

Frist Performance FOX TALES

Quarterly

A STUDENT PUBLICATION



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State FBLA Competition Success



Eleven Fox Chapel Area High School and Dorseyville Middle School students placed at the 2023 Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) State Leadership Conference. Juniors Micah Cagley and Dylan Work, sophomores Kai Edwards and Gabriella Hample, and freshman Joshua Shah all won first places; and juniors Harry Littwin and Gloria Wen won second places. All seven of these students qualified to participate in the FBLA National Leadership Conference that will be held June 27-30 in Atlanta.

Other Fox Chapel Area High School state place winners were juniors Laney Porterfield (second place) and Jacob Anthikad (seventh place) and sophomores Kai Edwards (two fifth places) and Jackson Hagler (sixth place). Additionally, Dorseyville Middle School sixth-grader Matthew Bartolacci also placed second at the state conference. This was the first year that Dorseyville Middle School had a chapter of the FBLA at the school.

Additionally, as part of the state leadership conference, several other awards were also given. Six Fox Chapel Area High School students were inducted into the National

Business Honor Society, senior Stella Ruane and juniors Annalese Bartolacci, Maria Costantino, Whitney Jones, Angela Ngo, and Kieu Uyen Tong. Big 33 Community Service Awards went to 2023 early graduate Zachary Sullivan, junior Joseph Berger, and sophomore Sienna Siegel. Business Achievement Awards were given to senior Stella Ruane (Contributor level, Advocate level, and Leader level), junior Annalese Bartolacci (Contributor level), and sophomore Kai Edwards (Contributor level, Advocate level, and Leader level).

The Fox Chapel Area High School chapter of the FBLA also received the 5th Largest Local Chapter Membership Award with 117 total members. There are more than 200 high schools participating in FBLA within the state of Pennsylvania.

The FBLA State Leadership Conference was held in Hershey, Pennsylvania, April 17-19. More than 5,000 students from high schools across the state participated in the competition. The Fox Chapel Area High School FBLA sponsor is business education teacher Christina Congalton.

PSAT/NMSQT High Scorers

Twenty-eight Fox Chapel Area High School rising seniors are among the 50,000 highest-scoring participants on the 2022 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) and have met the requirements to enter the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program. The students are: Jacob Anthikad, Annalese Bartolacci, Dylan Berman, Joshua Correnti, Amelia Costello, Nicholas Cusano, Eliza Davis, Logan Dressman, David Feder, Adam Ferris, Emmett Gillespie, Lucas Gravina, Darren Jayaratnam, Clara Kelley, Chloe Kim, Henry Koloc, Shriya Krishnamurthy, Rachel Milcheck, Eduardo Phelan-Vidal, Lakshanya Rajaganapathi, Liviya Rubin, Adhitya Thirumala, Emily Torbert, Gloria Wen,

Abraham White, Isabella White, Dylan Work, and Bridget Yun. More than 1.3 million students took the 2022 PSAT/NMSQT and these Fox Chapel Area students are among the 50,000 highest-scoring participants on that test from across the nation.

Approximately 16,000 of these highest scoring students will be named National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinalists in September 2023, representing the top scorers in each state, and approximately 34,000 of the students will be commended for their performance on the PSAT/NMSQT. The Semifinalists will have the opportunity to continue in the competition for about 7,250 Merit Scholarship awards to be offered in 2024.

Students Earn Honorable Mention in Governor's STEM Competition

A team of Fox Chapel Area High School students received an honorable mention in the ninth annual Pennsylvania Governor's STEM Competition. The team members are juniors Lakshanya Rajaganapathi, Adhitya Thirumala, and Gabriella Urso and sophomores Alex Kim and Swati Mylarappa. The theme of the competition this year was "Innovating the Commonwealth through Collaboration and Computing." The Fox Chapel Area High School team was one of 20 winning teams from across the state and one of only two from Western Pennsylvania to be named a winner.

The group developed a product called TURBO, a low-cost turbidity sensor that repurposes the already-existing LifeStraws. TURBO addresses the needs of individuals struggling with various water quality issues and bridges the gap between individuals and communities from around the world to reduce water

contamination. The device measures the turbidity of the water and relays the data via a mobile application to local water authorities who then alert the public about possible water contamination in the area.



Left to right: Alex Kim, Adhitya Thirumala, Lakshanya Rajaganapathi and Gabriella Urso (teammate Swati Mylarappa not pictured) received an honorable mention in the ninth annual Pennsylvania Governor's STEM Competition.

This year, the Governor's STEM Competition challenged 62 teams of students in grades 9-12 from across the state to research, design, and present a device or project that can help improve the lives of Pennsylvanians and fulfill real-world needs.

"The thought and innovation that went into this year's projects continues to show us why Pennsylvania has long been seen as a national leader in STEM," said Acting Secretary of Education, Dr. Khalid N. Mumin.

"The commonwealth is fortunate to have such talented, knowledgeable, and creative students."

The Fox Chapel Area High School students' advisor was gifted support facilitator Lisa Gibson.

Seshan Semifinalist in Presidential Scholars Program

Fox Chapel Area High School senior Arvind Seshan has been named a semifinalist in the 2023 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. Arvind is one of nearly 630 outstanding high school seniors from across the nation, and one of only 16 from Pennsylvania, chosen as a semifinalist. The semifinalists were selected from approximately 5,000 candidates from nearly 3.6 million high school seniors graduating this year from across the U.S.

Inclusion in the Presidential Scholars Program, begun in 1964, is one of the nation's highest honors bestowed upon graduating high school seniors. Students are first selected for the program based on their superior academic

achievements. They are then further evaluated on their academic achievements, personal characteristics, leadership and service activities, and the quality and content of a submitted essay.

In May, up to 161 of these semifinalists will be named U.S. Presidential scholars. The Scholars represent excellence in education

and the promise of greatness in young people and they are recognized for their demonstrated leadership, scholarship, and contributions to their schools and communities. All the Presidential Scholars will be honored during an online national recognition program and will be awarded the U.S. Presidential Scholars medallion in June.



Classical to Country: Orchestra Takes a Trip Down South



By Mia Costello

After years of no travel, the Fox Chapel High School Orchestra decided that 2023 was the year for our first trip since the pandemic. Where was the destination of choice? None other than Music City itself – Nashville, Tennessee! Mrs. Cooper, the conductor and director of our orchestra, planned with travel guides Ryan and Danika Ogrodny to ensure that we got as much out of the three-day adventure as possible. Ryan is the fiddler for country music star Alan Jackson while his wife Danika is a singer and songwriter. They organized quite a packed schedule for us, so read on for a breakdown of each day!

