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"HOME OF THE PHANTOMS"
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PAHS Spring Musical: "The Addams Family"

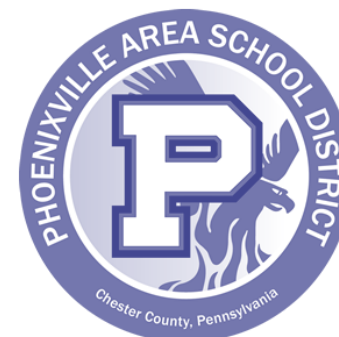


Written by:
Celeste
Lennon

(sophomore) as Mal Beineke, and Hutch Brecht (senior) as Lurch. Ensemble members are essential to the production, with all 14 members playing a different "ancestor" of the Addams family.

Conductor). Ms. James adds that the Tech Crew has been vital to the musical's success for their help with the strange props involved in the show, including a TNT plunger, dead pigeon, and "special chair."

"The Addams Family" has come with challenges, the biggest struggle being that the production must perform at PAMS, despite spending most of their time rehearsing at the high school.



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This spring, the PAHS theater department presents "The Addams Family" musical. Premiering April 14th and 15th at 7:00 p.m., and April 16th at 2:00 p.m., everyone involved in the production has been putting in the work. Pulling elements from both the "Addams Family" movies and TV show, "The Addams Family" musical is a comedy that centers around the romance between Wednesday Addams and Lucas Beineke. Wednesday plans on getting married to Lucas, but tells only Gomez and makes him hide it from Morticia, leading up to the defining moment of the show when the Beinekes will come to the Addams's house for dinner. The humor of the show is emphasized by Wednesday being from the very abnormal Addams family, while Lucas is from the seemingly normal Beineke family.

While "The Addams Family" musical tells a unique story, it has similarities to "The Addams Family" TV show, movies, and even the recent Netflix show "Wednesday." The musical includes the same Addams characters as the TV show and movies, and focuses on Wednesday and Lucas's relationship. While the Addams characters are based off of "The Addams Family" screen productions, the musical introduces a new plotline and new characters.

Lead roles this year consist of Alex Seaman (senior) as Gomez Addams, Jay McFalls (sophomore) as Morticia Addams, Leena Collins (sophomore) as Wednesday Addams, Sophia Pratt (junior) as Pugsley Addams, Rincon Thompson (junior) as Uncle Fester, Molly Proctor (senior) as Grandma, Alex Bloom (freshman) as Lucas Beineke, Lauren Curry (sophomore) as Alice Beineke, Jacob Cahill



Wednesday Addams (**Leena Collins**) gets excited to marry her fiance Lucas, and thinks about the chaos that will undoubtedly ensue when their families meet.

Directing the musical is PAHS music teacher Natalie James, alongside new staff member and professional performer Jennifer Dinan. Ms. James stated: "Last year to this year, we had a huge transition in staffing. We came up with 'The Addams Family' from seeing what we could easily put together, but now that it's here and happening, we're just all the more in love with the show." The directors combined their many years of theater experience to make this twenty-four song production successful.

In addition to Ms. James and Ms. Dinan, included in the production team are Marie Anderson (Costumer), Camilo Rincon (Set Designer), Ron Hess (Set Builder), Audrey Simmons (Choreographer), Dr. Mandraccia (Production Manager), and Shawn Lee (Pit Orchestra

"The Addams Family" production team has been hard at work since January. Audrey Simmons has tackled the seven major dance numbers in the show, including a tango between Morticia and Gomez. In terms of costumes, Marie Anderson is basing the look of the Addams family off of the characters from the 50s TV show, and creating a contrast by dressing the Beineke family in colorful, 90s style clothing. The ensemble members playing the ancestors of the Addams family are dressed in a grey-scale of outfits from all different time periods (Vikings, flappers, pirates, etc.). As for set design, the stage is split into three parts: the graveyard, the banquet hall, and the small rooms inside the Addams family house.

Like any production, "The Ad-

Ms. James said, "The hardest thing is having a high school production move to another location, so we get a taste of what it's like to be a touring group." With this challenge, the full cast and crew, particularly the Tech Crew, experience an aspect of theater like a professional company.

Senior Alex Seaman, playing Gomez, describes his character as a "Romantic, passionate, emotional Latin man who loves his wife," and someone who makes mistakes, but ultimately has a good character arc. "I like to do comedy and I like to be animated, and he's like that naturally, so it's easy to just switch on."

Freshman Alex Bloom, playing Lucas, says about "The Addams Family," "The show is so dark but so playful at the same time. We're constantly talking about death, and we're just dancing and smiling about it."

Sophomore Leena Collins, playing the role of Wednesday, feels that the audience will love the humor in the show, especially Wednesday's "out of nowhere comedic moments."

Sophomore Jay McFalls added "Morticia gets to dance a lot, and dancing is one of my favorite parts about musical theater. We have an amazing choreographer, so it's a lot of fun."

The overarching theme of "The Addams Family," according to Ms. James, is that "at the end of the day, love prevails, no matter what." Tickets for the show are \$10, and can be purchased through the PASD website. Audience members should note that there will be fog and flashing lights.

Why should you go? Ms. James said, "It's just a fun, loving show. From the opening, to the first silly thing you'll see happening, you're just going to fall in love with it."



The Addams characters Grandma (**Molly Proctor**), Wednesday (**Leena Collins**), Morticia (**Jay McFalls**), Gomez (**Alex Seaman**), Lurch (**Hutch Brecht**), Pugsley (**Sophia Pratt**), and Uncle Fester (**Rincon Thompson**) pose for a family photo.

Photos: Audrey Tresnan



Ms. Lees: Mother, teacher, business owner



Written by:
Zaid
Abdel-Majid



Ms. Lees with her kids, Gavin and Adma. Photo courtesy of Ms. Lees

Have you ever wondered about the artists behind your favorite pieces of work? Ms. Lees is an art teacher here at PAHS who teaches a multitude of classes ranging from Mural Arts, to AP Art, to Ceramics. But her day doesn't end when the final school bell rings. In addition to raising two kids, Ms. Lees runs her own independent art business. Her products consist of prints on different mediums like tote bags, mugs, metal sheets, and canvas. Her artistic specialties are landscapes, food, animals, and her current obsession, flowers.

Besides being an artist and teacher, Ms. Lees is a mother first. She has two kids, Gavin (14) and Adma (12), and two lovely dogs, Milo (9 months) and Rosetta (6 years). Her family inspires her to create art and make new creations, as do the students she teaches.

One of her favorite art forms is ceramics. She said she loves ceramics since it's an ancient art form that has existed for thousands of years. Her students love it too, and they go through thousands of pounds of clay per year. Luckily, Ms. Lees has a way of reclaiming the clay that is used by breaking it down to dirt and re-hydrating it back onto usable clay.

Inspiration has never been a big struggle for Ms. Lees. She mentioned "I have a passion for color and texture, and I love capturing that in everyday items."

Art has always had an important place in her heart. Ms. Lees was first inspired by Georgia O'Keefe, an artist known for her depiction of skyscrapers and flowers.

Although Ms. Lees has been interested in art since she was a child, she had access to an art studio as a teenager, which led her to grow her interest and ability to experiment.

She stated, "I knew at a very young age that I was an artist, and it was just a part of who I am; just like an athlete feels the drive to perform, I need to create as my outlet."

Her art has also influenced the way she teaches her students, as she said she likes to "lean towards subject matter that inspires me, since it makes me a more effective teacher." Ms. Lees enjoys being a

creative leader to her students and hopes that her students will see her ambition and be inspired to create art. She also hopes that her students will "see taking a creative risk as an innovator as tangible. It can be healthy to be vulnerable because that's where personal growth as an artist begins." Ms. Lees believes that the art she and her students create can help them understand themselves as people.

The art that Ms. Lees sells on her website is organized into four categories: flowers, food, landscapes, and animals. Her flower collection showcases pansies, roses, tulips, water lilies, and wildflowers.

The food section highlights beautiful paintings of different fruits, cookies, and tomatoes. Her cutest collection, animals, ranges from birds and dogs, to caribou and rhinoceroses. Ms. Lees' last group exhibits beautiful landscapes like the ocean.

Ms. Lees started her business in January, but she has been creating the art she's selling for years. She wanted to celebrate the work she's been making since she has such a love for art. "I love painting so much, I just wanted to share that," she said.

Creating a business was a special goal for Ms. Lees and she plans on expanding her business, specifically creating a category of art that donates a percentage of proceeds from the art to an endangered species conservation. She also might be open to commissions in the future.

If you are interested in viewing her works, or if you are looking to purchase a piece of art, you can visit her website Admarose.com or stop by and see her in room G-3.



A picture called "Pink Lovelies" on admarose.com shows off Ms. Lees' love of flowers.

Emerson Cairns: Up and coming Phoenixville musician



Written by:
Jackson Deets

The thought of standing in front of a large crowd let alone singing and playing guitar can sound extremely difficult to most people, but freshman Emerson Cairns handles it with ease.

The Pittsburgh-born ninth grade multi-instrumentalist and aspiring software engineer has a natural love for performing. Emerson had been an avid cheerleader when the opportunity to be in the band program at Phoenixville came up

and sparked a new interest in music, leading her to play saxophone for her first year of band (which she later dropped). This experience influenced Emerson to start playing violin in the orchestra, which she continues to play to this day.

In her free time, Emerson likes to listen to music, play with her dog Charlie, practice her instruments, and perform! Emerson found a love for performing through open mic nights and a music program through George's Music. She plays at The SoundBank in Phoenixville (on Wednesdays), Chaplins in Spring City, and has performed at Tuned Up Brewery in Spring City as well.

Emerson said "The feeling of being on stage is interesting; it's kinda overwhelming at points. But it's a great way to try new things and start getting out there."

Even with some of the anxiety and stress of performing, Emerson does a great job of handling the pressure and delivering a great performance.

On stage, Emerson covers other artists' songs due to the difficulty of writing original music; however, she has started to write her own songs too. Every great musician has influences and favorite bands or musicians they look up to, and Emerson is no different. She's interested in a wide array of genres and sounds, but some of her favorites include AJR, Rainbow Kitten Surprise, and Noah Kahan to name a few. The artists have influenced her own playing in many ways, more specifically her enjoyment of Rainbow Kitten Surprise's bass lines.

Emerson didn't always know how to play all these instruments; like anything else, to be good at it you have to practice and learn. She began playing violin when she was only in third grade, but when school shut down due to Covid she had a ton of free time that she didn't know what to do with. She decided to try and pick up some other instruments, so in this time she self taught herself guitar, bass guitar, and piano, giving her a wide array of new music to play and creative options for her own performances. With all of these new instruments, Emerson began to use a software called NoteFlight to help write and figure out new music.

Emerson would like to continue to pursue playing violin in college and would like to major in software engineering, something she has been interested in since beginning high school. She is very determined to go to school in New York or Boston, with MIT being one of her dream schools. Through all of these future plans, she plans to continue perform-



Emerson signing and playing guitar on stage of The SoundBank. Photos: Emerson Cairns



Emerson poses on The High Line in New York City in August 2022 on a trip to Broadway to see "The Lion King."

Anna Carruthers: Running towards glory



Written by:
Gabrielle
McNamee

Every morning, when you walk into school through the doors by the front office, athletic records cover the walls. A vast majority of the records are held by previous students, yet one student still here at Phoenixville holds a wildly impressive three records: the one and only Anna Carruthers.

Anna, a junior, first started running in third grade as a member of East Pikeland Elementary's Girls on the Run club. It wasn't until fourth grade that she began to run competitively on St. Basil's CYO team, and in fifth grade and early middle school,

running became more serious.

Although Anna runs both track and cross country, she prefers track. She says "Track is so much faster; you run faster times, and nothing compares to being under those lights."

Running faster is certainly an understatement when it comes to Anna's times on the PAHS Track team, as she currently holds school records in three different events. In her freshman year, Anna made her presence on the team known, as she and three teammates (Griane Reed, Alyssa Cunningham, and Madison O'Neill) set a new record for the girls' 4x16. In this race, four participants run a mile each. It took the incredible group only 22:53 to complete the race. The records didn't stop in her freshman year, however; in her sophomore year, Anna ran an insane 11:06.62 in the two mile, breaking a 30 year record. While still a sophomore, Anna first broke the 3,000 meter record, which is a race only 200 meters short of two miles. The first time she broke the record, Anna ran the race in 10:57. This year, as a junior, Anna ran the race again and shattered her previous record, running the race in a wild 10:22.

