

FOX TALES

Quarterly

A STUDENT PUBLICATION

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A TOTALLY YOUTUBULAR TV STUDIO TRANSFORMATION

BY: GRACE HAN

The Fox Chapel TV Studio has recently undergone a massive makeover to accommodate the growing number of students enrolled in both Elements of Digital Video and Digital Media Production, taught by Mr. Ryan Devlin. This past year, these two multimedia classes hit maximum capacity, leading to a need for more video-editing workstations large enough to hold desktop computers. The classroom redesign transformed the all black concrete block studio into a vibrant makerspace with new modular tables and chairs from P.E.M.Co Furniture, and a wall with a brightly spray-painted mural that gives the room a pop! The old classroom setup had only eight video-editing workstations, but with the new arrangement there's room for eleven. Next year, Mr. Devlin expects to have twenty editing workstations, providing each student with their own computer and eliminating the need to partner up for all projects. This student-centered modular furniture design promotes both increased collaboration between students, and allows for opportunities to work solo, thereby increasing overall student productivity.

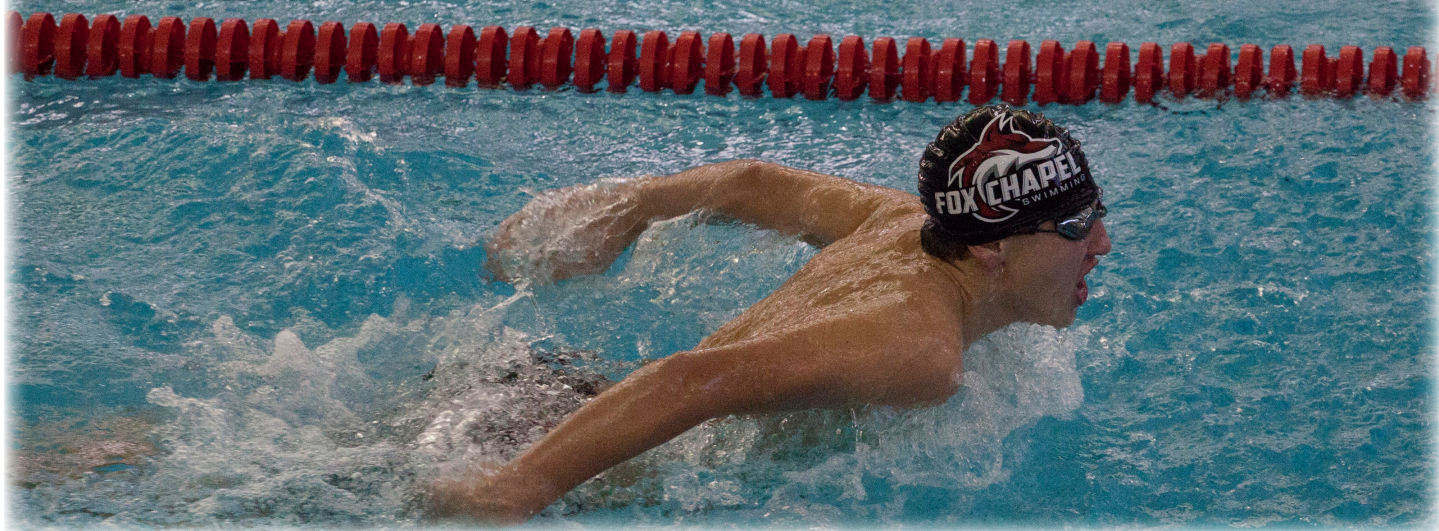
Once the furniture was chosen, local Pittsburgh



artist John Maurice Muldoon (Instagram @John-MauriceMuldoon) spray painted a colorful mural that fills a large portion of one studio wall. Mr. Devlin reached out to Muldoon, who has a lot of experience painting pop-culture-inspired art with bright colors, which pep up the studio and make it feel less cave-like and more up-to-date. Muldoon welcomed suggestions about what to include on the mural from multimedia students. The mural was painted using colors that match the new furniture, and features Fox Chapel's Digital Media Production team's YouTube channel, Swift Fox Media, along with old-school multimedia icons and new social media logos. Check out the cool time-lapse videos of both the classroom transformation and mural creation on @SwiftFoxMedia on Instagram.