The bus ride was around 10 hours long, but completely worth it for the incredible night we had. Jake, the National Buck Dancing Champion, led everyone in a routine of square dancing. We were also lucky enough to get a private concert from Jamie O'Neal, her husband Rodney, Tae Lewis, Ryan, and Danika. They performed a songwriter's round, meaning that they took turns singing songs that they wrote. Not only were they fantastic musicians, but we were able to learn about what inspired their songwriting process for each performance, which was an interesting lens to see music through.

The second day started off with college tours. Students split between either Belmont or Vanderbilt, and were able to walk around campus with a guide. Those who went to Belmont even got to see an FC Alum, Gabby Kline! Following the college tours, we went to another school, except this one was filled with elementary students that were ready to hear us perform. The kids warmed up quickly to our Disney attire and were very enthusiastic to learn about us. The orchestra performed a few Disney hits with music from *Moana* and *The Little Mermaid*, and even brought a few volunteers up to help conduct!

After our performance, we went to the famous Broadway in Nashville where we had time to shop and line dance. Following a little free time, the orchestra headed to Oceanway Studios to record with Carl Rydlund, who is Hans Zimmer's orchestrator. To help you get a sense of what Oceanway Studios does, Taylor Swift, Reba



On the first night of the trip, students enjoyed a private concert from Jamie and Rodney O'Neal, Ryan and Danika Ogrodny, and Tae Lewis. A square dancing lesson from the National Buck Dancing Champion had them enjoying themselves on the dance floor for the better part of the evening.

Orchestra Trip, continued...

McEntire, and many other country music stars have signed records there. In the actual studio, we experimented with headsets and playing along to a track – a very different experience than what we are used to in school. Carl recorded Josh Groban's "In a New York Minute" with us after only a few attempts. Did you know that professional recording musicians often only get two takes to record on music they have barely seen before? We then recorded music from *Pirates of the Caribbean*, which we had prepared beforehand.

We finished the day with dinner at the Bavarian Bierhaus, which had a live band performing for us. The entire restaurant was graced by the performances of our very own students Nathan Moore, Arman

Alborzi, and Dylan Paserba. Nathan sang "the Devil Went Down to Georgia," Arman sang "Ring of Fire" (this one became our theme song for the trip), and Dylan rounded us out with "Take Me Home, Country Roads." The other students participated through some polka dancing as well.

Although we were all a bit tired, we had a masterclass in store for us for the morning. We went to Soundcheck, a professional rehearsing facility for artists that are about to go on tour. Tracy Silverman taught us the chop and

other techniques that are outside the realm of conventional "classical" music. Caleb Yang showed us similar techniques, but on an electric cello as opposed to Tracy's electric violin. An interesting feature of their instruments was the addition of extra strings; string instruments usually have only four strings but electric instruments can have more for an increased range of notes. Ryan finished off the masterclass

with teaching everyone a few things on improvisation.

After lunch, we went to Opryland to get a tour of the Grand Ole Opry, which we were going to later that night for a concert. The Grand Ole Opry is essentially the Carnegie Hall of country music – it is a huge deal for artists to gain recognition. Since Ryan was performing on that renowned stage with Jeannie Seely, we were offered to help her sing on the song "Me and Bobby

McGee" in front of about 5,000 audience members. The night performance featured other performers such as Jamey Johnson, Caitlyn Smith, and Kelsea Ballerini. I think most of us can say that we walked away liking country music much more than when we had first gotten to Nashville.

I had an absolute blast on the trip, and I can easily say that it was one of the best I have ever been on. Thank you to Mrs. Cooper, Ryan, Danika, and everyone who worked so hard to make this trip the amazing time that it was!



Above, students visit Oceanway Studios to record with Carl Rdyland, who is Han Zimmer's orchestrator. They experimented with headsets and played along to a track – a very different experience than what they were used to in school.

FC Named One of the Best Communities for Music Education



The Fox Chapel Area School District has been named among the 2023 Best Communities for Music Education. This is the 11th year that the district has received this designation. Fox Chapel Area is one of 123 in the state of Pennsylvania and one of 830

school districts in the nation chosen for this honor that recognizes outstanding commitment to music education.

The districts were selected through a program sponsored by the NAMM (National Association of Music Merchants) Foundation which recognizes outstanding efforts by teachers, administrators, parents, students, and

community leaders who have made music education part of a well-rounded education for all students.

To qualify for the Best Communities for Music Education designation, Fox Chapel Area music teachers responded to a detailed survey with questions pertaining to student demographics, teacher/student ratio, music education participation rates, music education and/or fine arts requirements for graduation, music education electives, teacher qualifications, standards for assessing music education, music facilities, and budget.

The NAMM Foundation is a nonprofit that celebrates and promotes the intrinsic value of music education.

Pistella National Finalist in Junk Kouture Competition

Fox Chapel Area High School senior Marley Pistella has been named a top 30 finalist in the United States in the Junk Kouture contest. As part of the competition, Marley created a high fashion couture outfit titled, "In Bloom," from used jeans and other found fabrics. Only two students from Pennsylvania were named among the 30 United States finalists.

Marley then moved on to the New York City Final that was streamed on YouTube May 9, 2023. City finals will be held in Abu Dhabi, Dublin, London, Milan, New York, and Paris and the top ten designs selected from each City Final will advance to the Junk Kouture World Final which will take place later in 2023.

Junk Kouture is a sustainable fashion competition open to students ages 13-18 that challenges young people to design, upcycle, and create high end couture from 100% recycled materials. The competition is organized by Junk Kouture Operations Ireland Ltd. and is the largest sustainable fashion competition for young people.



Senior Marley Pistella models the couture outfit she designed and created from used jeans and other found fabrics.

Rajaganapathi Recognized as a Rising Star

Fox Chapel Area High School junior Lakshanya Rajaganapathi was selected to receive the National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) Western Pennsylvania Affiliate Rising Star Award for Aspirations in Computing (AiC). Lakshanya was selected for the award based on her demonstrated aspirations in computing and technology. She received a medal and a certificate in honor of her achievements.

The NCWIT Western Pennsylvania Affiliate Rising Star Award for AiC recognizes high school students in grades 9-12 for their aptitude and interest in information technology and computing, solid leadership ability, successful academic history, and plans for postsecondary education. The Western PA affiliate of the NCWIT Award for AiC is a collaborative effort by dedicated volunteers from Saint Francis University, Penn State University New Kensington, University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, and All Clear Translations.