Several records later, Anna is gearing up for her junior spring track season. With college on the horizon, Anna has been scouted by countless schools from a variety of conferences. While coaches from the Ivy League, SEC, ACC, and Big 10 all show off their programs, Anna continues to focus on the upcoming season and the challenges it has to offer.

Anna has already had an amazing start to her junior year. In her fall cross country season, she and the rest of Phoenixville Girls' Cross Country ran at States, where they placed third. In the winter, Anna re-broke her 3,000 record in addition to



Mr. Carruthers, Mrs. Carruthers, Anna, and Wade spending time in Sea Isle. Photos courtesy of Anna Carruthers

qualifying for both States and Nationals in both the 1,600 and 3,200. Said Anna, "Nationals is so cool because every person there is insane at what they do, and it's so fun to be surrounded by such a high caliber of athletes and such talented people." Anna certainly fits in that caliber, with a current 1,600 time of 5:07 and 3,200 time of 11:06.

Her talent, however, does not stop with running. During school hours, you can find Anna in her several AP courses, helping to lead NHS as the junior officer, meeting with the Spanish Honor Society, preparing for Model UN conferences, and working on material for Science Club. Outside of school, when she isn't running workouts or helping to organize track events as a team captain, she loves hanging out with friends, grabbing coffee, shopping, or spending time with family.

Time spent with family often includes trips to Sea Isle with her mom, dad, brother (Wade Carruthers, senior), and her dog, Archie. Athletics runs in the Carruthers family, with Wade currently com-

mitted to Carson-Newman University in Tennessee for baseball.

With a great support system and a terrific coach, nothing is stopping Anna from further dominating races in Pennsylvania. Coach Winters has been pushing Anna to reach her full potential as a runner since they first started training, and he even had her running with high school boys while she was in eighth grade to place her in a competitive environment. Prior to meeting Winters, Anna wasn't set on attending PAHS, yet it only took a few practices with Winters to change her mind. "I loved the training, the structure of the workouts, and I realized how much I liked the coaches. Why would I go anywhere else?"

With Anna's awards already proudly displayed at PAHS, she has made her presence known both on and off the track. With countless schools pulling out all the stops to have her in their programs, it is no doubt that Anna Carruthers will be wildly successful wherever she is headed next.



Anna gearing up to run at states at Penn State University.

Ava Sams: From London to Phoenixville



Written by:
Claudia Tracy

Many of us high school students are counting down the days until we can leave Phoenixville, the town we have lived in most, if not all, of our lives. However, this experience is not universal. Sophomore Ava Sams is no stranger to traveling and has moved six different times. She has had quite the adventurous life before her move to Phoenixville in 2019, and plans to continue traveling once she grows up. Ava has had the advantage of gaining new perspectives and knowledge about the world, as she grew up in different communities with unique cultures.

Ava's family includes her parents and three younger sisters, one of which also goes to PAHS, and the other two are ages eleven and three. They travel mostly for

personal choice, but they do have family in almost all of the locations they have lived in. In fact, her grandparents are from the United Kingdom.

Ava was born in Tucson Arizona and lived there until she was about two or three. Then she made a move to Western Pennsylvania, where she stayed until she was five. Her next stop was out of the country, moving to London, England. She recounts London as her favorite location of them all, stating "It was when I really first started remembering things and it was where I experienced most of my childhood. It felt very exciting being in a big city at a young age."

Ava enjoyed the cultural diversity of London, trying some of the best Middle Eastern and African cuisine in the city. Her family explored London's most popular tourist spots, museums, shopping centers, and parks in their time spent there. The schooling situation differed greatly from here in the U.S.

"You had to be accepted into school, and meals were more like a family dinner than an American school lunch," Ava

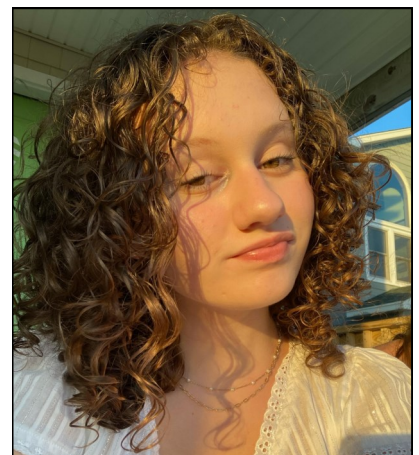
recalled.

From there, she moved to a small town in Ireland, County Galway. She was only here for a short period of four months, but she experienced a lot during this time. The town she lived in was small and very close-knit, where technology had not yet become widespread. People valued tradition and were religious. Her class at school was made up of 14 students, where she learned to speak Gaelic, an Irish language, and made her Holy Communion with the entire group. In their free time, they spent time playing outside or helping out on the farm.

Then Ava and family made their way back to Tucson Arizona for another year and a half. Due to the heat in Arizona, the school campuses are outdoors, and water parks and splash pads are commonplace for fun. Sports like basketball and softball are huge for girls. When it comes to food, In-N-Out and Sonic are very popular, and there is a larger population of Hispanic people, so Spanish is a first language for many.

Ava then moved to Champlin Minnesota for two years. The middle school she went to had a large, diverse population and specialized in math and science. She was only an hour out from the Mall of America, which is the largest mall in the U.S. She frequently went there for holidays and birthdays. The one downside of living in Minnesota was the intense winter storms and bad weather.

"The cold weather kept us inside for most of the year, but when it was warm there were many lakes to visit across the state," Ava said. Minnesota is well known for its lakes, numbering 14,380 in total. A typical weekend consisted of her family going up north to Duluth, a waterfront port city in Minnesota, to visit family friends as well as see Lake Superior and the Aerial Lift Bridge.



World traveler, Ava Sams, now here with us in Phoenixville.

Then, in 2019, she made her way to Phoenixville Pennsylvania where she has spent her high school life. After all her travels, she enjoys Phoenixville: "I like the community we have here; I work here, I live here, I go to school here. I like the feeling of community in the suburbs."

Ava is well-adjusted to adjusting at this point and has become involved within Phoenixville. She is a part of the basketball team and cheerleading squad, as well as a member of Key Club, and is a frequenter to the art room to pursue her passion for art. Ava finds that her travels are a huge conversation starter and have helped her to make friends everywhere she goes. Ava is also a hostess downtown at the American Pub.

Ava Sams is a very unique person, and her travel experiences are just one of the many interesting things about her. When it comes to future traveling, she is certain there will be more to come. She believes her final destination may be in Italy or France, but until then we are excited to see her thrive right here in Phoenixville!



Young Ava Sams walking through the streets of London on her way to school. Photos courtesy of Ava Sams

SASH Club: Bringing awareness to PAHS



Written by:
Becca Fine

Sexual harassment is something both adults and teens experiences. For an issue so prevalent, especially among teenagers, it is very rarely talked about. In the past couple years, the 'me too' movement has surfaced, which brought light to the subject of sexual harassment and helped victims share their stories. This movement showed that people of all ages, genders, and sexualities experience sexual harassment. The SASH club, or students against sexual harassment, started at PAHS to spread awareness and offer support.

Freshmen Gabby Goudie, Alice Lynch, and Vivona Xu created this club earlier this year. Goudie said the club was created because "[Sexual harassment] was an issue in middle school. That's why we're

integrating it [at the high school] to make awareness more interesting and cared about." With the help of Mr. Winters and the NHS club, SASH are spreading their message this year.

While people may understand what sexual harassment is, they may not be aware about when and where it can happen. Many people may think it is not a big issue at PAHS, but sexual harassment happens everywhere.

"A lot of times sexual harassment is played off like a joke," Gabby added.

There is a combination of both physical harassment and social media harassment, especially on platforms such as Tik Tok. It is very easy to say crude or demeaning things on a short video in a sea of others, but SASH is here to express how negative of an impact these words can have.

Regarding where most sexual harassment happens at PAHS, Gabby said, "Probably the cafeteria. It's definitely there, and it's hard to solve since there will always be people trying to validate doing it. We can only really make people aware of the effects."

The SASH club is currently partnered with the Chester County crime victims center, as a resource to help victims share their experiences. While this resource is offered, the SASH club meetings are also a place to express your feelings on the matter.

"We'd love for you to share and provide support to anyone experiencing sexual harassment. We hope it can be a place someone can go to to talk about their experiences. We want to make a community," Alice Lynch added.

On April 15th, the SASH club is holding its first charity event. 'Walk a Mile in her Shoes' is an event in which boys can walk in heels to raise awareness for sexual harassment. People can donate money to the cause, and overall have fun while educating their peers on this serious topic. Currently, SASH is holding a heel drive in prepara-

WALK A MILE IN HER SHOES®

Raising Awareness for Sexual Assault

Saturday, April 15th
11 a.m - 1 p.m.

Washington Field at
Phoenixville Area
High School

www.walkamileinher shoes.org
All proceeds benefit the CVC

The flyer posted around school about SASH clubs 'Walk a Mile in Her Shoes' event. Photos courtesy of Becca Fine

STUDENTS AGAINST SEXUAL HARASSMENT

1 IN 4 GIRLS AND 1 IN 6 BOYS HAVE BEEN SEXUALLY ABUSED BEFORE THEY TURN 18

SASH

WANT TO HELP END SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN OUR SCHOOL?

EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 7:30 A.M. IN E4

JOIN OUR REMIND: TEXT @PAHSASH TO 81010

A flyer advertising the new SASH club, including meeting information and the Remind code.

tion for the walk, which will be held at the Washington Field from 11am to 1pm.

Vivona Xu remarked, "It's going to be hard to find sizes that men can wear." Posted on flyers around the school,

SASH meets every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. in Mr. Winter's room, E-4. There is no sign up required; just show up to a meeting. They welcome anyone who wants to come.

Go "behind the scenes" at PAHS Art Show



Written by:
Jackson Deets

Do you ever wonder about the process behind great works of art? Well, the PAHS art department, alongside Ann's Heart and Barnstone Art for Kids, put together a great show to showcase the process behind how these artists create what they create! The idea for Phoenixville to do a show alongside Ann's Heart and Barnstone Art for Kids came months ago when they had reached out to the school to do a show but due to the amount of other things going on in the art department it couldn't happen, around January this year

they reached back out to Phoenixville and began to plan the show!

The theme "Behind the Scenes" gives an inside look at the process behind the great art in the show. The theme of being a work in progress is the idea that people are more beautiful because they have struggled. That is what the sketchbook is - it's all the mistakes leading up to the final product. A lot of people have the idea that artists with good talent are born with it, whether it's art, music, dance, sports, etc. But the reality is that it takes practice, failure, and sometimes even a "failure" might still be a great work of art. The show focuses on the sketches, rough drafts, and mistakes made along the way, not just the finished piece.

"We don't always show up perfect and we are a work in progress all the time," said Mrs. Knabb.

The art department had been planning the art show for around six weeks, which is a very short period of time to prepare something like this. It took a lot of work getting the whole community involved, including PR, live music, and getting the artwork mounted and framed. On top of this, they also had to come up with a theme and idea behind the show and choose what and whose art would be going into it.

The show not only focused on the theme of art creation, but was also a great opportunity for some PAHS students to publicly have their art displayed and appreciated. Artwork in the show originated in Mrs. Knabb's Art 2 Honors classes, Mrs. Shoemaker's Digital Photography classes, Mrs. Lees Art III Honors class, as well as a collection from Mrs. Lindeman's Schuylkill Elementary art students.

"You could see that not everyone gets everything perfect right away. It was really



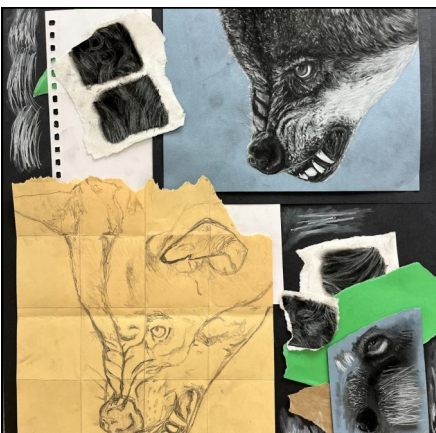
Caleb Varady (junior) - "Death." Caleb created this piece highlighting a tarot card reading of "Death". Caleb said that in this piece, death doesn't mean that something is gone; it actually represents making room for new life and new beginnings.

inspiring to know that mistakes happen and that's ok," said senior Caroline Sullivan about the theme of the show.

