is continue practicing as they prepare for this once-in-a-lifetime performance. "We've been working on our pieces non-stop and we're really starting to sound good," said Rohrer

Administration removes photo from gallery

School censors art department from hanging potentially offensive art

by Claudia Levens

After the administration removed a photo intended for display in the New Trier Art Gallery from the selection of pieces for the January show, questions surrounding the complicated situation propagated discussion about the role of art, specifically this piece, in school.

The artist, New Trier parent Maggie Meiners, created the photo in 2015 as part of a body of work based on paintings by the artist Norman Rockwell.

Her photo, titled The Dream Act, portrays a young girl surrounded by border patrol agents before a wall defaced with racist graffiti and paralleling Rockwell's well known painting "The Problem We All Live With," depicting Ruby Bridges walking to school flanked by white federal marshals with different racist graffiti.

"Each photo I created includes details directly from the original Rockwell paintings themselves. Due to the nature of my photo, the racial slur changed, but still provided the impact that everyone was not on board with the changes being made to allow equal opportunities for all," said Meiners.

In light of the recent incidents where racist graffiti was found in multiple bathrooms closer to home at New Trier, Alicia Landes, the head of the Art Department, sent the photo to the administration to assess the nuances of including the photo in the gallery.

After considerable deliberation, the administration decided to take the photo out of the gallery- a decision they've has never made before.



Meiners' photo (top), inspired by Rockwell's 1964 painting | Meiners, AP

"There have been other political pieces before, but for a few reasons, we decided that this was the right decision at that time," said Assistant Superintendent for student services Timothy Hayes.

In addition to the timing being so close to the racist graffiti incident, Hayes cited fear that the art could be taken out of context.

"We want art to be provocative, but we felt that with this photo there's no context or conversation happening alongside it. Some are going to see this as a commentary on US immigration policy, which is the author's intention, and it also seemed reasonable that others are going to see the situation as hypocritical: 'I can't write it on the walls, but the school can put it in art?'" he said

Junior Bri Perez, a member of Spanish Club said, "I wish they would've kept it. It seemed like they didn't trust us to be able to figure this out on our own. But, I don't understand why they couldn't put a description or discussion questions of the situation next to the photo. They could've put the original Rockwell photo next to it too."

However, while the administration did discuss adding these supplements to the gallery with the photo, they ultimately decided that having Meiners talk about her piece in the classroom was the best option.

"I think the Administration was put in a tough position and they handled it beautifully," said Meiners. "It is very clear to me that NT, being

an academic institution is a great place to discuss uncomfortable issues, and I know they saw it as an opportunity to do so. Yet, they had to act responsibly in light of recent incidents and found a great neutral way for some of these issues to be addressed while providing a safe environment to discuss such provocative issues."

As a photography student, Perez got to see Meiners speak in her photography class. "It was really cool to hear her explain it. Especially to hear her explain the ambiguity of whether the girl was entering the country or being deported," she said. Perez explained that she had initially seen the girl as being deported whereas some other of her classmates had seen her as entering the country, raising questions about how our past experiences influence our interpretation of the photo.

Perez, whose mother is an immigrant, said that she and her family are well aware of the ramifications of ethnic slurs specifically on the latinx immigrant population.

"It felt like they were trying to protect us from something we already know and experience in our daily lives, so by taking the photo out, they were, I guess, protecting ignorance about the racial and social issues that immigrants face. Not to mention, there are way worse words I've heard used against us than the one the photo."

Junior Spanish club member and photography student, Emmie Osuna, also has a personal connection to the political messages of the photo.

"I'm glad she was able to come to New Trier," said Osuna, "but at the same time she didn't get to come to my photography class, so I wasn't able to see her. I think having it in the gallery would've been a really great opportunity for other students who aren't forced to confront these issues in their daily lives to learn more about how these issues affect us and other immigrant families."