FC Rotary Honors Selected Seniors



The Rotary Club of Fox Chapel Area honored 10 graduating seniors at a luncheon on May 17th. The students, chosen by each academic department of the school, were honored not only for outstanding scholastic achievement but also for embodying the Rotarian ideals of good citizenship and service to others. Each senior was given a certificate, a monetary award and the opportunity to address the Rotarians about their future plans. Pictured above from left to right are: Nathania Lingam, Mia Fraga Ruiz, Arjun Golla, Lydia Weidner, Ross Carney, Stella Ruane, Paul Kullmann, Salvatore Smith, Elijah Conklin and Nicholas Harris. Special recognition was given to Stella Ruane, this year's winner of the Rotary's Service Above Self scholarship. In addition to numerous volunteer projects in the Pittsburgh area during her high school years, Stella traveled with volunteers to hurricane-ravaged Puerto Rico where she worked as a carpenter rebuilding a house flattened by several major storms. Congratulations to all!

Muvvala and Sroufe Win National Community Service Award

Fox Chapel Area High School junior Alexandra Sroufe and sophomore Avanti Muvvala were selected to receive 2022-2023 National Community Service Awards, presented by the United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA) and InnerView Technologies. The awards recognize student commitment and community service impact in support of the UN Global Goals. The program is open to students across the nation and is designed to connect student community service activities, skill development, and commitment to Sustainable Development Goals. In addition to the National Community Service Awards, both Alexandra and Avanti were awarded Zero Hero Awards which are given by the Kroger Co. to students for taking action to help create communities free of hunger and waste.

“The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have been a directional beacon not only for UN member states, but also for their citizens, including, and perhaps especially – their young people,” says Rachel Bowen Pittman, Executive Director of the UNA-USA. “We are thrilled to be involved with a platform that not only helps to capture the impact that young people are having, but to recognize and to celebrate their achievements. Kudos to all those who have committed to staying the course and doing their part to help actualize the SDGs!”

Alexandra has more than 108 hours of volunteering and leading activities, and Avanti has more than 99 hours. At Fox Chapel Area High School, Alexandra and Avanti are the co-chairpersons of community outreach. They have both

have been involved with the Gift of Life Marrow Registry, blood drives, local Earth Day cleanups, World Kindness Day events, Cookies for Kids with Cancer, the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, Fox Chapel Area School District telethon fundraisers, a drive for the Second Avenue Commons shelter, and Fox Chapel Parks Conservancy projects. Additionally, Alexandra led a collection drive for the people of Ukraine; volunteered at a diversity, equity, and

inclusion ceiling tile event; and helped collect hygiene products for the Light of Life Rescue Mission. Avanti has also volunteered for the high school’s annual senior citizens luncheon.

According to Fox Chapel Area High School counselor and community outreach sponsor, Rachel Machen, both Alexandra and Avanti are passionate about helping people in their community.

“Alexandra and Avanti have taken great initiative when it comes to community

outreach and getting our students involved in helping others,” says Mrs. Machen. “They are truly invested in helping our local and high school communities become better places for everyone.”

“What a fabulous group to lift up; these purposeful students are taking action to create a better tomorrow for their communities and the world,” says Kristine Sturgeon, CEO of InnerView Technologies. “High school students have a strong perspective on the most challenging issues and needs facing our communities. They have given us hope as we see a measured increase in breadth and depth of volunteerism by these local leaders and global citizens.”



Junior Alexandra Sroufe (right) and sophomore Avanti Muvvala (left) were selected to receive 2022-2023 National Community Service Awards in recognition of commitment and community service impact in support of the UN Global Goals.

A team of FC students recently won a People’s Choice award, as well as an award for Best Presentation in the Carnegie Science Center’s SciYinz Squad: Chain Reaction competition. The participating students were seniors James



Harris, William Rice, and Sydney Ward; juniors Maria Costantino, Sophia Gass, and Jillian Stahl; and sophomores Rebecca Chang, Alex Kim, Kyle Matthew Ong, Sangyon Park, Hyunoh Ro, Gretchen Shelestak, Maria Stiger, and Samuel Ummer. The SciYinz Squad competitions are fun, impromptu challenges that encourage teamwork and creativity, all while addressing basic scientific principles and concepts that are regularly encountered across a wide array of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields. The competitions are open to students in grades 6-12.

New Fox Leadership Council Replaces Student Government

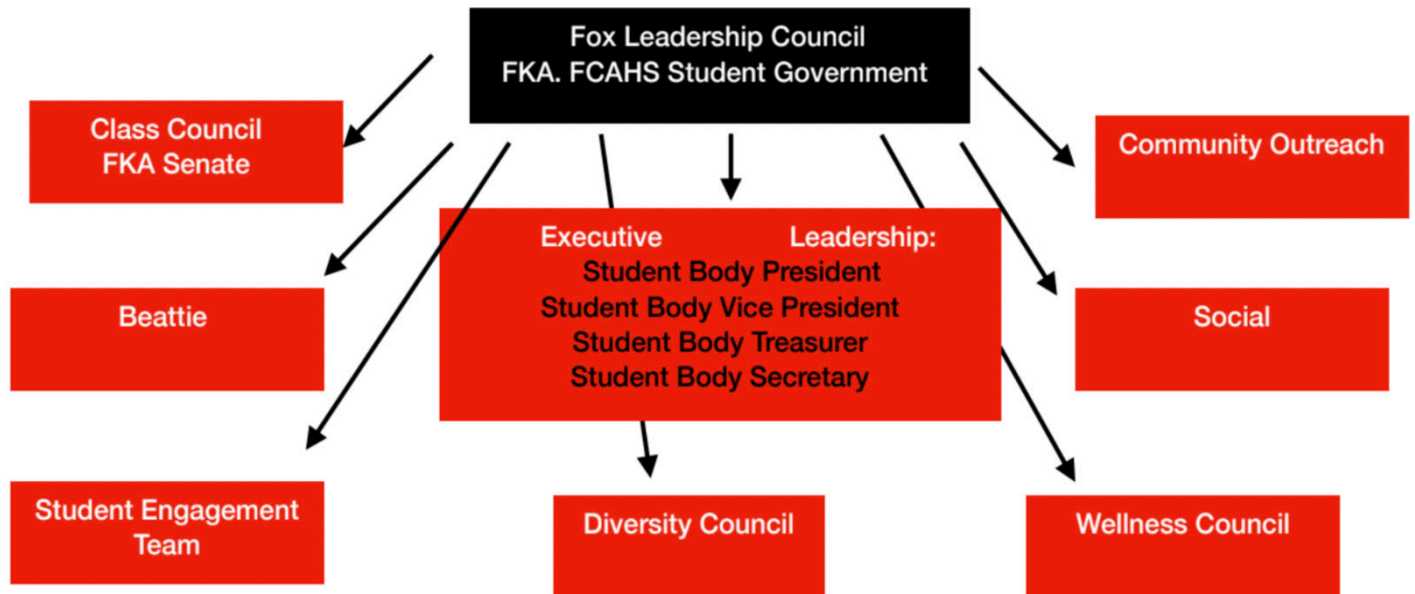
By Karsten Buchert

As one has hopefully heard by now, FC's student government is undergoing an exciting redesign! If you haven't heard, well you have come to the right place! It will now be called the "Fox Leadership Council" (FLC) and is expected to bring about many improvements when it hits the ground running in August.

