

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1

**FOX TALES**

*Quarterly*

A STUDENT PUBLICATION

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# 2018 National Merit® Semifinalists/ Commended Student

By: Bonnie Berzonski

Three Fox Chapel Area High School seniors have been designated as National Merit Semifinalists, and 13 have been named Commended Students in the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program conducted by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). The Semifinalists from Fox Chapel Area High School are Albert Liu, Elizabeth Mountz, and Jordan Taxay. The Commended Students from Fox Chapel Area High School are Emilia Bianchini, Christopher Bonavita, Emelyn Broniek, Theodore Faucher, Nicholas Fennell, Wonho Kang, Shania Khatri, Jacob Klein, Margaret Lazara, Adam Mattioli, Rebekah Polcyn, Lucy Stone, and Jorgen Wu.

All of these students were selected based on their 2016 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®) scores. Each year college-bound 11th grade students complete the PSAT/NMSQT. About 1.6 million juniors who take the test are automatically enrolled in the National Merit Scholarship Program

and approximately 16,000 advance to become Semifinalists and about 34,000 are Commended. The Semifinalists represent less than one percent of the nation's high school seniors and the Commended Students represent

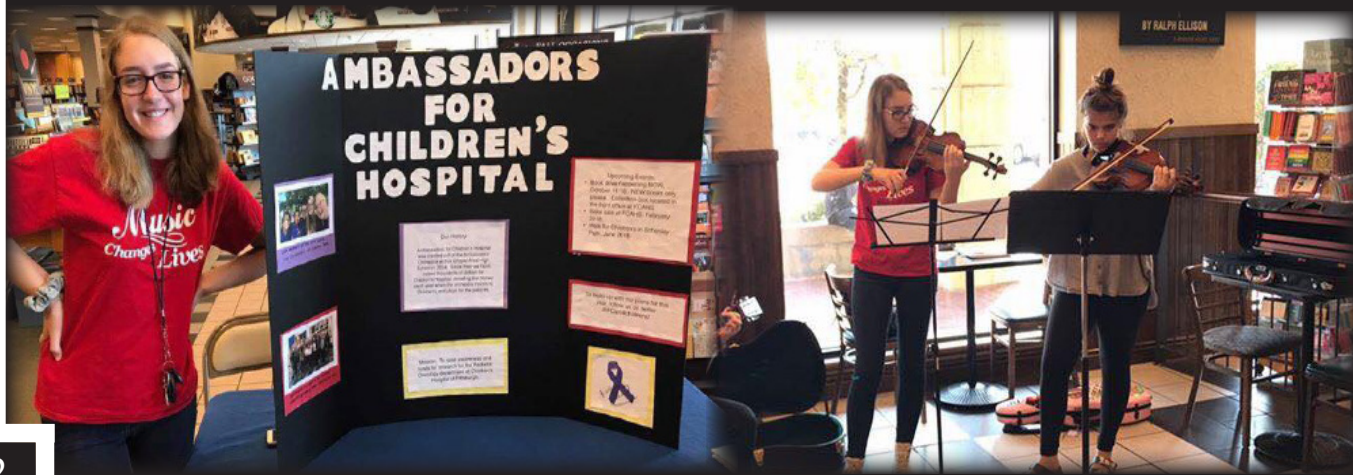
the top five percent. A Semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT® scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test. The Commended Students are recognized for their exceptional academic promise. The Semifinalists now have the opportunity to advance to the Finalist level and compete for

some 7,500 National Merit Scholarship® awards worth more than \$32 million to be offered in the spring of 2018.

The NMSC, a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance, was established in 1955 specifically to conduct the annual National Merit Scholarship Program.



*On October 15th, student members of Ambassador's for Children's Hospital ran a bookfair at Barnes and Noble, played for book lovers and collected books to donate to Children's Hospital. Thank you Fox Chapel Area Ambassadors for Children's. You are awesome!*



# Thrival Music Festival Returns to Carrie Furnaces with Biggest Crowd Ever

By: Grace Han



Thrival is an annual four-day event produced by the Pittsburgh non-profit, Ascender, and hosted by Live Nation. This year's programming for the innovation segments featured the theme, "Intelligence: Humans X Tech." The festival concluded with a two-day music festival on the grounds of the historic Carrie Furnace. This was Thrival's fifth year anniversary and its second year at the muddy and rocky grounds of the former industrial blast furnace along the Monongahela River. This rugged setting is a perfect concert venue and reminds concert-goers of Pittsburgh's heavy-duty steel-making past, while the lively and fresh music performances kept the crowd of nearly 14,000 energetically in the moment. The creative mix of genres like Indie, Metal, Pop, and Rap allowed for a truly diverse crowd. Before Friday's headliner, Logic, took the stage, DJs Carnegie and TOKiMONSTA, along with the alternative band Two Door Cinema Club performed. The musicians blew away their audiences, leaving everyone in great anticipation for Logic.

Sir Robert Bryson Hall II, otherwise known by his rapper name, Logic, captivated the appreciative crowd with his controversial and political songs and speeches. Logic, as an activist striving for social change, declared the reason why he makes music as he played his hit song, 1-800-273-8255. You've probably noticed that phone number, for the national suicide hotline, is posted on the walls of our school.

