VOL. 37| OCT 4-8 2021

THE CYCLONE SPIN



IMPORTANT INFO

- **Student Highlights**

Since we now have the daily Cyclone Connection page for announcements, we are going to change the layout and format of the Cyclone SPIN. Instead of using it as a space for announcements, it will now be used as a highlight for students and all of the amazing things that you all do here at school and in your everyday lives.
We hope that this will help build stronger connections and community across EHS.





GRACE WHITTEN: MUSIC OF LIFE

EHS Junior Grace Whitten on her passion for music and how it affects so many aspects of life

I'm Grace Whitten, a sixteen year-old junior in Elizabethton High School. I am the flute soloist in the Betsy Band. I enjoy playing music, whether it be for myself or for an audience.

I started playing the flute in sixth grade in Hampton Middle School, but after seeing a performance of the Betsy Band I decided to move to Elizabethton to be in the school's band.

At the age of twelve I started playing with The Watauga Valley Fife & Drum Corps located in Sycamore Shoals Historic Site, where I play the fife.

I also play in the Symphony of the Mountains Youth Orchestra and will be the featured soloist for the Paramount Chamber Players in February. I've played for the Bristol and Kingsport Music Club, as well as the ETSBOA All-East Blue-Band and All-State Band.

I take private flute lessons with Martha Egan, music theory lessons from Neal Endicott, and have studied with Alexa Still of the Oberlin College & Conservatory of Music.

My aspiration in life is to be a professional flutist, performing and teaching at the college level.

"My aspiration in life is to be a professional flutist."

“I love to go thrifting or shopping in antique shops with friends…”

My main motivation and inspiration for playing music is the joy one can bring upon the audience. In The Watauga Valley Fife & Drum Corps, the official Corps of the state of Tennessee, we have had the incredible opportunity to play for many events, but most notably the DAR State Conference and for Tennessee Governor Bill Lee. While The Betsy Band occupies most of my Saturdays, I’m often participating in historical reenactments on Sundays.

I adore the free time I do have, and normally spend it practicing my flute and/or piccolo. But it’s not all work and no play! Music occupies almost every day of the week, but on Tuesdays and Sundays when I have a bit more free time, I love to go thrifting or shopping in antique shops with friends, and going to bookstores and cafes.



HERITAGE

My family is quite the mixture of cultures as my Grandmother is British, born and raised in London, and my father is Peruvian, from Lima. Growing up it was always interesting having tea and scones with my Mom’s parents and then Inca Kola and mazamorra morada with my Dad’s. Good food is something that connects my family - no matter the language and culture.

For this reason I love to cook and to bake, although I’m not very skillful at it. I love to travel, so I’m hoping that when COVID improves I’ll be able to visit my family in Peru. I’m thankful for the vast array of opportunities that have been afforded to me at Elizabethton High School, and I’m certain they will assist me in my future.