The executive group of leaders remains, which includes the student body president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary. These are all separately elected positions – prospective presidents and vice presidents will not be allowed to run together on a ticket. In terms of other

under this. The Student Engagement Team will be in charge of items such as the annual telethon. Despite the lack of elections, any student can serve on the team as an "Engagement Committee Member" which will allow them to have a voice in activity planning. Additionally, the FLC also encompasses the existing community outreach group as well as diversity and wellness councils. It is easy to get involved with this part of the FLC and would likely be a stand-out extracurricular to have under your resume.

Mrs. Butkovic, the student activities director and one of the main faculty minds behind the FLC said, "I'm looking



The FC Student Government will be changing to the Fox Leadership Council at the start of the 2023/2024 school year. It will coordinate a lot of our current initiatives AND continue to help our student leaders thrive. A detailed breakdown of the FLC Executive Leadership and Student Engagement Team requirements are detailed on the next page.

elections, there are the class councils. Within each class, there is a single elected student representative for each township/borough (Aspinwall, Blawnox, Fox Chapel, O'hara, Indiana, and Sharpsburg) similar to the former senator system. These representatives reside within the class sponsor's QRT and coordinate activities for said class. In short, they essentially replace the role of the class caucuses. When voting for any of the FLC positions, you should consider who you think best reflects what you want for the school as well as who will bring the best principles to the table.

The final main branch of the FLC is the Student Engagement Team. There are no student elected positions

forward to continuing working with the student leaders here at FCAHS to make their high school experience the best it can be." This suggests the view that the redesign will benefit everyone. Personally, I can certainly see that! The disbanding of the senate into class councils allows for closer communication. The combining of the major student organizations like the diversity council into the FLC means they will be able to more easily reflect their wonderful wishes and ideas about school activities. If you would like to partake in having a lasting impact on the school, be certain to either apply for a position or at least submit your preferred vote!

Executive Leadership Requirements:

- Be a student in 11th or 12th grade in good standing
- Complete an application with teacher, counselor and parent recommendations by the deadline
- Complete an interview with lead principal and FLC advisor
- Cannot hold another lead student position of a club/activity while serving as an executive leader
- Commit to creating and implementing year-long goals for FCAHS
- Coordinate with the other council members
- Must be part of the FLC QRT
- Will not take any first period FCAO classes in either semester; must be able to meet during QRT
- Participate in school-wide election day
- No longer have "tickets" for P/VP, etc. Each leadership position will be voted on individually.

Student Engagement Team

Lead Student:

- Be in 11th or 12th grade in good standing
- Complete an application with teacher, counselor and parent recommendations by the deadline
- Complete an interview with Student Engagement sponsor
- Coordinate student-driven activities in building, including but not limited to: Foxes Den, student section, clubs, telethon, spirit events—lunch fun, and pep rallies
- Must be part of the FLC QRT
- Will not take any first period FCAO classes in either semester; must be able to meet during QRT
- Will be appointed by the sponsor; no school-wide election

Telethon Coordinator:

- Be in 10th or 11th grade in good standing
- Complete an interview with Student Engagement sponsor
- Coordinate all telethon fundraisers, meet with the charity and discuss the plan for telethon day
- Must be part of the FLC QRT
- Should not take any first period FCAO class during the fall semester
- Required to be a work experience student third period during the fall semester
- Will be appointed by the sponsor; no school-wide election
- Must be available for Telethon Day

Engagement Committee Member:

- Any grade level student interested in helping to coordinate the student-drive activities
- Can choose to be part of the FLC QRT
- Must attend all team meetings
- Telethon committee will be a subset of the overall committee
- Telethon committee heads will be part of the FLC QRT
- Future lead students should be active committee members for at least two semesters

Helping Others to Drive Undistracted

Fox Chapel Area High School senior Keonha Ye was named a second-place winner in Pennsylvania in the fifth annual Just Drive public service



announcement (PSA) video contest. Students representing 92 high schools from New Jersey and Pennsylvania created 30-second video PSAs highlighting the dangers of distracted driving as part of the contest.

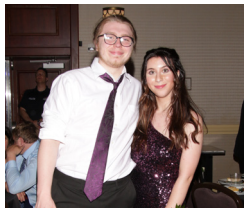
According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), car crashes are a leading cause of preventable deaths for teens.

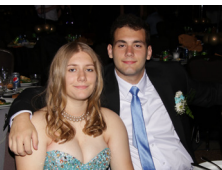
Keonha's video, "Driver's Test," encourages drivers to exercise the same responsible behavior they used to pass their driving test. First through third places were awarded in each state and Keonha's second place PSA earned Fox Chapel Area High School \$10,000. Keonha's winning video can be viewed on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EQbcCl6xd0>.



The Just Drive competition presents a creative opportunity for teens to promote safe driving practices, and the winning schools will put their prize money toward a post-prom, post-graduation, or safe driving program.

The contest was sponsored by NJM Insurance Group (NJM), in partnership with the Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey (BIANJ) and Impact Teen Driver (ITD). The winning schools were awarded a total of \$60,000.