SWIMMING PREVIEW

By RYAN KENYON

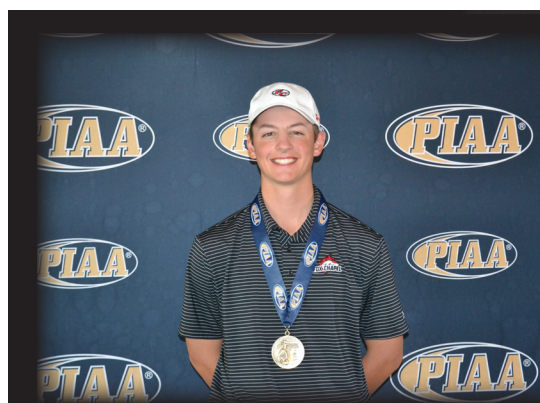


For both teams, there is a strong chance for section champs this year. Over on the girls side, prominent opposing teams from last year have been seriously weakened. According to senior Margaret Fox, “a lot of Franklin Regional seniors graduated. Also Central and Oakland Catholic are no longer in our section.” However, they themselves lost six seniors, but also according to Margaret, “with our new talented freshmen, we will be an intimidating force.”

The boy’s team is projected to have one of their strongest years ever. After only losing three seniors, there has been a massive influx of freshmen. Junior Nate Gaggini is “real excited for all the freshmen who joined this year, so we can pass on the traditions.” Senior, Tristan McClelland, says, “we have a good shot for section this year, absolutely!” Ian Chang agrees, saying, “We got a good shot at sections this year. I know we lost [Liam] Botos, but it’s gonna be a good year!”

So if you’re looking to sign up for a fun winter sport and aren’t afraid of a little hard work, then consider joining the swim team. Promising junior Angelique Uku says that “the only reason I’m on the team and think so highly of it is because of the people. They’re like family. You get to learn their personality real well, because it’s more than just a sport!”

Go Foxes!



A special congratulations to senior Gregor Meyer, who competed in the 36-hole State Individual Golf Tournament in York, Pa. Gregor finished fifth out of the top 36 golfers in the state. This is the highest finish of a Fox Chapel Area player since 1999. He finished with a one under par 70 on a very difficult golf course. His two-day total was an impressive 147. He has had an excellent career here at FC. He won the WPIAL Individual Championship in 2016. Congrats to Gregor and his family!

BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

By: Claire Fenton

The 6A basketball classification, which contains the largest schools in the WPIAL, has had its numbers dwindle once again. Both the boys and girls saw schools on the smaller end of the spectrum, such as Penn Hills, Penn Trafford, and Woodland Hills, drop down a classification, which forced the remaining teams to be shuffled around into new sections.

While our boys team faces old opponents in Hempfield, Norwin, Penn Trafford, and Latrobe, the addition of Connellsville is an unfamiliar challenge. However, they should head into season with confidence after going 11-3 in section play last year and finishing 17-7 overall. Although Noah Marks and Arnold Vento are the only returning starters, players that battled injuries last season have come back healthy and

ready to make an impact in the starting lineup. The Foxes got off to a strong start at the Plum Tournament on December 7th and 8th, posting exhibition victories over both Plum and Pine Richland.

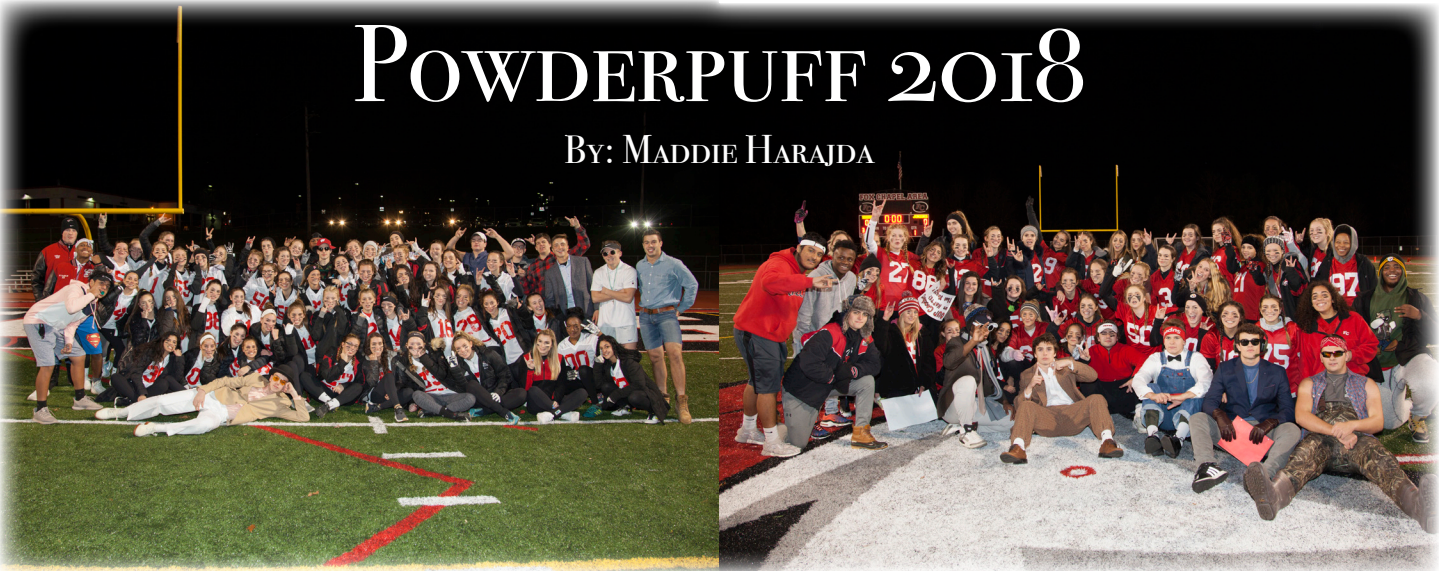
The girls team has high expectations for this year as they work through opponents in an entirely new section composed of Butler, North Allegheny, North Hills, Norwin, Pine Richland, Seneca Valley, and Shaler. After ending the last season with a 9-13 overall record and going 2-8 in section play, the Lady Foxes are excited to make an impact this year. Megan Friday and Gabby Guerrieri are the only returning starters, but several players with varsity experience are prepared to step in. In their opening tournament at Montour, the Lady Foxes went 2-0, beating Ringgold and Brashear.