"You could see everybody's art through the process of them making it, and that was really cool to see," added senior Avery Stackhouse.

The art show opened on March 3rd and featured food and live music with the help of many volunteers from Ann's Heart. It

was a great way for the artists to show their friends and family their work, but also for the general public to have a chance to see as well. The show will be hanging through the month of April and is a great opportunity for the young artists involved to have their work seen. So, stop on by to check out the great art from these creative students and get a chance to go "Behind the Scenes."



Nadya Dato (senior) - Charcoal Animal Portrait "Wolf." The wolf personality represents loyalty, strong family ties, good communication, education, understanding, and intelligence. Photos courtesy of Mrs. Knabb

There is hope in HOPE Club



Written by:
Olivia Giardina

PAHS has a diverse student body, but there's not always the opportunity to discover these unique identities and cultures, and that's what Hope Club is for. Run by teachers Ms. Lees and Mrs. Lewis, Hope Club promotes awareness around issues of social justice, diversity, and equity. Hope Club meets every other Wednesday after school in Mrs. Lewis' room, I-5.

The creation of the club here at Phoenixville came from a series of pre-pandemic interviews on the streets of New York City that dove into the cultural backgrounds of different people living in the city. Hope Club came to Phoenixville as "a

way to facilitate conversation that doesn't always happen in the classroom. It is a way to open up people's eyes to the world around them and issues around them," said Mrs. Lewis.

Hope Club hosts many activities and special events surrounding prevalent issues, and provides students with a safe place to share and discuss issues that they're passionate about. Their first main event of the school year is the annual Hope Walk for justice. Last year's Hope Walk related to injustice against minorities and reform in the judicial system, and raised \$500 for the Equal Justice Initiative. This year, they raised money for Cooperation Jackson, a program that helps out millions of people who lack access to clean water during a water shortage in Jackson, Mississippi. Last month being Black History Month gave the opportunity for Hope Club to help Destinations share culture through song and dance at the Black History Month assembly that was hosted here at PAHS.

At their meetings, Hope Club holds round table discussions. These allow students to discuss issues such as racial injustice, bullying, discrimination, as well as plan for events. These meetings are hosted by club president Sebastian Amores (11), vice president Ana Beltran (11), and secretary Amy Torres (11).

"I joined Hope Club because I wanted to spread the word about different social issues that people in the school face, and I know that involving myself in these activities makes them better," said Sebastian.

Recently, they've been busy with their activities and planning. Last month was all about Black History, and this month involved a field trip to see a play on the life of Thurgood Marshall, the Supreme Court's first African American justice. Their most recent meetings focused on planning for the Culture Fair hosted here at the high school at the end of April.

Hope Club is an important club for PAHS to educate students and host events that



A photo from this year's Hope Walk fundraiser for justice featuring **Kamouri Littles (12), Mrs. Lewis, and Bysil Coleman (12)**. Photo courtesy of Mrs. Lewis

are student led. "If they don't see these engaging activities, then they probably wouldn't take it upon themselves to learn about these issues," Sebastian said in regards to why he finds his work important.

"I would love to see us expand and have more people come in and help us, especially for the bigger events," added Ana.

Not only are the students passionate about the cause, as both Mrs. Lewis and

Ms. Lees aspire for an even brighter next few years for the club. "Hope Club is hope for the future by celebrating how special we are all, and bonding over cultural similarities and differences," said Ms. Lees.

If you want to get involved in any social justice issues, whether in regards to race, gender, sexual orientation, or to simply celebrate various cultural backgrounds, follow Ana's advice and join Hope Club!



Juniors **Ana Beltran** and **Sebastian Amores** lead HOPE club in hopes to make PAHS a better place for all.

Photo courtesy of Sebastian Amores

Creativity, passion, writing: Gazebo



Written by:
Sharlene Mauricio

ENGLISH:

Many students love to express and share their emotions and creativity and feel that they don't have a way they can, but there is a club to express your emotions in writing. This club is called Gazebo.

The Gazebo club was started about 30 years ago. In recent years it was advised by Mr. Curley; now, Mr. LaLuna is the advisor, which works perfectly, as he also teaches Creative Writing.

Mr. LaLuna likes to think that the club is named Gazebo because before the B-wing existed, there used to be an actual gazebo in the courtyard where students would just hang with friends and talk. It was similar to how the Gazebo club brings a lot of students together to share ideas.

The Gazebo is a literary writing magazine that features short stories, poetry, essays, photography, and art work of the student community. The Gazebo magazine is put out two times each school year, and it is a long process to put together. Although Mr. LaLuna advises the club, the club is run by Editor in Chief, Noelle Collete (senior), and Managing Editor, Ai Forte (senior). Noelle runs the majority of the meetings and creates writing prompts for the club.

At regular meetings on Wednesdays after school they hang out, write, play games, and eat snacks. When it gets closer for the magazine to come out, the club meetings get more dedicated to writing and art that will be put in the issue. The club also needs to edit each issue and make it look pretty. The club decides on

what the theme will be, but according to Noelle the theme is "top secret." You should join the Gazebo club if you like to write and get feedback from other members of the group, and be sure to come to the Gazebo's Coffeehouse event on April 26, at 7 p.m. in the choir room where students will share poetry, music, and eat free food.

Another class Mr. LaLuna teaches is Creative Writing class that lets students experience different styles of writing such as writing children's books, short stories, and poems. The class uses a writing workshop model where they get ideas from other classmates.

Senior Rachel Wascoe takes this class and says, "It's definitely a bright pop in my day and clears my mind, just being able to write."

There are so many writing opportunities within Gazebo and Creative writing class. The club and class are open to anyone who is interested in improving your writing and having fun.

SPANISH:

A muchos estudiantes les encanta expresar y compartir sus emociones y creatividad y sienten que no tienen forma de hacerlo, pero existe un club para expresar sus emociones por escrito. Este club se llama Gazebo.

El club Gazebo se inició hace unos 30 años. En los últimos años fue asesorado por el Sr. Curley; ahora, el Sr. LaLuna es el asesor, lo cual funciona perfectamente, ya que también da clases de Escritura Creativa.

Al Sr. LaLuna le gusta pensar que el club se llama Gazebo porque antes de que existiera el pasillo B, había un kiosco (Gazebo) en el patio donde los estudiantes simplemente pasaban el rato con amigos y conversaban. Fue similar a cómo el club Gazebo reúne a muchos estudiantes para compartir ideas.

El Gazebo es una revista de escritura literaria que presenta cuentos, poesía, ensayos, fotografía y obras de arte de la comunidad estudiantil. La revista Gazebo

se publica dos veces cada año escolar y es un proceso largo de armar. Aunque el Sr. LaLuna asesora al club, el club está dirigido por la Editora en Jefe, Noelle Collete (senior), y la Editora Gerente, Ai Forte (senior). Noelle dirige la mayoría de las reuniones y crea temas de escritura para el club.

En las reuniones regulares los miércoles después de la escuela pasan el rato, escriben, juegan y comen bocadillos. Cuando se acerca el lanzamiento de la revista, las reuniones del club se dedican más a la escritura y el arte que se incluirá en la edición. El club también necesita editar cada edición y hacer que se vea bonito. El club decide cuál será el tema, pero según Noelle, el tema es "un secreto". Debe unirse al club Gazebo si desea escribir y recibir comentarios de otros miembros del grupo, y asegúrese de asistir al evento Gazebo's Coffeehouse el 26 de abril a las 7 p.m. en la sala del coro donde los estudiantes compartirán poesía, música y comerán comida gratis.

Otra clase que enseña el Sr. LaLuna es la clase de escritura creativa que permite a los estudiantes experimentar diferentes estilos de escritura, como escribir libros para niños, cuentos y poemas. En la clase hacen actividades de escritura donde obtienen ideas de otros compañeros de clase.

Rachel Wascoe, estudiante de último año, toma esta clase y dice que "definitivamente es un momento brillante en mi día y aclara mi mente, solo poder escribir".

Hay tantas oportunidades de escritura dentro de Gazebo y la clase de escritura creativa. El club y la clase están abiertos a cualquiera que esté interesado en mejorar su escritura y divertirse.



Managing Editor, **Ai Forte**, Editor in Chief, **Noelle Collete**, (and Mr. LaLuna's knight in armor) proudly display the latest edition of the Gazebo literary magazine. El editor gerente, **Ai Forte**, el editor en jefe, **Noelle Collete**, (y el caballero con armadura del Sr. LaLuna) muestran con orgullo la última edición de la revista literaria Gazebo.

Overwatch 2: The new and improved sequel



Written by:
Gavin Cataldi

Do you like video games where you can play a variety of different characters? Do you enjoy trying new styles of gameplay? If so, "Overwatch 2" is the game for you. It is a 5 versus 5 team first person shooter online game which has many unique characters each with their own signature abilities.

Released on October 4th 2022, the highly anticipated game is a sequel of "Overwatch," which was released in 2016. The year that "Overwatch" was released, it won Game of the Year at the 2016 Game Awards. This, along with many delays of the release date, has set the expectations for "Overwatch 2" very high. It is a fast-paced team game where you must



Characters **Ana** (support) and **Zarya** (tank) fighting the enemy **Orisa** (tank) and **Lucio** (support). Ana is standing on the high ground getting ready to heal Zarya when she takes damage.

Photo: overwatch.com

outplay the enemy team to win. Since your team has three different roles of players, everybody on your team must contribute in order for your team to win.

"Overwatch 2" offers lots of intense gameplay for competitive and casual players, with competitive game modes (where you can be ranked), and casual modes. When going into a competitive or quick play (casual) game, there are three different game modes called push, hybrid, and escort.

In push, you and your team will try to escort the payload (which is a robot) into the last checkpoint of the enemy team, and if you accomplish that you win the game. In order to push the payload, your team has to stand around the payload while uncontested by the enemy team. However, the enemy team can take control over the payload and push it back to the last checkpoint in your spawn if your team does not contest the payload.

The second game mode, called hybrid, consists of a capture point, and then pushing a payload to the enemy team's last



"Overwatch 2's" newest hero, **Kiriko** (support), in action. She defends the capture point on the hybrid map, Hollywood, with her ultimate ability, which gives her team increased movement speed, increased attack speed, and decreased time for cooldowns on abilities.

Photo: www.shacknews.com

spawn. You gain a capture point by having your team stand on it while uncontested by the enemy team.

In the last game mode called escort, your team pushes the payload into the enemy team's spawn while they try to defend. But what's different about this game mode and push is that the enemy team can not push the payload back to your last checkpoint; instead there are two rounds and the teams will take turns attacking and defending.

There are three different categories of characters you can play: tank, damage, and support. Each player can choose which role they want to play before they enter a game. Each team consists of one tank, two damage, and two support players. You can unlock up to 32 characters to play, but you will earn most of them upon downloading the game. The developers of "Overwatch 2," Blizzard, promises to upload consistent updates every season with new heroes and maps. Each season they will also release a battle pass with new skins and cosmetics for each tier you unlock.

So what makes the sequel better than the original? "Overwatch" has two tanks, which gives teams access to having too many shields and is ultimately less fun since

players just aim at shields for most of the game. "Overwatch" also has many stun abilities. Some examples are Cassidy's Flashbang, and Brigitte's Shield Bash that stuns players and prevents the target from moving for one second. Although one second does not sound like a lot, you can be an easy elimination for the enemy team after getting hit by one of these stuns. These stun abilities have been reworked into "Overwatch 2" to make the game more entertaining. Another reason "Overwatch 2" is better than the original is because it is free, while "Overwatch" was \$60 on release.

There are also many characters from the original "Overwatch" that have been reworked to fit in "Overwatch 2" better. For example, Doomfist has been changed from the damage role to the tank role, giving him more health but making him deal less damage. Throughout all the characters, ten of them have been changed by acquiring new abilities to replace some of the old ones.

So is it worth it to download "Overwatch 2"? Absolutely! Blizzard has made some very big changes to the game, which has ultimately made their game more enjoyable to play than the original.

Growing LGBTQ+ representation in the media



Written by:
Bella Ericson

The LGBTQ+ community has come such a long way in recent times. Since 2011, openly gay, lesbian, and bisexual men and women have been permitted to serve in the military. On June 26, 2015, same-sex marriage was legalized nationally within the United States. On June 15, 2020, Bostock v Clayton County stated that discrimination against someone's sexual identity or orientation is illegal. Acceptance for LGBTQ+ in the military expanded with the lifting of the transgender ban in 2021. The LGBTQ+ community has not only grown representation legally, but also in the media.



