

### Future Nobel Laureates?

On a snowy December afternoon, 25 Middle School girls are sitting in Clara Pelfrey's science classroom after school. It's not detention; they have elected to come and hear Serpil Erzurum talk to them about lung health. The Cleveland Clinic specialist in pulmonary, allergy, and critical care is the latest volunteer to address Pelfrey's popular Young Women in Science club, which meets after school several times throughout the year.

Club meetings typically draw between 25 and 40 seventh- and eighth-grade girls who come to learn how women in our community have found their career bliss in science, engineering, or medicine. Last year, Linda Rae, a Shaker parent and president of Keithley Instruments, treated the girls to an insider's tour of the company, a leading manufacturer of electrical testing equipment. Rae explained to the girls how her engineering background led her to the position she holds today.

Earlier this year, Kath Bogie of the Cleveland VA Medical Center gave an interactive presentation about technology advancements in wound care.

At the December meeting, Erzurum helped the girls conduct an experiment using drinking straws to simulate the symptoms of asthma. The girls first recorded their respirations while breathing normally through the straws, then again while holding their noses closed as they breathed through the straws. By comparing their breaths per minute, pulse, and blood oxygenation, they learned how a person's physiology can impact the response to asthma. Erzurum also took the opportunity to pass around a tissue example of a smoker's lung to demonstrate the devastating effects of smoking.

Pelfrey's prior experience as a medical researcher at the Cleveland Clinic motivated her to help draw more young women into the sciences. And for many girls, early adolescence can be the turning point.

"As a woman scientist, I've seen firsthand many of the challenges women face in scientific fields which are often dominated by men. If these girls see success-

ful women who have interesting careers in science, they might begin to consider those careers for themselves," she says. "Who knows where tomorrow's Nobel Laureates will start out? Maybe right here in Shaker."



Members of the Middle School's Young Women in Science club ask questions of Dr. Serpil Erzurum, a Cleveland Clinic pulmonary, allergy and critical care specialist, during an interactive presentation on lung health.

### Annual Flower Sale: A Piece of Shaker History

The High School PTO Annual Flower Sale celebrates the Centennial of the Shaker schools and community with a pewter-toned commemorative Centennial Pot, specially created to mark the occasion. This longstanding annual fundraiser, originally known as the Geranium Sale, provides support to more than 25 student clubs, activities, parent programs, and newsletters.

In addition to the Centennial Pots, this year's sale offers a variety of annuals in an assortment of colors to beautify your home: geraniums, petunias, New Guinea impatiens, and shade impatiens, as well as purple fountain grass, spikes, and vinca vines.

In keeping with the celebratory theme, confetti hanging baskets will also be offered, as well as colorful planted 12-inch patio pots for either sun or shade. Trays of assorted tomatoes and herbs are also

available.

Orders must be placed and prepaid by check or credit card by May 8. There are three ways to order:

- Pick up an order form at any of the Shaker school buildings or public library.
- Download an order form from the High School PTO page at [shaker.org](http://shaker.org).
- Order and pay online by credit card by visiting [www.PayForIt.net](http://www.PayForIt.net). Click "Fund-raisers."

Flower and plant pick-up dates are Friday, May 18, from 5-8 pm and Saturday, May 19, from 8 am-noon at Shaker Heights High School in the North Gym. Optional delivery is available for \$15. For questions or more information, contact Lauren Bowen at 216-392-1438 or [llbowen46@gmail.com](mailto:llbowen46@gmail.com), or visit the Facebook page for Shaker Heights High School Flower Sale.

Help us preserve the history of the flower sale! Records documenting the Geranium Sale, as it was originally known, date only to the 1970s, but local lore suggests the fundraiser has a much longer history. We need your help to preserve the legacy of this famous Shaker tradition. If you have any information, photos, or documents about the genesis of the fundraiser or the people behind it, please contact local history librarian Meghan Hays at the Shaker Heights Public Library, 216-367-3016 or [mhays@shakerlibrary.org](mailto:mhays@shakerlibrary.org).