Congratulations to the team of Evan Kieffer, Parker Shaw, Dom Zacharias, and Matt Jerpe, who recently placed in the top 10 at the Chain Reaction Contraption Contest at the Carnegie Science Center. For the STEAM-based competition, teams develop a Rube Goldberg-type machine that must meet certain strict criteria, such as a specific run time, creative use of materials, and certain mechanics. The team also took home a special award for most efficient reset of a machine. The students are in Mr. Joe Gass' materials processing class.

POWDERPUFF 2018

BY: MADDIE HARAIDA



The biggest event of the senior vs. junior classes rivalry – the Powderpuff game – took place on November 14th. For about two weeks before the game, each team held practice either on the main football field or the practice field in preparation for the final event. Students from the Fox Chapel football team acted as coaches in order to assure the girls were ready to play. On the day of the game, Powderpuff participants sported their jerseys, with juniors in white and seniors in red, throughout the school day leading up to the game later that night.

The game occurred over two hours, but each team made sure to do warm ups beforehand and review their plays in the locker room. After getting hyped in the locker room and taking some photos for the memories, the teams took to the field. Amid rising tensions between the junior and senior classes, the class of 2019 secured a win over the juniors with an end of game score of 16-0. Aside from the competitive nature of the game, students got to engage in a social activity some of them will remember for a lifetime. Both classes are thankful for the opportunity to have played in such a fun game. Next year, be sure to come out and watch for the 2020 vs. 2021 Powder-puff game!





MAJOR WORKS CONCERT

BY: ZEYNEP OZKAYA

The Major Works Concert has been intrinsic to the musical culture of Fox Chapel. This year's performance was notable because it was a joint performance of the choir and orchestra, creating a unique experience for the performers as well as the audience.

The red velvet curtains parted to kick off the concert with the Ambassador Orchestra performing *Achieved* is the *Glorious Work* from Haydn's *Creation* with the Madrigal Singers. This iconic piece was influenced by a performance of Handel's *Oratorios* that Haydn has witnessed in London. Upon hearing Handel's work, Haydn was inspired to write *The Creation*, one of his most triumphant works. Though it was banned by the Catholic church, its popularity grew immensely in Vienna, and was soon being performed all over Europe. The Ambassador Orchestra was able to demonstrate their understanding of Haydn's motives through their sophisticated control of the music, creating an essential structure for the choir to rest on top of. With its lighthearted and playful harmonies, *The Creation* provided a perfect opening piece for the Major Works Concert.

In between movements of Haydn's *Creation*, the concert also featured a quartet performing Haydn's *String Quartet in C Minor, Op. 17, No. 4: Moderato*. The slower tempo, and warmer tone of the piece created a good contrast to the jaunty animation of the previous movement, giving the audience a taste of another one of Haydn's classical works. Closing the first half of the concert was another movement from *The Creation*, *The Heavens are Telling*. Through this movement, the choir and orchestra maintained their control over the harmonies and rhythms of the piece, allowing an excellent opening for the rest of the concert.

The second half of the concert included a more modern piece that had religious themes similar to those found in Haydn's *Creation*. Once again, the choir joined the orchestra to perform Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo's *Sunrise Mass*.