He even cried while declaring how hard he has been working for both himself and his fans. "I want all of you to know how incredibly special you are... This is why I make music, I make music for you! It's so much more than just this song. My album, my discography... it's all for you guys, man!" After hours of standing in one condensed place, being pushed around from all directions among thousands of people, I was tired. But when Logic finally appeared on stage, I totally forgot about the pain in my aching feet and raved on like the pumped up fans around me.

After a long, sunny Saturday afternoon of performances by pretty righteous Ugly God, hardcore metal Missio, the sultry sax sounds of the electro-funk musician GRiZ, and refreshing pop of Kiiara, in floated the late-night headliner, Wiz Khalifa. Wiz rolled onto stage, expressing his love for his home city of Pittsburgh. The Taylor Allderdice graduate lit up the scene

with his smokin' stage presence as he rapped each of his hit songs, like Black and Yellow (one of Pittsburgh's unofficial anthems) and Alright which featured fellow Pittsburgher, Chevy Woods. All the while, flares and confetti were bursting from the set.

If I could do it all again, would I? Absolutely! And I hope that I've inspired more high school students to participate in Thrival Innovation and Thrival Music Festival for years to come. For more information on Thrival or to see the plans for years to come, check out [www.thrivalfestival.com](http://www.thrivalfestival.com).



# WALK TO THE CURE FOR ALZHEIMER'S

By: Ella DeCecco



Every year, three million Americans get diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease. Alzheimer's disease is a chronic neurodegenerative disease that usually starts slowly and worsens over time. It is the cause of 60% to 70% of cases of dementia, and it is estimated that sixteen million Americans will be diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease by the year 2050 (alz.org).

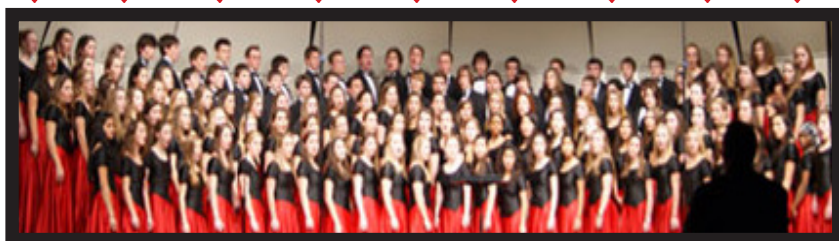
On Saturday, November 4th, Fox Chapel Area High School students will participate in raising funds to further the care, support and research efforts of Alzheimer's Association. The walk will begin in downtown Pittsburgh at Stage AE and will continue to run its course for two miles. Before the walk begins, FBLA will provide transportation to Stage AE and are hoping to go for lunch after the walk. In order to register for the walk, one needs to sign a waiver through their official registration, however, there is no registration fee. FBLA asks everyone who participates to make a personal donation and commit to raising funds in the fight against Alzheimer's. Donations for the event can be made offline by submitting a check or an amount of money by mail or hand-delivering to the local Alzheimer's Association office. Anyone can register,



including children, parents, and even grandparents as long as they sign the waiver. Every registered participant will receive a T-shirt after achieving the fundraising minimum of one hundred dollars.

On the day of the walk, FBLA is allowing strollers for the purpose of small children, but are discouraging things like skateboards, bicycles, inline skates, and wheelie footwear. Depending on the walk's location, well-behaved dogs will be welcome but need to be on a leash at all times. The group will walk in either rain or shine weather, but if in the case of severe weather they will cancel. FBLA will also be doing something very personal by giving participants a wristband, in which they will receive a Promise Garden flower. Each specific color will represent a connection to the disease: blue is for someone with Alzheimer's or dementia, purple is for someone who has lost a loved one to the disease, yellow is for someone who is currently supporting or caring for someone with Alzheimer's, and orange is for those who support the cause. To those who enjoy exercise, who are connected to the cause, or who even are just bored on Saturdays, please come to the walk and help spread awareness for Alzheimer's.

## FCAHS MAJOR WORKS CONCERT



The Fox Chapel Area High School choirs and the ambassador orchestra – in collaboration with intergenerational women's choir Belle Voci, Seton Hill University Women's Chorale, and the Giambelli String Quartet – will present its annual major works concert October 29, 2017. The program will feature the Fox Chapel Area High School Concert Choir performing "Frostiana: Seven Country Songs" by Robert Frost set to music by Randall Thompson. The combined women of the Fox Chapel Area High School Choirs, Belle Voci, Seton Hill University Women's Chorale, the high school ambassador orchestra, and the Giambelli String Quartet will also present a full performance of Giovanni Battista Pergolesi's "Stabat Mater" featuring soprano Meghan DeWald Althouse and contralto Daphne Alderson.

The performance will be held Sunday, October 29 at the Syria Shrine at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at [web.fcasd.edu/tickets](http://web.fcasd.edu/tickets). Please note that tickets purchased online will include a convenience fee. Tickets will only be available at the door pending availability. The Syria Shrine is located at 1877 Shriners Way, Cheswick, PA 15024.

# Dominating the Field of Hockey

By: Courtney Kennedy



The Fox Chapel Girls Field Hockey team is hoping to win their third WPIAL title this season. Coached by Jen McCrady and Abby Dorrance and lead by captains Paige Ryan, Grace Knepshield, and Abby Pitcairn, the Field Hockey team has had an extremely successful season. They had a difficult loss to Pine Richland but have learned from their mistakes and plan on giving Pine a run for their money during playoffs.