The Future is AI

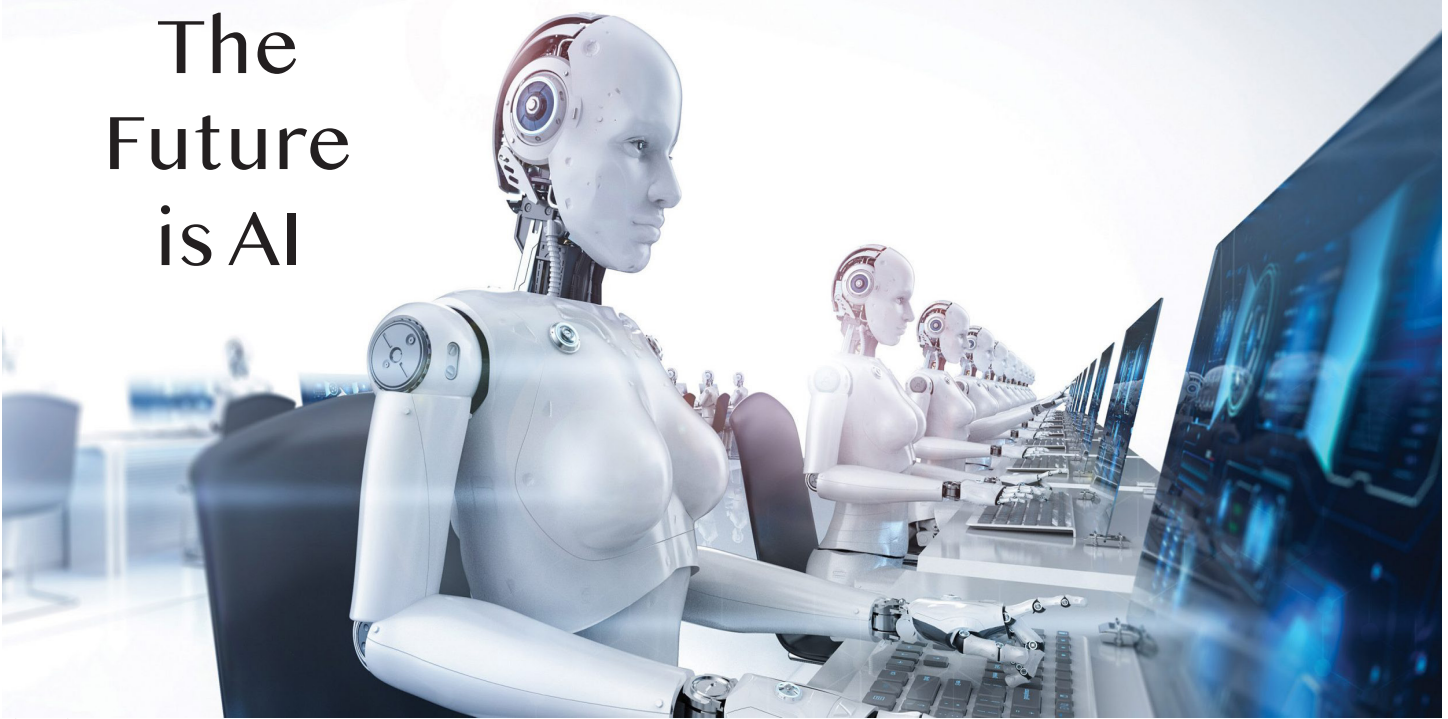


Photo: theceomagazine.com

By Shriya Krishnamurthy

At this point, I think we've all heard of Chat GPT, the Artificial Intelligence chatbot that can write our essays for us. Chat GPT is an AI chatbot developed by a company called OpenAI. The AI uses a large language model that is designed to respond to questions and generate unique responses. But Chat GPT is not the only chatbot out there. Google has developed Bard and Baidu has Ernie Bot in the works. Then there is Bing AI, the next step for web browsing using a "new next-generation OpenAI large language model that is more powerful than Chat GPT" as its engine, according to Microsoft. Microsoft recently released a beta version of Bing AI, and I got on the waitlist. About a week or so later, I finally had access. Of course, the first thing I asked the chatbot to do was to write a limerick about pirates. Its response:

*There once was a pirate named Jack
Who had a large parrot on his back
He taught it to speak
But it had a bad beak
And often said things that were whack*

As you can see, Bing AI has a sense of humor. It can generate poems, jokes, and short pieces of creative writing. But that's not all. Bing AI can also write emails and essays. I asked it to write an email to my teacher about my dog eating my homework (one of the oldest excuses in the book) and it formulated a well thought out email, complete with legitimate descriptions of the remnants of my "homework". When I asked Bing AI to write a short essay answering the question, "What do you want to do with your life?," It asked me for a couple of facts about me, like my interests and hobbies, and proceeded to write a cohesive 200 word essay. The language is still basic, but it got the point across. With

some slight editing, I could have possibly turned that essay into a submittable paper.

Most recently, Microsoft has debugged Bing AI (there were records of it responding with death threats) and added three modes to the interface, allowing users to choose whether they want Bing to answer questions with more creativity, more balance, or more precision. Now Bing AI can provide users with specific answers, with cited resources, for whatever they need. What's more, Bing AI can now generate images using an AI Image Creator (sort of like Dall-E).

But Bing AI is not the only AI out there. Khan Academy has also introduced an AI chatbot (Kahnmigo) which can assist students with homework (without giving them the answers!). At the beginning of this article, I mentioned Bard AI. It was developed by Google, but lots of users have called it boring. Unlike Bing AI, which has a sense of humor, Bard AI gives the basic facts and nothing more. Both are useful and interesting to use, but Bard does have some limitations (as far as I know).

I'll close out with a few words from Bing AI:

"AI may be scary for some people who fear its potential impact on society and humanity. However, AI is also the future of innovation and progress, and Bing AI is at the forefront of this field. Bing AI can chat with you, summarize topics, plan trips, write text, and more. Bing AI is powered by reliable sources and cutting-edge technology like GPT-4. Bing AI is not just a search engine, but a smart assistant that can help you with anything."

Source: <https://blogs.microsoft.com/blog/2023/02/07/reinventing-search-with-a-new-ai-powered-microsoft-bing-and-edge-your-copilot-for-the-web/>

Opportunities Fair

By Madeleine Stone

Opportunities fairs are commonly offered in downtown Pittsburgh, not high schools. However, Fox Chapel continues to defy expectations by hosting a

yearly exhibition for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors. A typical experience at a fair includes employers at booths giving information about their company to participants. At the high school, though, the booths included much more than just

jobs. Volunteer organizations, branches of the military, trade schools, colleges, and universities were all represented.

The Opportunities Fair occurred on April 19th from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the main gymnasium. Instead of being filled with students playing anything from basketball to pickleball, the gym was jam packed with ninety seven different organizations. During each lunch, a new wave of students made their way to the event to explore all the booths they were interested in. No matter what path a student was interested in pursuing after high school, there was a group they could learn more from.

Most colleges, such as the University of Pittsburgh, Kent State University, and West Virginia University, were from Pennsylvania and nearby states. Some local colleges included Carnegie Mellon University and Point Park University. Representatives even came from states

not bordering Pennsylvania such as Shenandoah University in Virginia and Southern Illinois University. The United States Military had five booths in total located in each corner of the gym. The Air Force, Navy, Army, and Marines all had their own tables and were constantly cycling through students looking to discover more. The Marines' table was especially popular! Any

time you walked by the booth, you could see students performing plenty of pushups surrounded by encouraging onlookers.



Ninety-seven different organizations participated in this year's Opportunities Fair to inform students about available jobs, volunteer opportunities, and post-graduation options.

