



AMITY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

BETHANY • ORANGE • WOODBRIDGE

25 NEWTON ROAD, WOODBRIDGE, CT 06525 (203) 397-4830

May 15th, 2017

In anticipation of an exciting opportunity for high school students in the greater New Haven area, I am writing to express my support for the Duality School of Music, which we will be hosting here at Amity High School in the fall of 2017. The Duality School, an after-school music academy, will give high school students a chance to work directly with thriving recording industry composer, producer, and musician Jeff Gitelman (Amity Class of 2000).

Jeff Gitelman graduated from Berklee College of Music, and in addition to working as the guitarist in Alicia Keys' band for two years, he has played with Lauryn Hill, Stevie Wonder, Justin Timberlake, and a host of others. He is currently riding an impressive wave of success, living in Los Angeles and writing and producing songs and albums for the likes of Chance the Rapper, J. Cole, Anderson Pak (nominated for the Best New Artist Grammy Award this past year), Mary J. Blige, and Frank Ocean. Jeff continues to expand his impressive professional network as his resume of hits steadily grows.

When he was inducted into Amity's Hall of Honor in 2015, Jeff taught some master classes and spoke at length with our students. He was so energized by the interaction with the students that he was inspired to create The Duality School and share his knowledge of the importance of creativity and collaboration. Jeff will be flying to Connecticut each week from early October to early December to teach Duality students about recording and engineering, and about the art of collaboration in composition, performance, and production. One of the main objectives of the program is for Jeff to share his advice regarding the difficult lessons he had to learn on his own as he built his professional music career. Jeff is committed to giving back to the schools and to helping young people prepare as they consider pursuing careers in the music business, and we at Amity are committed to supporting his mission.

I hope that you share my enthusiasm for The Duality School. Please tell students about Duality and share with them some information about the school and about Jeff (see link below). Feel free to share this letter with music and fine arts teachers, and anyone else who has the ability to communicate with interested students. In its inaugural semester, Duality will enroll up to 15 area students. Tuition is tentatively set at \$250 but full and partial scholarships will be available for qualified students. The application is currently available and will remain open until mid-July. Students will be notified of their status with the program by the beginning of August.

We look forward to hosting Jeff Gitelman this fall as he brings the Duality School of Music to Amity. Duality is hoping to attract and include students from many towns to encourage them to collaborate with new people and build their own area musical



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networks. The school is especially hoping to create opportunities for kids who might not otherwise have access to resources such as electronic instruments and recording equipment. It's quite likely, too, that some students who would be interested in Duality are not the same as those who pass through the traditional school music channels like band and choir -- please keep them in mind. With his enthusiasm, expertise, and vision, we can help our students fill the world with music.

Sincerely,

Anna Mahon

Principal

Amity Regional High School

Important Links

Students who are interested can apply to Duality directly from the website: <http://www.dualityschoolofmusic.org/home.html>.

Duality also has a Facebook

page: <https://www.facebook.com/dualityschoolofmusic/https://www.facebook.com/dualityschoolofmusic/>