The season started off with a bit of a struggle due to accustoming to losing a few players from last, and losing top ten nationally ranked player Abby Pitcairn because of an unexpected knee injury. However, Jen McCrady was able to find a line-up that has lead to a victorious season for FCFH. "Our team is defined by experience, leadership, talent, determination and resiliency. These are all the vital ingredients to our success," explains Coach Jen McCrady. The Fox Chapel Field Hockey girls have put in the hours and the practice, and they are ready to take on another WPIAL win.





# National Honor Society Induction

By: Madison Borkovich



On September 19, 142 students were inducted into the National Honor Society. NHS is a prestigious group including the some of the most elite high school students, and here at the high school, it is sponsored by Mrs. Lisa Gibson and Ms. Suzanne Miller. To be considered for the society, students must go through a lengthy application process. Members must have a minimum 3.5 unweighted cumulative grade point average, obtain character recommendations from teachers, and fulfill leadership, activity, and service requirements. This ensures that the selected NHS inductees are very well-rounded, excelling in both academics as well as in extracurricular events.

The ceremony began with a slideshow displaying student submissions. They sent in pictures of the people that have inspired them and helped them to get where they are today. It also included keynote speaker, Supreme Court Justice David Wecht, who spoke to the students about remaining dedicated in their academic pursuits while staying true to themselves. There was also a candle lighting ceremony on stage, during which the officers of NHS spoke to the new inductees on the organization's founding principles of scholarship, service, leadership, and character. These key pillars of NHS were discussed by NHS President Wonho Kang, Treasurer Ryan Santilli, Vice President Trisha Shah, and Secretary Emilia Bianchini, respectively. After reciting the oath, each new inductee then took the stage to receive his or her well-deserved recognition. The ceremony concluded with pianist Bridget Wang playing the inductees out to enjoy refreshments in the commons.

We here at Fox Tales are so proud of the members new and old, and we know they are set to accomplish great things in life!





# FC Crew

By: Daniel Andrud



The Fox Chapel Area Crew Team raced in the 31st Annual Head of the Ohio regatta in downtown Pittsburgh on October 8th, displaying great sportsmanship and spirit. The Head of the Ohio regatta draws collegiate, masters and juniors crew teams, with over 500 boats racing over the course of the regatta. The race spans from the top of Washington's Landing island down to the Fort Duquesne bridge, 4-5 kilometers total. Fox Chapel Area Crew competed against many strong teams and schools, such as Central Catholic and Oakland Catholic. Come support Fox Chapel Crew at one of their many future regattas!



# FC Girl's Tennis Another Successful Season

By: Claire Katz



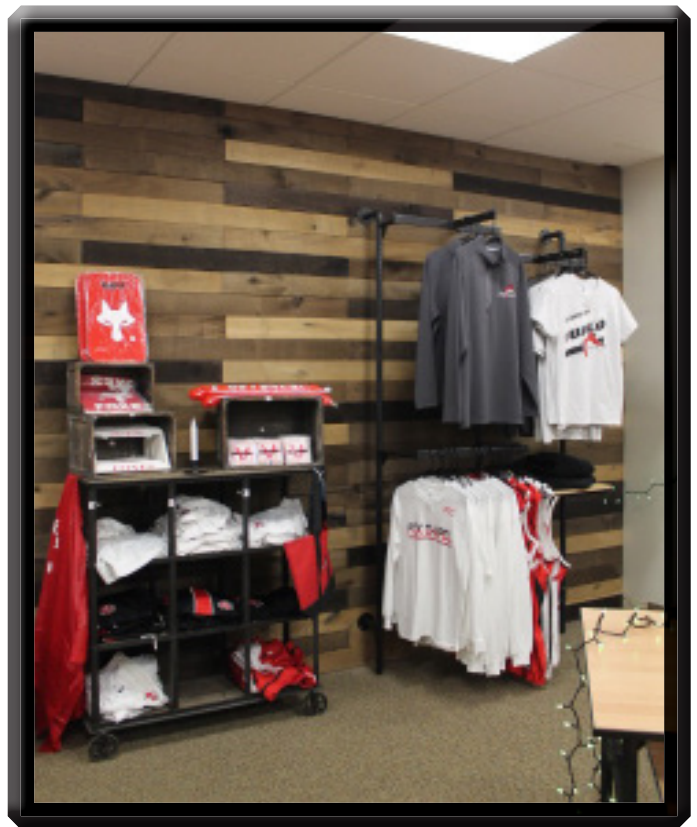
The Fox Chapel girl's tennis team put together another impressive season this year. The team finished with a 9-0 section record and a 16-2 overall record, and were section champions for the fourth year in a row. The team will graduate eight seniors this year: Kira Clark, Abbe Cohen, Margeaux Essey, Morgann Green, Elena Liberto, Amanda Nord, Ashley Trusiak, and Molly Wiese. They celebrated their senior night on September 18th, playing against Thomas Jefferson. Senior Amanda Nord ended her last year with the team with a 15-2 record, junior Kristen Friday finished 16-1, and senior Molly Wiese finished 11-5. There were standout performances from many underclassmen, such as sophomore Charlotte James, who completed the season with a remarkable 16-0 record. Freshmen Emily Fera and Molly Dean both had an outstanding first season on the varsity team. The tennis team's season ended with a devastating playoff loss to Pine Richland. The girls lost the match 3-2, with a tiebreaker win from Pine Richland. The girls will end their season with individuals and doubles pairs from the team competing in the upcoming weeks to qualify for PIAA championships.