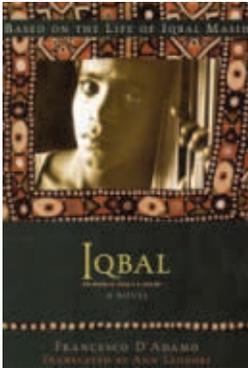


*For the latest news and info about the Shaker schools, visit [shaker.org](http://shaker.org). To receive regular e-news updates, subscribe at [shaker.org/news](http://shaker.org/news). [facebook.com/ForShakerSchools](https://facebook.com/ForShakerSchools)*

**Iqbal Makes an Impact**

Woodbury Principal Randall A. Yates assigned homework over the winter break:

All faculty, staff, students, and their families were asked to read the book *Iqbal*, by Francesco D’Adamo, for Woodbury’s first-ever all-school book read.



*Iqbal* is a novel about a real-life hero, Iqbal Masih, a 13-year-old boy who was murdered in 1995 after speaking out about his experience as a bonded child laborer in a carpet factory in Pakistan. In his brief life, Iqbal made a tremendous impact by traveling to the United States and Sweden to raise awareness about the plight of child laborers, receiving an international award for his bravery.

Nearly 400 students, families, faculty, and staff members attended the book discussion in January. “For a first-time event, it was amazing to see the number of families involved with the discussion,” says Yates.

Parents Emily Geier, Meg Weingart, and Me’Lani Joseph helped make the evening a success by coordinating a pizza dinner and childcare. They also recruited volunteers to help lead small groups using a discussion guide developed with the help of faculty coordinator Ruth Heide.

Students responded well to the book, despite its difficult subject matter. Says sixth-grader Alex Feeling, “The book was a good read for kids because you learn that other kids in the world are truly suffering and starving.” Margaret Bartimole agreed. “I think that the book discussion was inspiring and meaningful. I was opened up to the fact that some carpets and products you see every day are made by kids in slavery. I am also happy that there are organizations that help kids in slavery.”

The Woodbury PTO collected voluntary \$1 donations at the door, raising nearly \$400 to be donated to an organization working to end child slavery.



**Shakerfest Celebrates the Centennial**

Each spring, the Shaker schools open their doors to the community for Shakerfest, a showcase of our students’ musical, theatrical, artistic, and academic talents. Many of this year’s events also celebrate the Centennial of the Shaker schools. We invite you to come see our students in action at a variety of venues. Here’s a sampling:

**An Evening of Jazz**

Wednesday, April 11, at 7 pm, Shaker Middle School auditorium. Enjoy a wide range of selections from the acclaimed High School, Middle School, and Woodbury jazz bands.

**High School Art Show Opening**

Friday, April 27, at 7 pm, Shaker Heights Public Library, 16500 Van Aken Boulevard. Paintings, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, and more from Shaker’s award-winning student artists will be on display through May 11.

**High School Theatre Ensemble Show**  
Thursday, April 26, Friday, April 27, and Saturday, April 28 at 8 pm in the Shaker Heights High School Large Auditorium. (Free senior adult preview on Wednesday, April 25 at 1 pm.) Tickets may be purchased by calling the Shaker Theatre Box Office at 216-295-4287, or online at [www.tix.com](http://www.tix.com).

**Ice Cream Social & Band Concert**

Tuesday, May 1 at 6:30 pm, on the High School front lawn. A Shaker family tradition! Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy the music, along with ice cream and birthday cake. Presented with support from the Shaker Schools Foundation.

**Join us!** Admission is free unless otherwise noted. For a complete schedule of events, visit [www.shaker.org/shakerfest](http://www.shaker.org/shakerfest). The schools’ Centennial kicked off with a special concert by the High School A Cappella Choir, Wind Ensemble, and Chamber Orchestra on February 15. On the program was the world premiere of a piece set to the poetry of Langston Hughes. View video clips at [youtube.com/shakerschoolsohio](http://youtube.com/shakerschoolsohio).

**An Uplifting Experience**



**Woodbury students** from Betsy Brindza and Carola Drosdeck’s fifth-grade classes performed two authentic Native American dances they learned in a residency project made possible by a grant from VSA Ohio, the State Organization on Arts and Disability. Brindza and intervention specialist Sara Cole wrote the grant to provide an inclusive experience for students with a wide range of abilities. The students made costumes and demonstrated the steps and drumming patterns for the Sun Dance and the Eagle Dance (shown here).