The mass is composed of four movements: *The Spheres*, *Sunrise*, *The City*, and *Identity and The Ground*. The piece was originally commissioned in 2007 and performed a year later in Oslo. The piece takes the traditional movements of the mass—*Kyrie*, *Gloria*, *Credo*, and *Sanctus* and *Agnus Dei*—and puts a modern twist on it. The first movement, *The Spheres*, begins with quiet, held-out

notes that fade into nothing from the orchestra, layering the *Kyrie* from the choir, introducing the mass. The second movement, *Sunrise*, opens up with the angelic voice of the orchestra, emulating a rising sun. Throughout this movement, the tone is jovial, which provides a contrast to the *Credo*—or *The City*. The piece begins with driving sixteenth notes from the orchestra in a D-minor, setting up the more ominous mood of

the movement. Gjeilo finishes the piece with *Identity and The Ground*, which closely resembles the first movement.

This concert was just the beginning of the Fox Chapel Orchestra's many performances throughout this year. The orchestra puts on a series of pop-up concerts at locations around Pittsburgh such as Phipps Conser-

vatory or UPMC Children's Hospital to help spread music throughout the community. In addition to this, each year Fox Chapel High School hosts the district-wide Festival of Strings Concert. Throughout the years, the goal of the Fox Chapel Orchestra stays constant: to spread the joy and love of music to help make an impact in the world.





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**Western Pennsylvania
Learning Academy**

at Fox Chapel Area High School

In association with



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Comprehensive Leadership Program:

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APPLICANT INFORMATION:

I am applying for (check one): Comprehensive Leadership Package _____

Emerging Leadership Package _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____

Student Email Address: _____

Parent Email Address: _____

Mother/Guardian Name: _____

Father/Guardian Name: _____

Grade level for the 2019/2020 school year (check one): _____ 10th _____ 11th _____ 12th

What are your academic and/or professional interests? _____

How did you hear about this program? _____

Are you interested in learning more about Fox Chapel Area High School summer courses offered at a discount? (circle one) Yes No

EDUCATOR ENDORSEMENT:

Recommending Teacher Name (print): _____

Subject/Position: _____ Telephone: _____

Email: _____

School Name: _____

I verify and recognize _____ to be a credible candidate that would benefit and enhance the Empower2019 program.

Educator Signature: _____ Date: _____



THE CRUCIBLE: CAST AND CREW COMBINE IN CHARMING COMPOSITION

BY: MADISON BORKOVICH

As 7 p.m. rolled around, November 8-10 brought one of the most exciting autumnal events of the year for theater lovers throughout the district. The debut acting affair of the school year, Fox Chapel Area High School's fall play, surely lived up to the esteemed precedent it has set in seasons past. Directed by Kristiann Josephs, *The Crucible* drew students, teachers, and community members alike to queue in the auditorium. For just an \$8 admission fee, attendees were able to immerse themselves in Arthur Miller's dramatized tale of the accusations, denial, and betrayal, that ran rampant during the 1600s Salem witch trials. Among others, the play featured Alyssa Melani as Abigail Williams, Gabriel Fynsk as John Proctor, Olivia Pistella as Elizabeth Proctor, Oscar Izenson as Samuel Parris, Sadie Lorence as Mary Warren, Jeremy Platt as Reverend

John Hale, and Anna Aupke as Mercy Lewis.

In addition to *The Crucible*'s crew members, stage managers Jocelyn Morningstar and Emma Shiner spearheaded a team of specialists in lighting, sound, hair and makeup, and set painting and construction. Fox Chapel adults also did their part to spur on the production, particularly Mr. Joe Gass in Technical Direction, and Ms. Mary Beth Dixon in the coordination of props and costumes.

From beginning to end, the approximately three-hour long play kept the audience engaged at every turn. The dedication of all who were involved was extremely evident in details both maximal and minute, and surely, Fox Chapel Area High School's actors and volunteers are already cooking up an even more engaging performance for next fall's show.



Eat your heart out, Food Network! Students in Mrs. Jennifer Antonikas' Foreign and Gourmet Foods class and Mr. Ryan Devlin's Elements of Digital Video class collaborated on a TV segment — "FC Chops." Using a "mystery basket" of four ingredients — chicken, corn, green pepper, and cheddar cheese — students had 55 minutes to prepare, plate, and present their meal to a panel of faculty judges, all while being filmed. What a creative and fun (and delicious!) lesson!