# FC'S HOTTEST NEW PLACE TO SHOP

By: Courtney Kennedy

The Foxes Den is Fox Chapel Area High School's new source for school spirit. Managed and run by Mr. Yanizeski's Business Experience Practicum students, this newly built store is stocked with every type of FC apparel one could hope to own. The best part is that almost all of the apparel is designed by students, made by students, and sold by students.

The primary focus of the Foxes Den is all about giving high school students hands-on experience in the business world. To make sure the store runs smoothly, the class is split up into three teams: Marketing, Finance and Operations. Molly Kelly, a senior who is part of the marketing team in the Business Experience Practicum class, explains her team's and



the other teams' roles in the Foxes Den. "We are responsible for all of the advertising and social media components. As a class we all work together to have the store up and running every day during all lunch periods. The finance team is in charge of keeping track of all inventory and money coming in and out of the store. The operations team is in charge of choosing new items for the store, making sure the store is organized, and setting all schedules."

Students are welcome and encouraged to come in and shop during their lunch time. The Foxes Den is working towards being open to the community during the double-header basketball games this winter. Be sure to follow the Foxes Den on Instagram, Twitter and Snapchat @fcfoxesden to stay up to date with the apparel being sold.

# HOMECOMING 2017:

By: Maggie Woodwell

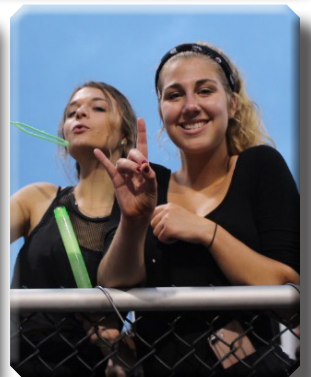
Decorated with a variety of décors that highlighted the best of the decades, Fox Chapel Area High School hosted its annual homecoming dance on October 7. Following the Foxes' tremendous win over Hampton at the homecoming football game, the students entered Saturday with high spirits. For most, the day began by making final preparations on the perfect outfit and taking photos with friends and family. Popular spots for the photo-ops were the Hartwood Mansion, the docks, Squaw Valley Park, Fox Chapel Golf Club, Fox Chapel Field Club and several others.

The excitement only continued when the dance began. As students walked into the school, many could hear the songs being played by the



DJ such as the Cupid Shuffle, Cotton Eyed Joe, 1738, and a variety of others. Though unnoticed by most, a giant fox was projected on the gym wall, highlighting the spirit of homecoming weekend. Students could be found dancing in the gym or grabbing a quick refreshment or snack in the cafeteria.

Homecoming weekend provided not only a fun time for the students of Fox Chapel Area High School but also an opportunity to connect with friends and to show school spirit by cheering on our football team to victory.



# TOP 10 TIPS FOR FRESHMEN

By: Bridget Wang

This article has become almost a tradition at Fox Tales, allowing a senior to give advice to the freshmen based on experiences we've learned from our time here at Fox Chapel. These tips can be taken to heart, or simply glanced over, but these are the top things we, as seniors, think that the freshmen should know.

1. **Yes, we know that we were all freshmen once.** We, like you will, have grown and learned from prior years. Allow yourself to be freshmen this year, and allow yourself to make mistakes. How you move on from those mistakes is what defines your character. Live in each moment, and then take on the world one moment at a time.
2. **Do not blow off your freshman year grades.** All of your grades from every year accumulate to your GPA. That means that all of your grades from freshman through senior year are configured into one number that may determine which college you go to. Keep those grades up early!
3. **You will need guidance.** Talk to your guidance counselors, and get to know them early on. Not only will it help for college applications in the future, but also you get to meet some really cool people who are the only people in the school capable of helping you carve your path after high school.
4. **Talk to Ms. Fink.** Somedays you will have a bad day. It will happen. Don't always think that you can get through it by yourself. Ms. Fink's office is right in between the Nurse and the main office, so see her if you have any emotional or mental needs.
5. **Expect change.** As you've probably seen, the high school is a bit different from the middle school. Things change, and people change. Your old friends may develop interests than you that cause you to grow apart, but it will be okay. You will find new friends who you will like just as much.
6. **Get involved.** Everyone tells you to get involved in clubs and activities, and they are not wrong. The moment you decide to apply yourself outside of the classroom, the better high school will be. For clubs and school activities, see Ms. Butkovic in the activities office. For outside career-driven programs, see Mrs. Gibson in room 168.
7. **Walk like you have a purpose.** Seriously, do not be that one group of people that walk super slow and takes up an entire hallway.
8. **We all need sleep.** Do not pull all-nighters. Take it from someone who knows. They are neither fun nor healthy. Also, if you take the bus in the morning, people use that bus ride to get a few more minutes of sleep, especially if they tried to pull an all-nighter. Please be kind and speak softly.
9. **Be nice to the janitors!** They have to clean the school everyday after all the students leave. So that sandwich you dropped and kicked under a couch, hoping no one will notice, is not doing anyone any favors. The janitors are all kind people who deserve nothing but our gratitude.
10. Last but not least, **take advantage of all the resources we have here.** Fox Chapel is fortunate enough to have an abundance of resources that can be used to help you, so do not shy away from the Math Help Center or Manuscript if you need help.

There you have it! Our top ten tips for freshmen. It's now up to you to make the next four years at this great high school meaningful.



# Kicking Their Way to Victory

By: Claire Fenton

For many high school teams, making the playoffs is considered to be a successful season. For our boys and girls soccer teams, a postseason is expected, and this year neither team will disappoint.

