

York High School

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



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- York Community High School Alumni Association (YCHSAA) Donation
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New Items

Letter from the President of the York Community High School Alumni Association:

Another school year comes to a close, and the York Community High School Alumni Association (YCHSAA) will welcome over 750 York graduates to the 46,000 York Alumni eligible to join our association. With the support of our alumni from sales of tee-shirts, Elmhurst woven throws, and donations, YCHSAA is able to help fund students at York for a variety of programs and projects. When thinking of purchasing a gift for your York grad, please check the list of items on our webpage [here](#) and help us to continue to support our future alumni at York Community High School!

Kathy Wilson
President, York Community High School Alumni Association

Once a Duke, always a Duke!

York Community High School Alumni Association (YCHSAA) Donation



On April 26th, members from the York Community High School Alumni Association (YCHSAA) met with Principal Bagdasarian, York students, and staff to celebrate the Alumni Association's \$2,000 gift that supported student attendance at this year's JEA/NSPA National Journalism Conference. Fifteen York students and three teachers/advisors attended this year's conference that was held April 6th-9th in Los Angeles, California. Seniors Hannah Brody and Finnegan Belleau shared their experiences with alumni and said that they learned things from the conference that helped them individually as well as providing them with ideas and improvements to make York's journalism program even better for future students.

YCHSAA also provided financial assistance to York for the 2019 conference held in Washington D.C.

Pictured back row alumni: Jim Driscoll (76), Lisa Fanelli (79), English and Journalism teachers/advisors Payton Froats, Matt Bourke, & Brendan Chambers, and Dr. Bagdasarian.

Front row alumni: Debbie Linhart (67) & Kathy Wilson (65), students Hannah Brody & Finnegan Belleau.

Duke Spotlight



Sara Kloskowski- class of 2012

Sara and her two siblings were raised in Elmhurst. Sara attended Jefferson Elementary, Bryan Middle School, and then York, where her father also went to high school. Sara's primary interest at York was in art, taking Advanced Placement Art both her junior and senior years. One of her favorite courses was Watercolor Painting taught by Mr. Wolfe. She also was a member of the York-Hi Newspaper where she illustrated cartoons and helped with layout and design.

Following graduation, Sara tried a couple of different colleges but after a few years realized that it just wasn't for her. She moved into a loft space in Roscoe Village with several roommates, got a job and began getting serious about her art. She was drawing, sketching and painting with watercolor all the time. This period was about experimenting with mixed media and being open to all forms of expression. Although Sara got her first tattoo the day after her eighteenth birthday, it was during this time that she began getting tattooed more frequently and with intention, putting more thought and research into it and seeking out different artists. By 2017, she was working retail, living in a different apartment in the city, and on her way to becoming a tattoo artist.

Sara spent time hanging out in various tattoo shops and absorbing what she could. In order to get more experience and build a portfolio, she searched for and found an apprenticeship which she worked at until it was interrupted by the Covid pandemic. As

life began to open up again in 2021, Sara found a friend that had been tattooing for three years and was looking for a space to open a tattoo shop. She was also happy to get a partner, and the girls found a spot in the Avondale/Irving Park area of Chicago zoned for business, got a license and "Dwelling Tattoo" was born. Sara's dad, who also has a small business, helped her navigate that side of things, and today the tattoo shop is thriving. Currently, there are primarily three girls working as artists with space for guest artists to come in. Sara notes that the past five years have spurred a new crop of more diverse artists that challenge the former "dudes club vibe" that was common before. The atmosphere is collaborative, and she has found a supportive, tight knit group of people in the tattooing community.

It is important to note here that most accomplished tattoo artists, including Sara, spend a lot of time creating, drawing and sketching designs for tattoos that eventually become visual samples, or "flash" that clients can choose from. It is easy to see how her time spent at York laid the groundwork for her to grow and flourish as an artist and find her passion. And in case you are curious, according to Sara, the easiest place to tattoo are arms and legs, the most difficult are ribs and torso, and the oddest spots she has graced with her artwork are the nipples and derrière.

Sara is heading to Portland and Los Angeles in June where she will guest artist at several different shops. What an interesting way to work and see the world!

Check out Sara's work and Dwelling Tattoo on Instagram @saraklaws.tattoo.

Prior Items

Do You Know a Distinguished York Alum?

Nominations are open for the 2022 Dukes of Distinction program. Please fill out this [form](#) to nominate your 2022 Duke of Distinction! Applications are open to anyone who is a graduate of 5+ years and who has distinguished themselves through significant and/or extraordinary accomplishments, service, and/or an outstanding contribution to society.

NEED A UNIQUE GRADUATION GIFT FOR AN ELMHURST STUDENT?

Consider giving an Elmhurst Landmark Throw that depicts spaces and buildings from their hometown such as York High School, the award-winning Elmhurst Library and the classic York Theatre.

Recently redesigned, the coverlet is available in cream/hunter green or cream/black.

[Purchase Here](#)

Proceeds support the programs of the York Community High School Alumni Association that benefit York students, alumni and archival preservation.

Reunions

During these uncertain times, we will be maintaining updated information on the Reunion page, located on the District 205 website. If your reunion has been postponed or canceled due to COVID-19, please email your updates to alumni@elmhurst205.org.