Fox Chapel Area High School's 2017-2018 literary arts magazine "Tapestry" received a national award. The magazine was named a first-place winner in the magazine portion of the 2018 American Scholastic Press Association's Annual Review and Contest Awards for scholastic year-books, magazines, and other publications. The 2017-2018 student editors of "Tapestry" were 2018 graduates Karissa Becer, Emelyn Broniek, Sally Dean, Annamaria Fort, Anna Hirsch, Shania Khatri, Philip Kim, Elizabeth Mountz, and Helen Paulini (editor-in-chief); current 2018-2019 seniors Noah Fritsch, Arnav Gupta, Emma Kazmierczak, Alyssa Melani, Demi Rymer, Chloe Yofan, and Seo Yeon "Christina" Wang; and current 2018-2019 juniors Claire Cummings and Emma Lusk. The students' advisor is Fox Chapel Area High School English teacher Jessica Green.

FOX TALES STAFF

Faculty Sponsor

Lisa Gibson

Editor in Chief

Courtney Kennedy

Chief of Design and Layout

Jay Kashyap

Staff Writers

Ethan Alfery

Mackenzie Borkovich

Madison Borkovich

Claire Fenton

Grace Han

Maddie Harajda

Ryan Kenyon

Zeynep Ozkaya

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA
LEARNING ACADEMY
presents

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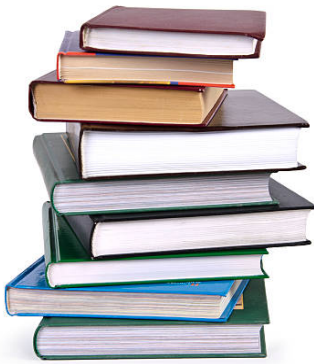


Sunday, April 28, 2019

12:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Fox Chapel Area High School LGI

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* Financial aid
available



- Test taking and time management tips
- Intensive grammar & usage skills review
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Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Student Email: _____ School District: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____

*Please make checks payable to Fox Chapel Area School District (FCASD)
Submit check and completed registration form (front and back)
either in person (Fox Chapel Area High School room 168) or via mail to:*

Lisa Gibson, Director
Western PA Learning Academy
Fox Chapel Area School District
611 Field Club Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15238

**PRACTICE
MATERIALS
PROVIDED!**



The well being of any child is a parental responsibility. In an emergency, every effort will be made to contact parent/guardian. Please list two persons who can arrange transportation and care for your child when you are not available.

Relative or Friend: _____ Phone: _____

Relative or Friend: _____ Phone: _____

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LEARNING ACADEMY

2018/2019 Program Permission Form

Student Name: _____

I, _____ give permission for my child to attend each assigned date of the Western Pennsylvania Learning Academy's program. In the event of an emergency, if treatment is required and parents/guardians cannot be notified immediately, I give consent for emergency treatment and transport to the nearest emergency room.

Does your child have any health concerns that would hinder participation in the field experience? _____ No _____ Yes. If yes, please complete the following:

Please indicate if your child has any of the following health concerns:

_____ Asthma	_____ Inhaler needed
_____ Life-threatening allergy to bee sting	_____ Epi-pen
_____ Life-threatening allergy to food	_____ Benadryl needed
_____ Seizure disorder	_____ Diabetes
_____ Allergy to _____	Other _____

Emergency treatment (if needed) _____

Health Insurance: _____

Family Physician: _____ Phone: _____

My signature confirms that my child has permission to participate in all activities on the specified dates. Permission is also granted to share this information with appropriate academy personnel.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Cell Phone #: _____ Work Phone #: _____

JOIN HOSA – HEALTH OCCUPATION STUDENTS OF AMERICA

BY: ZEYNEP OZKAYA

HOSA – Future Health Professionals has been an upstanding national organization since the 1970s when representatives from six states met in New Jersey to form it. Since then, HOSA has been working to increase medical education opportunities for students in America. This club has been active at Fox Chapel for a much shorter amount of time, only three years. It was formed in 2015, and only sent three delegates to the state level competition where all three won awards in their categories. Members of the club chose a field of medicine they want to explore, such as sports med-



icine, cancer research, or biomedicine, and then work to compete at a state level competition that is held in Lancaster. In addition to competing with other students who are eager about healthcare, members of this club also have the opportunity to listen to speakers, go on field trips and participate in fundraisers. Last year, the club visited the UPMC Nuclear Medicine Department, and will be hosting many more trips this year. If anyone is interested in the events of the club or wants to learn more, feel free to contact Mrs. Hammer at MaryRuth_Hammer@fcasd.edu or visit her in QRT 123.