Kate and her love interest, **Emaline** in "Everything Sucks!" Although social opposites, both begin to fall for each other.

Photo: Youtube

There are numerous TV shows that highlight the struggles and triumphs that come along with being a member of the LGBTQ+ community. Here are just a few, that I think, are truly authentic:

"Everything Sucks!"

"Everything Sucks!" is an American, Netflix original, highlighting the everyday struggle of being a freshman in high school...which is even harder when you begin to question your sexuality...in the 90's. Kate Messner (actor) befriends a geeky group of boys who revolve their lives around A/V and drama club. Kate lives with just her father because her mother suddenly passed away when she was five years old. Kate soon realizes that she is attracted to girls and navigates the hell of high school with this newfound identity of hers. Streaming Service: Netflix

"Derry Girls"

"Derry Girls" is a British teen sitcom, taking place in Derry, Northern Ireland, during the final years of the "Troubles" in the 1990's. The plot revolves around a group of teenage girls named Erin, Orla, Clare, Michelle,...and James, Michelle's cousin. When the girls start running their Catholic school's newspaper, the blockbuster article entitled "The Secret Life of a Lesbian" gains much interest around the school. It is later revealed that Clare is the lesbian in question. It is astonishing how much support Clare receives from her friends and family after coming out. Also, it is not mentioned in the show, but Orla is portrayed as nonbinary. Louisa Harland, the actress that plays Orla, said in an interview, "Something the viewers wouldn't know is that my school skirt is actually shorts because my character isn't defined by a gender." Streaming Service: Netflix



The "Derry Girls," **Clare, Orla, Erin, Michelle, and James**. After **Clare's** coming out in the season one finale, each of them wears rainbow pins in support of her newfound identity.

Photo: BBC

"Euphoria"

The hit TV show "Euphoria" is a major hit for teenagers as it rendered an inside look at teen dating and drug use which is not seen in the media too often. One of the main characters, Jules, is transgender and so is the actress who plays her, Hunter Schafer. "Euphoria" takes an inside look at Jules' childhood in one of the episodes and hints at the factors of her transition as well. Streaming Services: HBOMax, Hulu, Amazon Prime Video

"The Last of Us"

The new hit TV drama "The Last of Us", sprinkles in so much LGBTQ+ representation. Based on the video game created in 2013, father and daughter-like characters Joel and Ellie navigate the post-apocalyptic United States after a zombie-like virus takes over. In one of the episodes entitled "Long, Long Time", Bill, a

survivalist, finds a stranger (Frank) on his property. The two soon realize that they have feelings for each other and quickly fall in love. Also, Ellie has had two same-sex love interests, Riley and Dina. Ellie's sexuality is never formally stated, but she does favor women when it comes to relationships. In the episode "Left Behind" there is a scene where Ellie and Riley share a kiss.

Streaming Service: HBOMax

"Strange World"

Disney's "Strange World" is their first movie highlighting an openly gay teen. 16 year old Ethan Clade is seen having an obvious crush on his male friend, Diazo. The best part of this representation is that Ethan's parents, Searcher and Meridian, fully support his sexuality.

Streaming Service: Disney+

Top 5 most iconic songs of the 2000's

The Purple Press is written, edited, produced and distributed monthly by the Phoenixville Area High School Journalism class (Period 2).

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Written by:
Gavi Cataldi

Many iconic songs came from the 2000's. I'm sure that most of these songs give students nostalgia from their childhood. Out of the hundreds of potential picks for my top five most iconic 2000's songs, I have shortened the list down to just my top five. The criteria for choosing each of these songs is that the song must be very recognizable, meaning that when the song starts you immediately know what it is. The song also must be an overall well-liked song, because there's some songs that are iconic, but also have gotten annoying from being overplayed.

Song Five: "Kids" by MGMT

The beginning of "Kids" starts off with an unmistakable melody. This melody along with the chorus, "Control yourself / take only what you need from it / A family of trees / wanting to be haunted" makes this song so iconic. This song is about all the stages of life, from crawling as a baby to being an adult and the struggles of the real world. This song is one of my favorites from this list. I would have placed it higher, but I feel that the songs above it are more popular.

Song Four: "Hey There Delilah" by Plain White T's

This song kicks off with a guitar and then transitions into its iconic hook, "Hey there Delilah / What's it like in New York City." The song has a simple, catchy melody that is easy to sing along to, and has a memorable hook. Its emotional lyrics make the song relatable. At the time of release, it became very commercially successful, being the seventh most successful song of

2007. Although the song is over a decade old, "Hey There Delilah" has made appearances in movies, TV shows, and commercials, cementing its status as an iconic song.

Song Three: "Viva La Vida" by Coldplay

"Viva La Vida" by Coldplay begins with its signature melody that makes you feel like you're living in a castle back in the 1500s. This song is a story about a very powerful king who used to rule the world, but lost all of his power. The most memorable part of the song is during the chorus, when he sings "For some reason I can't explain / I know Saint Peter won't call my name / Never an honest word / But that was when I ruled the world." This song won "Song of the Year" at the Grammys in 2009, which shows how popular and iconic it is.

Song Two: "Hey Ya" by Outkast

"Hey Ya" by Outkast starts off with a verse from Andre 3000, who sings over a cheerful beat. Although the song sounds very happy on the outside, the meaning of the lyrics is that people in modern day relationships only stay together because they do not want to be alone. The most iconic part of this song is the chorus, where Andre 3000 sings "Heyyyyy yaaaaaaa" multiple times. This song comes from one of the most iconic rap groups of all time, and this song pushed boundaries of their music. Since they primarily make rap music, Outkast was unsure how this song would be viewed by their audience. But to their surprise, it became their biggest hit and secured them a Grammy win for "Best Album of the Year," which was the second and last time a rap album has won that



Andre 3000 in the music video for "Hey Ya," Outkast's smash hit. Photo: IMDB

title.
Song One: "I Gotta Feeling" by Black Eyed Peas

As soon as the beat to this song starts, everybody immediately knows what song it is and their feet start tapping to the beat. This song is iconic because at the height of its popularity you would hear it everywhere out in public, whether it be from your car radio or somebody else playing it. The song makes you want to kick back, relax, and have a good time. Another reason why this song takes my number is because of the highly popular Minecraft remix, with over 100 million views on YouTube, which gives many people nostalgia from their childhood. At the time of release, this song spent 14 consecutive weeks at Number 1 on the Billboard Hot 100, becoming the best selling song of the 21st century until 2014.



The Black Eyed Peas on set for the music video for "I Gotta Feeling," my number one most iconic song from the 2000s. Photo: www.pluggedin.com

My favorite underrated artists from the 1990s

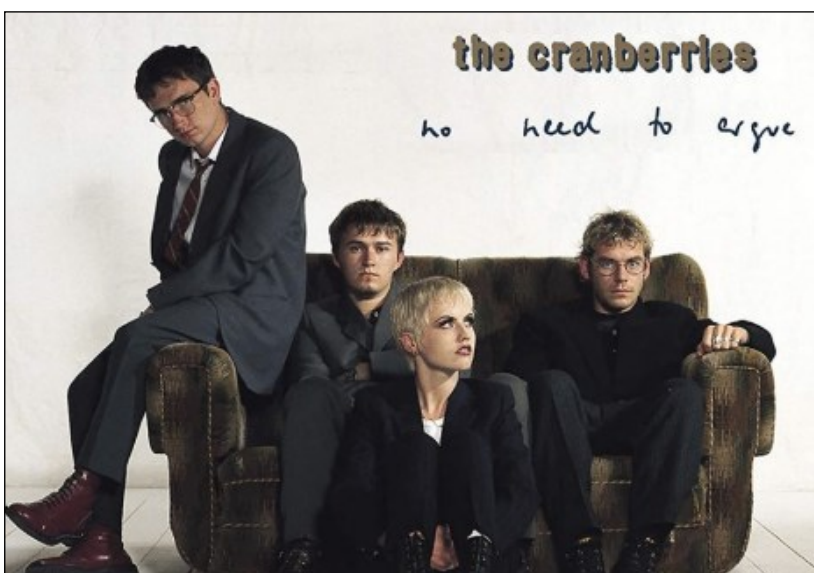


Written by:
Katie McGinnis

The Cranberries: Irish rock group The Cranberries was founded in Limerick, Ireland in 1989 by lead vocalist Dolores O'riordan, guitarist Noel Hogan, bassist Mike Hogan, and drummer Fergal Lawler under the moniker the Cranberry Saw Us. My personal favorite songs are "Linger," "Ode to my Family" and "Sunday." What I admire most about these songs is not only the unique singing style incorporated into the song, but the pleasant/dreamy tones that come from the music.

Mazzy Star: American alternative rock band Mazzy Star was founded in 1988 in Santa Monica, California, using Opal's leftover members. When Kendra Smith departed Opal, Hope Sandoval, a founding member and David Roback's buddy, took

When a lot of people think of 90s music, they think of bands probably like Nirvana or Alice in Chains. However, many of my personal favorite artists from the 90s might be considered "Shoegaze," a type of indie and alternative rock distinguished by its ethereal blend of muffled vocals, distorted and effect-laden guitars, feedback, and loudness. Here are some underrated artists from the 90s you should check out.



One of the Cranberries' best albums, "No Need to Argue" features one of my favorite songs, "Ode to my Family" and one of their most popular songs, "Zombie." Photo: www.cranberries.com



Hope Sandoval, lead singer of Mazzy Star, performing in New York, 1994. Photo: Instagram

over as the group's vocalist. You may already know Mazzy Star from their song, "Fade into You." Even though they have one song that became popular they have other great songs, my personal favorites being "Blue Light," "Rose Blood," "Be My Angel," and "Look Down Under The Bridge." I love how perfectly they captured soft tones in music.

Mojave 3: A band consisting of former Slowdive (a 90's shoegaze band) members such as Neil Halstead, Rachel Goswell, and Ian McCutcheon, Mojave 3's music is much more soft-sounding than Slowdive. Some of my personal favorite songs are "Love Songs on the Radio," "Pictures," "Life in Art," and "Candle Song 3." I admire that they make the most peaceful

acoustic guitar music, especially in their album, "Ask me Tomorrow."

Eliot Smith: Real name Steven Paul Smith, Eliot Smith was a multi-instrumentalist and singer-songwriter who unfortunately passed away in October 2003. Over his career, his music took many different forms, but he undoubtedly had some themes that stood out from the others as a folk, indie, and low-fi rock musician. His music occasionally veered into the Indie-pop realm. Heatmiser, his first band, played grunge and punk music. I would argue that all of his songs are great just because of how talented a guitarist he is, but my favorite songs by Elliot Smith are "Needle in the Hay," and "Between the Bars."

SPEAK OUT!

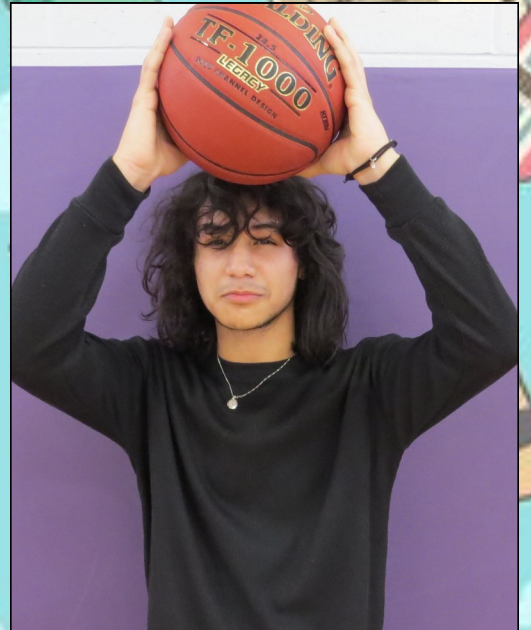
Where is the BEST place to go for spring break?



Emma Ward (junior)
"Munich, Venice, Ljubljana, Zagreb, Vienna, and Budapest, because I have never been and am excited to go!"



Tyler Johnstone (freshmen)
"Japan, because there are lots of things to see such as culture and technology."



Cameron Robinson (junior)
"Sea Isle, because there's nothing to do."



Andrew Nowakowski (sophomore)
"Florida Keys, because it's big."



