

**People build bridges, bridges build communities,  
communities build opportunities.**  
(paraphrased from the Bridge Brigade)

**Marshwood Middle School Chorus decided that we would embrace our community as classroom. In doing so we discovered that 50% of our students had never visited the Great Works Bridge, located on Vine Street in South Berwick, which had been condemned since 2007 due to deterioration of the structure that rendered it unsafe for vehicular travel. The surrounding bridge area, connecting the upper landing and lower landing of “Unity” was named Newichawannock in 1703 by the Wabanaki, meaning “place between two waterfalls”. In an effort to raise awareness of the importance of enjoying this beautiful area we decided to dedicate our studies this year to research, work with an artist-in-residence to help organize our writing, and compose an original piece of music for our Chorus, “The River Sings Its Song”.**



**Special Thanks to the following people who have embraced our Bridge to Adolescence: A River Runs Through Us project:**

**Marshwood Education Foundation** for their financial support of our grant including our artist-in-residence and field work to the bridge.  
**Mr. Brian Evans-Jones**, poet and creative writing artist, who professionally and creatively shaped our student writing into lyrics that fit what our hearts expressed.

**Mrs. Linda Becker**, Bridge Brigade and OBHS member who shared her historical perspectives with our chorus students this fall.

**Mrs. Maureen Martin**, grade eight science teacher, South Berwick resident, and guest speaker who shared her curriculum of the local rivers and surrounding history.

**Mr. Michal Kaleta**, architect of the footbridge model of the new Great Works River Bridge.

**Mr. Michael Lassel** and **Mr. Fred Wildnauer**, supporters of the bridge model when it toured Marshwood Middle School this year.

**Ms. Argy Nestor**, Director of Arts Education, Maine Arts Commission, Augusta, ME and Maine Arts Leadership Initiative for guidance and support.

**Parent chaperones** who accompanied our seventy-six students on our field trip and field work.

**Mr. Anthony Bourbon**, Principal of Marshwood Middle School, for full support of this project.

## **“The River Sings its Song”**

**Composed by the Grade Seven and Eight Chorus  
Marshwood Middle School**

**I must be the bridge to my true self:  
my history and what is to be.  
I must be the one to tell my story.  
I must stand tall and true.  
Will you tell the tale of what you have become  
so that others may learn from you?  
Will you help me when I ask you to?  
Will you be a bridge to me as I will bridge for you?  
Do you ever stop and think upon these things?  
As the river, it keeps flowing...  
flowing...flowing...flowing...flowing...  
Flow!**

**The winding road, the rustling leaves,  
between the pine and oaken trees,  
I walk to where my heart finds rest  
and think upon my dreams of yet...  
It's where I hear the river near  
its song is clear within my ear.  
It calls to me and I belong!  
The river sings its song!**

**We are the river! Free as can be!  
We give our town positivity.  
I don't know where I'm going  
but I know where I've been.  
Like the gentle words of friendship  
The river leads to home.**

**From up above the bridge on high  
to hear your thoughts I close my eyes  
I see the paths where I may roam and find a path  
to my own home.  
Within your endless, unknown trail  
the journey onward never fails.  
It calls to me and I belong!  
The river sings its song!**

**We are the river! Free as can be!  
We give our town positivity.  
I don't know where I'm going  
but I know where I've been.  
Like the gentle words of friendship  
The river leads to home.**

**I'll follow your river song.  
Watching it peacefully, glitter peacefully.  
...The river leads to home  
...Flowing home.**



With sincere thanks to the following people for supporting the Chorus program at Marshwood Middle School:

Dr. Mary Nash, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Anthony Bourbon, Principal  
Mr. Kevin Fillion, Assistant Principal  
Mr. David Miller, Band Director  
Ms. Tanya West and auditorium staff  
Mr. David Graichen and Ms. Janice Marro for borrowed instruments  
Mrs. Gail Adams Shunk, accompanist  
Faculty and staff of Marshwood Middle School  
Custodial Staff of Marshwood Middle School  
Parents, family and friends of Marshwood Middle School - we are privileged to share our learning with you.



## **MARSHWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL SPRING CHORUS CONCERT**

### **BRIDGING ADOLESCENCE: A RIVER RUNS THROUGH US**



**KRISTINE BISSON, Choral Director**  
**Gail Adams Shunk, accompanist**  
**JUNE 5, 2018**  
**KENNEDY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**  
**MARSHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL**  
**SOUTH BERWICK, ME**

**Grade Seven and Eight Chorus**

**Cripple Creek.....arr. Emily Crocker**  
*Anthony Arrigoni, fiddle Peyton Emery, piano primo*

**Shenandoah.....arr. Rollo Dilworth**  
*Tucker Whelan, drumset*

**The River Sings Its Song...Grade Seven & Eight Chorus**  
*- Premiere performance -*

**Sisi ni moja (We are one).....Jacob Narverud**  
*Amerah Sandler, tubano*

**Grade Six, Seven and Eight Chorus**

**Take Me to the Water.....Rollo Dilworth**

**This Is Me.....Pasek/ Paul**

*Beckett Barlow, Silja Pope, Lucia Wiegert,  
Samantha Williams, D'Lyza Diaz,  
Kenai Diaz, Alana Moretti, Keona Poe, soloists  
Lauryn Cruz, piano AJ Gori, drums*

**CONCERT PROGRAM:**

**Select Chorus**

**Bring me little water Sylvie.....Lead Belly**  
*Body percussion by Moira Smiley*

**We are the Voices.....Jim Papoulis**

**Grade Six Chorus**

**A Million Dreams.....Benj Pasek/Justin Paul**  
*Zac Camp, Owen Clark, Stella Case, Grace Dalton,  
Rowan Waddell, Ryan Howell, Rowan Nabel, soloists*

**Song of the River.....Mark Patterson**  
*Rowan Waddell, Teagan Kennedy,  
Ella Holland, Megan Callahan, flutes*

**Goza Mi Calipso.....Albert Hernandez**



## **Grade Six Chorus Personnel**

**Names have been removed for privacy purposes.**

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### **Upcoming events:**

**June 7: MMS Band Spring Concert  
7:00 pm, MHS Auditorium**

**June 10: MMS Rock Band Concert  
3:00 pm, MMS Chorus room**

**June 12: MMS Select Chorus Concert  
3:15 pm, Berwick Estates retirement home**

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**Wishing you all a wonderful summer ahead and a special wish to all of our eighth grade singers as you head on to new endeavors ~**

## **Grade Seven and Eight Chorus Personnel**

**Names have been removed for privacy purposes.**

~ may you always carry music with you.