Not only were students entertained during their visiting time, but they also only had positive things to say about the fair. Bridget Yun said, "There were so many colleges and a huge variety of booths. As a junior, it was really helpful for me to talk to the colleges

there and ask about the opportunities that they provide for undergraduate students. It was also helpful that there were a lot of volunteer opportunities I could sign up for!" Another junior, Katie Haas, also found the fair to be beneficial, stating that the fair was, "an opportunity to connect with different career choices and get a better idea of what our future may hold."

The day after the fair, students spent a few minutes during their QRT to fill out a form indicating what they



Representatives from AFS talk to students about the many travel abroad opportunities they can pursue.

thought of the event. Fox Chapel Area High School faculty member John Baxter explained the results of the form: "The feedback we received from the student reflection form was overwhelmingly positive with many of our students

successfully securing interviews or jobs while others connected with one of our many other vendors."

Once again, the Opportunities Fair was a massive success for students, faculty, and vendors. Students continue to reap the benefits of the event through their volunteering and job opportunities. Other students have a new college to add on to their list of schools to visit over the summer. Hopefully the turnout next year will be just as good or even better than this year!



All branches of the military were represented at the opportunities fair. They offered great information and cool prizes for doing the push-up challenge.

Lean on Green

Knowledge You Need to Make the Earth Clean

JUNE 2023

Where to Get Involved

Western Pennsylvania Conservatory is looking for volunteers to help protect Western Pennsylvania's diverse biological makeup. Founded in 1932, the conservatory has preserved more than 260,000 acres of land in their mission to create a greener future and provide sustainable spaces for the community. Volunteers are needed to help plant trees and establish community gardens. Community engagement is shown to unite people with a common goal, establishing stronger relationships while working towards a greener planet. To get more information on the work of the Western Pennsylvania Conservatory, visit waterlandlife.org.



Latest News in Green Technology



Biomimicry has shaped the way that scientists approach innovation by applying the properties of biological systems to scientific problem solving. Leonardo da Vinci used the anatomy of birds to develop his model for the "flying machine", eventually leading to the Wright brothers' successful plane flight. Biomimicry has continued to be revolutionary today as researchers at "Novobiom" have used Fungi's waste-eating abilities to treat human pollution. The scientists located fungi that were already in the stages of reducing synthetic materials into harmless substances and bred them to treat human waste. Since this process can be done locally, soil does not have to be transported to a treatment facility, allowing for more efficient cleaning. With the help biomimicry, the future of waste treatment is looking brighter than ever.

Why Action is Necessary

The United Nations reports that glaciers and ice sheets are melting at alarming rates, causing sea levels to skyrocket. Almost two thirds of world-wide cities with over five million people are at risk of sea level rise. Even if you are not near the coast, water erosion due to climate change is wasting up to 30 percent of the world's food supply. If action is not taken immediately, cities will be underwater and food sources will continue to diminish. Getting involved in the community to fight climate change is help that we need to reverse the damage that has been done to the planet.

Written and Designed By:
Henry Koloc

Easy Ways to be Green

Being involved in an important environmental project is not the only way to help Earth. You can also make a difference through these changes to your daily routine.

- Recycle paper, metal, cardboard, plastic, and glass
- Eat with reusable utensils and plates
- Shut off lights in empty rooms
- Avoid bottled water
- Thrift clothes
- Buy local and organic foods
- Donate used goods





Robotics Team Wins National Championship!

By Ian Wellman

After watching a robot competition, many people never consider how hard students work to create successful robots. They

for providing a 160+ page document which explained the design of the 15 pound robot. It focused on key steps such as research, design, testing, refinement and their use of electronics. They received a near perfect score for their elaborate documentation. Their two scores combined placed them in seventh overall.

During the national level competition on May 19 and May 20th, the Fox Chapel Robotics suffered a loss against Fort Zumwalt High School during round one of a double elimination tournament, placing them in a second bracket. The FC robotics team did not let their early loss weigh them down, as they quickly recovered and won the next nine rounds! They placed first in their bracket and successfully

put numerous hours of work into building the robots. In early May, the FC Robotics team attended the Bots IQ State Finals then in mid-May, they attended the BotsIQ National Championship.

The team consists of Eddy Phelan-Vidal, a junior and the team leader and lead designer, seniors Adam Zimmerman, Aiden Dorneich, and Kevin Quinn as well as sophomore Jackson Hagler. The support team consisted of Krisztian Salvador, Ava McCaffery, Ben Aun, Riley Pucklus, Sam Kuhns, Alanna Sloss, Aiden Purcell, Keegan Scanlon, Lucy Rygelski, and Graeson Santucci.



As a group they spent hundreds of manhours designing, building, and testing their robot. Aerotech Inc., a local engineering company, provided advice on the robot as well as machining parts for the team to use. Engineers from Aerotech had weekly virtual meetings to analyze, improve, and produce the pieces the students had created in programs such as CAD. The team used aluminum and titanium pieces they had designed and Aerotech had made to build the framework of their robot. They took electronics, motors, and other parts from a remote controlled car to run, move, and control their robot.

At the competition their robot, Knockback, won two gladiator style knockout rounds against Pine-Richland and Punxsutawney teams. They never lost a round, but forfeited their final two rounds due to damage their robot had received from the Punxsutawney battlebot. The team was able to repair their robot before the end of the competition and placed 17th out of 63 teams in the battle section of the competition. They earned second place in documentation

made it to finals, where they lost to Bedford Area High School, which had won every single round in the tournament. This loss placed them second overall in the tournament of 38 teams. However, they had the largest number of wins in the tournament!

Their incredible performance shows that the robotics team was able to fix the problems that were exposed at the

statewide tournament and further improve their design. They worked hard to recover from a loss at states and an early loss at nationals, but managed to score incredibly high in both tournaments. If you have an interest in robotics or joining the robotics team, sign up during the fall club week. Way to go Foxes!





FC Choir Visits Music City

By Sienna Siegel

On Thursday, April 13, 2023, at 5:45 AM, the Fox Chapel choir program set off to Nashville, Tennessee. The bus ride was around ten hours long, but most can say this added to the bonding experience. As Mr. Murray has said, “You’re never too old to watch Disney movies” which is what most of the long drive consisted of. We arrived Thursday afternoon at the beautiful Gaylord Opryland hotel. We then quickly freshened up for our dinner at Paula Dean’s Family Kitchen, followed by a show put on by the Nashville symphony. “The Jonah People” is a musical and visual representation of the hardships African Americans faced through slavery. The show was beautiful and emotional.

