

Jon Batiste and Stay Human Band Wow Schreiber Students

By Lee Anne Vetrone-Timothy, co-Chair Schreiber Cultural Arts Committee; Photos by Linda Nutter

It was a great way to warm the heart and soften school re-entry from the December holiday...just 3 days back from break, a capacity crowd of 9th-12th grade students were treated to wonderful sounds from New Orleans born, Julliard-trained Jazz rising star, Jon Batiste and the Stay Human band.



Hailing from a renowned line of New Orleans jazz musicians, Jon Batiste came to New York at the age of 17 and began forging his own path. Now, 26, he is the Artistic Director At Large of the National Jazz Museum in Harlem and has received a Masters Degree from the Juilliard School for piano. The media has likened Jon to a young Ray Charles on 'Social Music' as he reinterprets America's richest musical traditions through a contemporary lens.

The group kicked off their 2014 tour with a concert at Landmark on Main Street. Thanks to a grant from the Port Washington Education Foundation, production assistance and additional funding from Landmark on Main Street and event production and additional funding from the Schreiber HSA, the band first stopped off at Schreiber to play two concerts (8th grade and 9th-12th grades) and conducted a master class for Schreiber Jazz Ensemble students. The band, comprised of 6 musicians, most of them met at the Julliard School, wowed students and staff with classical Jazz numbers and introduced some of their own songs. Instruments included the grand and upright pianos, a bass, a tuba (*which arrived in one of the musician's backpacks!*) and Sousa Phone, Saxophone and 2 Percussionists. There was amazing talent among the group.

The Schreiber Cultural Arts Committee (Lee Anne Vetrone-Timothy, Helen DiGiovanni and Abby Orshefsky), wish to thank: Sheri Suzzan, Director of Cultural Arts, Matt Swinson, Weber AP, Weber and Schreiber HSA leadership, Jon Meyer, Schreiber Custodial staff and our parent volunteers – Nora Johnson, Robin Sigman, Sonia Aurora, Joe Maissel, Chris Nadolne, Linda Nutter (who took fabulous photos), Gray Hirschfield, Gail Seiden, Marie Young and Beth Weisburd, who handled everything from band transportation to breakfast and lunch service to crowd control. It took a lot of planning and “a village” to produce this great day of music for our students!

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