The boys team has had to battle their way through a difficult section, winning or losing most of their games by no more than a couple goals. Although the boys were swept by Central Catholic and Plum, the top two teams in the section, they split a pair of games with third-place Allderdice. In the month of September, they posted five shutouts and have outscored their opponents 32-13. They finished in fourth place in their section and have secured a playoff spot and can prepare for what is hopefully a deep run.

Last year, the boys were eliminated in overtime by North Allegheny - the eventual WPIAL champions - during the first round of the playoffs. The girls team ended their season in a similar manner, losing a hard-fought game to Norwin, who also went on to win WPIALs, in the semifinals. For the girls this year, it's not a matter of whether or not they will make the playoffs, but how far they will go. Throughout the season, they have remained ranked in the top ten teams in the WPIAL, and a double-overtime win against Plum, their section rivals, kept them undefeated in section play. Compared with the rest of their section, the girls seem to be dominating the field, having scored 33 goals while allowing only one goal against the other four teams (Allderdice, Penn Hills, Woodland Hills, and Brashear). Although their out-of-section opponents include Pine Richland, Penn Trafford, and Canon-McMillan, all of whom are in the top five teams in the WPIAL, the girls remain at the top of their section.

Congratulations to both teams on a fantastic season!



# FCA Golf Teams Excel

By: Victoria Crittenden



The boys and girls Golf Team thrived this season. The Boys Golf shot a school record of 174 earlier in the season. The whole team made it through sectionals and juniors Gregor Meyer and Grant Thiele and sophomores Amani DiAmbrosio and Scotty Bitar made it through WPIAL qualifiers. Gregor Meyer, the reigning 2016 WPIAL champ, shot a 77 at Nemacolin Country Club in the finals to advance to State Regionals at Tom's Run. He also set a school record this year by tying Fox Chapel's nine hole record when he shot a 5 under 31 at the Pittsburgh Field Club.

The Girls Golf Team beat their neighbors, Shady Side Academy, twice during their season but lost to North Allegheny who was their toughest opponent. The team qualified for team WPIALS and one senior, Hannah Conroy made past the first round of individual WPIALS. This is her fourth year qualifying for individual WPIALS.

Both teams continued to WPIALS, with the girls bringing home second place. Even though the boys weren't able to dominate in WPIALS, we appreciate all they have done this season and can't wait to see all they will accomplish next year.

# FCXC Overcomes Monumental Hills

By: Claire Fenton and Caroline Green



This season for the girls cross country team has been a strong one. The girls have won three meets and have come in second and sixth in the other two, outperforming countless teams. On September 23rd, the varsity team travelled to Hershey to run against teams from across the state in the PIAA Foundation Invitational. They came in second place by only four points, with Caelan Miller placing sixth and Sarena Seeger following close behind in seventh in individuals. Less than a week later they won their section, achieving something that hasn't happened since 2009. With Miller leading and Annika Urban, Sarena Seeger, Grace Sisson, and Brooke Krally following close behind, the girls team has managed to pull off the impressive feat of taking places one through five in that race.

The boys were successful by kicking off their season with a second-place finish at their first meet. At this same meet, Christian Fitch also placed seventh overall. A week later, they placed seventh at the Red, White and Blue Classic, with Fitch and Jonathan Folkerts coming in at the seventh and 23rd places respectively. At the PIAA Foundational Invitational, the team placed eleventh overall, led by Fitch (eleventh) and Folkerts (seventeenth). On September 27th, the boys joined the girls in becoming section champions, with strong performances from Fitch (first), Folkerts (third), Ryan Kenyon (sixth), and Greg Overbeck (eighth).

The teams have one final meet before the WPIALs on October 26th. The girls hope to build off of their second place finish last year, and both aim to continue to the state meet. Good luck to the girls and boys, and congratulations on a fantastic season!

# FALL PLAY PREVIEW

BY: CLAIRE FENTON

This fall, our theater cast and crew will travel back to the 1920s for their production of *Radium Girls*, based on a true story about female factory workers during World War I. At the time, radium had acquired popularity among the medical community; its healing properties were used in everything from cancer treatments to anti-aging methods. However, radium appealed to watch manufacturers for a different reason: its glow-in-the-dark quality. They added the element to their paint mixtures and hired factory workers, who would later be known as the “radium girls”, to draw the numbers on watch faces. Before long, these

women became ill; they suffered from tooth decay, exhaustion, brittle bones, and delicate skin. As more and more of these workers were struck down by disease and die from their afflictions, the true nature of the miraculous element was questioned: was radium the silent killer?

*Radium Girls* follows Grace Fryer, a young factory painter, and her legal battle to find justice for her fellow workers. She faces

corruption and greed as she stands up to her employers, doctors, and a nation reluctant to condemn radium. The play will be performed in November. Showtimes and ticket prices will be announced at a later date.



*Congratulations to the FCAHS Hometown High-Q team! Senior Claudia Simon, Junior Daniel Andrud and Sophomore Rajeev Godse won their match against Deer Lakes and Baldwin-Whitehall and will return to KDKA studios this spring for their next round. Tune in on December 23rd at 11:00AM to see our trivia superstars in action!*

# Not a MUNdane Club

By: Justin Choo

The Fox Chapel Area High School Forensics and Model United Nations (MUN) offer a unique opportunity for all high school students to participate in advanced speech and debate. The clubs, which have more than 140 members, are open to all students. Participating in Forensics and MUN is a simple way to improve your analysis, argumentation, and writing, in addition to distinguishing yourself from others.