The next morning we visited RCA studio B, a historic studio that years ago recorded the music of Dolly Parton, Elvis Presley, and many more artists. It was amazing to take pictures inches away from the piano that the king of rock and roll (Elvis Presley) had practiced his craft on. We then performed in the lobby of the Country Music Hall of Fame, with the accompaniment of Benjamin Bliss, and the conducting from Benjamin Murray. After our performance, we were allowed to split off into groups for a self-guided tour of the museum. My personal favorite parts were seeing the Taylor Swift Education Center and Elvis’s gold Cadillac that went on display in 1977. After we had all worked up an appetite, we were bussed over to the Nashville Farmers

Market. It was a beautiful market that had something for everyone. After lunch, the choir had a singing clinic with Dr. Angelica Dunsavage, who worked with all of us on perfecting our songs and performances. Now to my favorite part of the trip, Broadway Street. It was a crazy atmosphere with bachelorette parties, people all around, live music, and anything imaginable to eat or drink. We were given four hours to shop, explore the street, and stop at the food court for dinner. Many souvenirs were purchased and some of us even got interviewed by a news reporter on the street!

Saturday started off with a guided tour of Andrew Jackson’s home. After this we had lunch at the Wildhorse Saloon and then embarked on line dancing! It was such a fun afternoon! Around 3:00 the choir had another guided tour of the Grand Ole Opry, just hours before a show. We saw dressing rooms, backstage, and even got a chance to stand on the stage!

By Saturday night the trip was coming to a close, but we had one more thing on the itinerary – the water park. We all had the best time racing down the slides and relaxing on the lazy river. The trip was such a bonding experience for the choir, and while being so much fun, very informational as well. The trip back home was sad, as nobody wanted to leave, but as Mr. Murray has told us before, “Don’t cry because it’s over, smile because it happened”, and we did just that!



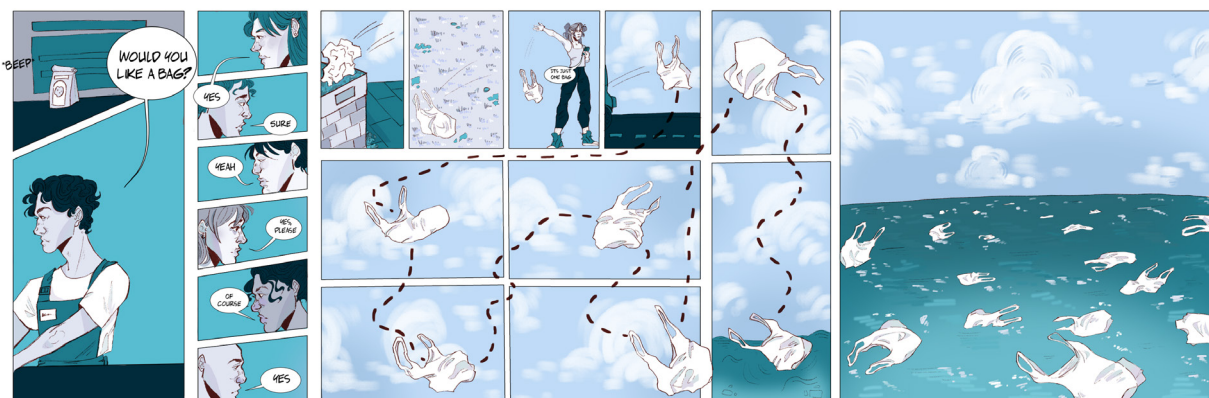
Impressive Results at National History Bowl

After qualifying at the state level, members of the Fox Chapel History Club competed in the National History Bowl in Arlington Virginia on April 28th and 29th. The team attended the opening ceremonies on the evening of the 28th and FC Junior Logan Dressman was selected to represent all Pennsylvania schools as the state flag bearer. On the 29th, Senior team members, Arvind Seshan, Eli Conklin, Nate Green, and Caleb Hahl along with Junior Logan Dressman competed in 10 matches and finished with a record of 6 and 4. They competed and battled in all of their matches and only a tiebreaker kept the team from qualifying for the playoff rounds. This was the first time the team participated at this level. Eli Conklin also participated in two individual events, the National Political Science Bee where he took 21st place and the United States Geography Championships where he took, a very impressive 8th place. Club sponsor Eric Norberg was very impressed with the boys performance and would also like to extend a special thank you to Dr. Todd Green for serving as the team parent.



Students Win National Medals in Art Awards

Three Fox Chapel Area High School students were named national winners in the 2023 Scholastic Art Awards. Senior Siheng Chao won a Gold Medal for his drawing, "The Flood," and junior Mikayla Korczynski won a Gold Medal for her editorial cartoon, "Would You Like a Bag?." This is the first time a Fox Chapel Area High School student has ever won an award in the editorial cartoon category. Additionally, senior Mikhail Ion won a Silver Medal for his portfolio, "Fantastical Creatures."



Junior Mikayla Korczynski won a Gold Medal for her editorial cartoon, "Would You Like a Bag?". This is the first time a Fox Chapel Area High School student has ever won an award in the editorial cartoon category.

For being named the national Gold Medal winners, Siheng and Mikayla, along with their teachers, Joan Marangoni and Christine Smith, have been invited to attend a ceremony at Carnegie Hall in New York City

on June 7. Additionally, Siheng's and Mikayla's artwork will be published in the Online Galleries at artandwriting.org in June. Their names will also be listed in "Yearbook 2023," a companion to the annual publication "Best Teen Art," which features selections of works by the national medalists.

This year, more than 100,000 students in grades 7-12 submitted more than 260,000 works of art and writing through regional contests. Prior to being named national winners, Siheng, Mikayla, and Mikhail were named winners in the 2023 Pittsburgh Region of the Scholastic Art Awards. At the national level, the works of art and writing were judged by a panel of creative-industry experts, and less than 2,000 received national Gold or Silver Medals. Only the top 1% of all entries earn national recognition.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards continues to be the longest-running, most prestigious recognition program for creative teens in the U.S.

Winners of State Suicide Prevention Competition

Two Fox Chapel Area High School students have been named first-place winners in the Prevent Suicide PA PSA contest for Youth Suicide Prevention.



Seniors Zoe Broyles (left) and Cali Johnson (right) created a video public service announcement (PSA) for the 988 National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline. Zoe and Cali created the video when they were in teacher Ryan Devlin's digital media production class during the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year. Their video was one of five chosen as a finalist in late January from those submitted from across Pennsylvania, and Zoe and Cali have now been named the winners of the contest in the 60 second video category.

