

Anatomy and Physiology classes compete in instructive 'Challenge'

Classes to raise money for health-related programs

REBECCA GAUSNELL
news writer

Two classes and one teacher will dive into the art of medical fundraising this quarter, as each of Monica Bowman's Advanced Anatomy and Physiology classes attempt to raise both money and awareness for their respected foundations.

This is the second year Bowman's classes have been able to compete in The Advanced Anatomy and Physiology Challenge. Bowman is excited to have enough students and time to complete the fundraising. Beginning with its conception in January, and culminating in a silent auction towards spring break, The Challenge provides an added learning tool for these students hoping to enter the medical field.

"For the Advanced Anatomy and Physiology Challenge, each individual student did research on a health related organization, and made a presentation to me in class. Then the class decided which organization they wanted to help. Both [white day] seventh and eighth hour blocks decided on a silent auction, format we are currently working on the logistics," Bowman said. "Seventh hour block is working on an organization called Keep a Child Alive, which is based in Africa, and [the foundation] is trying to help families survive with AIDS. The W8 class decided on the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America, which is a chronic digestive system disorder kids usually get diagnosed with around high school."

As both classes scramble to raise the most money for their foundations, the two classes are brainstorming together how to

best advertise their fundraisers. However, each class has separate ideas on how to raise money.

"The Challenge is something the [Advanced Anatomy and Physiology] classes do to try to raise money for a specific medical organizations; basically places that do medical research, on-sight medical care, that sort of thing. Our class is researching Keep A Child Alive, which is trying to find treatment and give supplies to people with HIV and AIDS in Africa. We haven't come up with anything specifically; we were thinking about doing penny wars, where you compete to donate the most change, with the eighth hour block, but right now we're concentrating on doing an event where people can come and bid on specific art pieces made by students. We're also thinking about selling these really cool guitar string bracelets one of my classmates found online," junior Tyler Eastman said.

Bowman's eighth hour block has chosen quite a different route, choosing to support the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to finding a cure for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, disorders that cause inflammation in the digestive track. This foundation holds special meaning to the students in the eighth hour class, as a sibling of one of the students was recently diagnosed with the disease, and the class would like to raise money for this organization that receives much less money annually than more well-known non-profits.

"Our class is planning on doing a silent auction also, but kind of in a different way. I know that my family is donating a weekend at our condo at the Lake of the Ozarks to bid on, and we are working on getting the Ram Shack to donate a few items for the silent auction. Mr. Sachs [art teacher] might donate some



TAKING ON A 'CHALLENGE' — Checking out their latest activity, students in Monica Bowman's Advanced Anatomy and Physiology class will be competing to raise money for a medical organization of their choice. (photo by Michelle Eunice)

art, too. We're hoping to raise the most money for the Crohn's disease, and I think our strategy of using a few big prizes at our silent auction could work," junior Bonnie Kessel said.

While on the surface it may seem that the foundations are the biggest recipients of the fundraiser, those in Bowman's class feel that is anything but the truth. Ultimately, many students feel they will benefit from understanding further the ins and outs of medical fundraising.

"The Challenge is definitely a great idea, and I think it's cool that Ms. Bowman wants us to learn how to give back to the community. Ms. Bowman is the type of person who really cares about helping medical organizations, and those who have severe medical issues," Eastman said. "I'm sure by the end of this we all will better understand the importance of giving money to these foundations because of Ms. Bowman's teaching."

Further information on the foundations mentioned can be found at www.keepachildalive.org and www.cdfa.org. ●



SEEDS OF VICTORY — Examining the seeds that will be planted in a new rain garden, Envirothon member, junior Gina Willmott joined the group in the Lexus Eco Challenge, Jan. 30. (photo by Natalie Krebs)

HANNAH ROSENTHAL
news writer

Lexus and Scholastic announced the winners of the Lexus Eco Challenge #2, Jan. 30 in Torrance, Calif. The Ladue Envirothon team was one of 17 nationwide winners of the "Water Works" challenge and was awarded with \$10,000.

According to greenopolis.com, the Lexus Eco Challenge is an educational competition that attempts to motivate students in middle school and high school to learn about the environment and resolve to improve it. For each challenge, teams choose a significant environmental issue, develop a plan to address the problem, execute the plan, and report its success.

"The Lexus Eco Challenge is an ongoing contest," team member, senior Mark Wilensky said. "There are four different challenges, each based on a different area of the environment. We won the water-based challenge."

The Envirothon team gathered support and funding from the school and community to install a rain garden on the LHWHS campus. They hoped to motivate community members to create their own rain gardens, and raise awareness about the consequences of shrinking wetlands.

"We organized the creation of a rain garden in the back right corner of the south lot, designed a blue print, and picked out plants," Wilensky said. "We have already started with the seeds and we hope they will be ready by March."

Ladue Envirothon group wins \$10,000 Team, one of 17 nationwide champions, competed in Lexus-sponsored challenge

A rain garden is a landscaped area made up of native plant species. It relies on rainfall and storm water runoff for survival.

"The fact that they only incorporate native plants makes them beneficial for a couple of reasons," team member, senior Max Montaldo said. "Native plants are suited to your area and they can establish deeper root systems underground. This allows a rain garden to catch and store water that would normally run off into the street or elsewhere where it could pick up pollutants before returning to the environment. Native plants cost less, they are more weather resistant, and they require a lot less attention than non-native species."

There are five Ladue Envirothon team members, all of whom are seniors: Rivi Feinberg, Natalie Krebs, Max Montaldo, Mark Wilensky, and Gina Wilmott. The sponsor of the team is chemistry teacher, Sarah Barton.

The award money was split several ways. LHWHS received \$2,000, Barton received \$1,000, and the team members divided \$7,000, which they received in the form of scholarship money.

Barton assures that her awarded

money will not leave school realms.

"I'm not sure what I'm going to do with the money," Barton said. "It will probably go toward Envirothon books and supplies."

The team has several goals for the remainder of the year. They plan to enter the final challenge this Feb. and submit their plan March 27.

"We have been invited to participate in the fourth event and there is a lot more money at stake," Wilensky

said. "Hopefully we'll get into the top eight and win money for the school and Mrs. Barton."

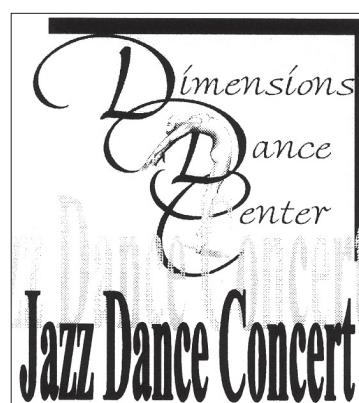
Barton acknowledges all the hard work the Envirothon team members have exerted. She believes that all the credit goes to the students.

"We have many dedicated students that really feel the environment is important and want to make an impact here at the school," Barton said. ●

Saturday, March 7 at 7:00 pm

Sunday, March 8, at 3:00 pm

**Lee Auditorium
Missouri History Museum
Lindell & DeBaliviere in Forest Park
All tickets \$10.00**



Jazz Dance Concert
An exciting concert of contemporary jazz pieces featuring the music of Imogen Heap, Linkin Park, Lights, De La Soul, Rihanna, David Gray, Five For Fighting, and more. Come support your fellow Ladue students! Proceeds benefit The DDC Scholarship Fund.