Forensics and MUN already have several tournaments scheduled for the 2017-18 debate season. Planned forensics and speech tournaments include Mercyhurst & McDowell, George Mason University, North Catholic, North Allegheny, Pine Richland, Hampton, and West Allegheny forensic tournaments, which last from October 2017 to February 2018. Later in the season are qualifying tournaments for states and nationals, which all students are welcome to register for. MUN conferences include Riverview, University of Pittsburgh, University of Virginia, Duquesne, and Westminster. Tournaments typically take place over the weekend, and some involve overnight stays.

All styles of debate are offered, as well as all styles of speech. The coaches, who have coached former state and national champions, cater to all levels of experience from novice to advanced. Practices are held after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays until 3:30 in room 204. To find out more information, contact the teacher sponsor, Mr. Matusiak or any of the officers Sara Puthenpurayil, Rajeev Godse, Jackson Boychuk, Hanna Chen, or stop by during a practice. It is never too early or too late to get started!



*The Pittsburgh Steelers named Fox Chapel Area High School Football Coach Tom Loughran as coach of the week for the team's victory over Woodland Hills in week two of the season. He was honored at the Steelers' game on Sunday, October 8. Coach Loughran has coached football for 42 years and is closing in on his 200th career win.*

# An Exchange of Culture

By: Courtney Kennedy and Madilyn Harajda

On September 29th, eleven students arrived to Pittsburgh from Spain for a two week exchange program with students from Fox Chapel. The students are participating in the program Pursue Languages. The exchange students' english teacher is Mr. David Walters, who worked with Sra. Fontes to create this exchange program between Fox Chapel Area High School and Colegio Virgen de Europa, the exchange students' school in Madrid. The exchange programs allows for the students to experience new cultures and traditions, to improve their ability to speak a foreign language, and to form new, lifelong international friendships. While the students were here, they participated in different activities, including a tour of Pittsburgh, a trip to Niagara Falls, a trip to the Amish community New Wilmington, a Steelers game, and taking part in their host students' sports and hobbies.

We asked Miriam and Cecilia, two students from Madrid staying with Nicole Garcia Tunon and Hanna Chen respectively, a few questions about their experience.



Q: What have you found is the most interesting thing about the United States so far?

A: American food. Everything is like it's from the American movies.

Q: Out of what you have tried so far, what are your favorite foods?

A: Quiche and Hershey's Cookies n' Cream chocolate bars.

Q: Back home, what sports do you play?

A: Miriam: Running.

Cecilia: Running, flamenco dancing, and ballet.

Both also play handball, volleyball, basketball, and soccer in school.

The Fox Chapel students who are participating in the program are Kacie Zakin, Mia Hursh, Noah Herzman, Nicole Garcia-Tunon, Isabella Boleng, Cara Levicoff, Hanna Chen, Hannah Jahnke, Kate Eames, Dylan Stein, and Oscar Oliva. These students will travel to Madrid for two weeks and attend Colegio Virgen de Europa. They will be in Madrid around spring break and stay with the families of the students they hosted in the fall.



## Student's Artwork Chosen for National Tour

**By: Bonnie Berzonski**

Fox Chapel Area High School junior Sofia Porter Bacon has had her original artwork selected for the "Art.Write.Now.Tour 2017-18." Prior to having her piece chosen for the national display, Sofia's artwork, entitled "How aliens return the cows they abducted," was named a national Gold Medal winner in The Scholastic Art Awards of 2017, entered when Sofia was a sophomore. Only approximately 50 of the best works from the national competition were selected for the traveling exhibition.

Now in its eighth year, the Art.Write.Now.Tour is celebrated for being the most fresh and relevant look at creative work by young artists today. In addition to the visual artworks on display, the tour also features The Best Teen Writing of 2017, Scholastic's annual anthology of selected National Medal writing.

In a letter to Sofia's Fox Chapel Area High School art teacher Christine Smith, the Director of Exhibitions for the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Monica Johnson, stated, "We are honored to present your student's art as an example of the very best creative work by our nation's emerging young artists."

The Art.Write.Now.Tour begins in October 2017 and ends in June 2018. The tour will stop at Tulsa Community College in Tulsa, Oklahoma; the Living Arts & Science Center in Lexington, Kentucky; the Arnot Art Museum in Elmira, New York; and the Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown, Ohio. The tour is supported, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts and Blick Art Materials & Utrecht Art Supplies.

# Fox Chapel Area Students and Graduates Named AP Scholars

By: Bonnie Berzonski

A total of 147 current Fox Chapel Area High School students and 2017 graduates have been named Advanced Placement (AP) Scholars by the College Board for demonstrating college-level achievement on the AP examinations taken in May 2017. Only about 20 percent of the more than two million students who took AP exams in May 2017 performed at a sufficiently high level to earn an AP Scholar Award. The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on the number of courses and exams. At Fox Chapel Area High School:

2017 graduates Rohan Chalasani, Alec Eckman, Mihir Garimella, Sarah Hamilton, Elizabeth Heidenreich, Yelim Lee, Darwin Leuba, William “Tim” Marsh, Moira McCormick, Suvir Mirchandani, Kristen Rabbitt, Jeremy Rodrigues, Caroline Smith, Philip Swigon, Thomas Swigon, and Nathan Wecht qualified for the National AP Scholar Award by earning an average score of 4 or higher on all AP exams taken, and scores of four or higher on eight or more AP exams.

