

Manhattan High uses halls to honor distinguished alums

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On the wall on a common area in Manhattan High School are plaques, each with a different MHS alum who has gone on to accomplish great things.

The Wall of Fame features 26 alumni who have been nominated by a member of the Manhattan High School Alumni Association. The group has chosen honorees since 2006, when it started the wall.

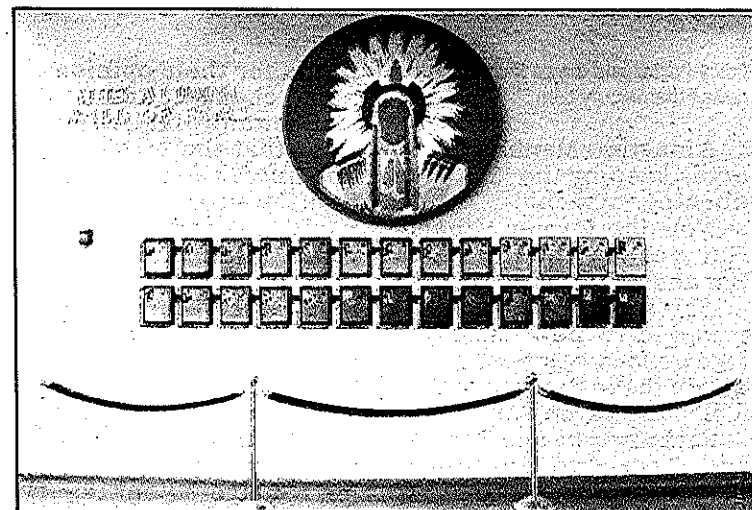
Only active members can

nominate people for the wall, and the nominee must have graduated from the high school.

A five-person committee votes on nominees, who are judged on six standards, such as contributions to society and whether they represent the school well. If the average score among voters is high enough, they make the wall.

"We think it's a good deal; all these students go out and become famous, and it's a nice thing for them to be recognized," Harvey Larson, MHSAA Wall of Fame co-chair, said.

He and co-chair Linda Thomason are both graduates of the MHS class of 1967, "the greatest MHS class," according to Larson. They are beginning their third year as Wall of Fame co-chairs and are hopeful they will have people to induct this year. Last year, no one was inducted because the average scores were not high



Staff photos by Taylor Irby

The Wall of Fame at Manhattan High School.

enough.

"The inductees are asked, and they don't have to, visit classrooms at MHS that relate to their field," Thomason said. "We like to get them involved somehow." She said Richard Broadhurst comes

every four or so years and works with the drama department.

The inductees get identical copies of the plaques, which feature highlights of their careers. They are also invited

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Honored alumni of MHS get a plaque with their accomplishments on a wall at the school.

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to a reception and the presentation ceremony, which takes place during an MHS basketball half-time show in January or February.

Past inductees include Earl Woods, Tiger's dad; Inger Stensland, who appeared in "The Twilight Zone"; and Del Close, who went on to work with Second City in Chicago and became a mentor to Bill Murray.

Close died prior to his induction that year, and Murray was asked to attend the

ceremony on his behalf. Murray came to the reception and sat at the kids table unnoticed. Thomason said they just thought he hadn't shown up.

"We got to his part and he just hopped up from the kid's table and walked over," she said. "That was probably the most Bill Murray thing you can imagine."

If any inductees are announced this year, the announcement will come after Oct. 1, the deadline for scorecards from the committee.

MHS Wall of Fame Inductees

Name	Graduated	Claim to fame
Clementine Paddleford	1917	Syndicated food writer
Fred Seaton	1927	Secretary of the Interior to Eisenhower
Kenneth Davis	1930	Speechwriter for Milton Eisenhower
Joan McInroy	1942	First female KS governor
John Weigel	1946	Urologist
Harold Robinson	1948	First African American to receive an athletic scholarship
Earl Woods	1949	First African American baseball player recruited
Jim Kyle	1950	Commander in Operation Eagle Claw
Inger Stensland	1952	Actress, "Twilight Zone," "Bonanza"
Del Close	1952	Second City performer
David Dary	1952	Addressed the Kennedy Cuban Missile Crisis, CBS reporter
Tal Streeter	1952	Artist, New York City "Endless Column"
Charles Hostetler	1956	Founding member of MHSAA, banker
Fred Lamb	1956	Physicist
Don Lamb	1963	Astrophysicist
Bill Buzenberg	1964	NPR's first managing editor
Richard Broadhurst	1964	Playwright, actor
Tom Romig	1966	Dean of Washburn's school of law
Matt Betton	1967	Founder, International Association for Jazz Education
Lynn Meredith	1969	Original lead singer of the band Kansas
Dawayne Bailey	1972	Guitarist for Bob Seger
Gary Spani	1974	Chiefs player in 1978
Michael Silva	1974	Brigadier General
Deb Richard	1981	Professional women's golfer
Anna Seaton	1982	Bronze medal in rowing at '92 Olympics