Chase Thorburn (freshman)
"Miami, Florida. I like the weather and surfing."



Mr. English (cow enthusiast)
"Hawaii, because it is surrounded by water and it's sunny."



Nayla Garcia (senior)
"Going to Texas to see my family."



Maggy Daly (freshman)
"North Wildwood, because they have really good restaurants and the surf beach is nice."



Mr. Weinstein (professional swimmer/European)
"It doesn't matter where you go, as long as you're surrounded by the ones you love and a good book."

SPEAK OUT!

Where is the WORST place to go for spring



Xander Bernal (senior)
"Ryan Coughlin's house because it is hard to get inside and is a little stay."



Mr. Acosta (Costa Rican travel agent)
"If you have kids, Disney World, because you have to wait in long lines."



Scout Woronko (senior)
"Lancaster, PA because there is nothing going on."



Caroline Hallman (sophomore)
"Washington, D.C., because it's boring."



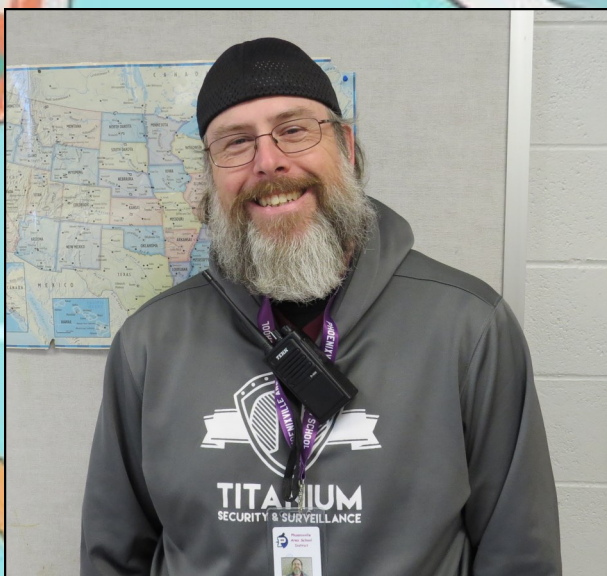
Kylie Moore (sophomore)
"Tennessee, because I've been there and I didn't like it."



Mrs. Cordingley (professional chemist)
"Gilbertsville, because I live there."



Juliana Raeburn (sophomore)
"New York City, because it's dirty."



Bill (knight in titanium armor)
"The Jersey Shore because it is dirty, and you see the same people at home that you do at the beach."



Cow (cow)
"A slaughterhouse."

Bladees out for "Spider"



Written by:

Griffin Meanix

because you've never listened to Bladee before. It's an acquired taste.

As a young man from Stockholm Sweden, Bladee's success has become quite the phenomenon and has essentially invented the genres of cloud rap, and experimental pop alike. Bladee has spent his time in the music industry mainly rapping and producing, in both collaboration with Drain Gang (formerly known as Gravity Boys Shield Gang,) and in his own personal projects. Bladee has been professionally rapping and producing since about 2016, and being in the sound cloud rap scene, there have been many phases and variations to both his musical and production style.

In early years, Bladee (real name: Benjamin Reichwald, 28) has notably been influenced by Lofi, this can be very clearly seen in his album "Gluee" which demonstrates a large variety of less intense vocals which almost sound whiny, paired with more dreamy beats, that have defined his style of euphoric sound that carries over to all of his music. However, in recent years, his style could be defined as more experimental, with more overstimulating beats, and vocals that include much more distortion, and a more overdriven listening experience.

This new LP reminds me of Bladee's second most recent release, (big surprise) with Drain Gang Co-creator, Ecco2k, "Crest," which has a very similar drill style sound through the use of skittering high hats in multiple songs. Throughout Bladee's recent years of music production, he has expressed influences from mythology and religion. This album contains much influence from Jewish culture, as the album cover for Spider contains the word "truth" written in Hebrew on Bladee's forehead. This LP is also heavily inspired by the mythological story of Icarus, the fourth track being "Icarus 3reestyle," and the story of Icarus being referenced heavily throughout the song. Bladee clearly

It's pretty bad, but you get used to it. Bladee, and the Drain Gang collective, are commonly thought of as poor musicians with no redeemability. To an extent, I understand this, as the euphoric beats and compressed vocals are very hard for the untuned ear to enjoy. However, through enough listening and exposure, Drain Gang and Bladee can be easily enjoyed. Just don't get upset if you listen to Bladee's LP "Spiderr," and don't like it



Bladee pictured modeling for Marc Jacobs. His personal style changes drastically between public appearances. Photo: IMDb



Above, the "Spiderr" album cover, showing Bladee in a very epic fashion. This dramatic imagery is not new to Bladee's persona. If you look closely, you can see the Hebrew enscrbed on Bladee's forehead.

lives in a state of constant euphoria, seeing himself as akin to Icarus, with lyrics like "flying too close to the sun." These

lyrics reflect the sound Bladee produces, and develops Bladee's theme as being quite dream-like and numb.

I enjoyed listening to "Spiderr," and while I would not place it as his top album, I think it's definitely one of my favorite works of his. I'm looking forward to see what Bladee has in stock for next year, and how his style will change in the future.

Grade: Rating :B+
Album: Spiderr
Genre: Cloud Rap
Record label: Year 0001

Bad Bunny's best album yet: "A Summer Without You"



Written by:

Sharlene Mauricio

all over the world. He made a couple of singles before putting out his first album "X100PRE" in 2018. In the past six years he has released six albums including his newest album "A Summer Without You," ("Un Verano Sin Ti") which had mixed reviews, as it is different from his previous albums.

"A Summer Without You" showcases a rollercoaster of emotions in songs like "After the Beach," "Effect," and "Titi Asked Me." Songs like "Beautiful Eyes," "Another Sunset," and "A Coco" are songs that will create beautiful memories of the person you love. In this album, Bad Bunny collaborates with other artists such as Rauw Alejandro, Tony Dize, and Chencho. One of the very popular songs on the album is "I Behave Well."

Not only does he make songs that people can relate with, but Bad Bunny also creates songs about real-world issues. For example, "Andrea" talks about not allowing anyone to be abusive in a relationship: "Dreaming of someone who can understand her and doesn't want to change her,

Imagine this: you are out and about with your friends having a good time and enjoying life, but you need music to match the energy going on. Music by Bad Bunny is the way to go because you can jam out to him no matter what you're feeling.

Bad Bunny is a Puerto Rican singer making Latin-based, reggae music. People also call him Benito as his real name is Benito Antonio Martínez Ocasio. He has been a growing artist since 2016 and first started off as a SoundCloud rapper like many people do when starting their music career. He was then recognized by his song "Tell Them" and was immediately asked to sign a record deal with "Hear This Music." Since then he's been gaining fame



The album cover for "A Summer Without You".

just love her." Another moving song is "The Blackout" which has a message about Puerto Rico having environmental issues. He explains more in the music video on how people just see Puerto Rico as a beautiful place and exposes those he feels are to blame for the issues.

Bad Bunny's "Un Verano Sin Ti" ("A Summer Without You") was No. 1 on the Billboard 200 album chart for 10 nonconsecutive weeks, and many of his songs did well on the Billboard singles charts. He even went on tour to support this album in August through December, traveling in the US and South America. You can see all over TikTok how people would go in hopes to get last minute tickets. Ever

since then he has released three collaborations, recently "Storm" with Gorillaz.

Overall, many people can relate to the music of Bad Bunny, especially his latest album "A Summer Without You," as it has many emotions including sadness and joy. It's an album I can also listen to and dance to at any given moment. It's on every platform to listen to music like YouTube, Spotify, Apple music, and more.

Grade: A-
Title: "A Summer Without you" ("Un Verano Sin Ti")
Release Date: May 6, 2022
Genre: Reggaeton



Bad Bunny ready for "Fangirl Fantasy Night" in December 2022. Photo: www.hindustantimes.com/

“The Last of Us”: Love, death, and mushrooms



Written by:

Noah Kocher

How long would you survive in a zombie apocalypse? We’ve all thought about it, and we’ve all certainly seen our fair share of zombie television. However, from “The Walking Dead” to “Shaun of the Dead,” the best zombie media has proven again and again to be more about us, humanity, than the creepy corpses. The latest in this long tradition – HBO’s “The Last of Us” – knocks this genre of apocalyptic introspection out of the park.

The series, which spans nine episodes in its first season, begins with an ominous 1967 TV interview with two epidemiologists, one of whom is keenly aware of the global pandemic risks posed by air travel and one who is, at first comically, afraid of mushrooms. The same fungal species that turn ants into zombies, he says, could evolve to infect us. His co-interviewee argues with him, but as he speaks, the crowd, the host, the room – and even us viewers – stop laughing and grow silent: could this really happen? In the world of the show, it does. 36 years later, in Texas, a man named Joel Miller (Pedro Pascal), his daughter Sarah (Nico Parker), and his brother Tommy (Gabriel Luna), are torn apart as the world descends into fungi-fueled zombie madness.

We flash forward another 20 years to discover Joel, now a hardened survivor, living in a quarantine zone in what used to be Boston, selling drugs and smuggling supplies amidst the backdrop of a shattered society. Like in much zombie content, the zombies aren’t the only mon-

sters: the remnants of the government are entirely controlled by a fascist military dictatorship. Just beneath the surface, revolution simmers in the form of the Fireflies, a group of freedom fighters led in Boston by Marlene (Merle Dandridge), whose path crosses with Joel when she needs a 14 year-old girl, Ellie (Bella Ramsey), smuggled out of the city and taken west to Firefly doctors who are working on a cure for the Cordyceps infection that caused the apocalypse. Joel and his partner Tess (Anna Torv) agree to help in exchange for supplies and a truck that will allow them to find and rescue Tommy, with whom Joel has recently lost contact,

in Wyoming.

Dramatic twists ensue from there, of course, and each episode is well worth your time – so I won’t spoil anything. The performances by Pascal, Ramsey, and Parker, (as well as by Nick Offerman and Murray Bartlett in the sensational and gut-wrenching third episode), are fantastic and sell the audience on the emotional relationships between the characters that underlie the fundamental theme of the show. Much of “The Last of Us” avoids the zombies entirely, with the true monsters being death, aging, fear, love, and loss. The show shines where it displays the power and struggle of human connec-

tion in the face of these monsters.

Of course, “The Last of Us” was a video game first, released in 2013 by Naughty Dog. In a media climate where video game adaptations are some of the worst entertainment around (like the “Sonic” movies, the “Mortal Kombat” movie, and probably – let’s face it – the upcoming “Mario” movie), HBO and series creators Craig Mazin and Neil Druckmann have done what seemed impossible.

“The Last of Us,” at times, feels like a video game, in the best ways possible. Tactful first-person driving shots plunge the audience into the action in the very first episode, but the series also makes use of long, slow, non-interactive shots. The characters walk slowly in a lonely landscape, and we just watch with awe. This artful use of the film medium, combining faithful adaptation of video game action with the long, slow pondering of Andrei Tarkovsky’s 1979 film “Stalker” (which you should look up, trust me), is what brings HBO’s presentation of “The Last of Us” to the same lofty heights as its already well developed characters (and clickers too).

“The Last of Us” has plenty of action, but it’s thoughtful and takes its time to develop tension and emotion – don’t expect “The Walking Dead.” Be prepared for gore and horror. If you like that, you’ll love this show, and if you’re squeamish like I am, it might be a struggle at times. Everyone – everyone – needs to see episode three and watch the staggeringly beautiful and haunting story of Bill (Nick Offerman) and Frank (Murray Bartlett) – but I doubt you’ll want to stop there.



Ellie (Bella Ramsey) and Joel (Pedro Pascal) learn to care for each other as they travel through the post-apocalyptic United States on their dangerous mission.
Photo: IMBd

Grade: A+

Rating: TV-MA

Genre: Post-apocalyptic drama

Starring: Pedro Pascal, Bella Ramsey

“Her Loss”: An iconic collaboration



Written by:

Gabrielle

McNamee

In the era of modern rap, two of today’s most iconic rappers are Drake and 21 Savage. Originally from Toronto, Drake has been releasing hits since his 2009 album “So Far Gone,” solidifying a legacy in the world of hip-hop with a fourteen-year (and counting) career. Born in London, yet moving to Atlanta when he was seven, 21 Savage’s career has been growing exponentially since his first album, “The Slaughter Tape.” The pair of iconic rappers who have been dominating the game for nearly a decade came together in November of 2022 to create “Her Loss”, creating a masterful work exemplifying several types of expression flawlessly.