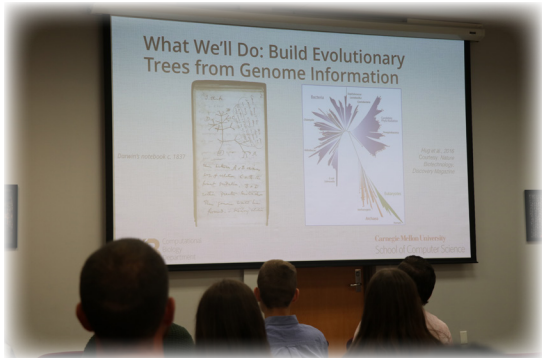


FC Hosts STEM SYMPOSIUM

The Fox Chapel STEM Symposium, for high school students from across the Pittsburgh area, was held on Oct. 23. The intent of this daylong program was to help students to learn about bioinformatics, an emerging field in which the principles of computer science are applied to solve biological problems. The goal was to educate and inspire youths to further their pursuits in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields.

Dr. Robert F. Murphy, head of Carnegie Mellon University's Computational Biology Department, gave the opening address. Students then attended four breakout sessions, led by a variety of STEM researchers and experts from CMU, as well as the University of Pittsburgh's Department of Biomedical Informatics. Universities and companies set up booths in the afternoon to discuss research and strides they're making in the STEM realm. The closing talk was given by Dr. Carl Kingsford, associate professor in CMU's Computational Biology Department.

The title sponsor of this event was CMU's Computational Biology Department. Additional support was provided by the CMU Pre-College Program in Computational Biology, a three-week summer course. More information can be found at <https://admission.enrollment.cmu.edu/pages/pre-college-computational-biology>.



MEET THE FOX TALES QUARTERLY STAFF WRITERS!

Get to know some members of this year's Fox Tales senior staff by checking out their answers to the following questions:

1. What's your favorite part of being on the Fox Tales Quarterly staff?
2. What's something most people don't know about you?
3. If you could write about any topic and have it be read by your idol, what would it be?



Courtney Kennedy

1. My favorite part is the amazing staff!
2. Most people don't know I can't snap.
3. I would write about the Met Ball and I would want Rihanna to read it.



Grace Han

1. Definitely making new friends and hanging out in the morning!
2. I've never spent a full summer in Pittsburgh.
3. I would write about underlying messages in today's music and have Mr. Aires read it.

Gina Wang

1. I love the people and the overall vibe of our QRT!
2. I really enjoy traveling and exploring the world.
3. I would write about the importance of Asian representation in media, and would want Lana Condor to read it!



Ethan Alfery

1. Honestly, it's real...it's fun... it's real fun.
2. Something people don't know about me is that I'm learning how to play the guitar.
3. I would write about culture, like how people think in the high school, in a social aspect.



Claire Katz

1. Meeting new people.
2. I love traveling.
3. I would write about Post Malone's music and have him read



Anzu Sekikawa

1. Being able to spend time with the other Fox Tales members during QRT!
2. Most people don't know that my dream is to one day go skydiving.
3. If I could write about any topic and have it be read by my idol, I would write about all the underrated Japanese food that they have to try if they ever go to Japan.



Madison Borkovich

1. Before high school, I was on the middle school newspaper for three years, and was the Editor in Chief during my last one. For me, it was a no-brainer to continue my journey into the high school's program, and I am appreciative that the paper provides a forum for me to educate an audience and hone my skills.
2. Most people don't know that my time as a "real" writer actually kicked off out of adversity! I was severely bullied starting in about fourth grade, and turned to writing as a way to express myself and escape. That year, I entered the Jackie Robinson: Breaking Barriers essay contest sponsored by the Pittsburgh Pirates, and placed second out of over 2,000 entrants!
3. If I could write about any topic, I would present my points of view on the gun control debate. There isn't one ideal person I wish would read it; rather, I would hope that everyone could process the piece and realize that politics does not have to be so polarizing.

Maggie Woodwell

1. Hanging out with Ms. Gibson.
2. Most people don't know that I love hiking in the National Parks.
3. It would be about why sweatshirts and shorts are basically the definition of fashion and have Mrs. Gibson read it.



Claire Fenton

1. Being in Mrs. Gibson's QRT.
2. I'm part left-handed and part right-handed.
3. I'd like to write a scientific article and have Neil De-grasse Tyson read it.



Madilyn Harajda

1. Every person that writes for Fox Tales is so different and brings something unique to the table. It's so fun to see how each person writes.
2. I just started swimming for the swim team!
3. I would write about The Office and have Michael Scott read it.



Tori Crittenden

1. I get to display my creativity among my peers.
2. I play golf.
3. I'd write about the history of art in France and have my idol, Mrs. Gibson, read it.



Congratulations to junior Corey Baker and senior Michael Francioni, who were named students of the month at A.W. Beattie Career Center. Corey studies Automotive Collision Technology, and Michael is in the Veterinary Sciences program. We're proud of you!