The following 68 graduates/students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average score of 3.5 or higher on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams: 2017 graduates Ariane Akhand, Nathan Andrud, Lee Beasley, David Breault, Joshua Cagan, Rohan Chalasani, Jared Cohen, Brooke Echnat, Alec Eckman, John Feczko, Austin Fisher, Mihir Garimella, James Gilmore, Donovan Gorgas, Sarah Hamilton, David Han, Elizabeth Heidenreich, Nadia Islam, Katherine Kauma, Yelim Lee, Darwin Leuba, Victor Marculescu, William “Tim” Marsh, Moira McCormick, Sean McCoy, Anna McDougall, Alan McIvor, Jenna McKinley, Suvir Mirchandani, Jonathan Monroe, Solana Morningstar, Emma Paulini, Daniel Paviglianiti, Ellen Pil, Kristen Rabbitt, Jeremy Rodrigues, William Schwartzman, Ayan Sinha, Caroline Smith, Philip Swigon, Thomas Swigon, Martin Taxay, Bliss Uribe, Nathan Wecht, Elizabeth Woodwell, Bohan Yao, Gabrielle Young, Jerett Zaleski, and Houruiyang Zong and 2017-2018 seniors Karissa Becer, Emelyn Broniek, Alexander Brotsker, Jhair Colan, Alyssa DiPaolo, Margaret Edgecombe, Mia Jamiolkowski, Wonho Kang, Elizabeth Kauma, Sha-

nia Khatri, Jacob Klein, Albert Liu, Andreas Paljug, Rebekah Polcyn, Lucy Stone, Jordan Taxay, Bridget Wang, Jorgen Wu, and Tanvi Yende.

The following 40 graduates/students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams: 2017 graduates Erik Bothe, Anne Friday, Roy Gao, Alison Gould, Elias Izenson, Maxwell Lucas, Vincent Lundy, John Ramassini, Bryce Ryan, Alexander Smolar, Waleed Tariq, and Ian Tracey and 2017-2018 seniors Eduardo Andujar, Sarah Baldwin, Anita Barge, Emilia Bianchini, Christopher Bonavita, Emilia Cano-Czagany, Nolan Crocker, Sara Fisher, Anna Hirsch, Khalid Husain, Julia Kisslinger, Braddock Lalor, Elizabeth Mountz, Helen Paulini, Sara Puthenpurayil, Ryan Santilli, John Saunders, Jeffrey Savin, Jessica Schwartz, Sarah Seay, Alexa Selwood, Sarah Sheerer, Tao Sheng, Megan Stafford, Devon Stein, William Tabor, Ruopeng Wang, and Zachary Zytneck.

The following 39 graduates/students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by receiving scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams: 2017 graduates Harper Bennett, Anthony Cordaro, Francesco Fava, Lorenzo Fava, Ellin Fetting, Andrew Fugh, Kathryn Kenney, Nicholas Killian, Kevin Kilmer, Emmeline Klatt, Matthew Marino, Maia Pauley, Benjamin Rosen, Omar Tolentino, Alexandra Wessel, and Megan Wiese; 2017-2018 seniors David Ahlers, Kieran Bartels, Liam Botos, Nicholas Fennel, Kiran Hughes, William Kuhns, Toby Lazear, Cara Levicoff, Madeline Macek, Julie Mallinger, Adam Mattioli, Victoria Mountz, Rohan Patil, Delaney Roberts, Trisha Shah, David Shtrahman, Claudia Simon, Danielle Werner, and Max Wolfendale; 2017-2018 juniors Vaishavi Agrawal and Arnav Gupta; and 2017-2018 sophomores J. Oliver Choo and Moulid Muhina.

Advanced Placement exams are graded on a 5-point scale, with 5 being the highest. Most of the nation’s four-year colleges and universities award credit and/or advanced placement for qualifying exam scores. Every year, AP examinations are offered in a wide variety of subject areas, each consisting of multiple choice and free-response (essay or problem-solving) questions.

# Join the Club!

## What Really Happened at Club Week

By: Madison Borkovich

Club Week is a highly anticipated lunchtime event that showcases the 80+ clubs our high school has to offer. Each club provides an informational display, sign-up sheet, and enthusiastic representatives to man their table and recruit new members.

Kicking off the 2018 club week was Yearbook, Model United Nations, Drama Club, Asian Cultural Club, Camp Allegheny Counselors, Latin Club, Ski Club, Computing, Ping Pong, Spanish Club, and Ambassadors for Children's.

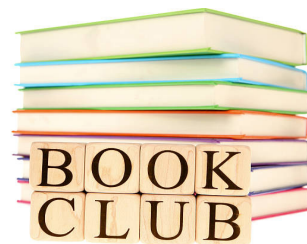
There was a strong showing on Tuesday, with FBLA, French Club, Vote16PGH, Glee Club, TSA, Tapestry, Women's Issues Club, DESI, Pre-med Club, Amnesty International, Doctor Who Club, Arts for Hearts, Stock Club, Robotics, Environmental Club, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and International Friends.

Wednesday brought Career Club, Musical Outreach, Book Club, Busking Club, Strategy Club, Fencing Club, Jewish Student Union, Anime Club, Fly Fishing Club, Pottery Club, German Club, National Geographic Club, Math Club, Mu Alpha Theta, Computational Biology Club, and Magic Club.