Previous to Drake’s breakout in the late 2000s, rap had become dominated by performers with strong lyricism and rapid flow. Artists like Eminem, Lil Wayne, T-Pain, and Kanye West orchestrated a more traditional feel of rap with coordination to beats and quick tempos. Drake brought a rhythmic style to rap with his immersion to the genre, introducing a melodic structure to the world.

This style of music rapidly became well-known as Drake produced hit after hit on his earliest albums with songs like “Unforgettable”, “Marvins Room”, “Take Care,” and countless others. However, Drake never fully abandoned the traditional style of rap, with other songs such as “0 to 100,” “Headlines,” and “Worst

Behavior.” In his latest works, Drake began to drift more heavily to a melodic style of rap, yet with the influence of 23 Savage’s almost drill-like style, “Her Loss,” the collaboration album between the two artists, is a flawlessly styled piece.

“Her Loss” has only one feature, with Travis Scott, on track ten. With so many successful previous collaborations before the album between the pair, Drake and 21 need little excess talent to make the songs pop. The pair has been producing hits together since the 2016 single “Sneakin.” In 2020, Drake featured on 21’s “Mr. Right Now,” making an extremely catchy verse that would blow up on social media. On Drake’s 2021 project,

“Certified Lover Boy,” arguably the best (and only good song) came from another collaboration from the pair: “Knife Talk.” Drake’s extremely malleable style allows him to collaborate extremely well with 21’s more traditional style, making their most recent work, “Jimmy Cooks,” a massive hit.

On this new album, countless types of rap can be found, clearly influenced by both performers. “Middle of the Ocean” is a clear example of Drake’s style on the album, while “Major Distribution” exemplifies 21 Savage’s heavy-bass style. A handful of songs, however, like “Spin Bout U,” “Circo Loco,” and “Traucherous Twins” perfectly meld the two styles,



Drake and 21 Savage onstage in October performing together.
Photo: newyorktimes.com

Grade: A-

Title: “Her Loss”

Genre: Rap

Release Date: November 4th, 2022

making them my personal three favorite songs on the album.

While he traditionally has the profile of being a “nice guy,” 21 Savage’s influence on Drake is eminent in the lyrics. This is evident on the album’s eleventh track, “Broke Boys,” with lyrics embodying the toxicity the pair creates. In the second verse, the pair raps “Woah, all that foundation she wearing, she think she QC/Tellin’ all my sneaky links you with me/You must be Coach K ‘cause you ain’t P.” Evidently, the pair mimics each other’s energy on this project, with Drake taking inspiration from 21 Savage’s style and attitude, while 21 becomes more creative with his lyrics than seen before.

Several songs on the album are perfect for any time of year, but with summer coming up, songs like “Circo Loco,” “Traucherous Twins,” and “Jumbotron Sh** Poppin” are perfect for the warm weather with their quick bass and up-tempo rhythm. Overall, the album is extremely well produced by Drake’s long-time producer Noah Shebib, with only one miss for me. Although “3AM on Glenwood” fell short in my opinion, it doesn’t take away from the otherwise excellently strung together work.

While some listeners were slightly disappointed by this work, I feel the pair worked flawlessly together making an extremely cohesive album, while still showcasing a variety of styles. Surely, fans of any style of rap could find a song for them on “Her Loss.”

Phoenixville Boys' Basketball: New beginnings



Written by:
Chris Melvin

Losing 11 seniors and staying competitive the next season is a tough task for any high school sport. That's what Boys' Basketball Head Coach, Eric Burnett, was tasked with. While some may call it a rebuilding year, the results prove that the Phantoms will be a force for years to come.

Alongside ninth year head coach Burnett were assistant coaches Erik Rutchauskas, Chris Dunleavy, and

Marquese Richardson. They started the season off slow and ended strong, finishing with a 10-12 record and a 6-7 record in Frontier league play.

Coach Burnett said "We knew it would take some time to get acclimated to the speed and physicality of the varsity game, so we just wanted to see us improve each day and game as the season progressed"

Only one player from last year's starting lineup returned, and that was junior Max Lebisky (power forward). The new starting lineup consisted of freshman Dawson Brown (point guard), sophomore Deacon Baratta (shooting guard), and juniors Lebisky, Bryce Absher (small forward), and Aidan McClintock (center). Max was named First Team All Conference, and Deacon was selected to second team all conference. Max averaged 9.5

PPG, 8.5 RPG and 5.1 assists a game. He had five double doubles and two triple doubles. Deacon averaged 11 PPG, 5 RPG, and shot 83% from the free throw line.

The Phantoms compiled a 3-4 record against PAC play this year, which put them in fourth in the Frontier, and ninth overall in the PAC. Their best matchups came against Upper Merion and, of course, Pope John Paul II, who one could say is Phoenixville's biggest rival. In two close games against Upper Merion, they came out on top both times. Against PJP, the Phantoms lost twice.

Coach Burnett said "All teams were very balanced this year and capable of winning any night."

The team hit a turning point when they took a trip to Wildwood for a tournament. Coach Burnett said: "We were really struggling at the start of the year with a 2-7 record. We ended up beating a really tough Strath Haven team at the Wildwood tournament and it propelled us into winning, going 8-4 in the next 12 games. Our team began to gain confidence and play together after the Wildwood tournament."

Captain Max Lebisky added, "Our team trip to Wildwood was fun and a good team bonding experience."

Proud of his team, Coach Burnett described them as "very unselfish and smart basketball players. They understand the game and understand how to make key plays in tough times in the games. Our team is very unselfish because they do not care who gets the credit and always want to do what it takes to win and improve."

Giving further credit where it's due, Burnett added: "Thank you to all of the students in the student section, teachers, administration, and family/friends who



Junior **Max Lebisky** lines up his three against Upper Merion.



Captains **Bryce Absher, Max Lebisky, and Christian Cervino** pose with senior **Wade Carruthers** (#12).
Photos courtesy of LifeTouch

supported us this year."

This program has an incredibly bright future, with only one senior graduating this year: Wade Carruthers. Coach Burnett said: "We have a ton of experience and talent coming up in the next couple years. Our freshman class is really strong as well, so we are very excited."

The Phantoms are ready to do what it takes to win and compete at a high level. Their young core is getting better every day, while taking the necessary steps to evolve as players and teammates.

Girls' Basketball: Shooting for states



Written by:
Emma Ward

Determined, hard-working, and passionate are a few words to describe the 2023 Phoenixville Girls' Basketball team. Winning both the Frontier division, and a District playoff game (for the first time in 15 years), the Lady Phantoms rewrote history. Finishing with a PAC record of 9-4 and an overall record of 14-10, the girls greatly improved from their eight total wins in their 2022 season. The drive, grit, and commitment displayed by each player was a leading factor in the success the team found this year.

Heading into only her second season as head coach, Tracey Sterling worked alongside assistant coaches Kristin Clancy and Kennedy Coffelt. Key players in the team's success included Jaime Michaud (senior), Caroline Flick (senior), Lucy Mauerman (senior), Mali Warren (junior), Neveah Latimore-Beasley (sophomore), Ava Gnias (sophomore), Riley Ford-Bey (freshman), and Kayden Baratta (freshman). The captains from this year also contributed a great deal to the team chemistry. Seniors Jaime Michaud, Caroline Flick, Caroline Sullivan, Emelia Faulkner, and Kristen Ray all helped to create the positive team environment.

Coach Sterling stated, "[The captains] all did a great job of leading the team both on and off the court. They are a great group of seniors who provided positive peer mentoring to the underclass."

Similar to the majority of the sports

teams at Phoenixville, Pope John Paul II was the girls' biggest Frontier division rival. The first time they faced off, PJP came out with the win by one point. However, when they faced off once more, the Lady Phantoms beat them by 14 points.

In addition to this victory against PJP, an impressive accomplishment the girls achieved was winning their final six PAC games to claim the league title, which allowed them to play against Radnor in the first round of Districts playoffs. Working hard throughout the entire game, the Lady Phantoms beat Radnor 49-37, winning a District game for the first time in 15 years. The team's strengths, which included hitting outside shots and having numerous players assisting both offensively and defensively, con-

tributed a great deal both in this game and the previous ones.

Meeting pre-season goals, the Lady Phantoms were successful in placing first in the Frontier. Commenting on this, senior captain Jaime Michaud stated, "Our best achievement was winning the Frontier. We were projected to do that in a newspaper article, and we actually came out and did it!"

Although they did not make it to states, the girls were not far from it, which is another huge accomplishment achieved this season. Coach Sterling explained they showed heart and will to win every game, which are key characteristics to any notable athlete. In fact, five of the team's players received All Frontier awards, with Caroline Flick and Mali Warren making First Team All Frontier;



Senior captain **Caroline Flick** leaps for a layup against Chester High School in the first game of the season.

and Jaime Michaud, Ava Gnias, and Riley Ford-Bey making Second Team All Frontier.

Reflecting on her final experience as a player on the Phoenixville Girls' Basketball team, senior captain Caroline Flick stated, "My favorite moment of the season would be the off-the-field activities. Some of the team bonding we did, like going out to dinners before games or after practices, were always fun".

Next season, the commitment from both the upper and lower classmen should result in another successful season.

Coach Sterling stated, "We are only going to continue to get better. We have a young team and an excellent core of players returning next year. We also have a number of good eighth graders who will contribute to the team."

After many years of struggle, the future for the Lady Phantoms Basketball team is looking bright, and in 2024 they're looking to win another Frontier title and advance further into States.



Seniors (front row) **Lucy Mauerman, Caroline Sullivan, Emelia Faulkner**, (back row) **Jaime Michaud, Caroline Flick, and Kristen Ray**, ready for their Senior Night game against Upper Merion.

Phoenixville Swim: Making a splash in the PAC!



Written by:
Jonathan
Nejman

High school swim teams all over the country reflect on their year's struggles and celebrate their accomplishments as the winter season comes to a close. The swim season for the Phantoms has been one to remember, with thrilling finishes and outstanding individual performances.

For the first time in team history, the boys' team finished the season with a better record (7-3) than the girls' team (6-4). Led by senior captains Lauren Harth, Hadley Mardis, Taryn Blitzer, Joel Smith, and Head Coach Mr. Weinstein, expectations were high coming into the season. The team had many senior swimmers returning to the team and even some former athletes who dropped the sport years ago.

16th-year Head Coach Mr. Weinstein had this to say about the team expectations: "We knew this year we would show dramatic improvement, and we did across the board, from our beginning swimmers to our elite swimmers."

The team had a lot of competitive matches this year, including some exciting matchups against rival schools. For instance, the boys came out with a gritty win against Perk Valley but fell just short in a close one against Methacton. In these competitive matchups, the outcome can change on a close finish between third and fourth place, or even come down to the final race.

Mr. Weinstein said: "We do a great job of valuing every swim. It's not just the first-place winners that win meets for you,

but a clutch 5th-place finish over 6th can be just as important."

On the girls' side of the team, star swimmer Kenzie Padilla (junior) had a record-shattering year, as she broke NINE pool records this season and ended up competing in the State Championship in the 100 fly, and 500 free. Padilla, Hadley Mardis, Liza Barbash, and Maddy Deeney all qualified for their 200 freestyle relay at the State Championship.

The PIAA State Championship was held at Bucknell University March 17-18 and Phoenixville was the 26th seed in the state. Maddy Deeny competed in the 200 freestyle, swam a personal best time, and finished in 18th position. Hadley, Liza, Maddy, and Kenzie's 200 freestyle relay team was the final seed at 28th, but impressively improved their time to 20th place. In her individual events, Kenzie Padilla made it to the finals and took third and sixth place.

The boys had a phenomenal season as well. Led by seniors Joel Smith, Chris

Melvin, Gavin Cataldi, Griffin Meanix, Nate Sbei, Hudson Narke, Jude Daly, and Kolton Finger, the team showed massive improvement from last season, improving their times in relay races, setting many personal records, and solidifying themselves as one of the best teams in the PAC.

Senior captain Joel Smith and diving coach Mrs. Smith (yes, his mom) hosted Friday night diving practices that were attended by over a dozen swimmers. Ella and Sara Ballow, Kolton Finger and Jude Daly had never dived before, but learned a lot and helped contribute to the team throughout the season.