NANCY THORP POETRY CONTEST WINNER'S HEARTWARMING TRIBUTE TO HER GRANDMA

By: COURTNEY KENNEDY

Paige Asbury's poem *Ripple Effect* (a continuation) was inspired by someone close to her heart. Paige's relationship with her grandma was the backbone of her inspirational poem that received an honorable mention in the the Nancy Thorp Poetry Contest. Her poem was one of the top out of over 1030 entries, making her mark in the poetry world. Make sure to read Paige's poem below.

Ripple Effect (a continuation)

What is love?

Love is the books that you read to me
on my old couch that smelled like cats
in my old house on College Avenue
when everything was new

Love is your whole grain pancakes
the ones that you made for breakfast when we slept over
the ones that my sister didn't like
but ate anyway

Love is the song you sang to me
when I was afraid of my grandfather's sneezes
and I hid my face in the couch with the cat smell and cried
so you ran your fingers up and down my back

Love is the poetry book that I composed in second grade
the poetry book that you kept on your living room table
love is how you told me that my writing was beautiful

Love is the macaroni and cheese that you would buy me
when we went to Whole Foods on Saturdays
and I sat in the yellow booth and watched the world pass us by

Love is the walks that you took me on
when life was shiny and bright
and the birds sang a song of pure joy
when the wind whistled, and the sun smiled
and you held my hand in yours

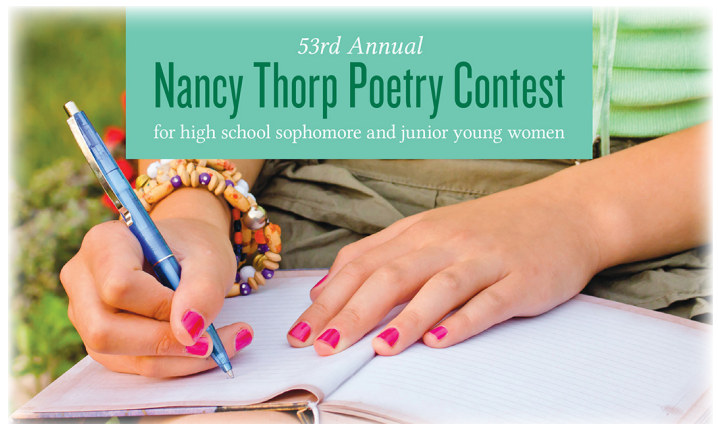
Love is the poem I wrote for you when you got sick
the poem about a droplet of water on the lake

the poem titled "Ripple Effect"
the poem that hung beside your hospital bed
the poem that I never got to read to you

Love is my grandfather
who now wears your ring on a chain around his neck, close to his heart
who can't step into a Whole Foods anymore
because it reminds him too much of you
my grandfather, who doesn't sleep under his covers at night
because when he goes to bed
you are not there beside him

Love is you
and your turtleneck sweaters
and the eyeglasses that you wore on a chain around your neck
and your laugh
and how you always told me that i was so beautiful
you made me feel so beautiful

Love is me
living on after you
it is the droplet of water
and the whole lake
love is the ripple effect
it is every poem of mine that you have seen
and every one that you will not
I am still writing for you
because that
is Love.



16. *Young Paige sharing a happy moment with her grandmother, the inspiration of her poem.*

ROTARY SPONSORS FOX CHAPEL STUDENTS TO ATTEND WORLD AFFAIRS INSTITUTE NEW SPACE AGE CONFERENCE

The Rotary Club of Fox Chapel Area sponsored 10 students from Fox Chapel Area High School and five from Shady Side Academy to attend the “Exploring the New Space Age” conference at the 48th Annual World Affairs Institute for Student Leaders Nov. 30 at the Senator John Heinz History Center. Some 250 high school students from throughout Western Pennsylvania attended through Rotary Club sponsorships.

The students heard lectures and questioned speakers in the morning, visited the History Center’s space exhibit and then met with other students to develop a plan to govern a future colony on Mars.

Laura Delgado Lopez, editor-in-chief of Space Policy Journal; Jan Osburg, senior engineer at the RAND Corporation; John Thornton, chief executive officer of Astrobotic and Justine Kasznica of Babst Calland addressed the students. Mike Fincke, NASA astronaut from Pittsburgh, gave a video address to the students.

Those attending from Fox Chapel High were: Elizabeth Crookston, Diana Crookston, Cara Felman, Margaret Fletcher, Mona Gerges, Anna Jablonowski, Connor McAtee, Brian Mulhern, Ameya Velankar and Ethan Werner.