The last day for pre-existing clubs was Thursday. Fox Tales, Global Outreach, Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA), Helping Children Tomorrow, Best Buddies, Video Game, ActiVate FC, Comedy Club, National Art Honor Society, Cricket Club, GSA, Mock Trial Club, Psych Club, Sociology Club, Ski Club, and Political Discourse Club kept the commons area active!

Club Week ended with a day dedicated to all new clubs. There were displays present for the SAT Study Club, Photography Club, Science Bowl, Flash Mob Club, Jewelry Club, #fitnessgoals, Skate Club, Conservation Club, Alternative Economics, Public Health Club, CORE Club, Improv Club, Black Student Union, Social Activism Club, Public Health Club, Vegetarian Club, Science Fair Club, FC E-Sports Club, Skate Club, Data Analytics Club, Coloring & Calligraphy Club, and Astronomy, Optics & Robotics Club.

As is showcased by the plethora of clubs listed above, there truly is something for everyone here at Fox Chapel Area High School. Club Week was definitely the perfect opportunity to get involved, and you can pursue many of your widely varying interests while meeting new people and forging lifelong relationships. The high school experience is truly left incomplete until you try out a club, so if you missed out on sign-ups, visit Mrs. Butkovic in the activities office to get information about the clubs' student and faculty sponsors!

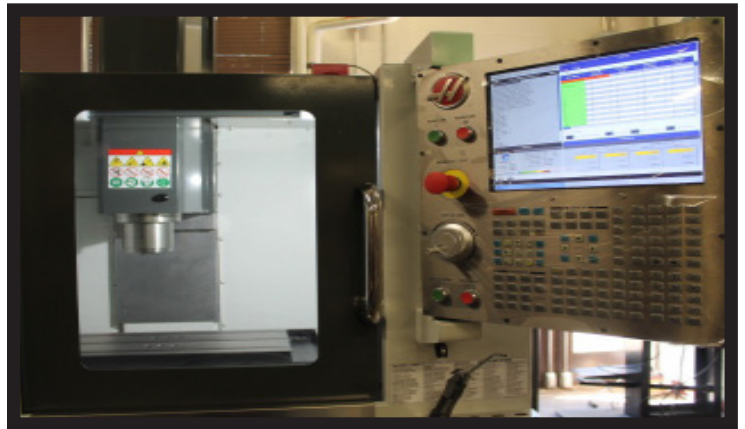


# HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER AWARDED GRANT

By: Bonnie Berzonski

Fox Chapel Area High School technology education teacher Ken Grimm has been awarded a \$6,000 grant from the Gene Haas Foundation. The foundation awards grants and scholarships for CNC (Computer Numerical Control) machinist training to high schools, community colleges, and trade schools. The majority of Fox Chapel Area High School's grant will be given as a post-secondary scholarship to a student planning a career in the technology arena, such as manufacturing, machining, and engineering. The grant will also be used to help pay for Fox Chapel Area High School students to attend competitions where technology education/CNC machining is highlighted, such as the Technology Student Association (TSA), Skills USA, Combat Bots, and Bots IQ events.

In 1999, Gene Haas founded the Gene Haas Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization located in Oxnard, California. Haas is the owner of Haas Automation, Inc., America's leading builder of CNC machine tools, which he started in 1983. Haas Automation is now a billion-dollar company.



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# MAKING A DIFFERENCE THROUGH MUSIC

By: Zeynep Ozkaya



On October 15th, the Seton Hill women's choir, Bella Voci and Fox Chapel Area High School's Vulpes Cantantes to perform Pergolesi's Stabat Mater at Seton Hill University.

Music can represent many different things to people. It is a means of communicating one's thoughts and feelings. It allows people to express themselves through their playing. It is a way to voice one's opinions to the world. However, music is also where we all find common ground. It unites people, bringing them together in a way that nothing else in the world can. Fox Chapel Area School District has had a prevailing music program for many years, with dazzling musicals and fantastic band, choir and orchestra programs, but this year the orchestra program specifically has gone through many changes.

When making music, it is always important for a musician to consider why they are playing or performing. Mrs. Cooper, the FCAHS orchestra director, has allowed her students to ask themselves these questions by applying design thinking, which allows students to take charge. Mrs. Cooper believes that this independence will give the students more initiative to accomplish things that they wouldn't have otherwise. "If you want things to be meaningful for your students, then you have to give your students voice." With this freedom, the students have developed a philosophy for their orchestra around four pillars: giving those who aren't unable to easily hear it access to live music, educating people about string instruments emphasizing the value of music, creating a wider audience for enjoying and celebrating string music, and expressing the sheer joy of music through performance. Orchestra is no longer about the performance. It is solely about sharing and spreading music. Everything is student led, and the students have arranged pop up concerts that correspond to each of the four pillars to help share and spread music. They plan to visit a school for the blind, the Environmental Charter School, the Science Center, and Phipps Conservatory.

Although the pop up concerts aren't open to the public, there is a concert on October 25 at Fox Chapel Area High School that will present a preview for these events. The repertoire includes well known pieces such as West Side Story, An American in Paris, and Hoedown, with student soloists and conductors being featured. All of these are American pieces, which is significant to the message that the Fox Chapel Area High School Orchestra is trying to convey in their playing: asking ourselves what it means to be an American, to showcase diversity, and to ultimately use music to change the world.