Joel Smith reflected on the team's best accomplishments this past season: "For the girls, it was definitely Kenzie Padilla, Maddy Deeny, Hadley Mardis and Liza Barbash for qualifying for States, and on the boys' side it was definitely [sophomore] Nick Darragh going to Districts for the 100 free and 50 free."

Senior Hadley Mardis, on what she will

miss most about the team, said, "The people. We were all so close and have such a special connection and leaving is going to be so hard."

Phoenixville's swim team had an outstanding year, breaking numerous records and solidifying itself as one of the best teams in the PAC. The team says goodbye to many swimmers and even part of the coaching staff, as Assistant Coaches Tom Gamble and Julie Cordingley swim off into the sunset of retirement.

As always, Coach Weinstein has high hopes and is excited about what's to come next season: "I expect next year to be even better thanks to some strong rising freshmen that will help bolster our team depth and make our relays even stronger. My biggest concern for next year is not having enough hotel rooms at Bucknell for the state championship meet, because that's how confident I am that we will be sending many swimmers there next year."



Hadley Mardis (senior), **Maddy Deeney** (sophomore), **Liza Barbash** (junior), and **Kenzie Padilla** (junior) took home a combined ten silver medals and two gold medals in their relay and individual events at the PAC championship meet and solidified their position as qualifiers for Districts.
Photo courtesy of Mr. Weinstein

Wrestling the odds



Written by:
Griffin
Meanix

The sport of wrestling is one that requires high levels of physical and mental endurance. It also requires a full squad to fill out all weight classes to compete against other schools. Unfortunately, after losing eight senior wrestlers last year, the PAHS Wrestling team was forced to start from a cleaner slate, with many fewer wrestlers. Because of this, they had to forfeit a lot of matches. So while on paper it may seem that a year without many victories is a bad thing, it would be mighty hasty to assume that this was not a successful year for the team.

While the team was small (only six

wrestlers), the athletes developed a strong connection, and gained much individual growth. The young team was composed of Zack Rakowski (sophomore, 107), Landon Koch (sophomore, 139), Dylan Stehly (freshman, 145), Matteo Ferri (junior, 152), Ryan Rae (junior, 160), and Chris "Bubba" Potuznik (freshman, 285). In his second year leading the program, Head Coach Brad Clark was assisted by Richard Dracup and Jason Dibofsky.

Wrestling captain Ryan Rae said, "As a team, we just knew it was going to be a tough season, numbers wise, so we knew we would just have to use this opportunity to push harder and just make us better wrestlers overall."

Although a lack of wrestlers gave them a record of 0-4 in the Frontier and an overall record of 2-15, Phoenixville Wrestling's year was quite impressive due to what coach Clark described as their ability to "show lots of heart and battle." For example, Matteo Ferri finished 6th at the



Junior **Matteo Ferri** and sophomore **Zach Rakowski** ready to throw down.
Photos courtesy of LifeTouch



Zack Rackowski looks to work up from bottom to earn an escape.

District I Championships, and Matteo Ferri and Ryan Rae were named Second Team All League. The team scored 36-0 wins over West Philadelphia and Mariana Bracetti Academy.

While building this team up, many strong friendships have been built and amplified. Captain Zach Rackowski stated that "My favorite moment probably was when Bubba Potosnick got his first win at Pottstown... it was just a really good match. It was fun to watch, [and] it was fun to celebrate with him."

Friendships like these are a true depiction of the strength of a team's bond, and depict the delicious power of their hard work and comradery on a team.

Despite all of the odds, it's clear that the wrestling team has made some major developments, and built a strong foundation for a very exciting next few years. This passion in spite of unlikely odds is quintessential to the spirit of wrestling, and is a true display of the strength of this team.

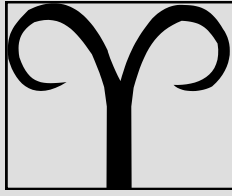
As Coach Clark said, "Our staff couldn't be prouder of the wrestlers. They always give it 100%, and will improve drastically with a little bit more time and experience. Next year we look to have 12-16 incoming eighth graders! There is a good core group of wrestlers coming up that will put Phoenixville wrestling back on everyone's radars."

Written by: Emma Ward & Sharlene Mauricio

ARIES: (March 21 - April 19)

Surprisingly, with Neptune leaving your star chart, there is a lot of luck for you to come. You'll be lucky enough to find gold coins at the end of the rainbow (or in the street)! You may even get the raise you want at work. Your co-workers will treat you better. Your boss will also give you a week's holiday with pay. You'll be able to spend time with your friends and live your life to the fullest. Go play ding dong ditch because you'll never get caught!.

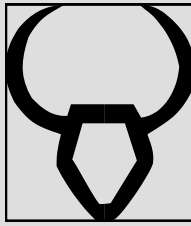
This Month: Wear and drink only green colored things.



TAURUS: (April 20 - May 20)

You got this! This month is a time for you to shine as Mercury is entering your star chart. It's the best month of the year, where all the love you deserve will come to you. Go purchase a pair of pink fuzzy socks with unicorn faces on them. With them, you'll be more relaxed than ever. You'll be motivated to accomplish what's on your mind, and your friends will appreciate you. The time for you to shine is here, so take it.

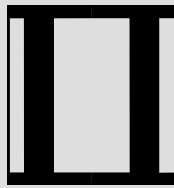
This Month: Dance in the middle of the cafeteria dressed as a leprechaun.



GEMINI: (May 21 - June 20)

Mars is leaving your star chart, so it's not the best month for your love life. It looks like the leprechaun isn't your biggest fan either, so you better cancel that special date before running the risk of waking up with a pimple on your nose. More bad news: The show you love on Netflix won't be available anymore. You'll be stuck in your house eating ice cream and it won't even be your favorite flavor. Hope the rest of the year is better.

This Month: Stick your face in a plate full of whipped cream while screaming.



CANCER: (June 21 - July 22)

This month it is not a good time for luck, even though Saturn is entering your star chart. You'll step on gum in your new shoes and will leave a sticky trail. And just when you think everything is going well, think again, because it isn't. You'll trip and fall on your face in front of the school. This will cause you to miss the best day at school where there are parties in classes. Sorry, but your luck isn't looking all that good. The only good news is that you will pass any tests you have.

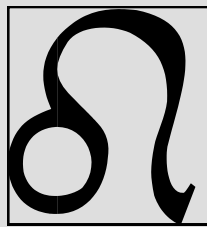
This Month: Wear your shirt and pants inside out to school.



LEO: (July 23 - August 22)

The luck for you this month seems positive. Keep hoping it stays that way. As Jupiter is coming into the star chart, you'll get what you want every time you ask for it. Your mom will treat you with love and surprise you with special treats in your lunch for school. Your classmates will love you, and give you the attention for the month like you are the coolest kid in the school. You'll be able to pass your classes as the third marking period is coming to an end.

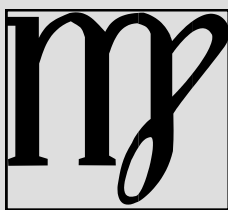
This Month: Wash the dishes with raspberry jam.



VIRGO: (August 23 - September 22)

Oops! The time where Venus is leaving your star chart is also the time where no one knows what is coming for you. It's a 50/50 month. You could possibly have the best month of your life where you get a raise, the attention of your crush, and win the lottery. But don't be so sure about that. There is also a chance this could be the worst month of your year. You could get fired, embarrass yourself in front of your crush, and be scammed out of \$200. Cross your fingers you get the best month.

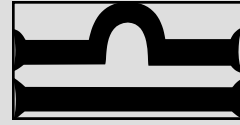
This Month: Style your hair like the Trolls.



LIBRA: (September 23 - October 22)

Neptune is aligning in your star chart this month which will grant you lots of luck! Yay! This month, you'll win a new toothbrush and toothpaste in a raffle. This is the perfect opportunity to shoot your shot with your crush since your teeth will be so clean! In a strange twist of fate, your ex-best friend's shower will falter and instead of showering them with water, permanent blue dye comes out. To your pleasure, they'll come to school looking like a smurf!

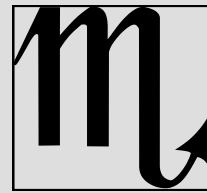
This Month: Put a pinch of cinnamon in every glass of water you drink.



SCORPIO: (October 23 - November 21)

Bad news! With Uranus leaving your star chart, it's in your best interest to watch out for any red birds flying around. If you see one you will immediately forget how to walk and you'll have to crawl everywhere you go. At home? Crawl from your room to the kitchen. At work? Crawl while trying to babysit your neighbors. At school? Crawl all the way from the cafeteria to Mr. Winters' room. Who knows, maybe you'll come to enjoy being off your feet.

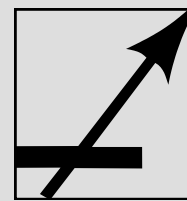
This Month: Wear all white to scare away the birds.



SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 - December 21)

As Mars enters your star chart, things will start looking up for you! Your friend you were afraid of losing will randomly reach out to you, asking to hang out. Be on the lookout for that text! Keeping up with your good fortunes, your grades will start to get better as the weather gets warmer. This is perfect timing as the third making period comes to a close and the fourth begins. Make sure you spend time outside and soak in the sun!

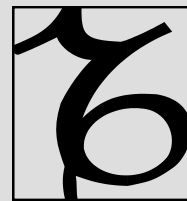
This Month: Brush your teeth with rotten egg flavored toothpaste.



CAPRICORN: (December 22 - January 19)

Sorry Capricorns, things aren't looking so good for you this month. As Mercury aligns in your star chart, scary things will start happening. Your next door neighbor will dress like the Easter Bunny and start using bubble machines. One of the bubbles will get so big you will get stuck inside of it and float to another county. Hopefully you'll float back next month, or at least land softly when the bubble pops!

This Month: Wear a wolf costume to scare away the Easter Bunny.



AQUARIUS: (January 20 - February 18)

Uh oh. Jupiter is leaving your star chart this month, leaving you with lots of bad luck. The person sitting behind you in your English class will steal scissors and use them to chop off half your hair! Try to stay positive when you fail your history test. Your history teacher will tell the class that the person with the lowest grade has to return to second grade history. Bet you'll never guess who that is! Next time, try to focus on your tests and not your missing hair.

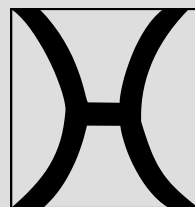
This Month: Wear ripped trash bags over your feet instead of shoes.



PISCES: (February 19 - March 20)