Anna Jablonowski of FCAHS (in red) asks a question during the morning session of the Space Age Conference at the World Affairs Institute.



Attending the World Affairs Institute with Fox Chapel students were: front row, from left: Rotary District Governor S. Singh Ajmani and FCAHS Gifted Education teacher Lisa Gibson. Students, from left, Brian Mulhern, Margaret Fletcher, Ameya Velankar, Mona Gerges, Ethan Werner and Connor McAtee and Bill McConnell, Fox Chapel Rotary’s Youth Committee Chair. Back row: Elizabeth Crookston, Cara Felman, Diana Crookston and Anna Jablonowski.



FCAHS student Mona Gerges stimulates a walk on the planet Mars at the Heinz History Center.



FCAHS students Connor McAtee (left) and Brian Mulhern prepare for lift off in their space capsule at the Heinz History Center, as part of the World Affairs Institute.

TELETHON: FC TURNS WISHES INTO REALITIES THROUGH THE SPIRIT OF GIVING

BY: MADISON AND MACKENZIE BORKOVICH



As always, Fox Chapel Area School District's 29th annual telethon brought excitement, togetherness, and the holiday spirit to locals, particularly at the high school headquarters. For a second consecutive year, students, faculty, and members of the community united to raise money for this season's worthy cause – the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Throughout the month of December, a variety of food sales, games, and events, largely sponsored by clubs at FCAHS, aimed to satisfy students while collecting funds for those in need.

Primarily under the direction of high school club leaders, fundraisers ranged from creative concepts to tried-and-true traditions. Favorite activities included Pie a Teacher, the Dating Auction, dodgeball and basketball tournaments, and the French Club basket raffle, while popular food-related sales featured the SAT Study Club Bake Sale, Environmental Club Dirt Sale, and Global Outreach Doughnut Sale. Unique events included a liquid nitrogen marshmallow sale, bubble soccer, spaghetti ice cream sale, ornament sale, and customized calligraphy items. Student government, led by Ms. Butkovic and student chair Christy Huynh, also got in on the action, overseeing and coordinating much of the monthly excitement.

Even on the last day before winter break, the events kept coming, with QRT providing an opportunity to duct tape Mr. Hower to a wall, first period bringing a showing of acclaimed Christmas movie *Elf*, and second period involving a grand defeat of the staff (55-34) in the annual student-teacher basketball game. During third period's actual telethon, the National Honor Society hosted a Car Smash, and to cap off the day's festivities, the Busking Club once again put on Fox Chapel Area High School's favorite fundraiser in the auditorium: Fox Fest.





As for the main event, Swift Fox Media once again engineered a spectacular live two-hour broadcast. This year, the production was under the direction of Madison Borkovich, Sophia Due, Gabriella Gray, and Adina Munin, hosted by Justin Breen and Michael Kilmer, and, as usual, chaperoned by multimedia teacher, Mr. Devlin. The theme was holiday movies, and the set was adorned for the occasion with a TV and remote, comfortable chairs, and even popcorn and snacks. In addition to Make-A-Wish decor, Swift Fox Media's directors and lead teacher incorporated a festive vibe with holiday lights, stockings, snowmen, and a menorah, while the hosts jazzed things up with light and snowman themed seasonal suits.

Highlights included featured packages with all elementary schools and a live appearance from Dorseyville Middle School, as well as a series new to the telethon, themed "challenge" game shows featuring high schoolers of all ages, thereby increasing student involvement on the big day. A plethora of clubs and organizations also stormed the set in the library classroom to donate their hard-earned proceeds, with the Political Discourse Club's call center taking the cake in a whopping \$11,000 approximate donation. Personnel from Make-A-Wish also dropped by to visit, talk, and interview, and reinforced the concept that all monetary contributions will go to fund wishes for local children in need.

Ultimately, Fox Chapel's efforts paid off tremendously, as the district raised a total of \$44,700.10 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. A job well done to everyone involved, and good luck to the school and community as it launches into its third decade of telethon next December!



RELIEVE END OF SEMESTER WITH MUSIC

BY: ETHAN ALFERY

The end of the semester brings more stress and overall more tough times than average. Listening to relaxing, clean, and loose songs can help make the difficult obstacles much easier to overcome. Some artists I recommend are Billie Eilish, Andrew McMahon, The 1975, Coin, George Ezra, Jeremy Zucker, lovelytheband, and The Neighbourhood. Give yourself some time to get lost in the music and clear your mind of trivial pressures. If you are more of the rap/hip-hop type, NF and Aha Gazelle are some of the most real and true artists out there currently – all clean music. So I challenge you during the end of the semester when you are feeling stressed, turn on some music and try to just relax and chill.