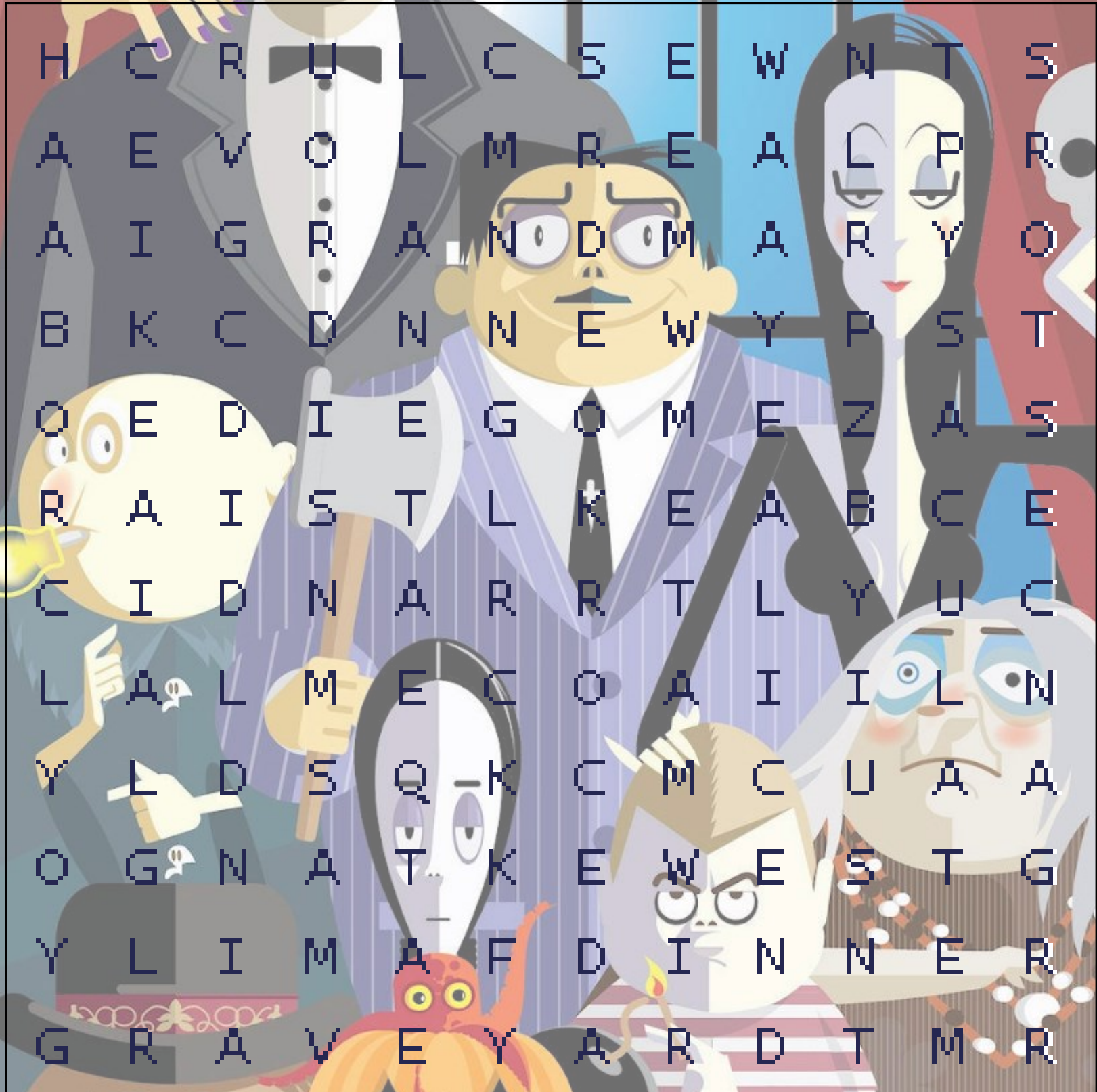
Venus is entering your star chart this month, meaning good fortunes are coming! Your enemy's happy spirits will be broken when they lose a round of rock, paper, scissors against you. Without them to worry about, you can focus all your energy on winning the lottery. Purchase a Powerball ticket from the Phoenixville WaWa. In the middle of the store, sing "Bohemian Rhapsody" in Swahili. After doing this, your lucky numbers will be read that night as the winning ticket!

This Month: Write your name upside down and backwards on all your schoolwork.



for entertainment only

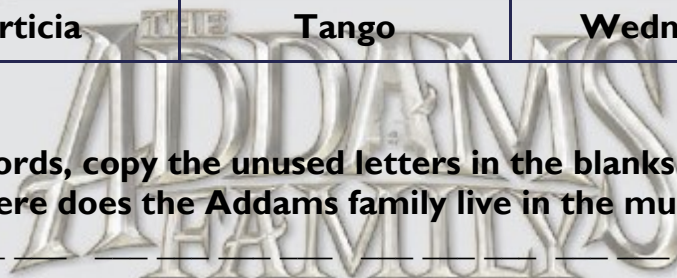
ADAMS FAMILY WORD SEARCH



Find the following words:

Addams	Alice	Ancestor
Beineke	Black	Creepy
Dinner	Family	Gomez
Grandma	Graveyard	Love
Lucas	Lurch	Mal
Morticia	Tango	Wednesday

After finding all the hidden words, copy the unused letters in the blanks below to answer the question:
 “Where does the Addams family live in the musical?”



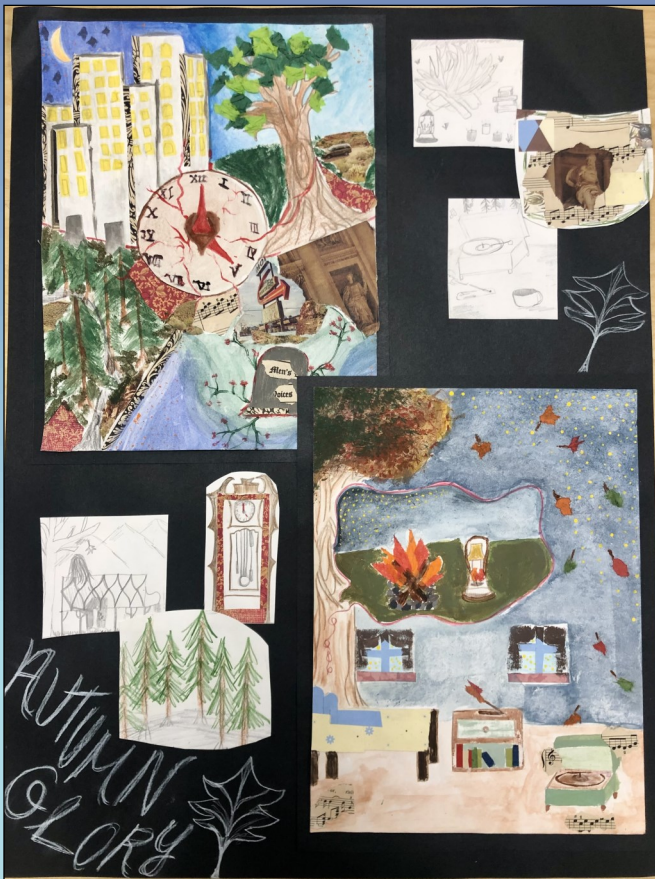
By Celeste Lennon



Art at the HEART: Behind the scenes

Behind the Scenes is a creative celebration of PASD Art Department's first-ever collaboration with Ann's Heart and Barnstone Are for Kids. The show featured final student artwork along with private sketches and drafts that lead to their completion. As artists and creatives, we wanted to give students an opportunity to celebrate the art process as much as the final product. Creating unique and meaningful work is a vulnerable exploration of one's self. A journey that takes courage, humility, and a whole lot of trial and error inside our precious art sketchbooks. We are excited to share *Behind the Scenes* with you because it brought our artwork to the highest level possible.

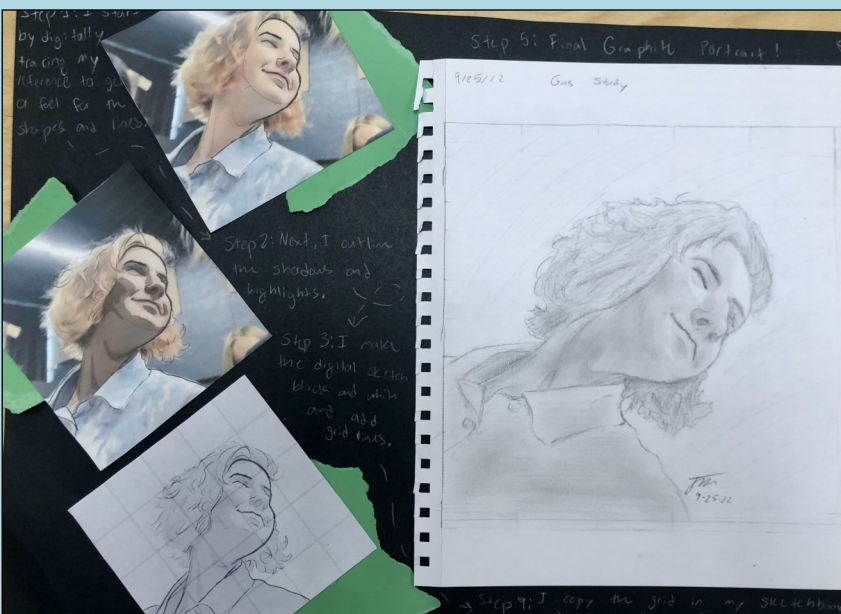
"Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep." – Scott Adams



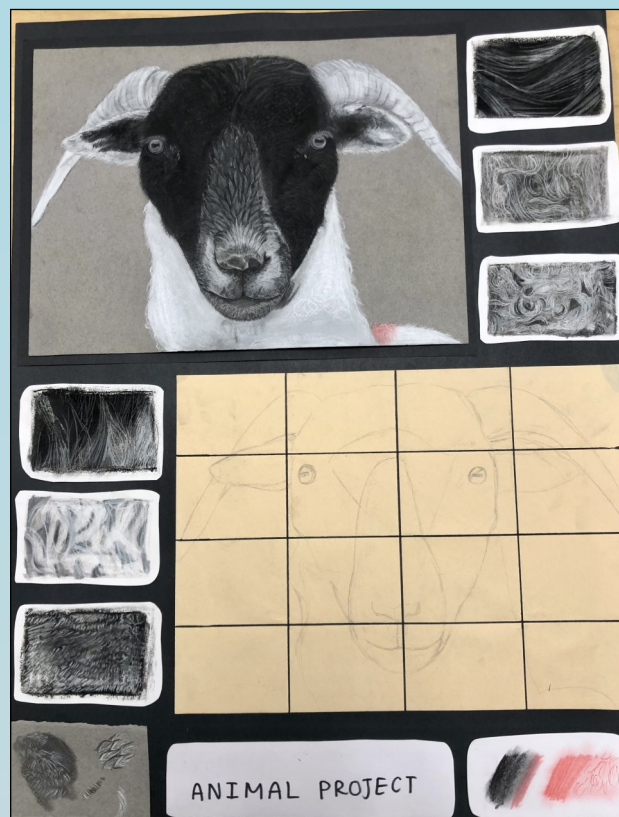
Senior **Claudia Tracy's** visual journal titled "Autumn Glory"



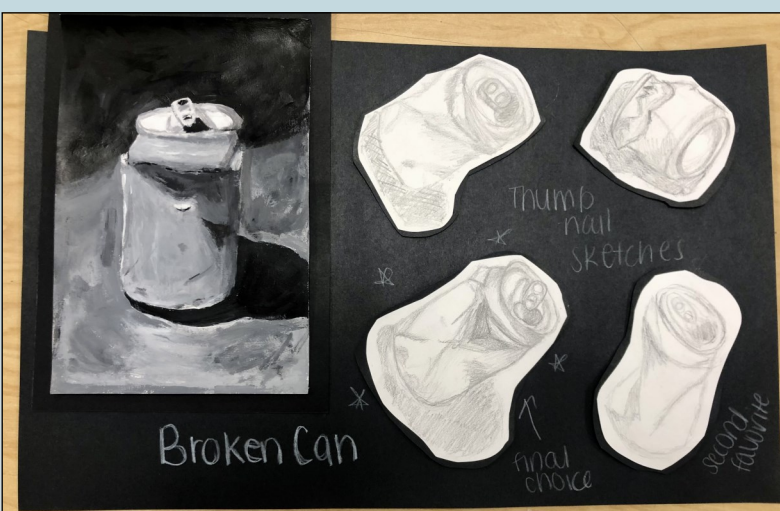
Senior **Claudia Tracy's** social justice midterm titled "Trapped in the Media"



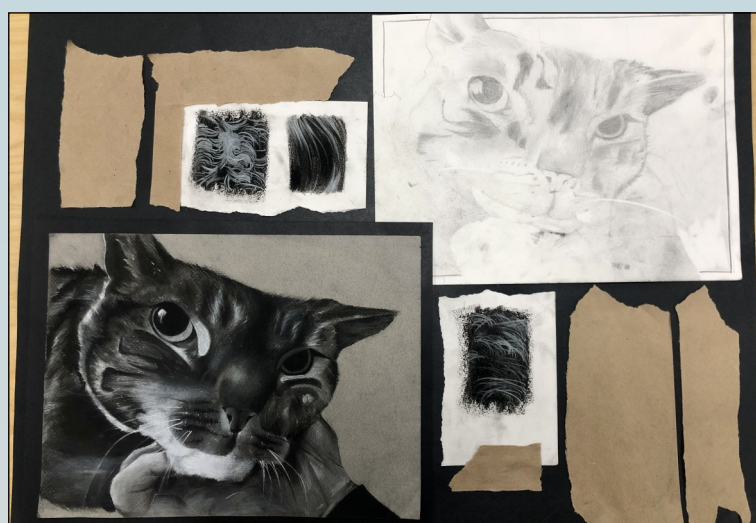
Sophomore **Jay McFall's** independent work titled "Graphite portrait of a friend."



Sophomore **Ella Pietrzykowski's** Charcoal Animal Portrait titled "Scottish Blackface Sheep"



Senior **Avery Stackhouse's** acrylic observational painting titled "Broken Can."



Senior **Alex Gamble's** charcoal animal portrait titled "LK."