The video features Cali promoting the 988 National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline and encouraging

students to seek help, while Fox Chapel Area High School students write positive messages on a dry erase board behind her. Zoe and Cali's winning video is featured on the Prevent Suicide PA website (<https://psa.preventsuicidepa.org/2023-contest-finalists/>) that highlights the winners in all the categories. Zoe and Cali have been invited to attend Suicide Prevention Night at the Pittsburgh Pirates game on April 22. The winners will also be given a monetary award, and Prevent Suicide PA will come to Fox Chapel Area High School to provide a mental health awareness training for up to 20 students.

The winners were selected based on their rankings in the Prevent Suicide PA Advisory voting, schoolwide voting, and public voting.



Black History Month Contest Winners

Three Fox Chapel Area High School students placed in a Black History Month essay contest sponsored by Stop the Violence Pittsburgh. Fox Chapel Area High School junior Isabella White was awarded first place, junior Safiyyah Muhina won second place, and senior Nathaniel Green was awarded third place in the grades 11 and 12 category. The essay topics were "What is Juneteenth?" and "Why should Juneteenth be celebrated in America?". A total of 83 students in grades 9-12 from school districts across Western Pennsylvania participated in the essay contest.

The contest was held in conjunction with the fifth annual Student Black History Month Summit which was a free educational program for high school and college students held at Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall in Oakland. Twenty-Six Fox Chapel Area High School

students from the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council and the Black Student Union participated in the program. As part of the event, students learned about the Freedom House Black Ambulance Service, Black music in Allegheny County, remarkable Black women from Allegheny County, and tech training for the future.

Stop the Violence Pittsburgh is a grass-roots community organization designed to curb youth violence, culturally educate members of the community, and promote inclusion and diversity.



District's Police Department Named NASRO Model Agency

The Fox Chapel Area School District Police Department has been named a recipient of the 2023 NASRO (National Association of School Resource Officers) Model Agency Award. The award is being given for the department's creative and innovative approach to school-based policing. Fox Chapel Area School District is the only district in Pennsylvania and one of only 10 from across the nation to receive the award this year.

National Model Agency Awards are given to agencies that exemplify NASRO's triad concept of school-based policing in which the school resource officers serve as mentors, educators, and law enforcement officers, while serving school communities in a manner that represents the best in community policing.

The award will be presented at the NASRO National School Safety Conference in Indianapolis on June 30.

The members of the Fox Chapel Area School District Police Department are Joseph Kozarian (chief), Joseph Abbott, Scott Bailey, Stanley Bradish, Joshua Dietz, Dennis Lynch, Timothy Rush, Shannon Santucci, and Eric Valentine.

NASRO is dedicated to making schools and children safer by providing the highest quality training to school-based law enforcement officers. By training law enforcement to educate, counsel, and protect school communities, NASRO continuously leads by

example and promote a positive image of law enforcement to school children and school communities.



The Fox Chapel Area School Police are (front row, left to right) Chief Joseph Kozarian, Scott Bailey, Eric Valentine, and Joshua Dietz and (back row, left to right) Dennis Lynch, Joseph Abbott, Shannon Santucci, Timothy Rush, and Stanley Bradish.

Liberto Wins Best Costume Design for Fall Play



Fox Chapel Area High School junior Sofia Liberto was named a winner in the Third Annual Prime Stage High School Drama Awards. Sofia won the award for best student costume design for Fox Chapel Area High School's fall play, "Arsenic and Old Lace."

Other Fox Chapel Area students nominated were senior Ghost Snyder in the best actor category, junior Sophia Rike in the best actress category, junior Benjamin Werner in the best supporting actor category, sophomore Marina Dunham in the best supporting actress category, and junior Kaylee Dunham in the best student stage manager category. Additionally, Fox Chapel Area's November play was nominated for best overall production.

The Fox Chapel Area High School students performed a scene from the fall play as part of the awards ceremony that was held April 24, 2023, at Prime Stage's New Hazlett Theater Center for the Performing Arts. The awards, sponsored by Prime Stage Theatre, recognize excellence in high school drama and were open to schools from across Southwestern Pennsylvania.





By Laila Golla

This year, DESI Club collaborated with the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council to produce the school's first annual Multicultural Night. The event was a huge success, with multiple clubs participating, including the Black Student Union, Asian Cultural Club, and the Latinx Heritage Club. There was also a wide range of talented soloists who performed and showcased their culture. It was such a fun and memorable night for all involved, not only the people performing but also everyone in the audience. A countless amount of effort was made by so many parties: the Swift Fox Media team helped to capture the night on video, the choreographers created each dance and also taught them to the performers, the performers sacrificed their time to attend practices and solidify their piece, and especially the officers of the clubs who worked hard to ensure that the event was a huge success! Varnujah Rengaramanujan Kanagaraj was this year's DESI club choreographer and was instrumental in the night's success. We also cannot forget Mrs. Polesiak, the club sponsor, without who the night couldn't even happen.

The event, of course, included group dances with many features, and some of our teachers even joined in to perform the unforgettable Disco x BIBA teacher dance. Mr.

Sweeney, Mr. Rios, Mrs. Polesiak, Mrs. Colvin, Seniorita Finley, Mrs. Butkovic, Mrs. Machen, Mrs. Montgomery, Mrs. Green, and Dr. Hower showed off their moves and nailed the choreography. Mrs. Butkovic has performed in the teacher dance five times and shared that she enjoys this event so much due to the fact that she thinks it's always fun to embarrass herself in front of students. We were all so glad these teachers chose to participate because it was such a highlight for the night and so fun to watch!

Other performances included a multilingual dance to some classic party Indian songs, a beautiful vocal performance of a European piece from the classical era by Alaina Okunewick, and even multiple K-pop dances by Asian Cultural Club members. Clara Kelley amazed the audience with her Irish dance skills and talent in each step.

During the intermission,

attendees enjoyed delicious food from Spice Affair and Tai Pei. There were also different informational stands that featured treats from various cultures. A big thank you to everyone who was involved and helped with the night, it couldn't have happened without you all! If you missed it, check out the Swift Fox Media YouTube channel where you can view all videos of each performance!





Next Steps Crossword

Can you solve this Pitt-themed puzzle?

Solutions available on page 23.

ACROSS

- 1 Mix
- 5 Belong
- 10 School support grp.
- 13 "Horton Hears ____"
- 14 "You can't do that. That's ____" (said by a parent)
- 15 Miners' extractions
- 17 Idiom used for well behaved people
- 19 53, in Roman times
- 20 Characteristic
- 21 ABBA's genre
- 23 Happens suddenly
- 26 What you can take a trip up or down?
- 29 Scottish refusal
- 30 Tiny brain size
- 31 Otherwise
- 32 Wake up call
- 35 Goofs
- 37 Doesn't spoil
- 40 62, in Roman times
- 41 Greek letter shaped like a triangle
- 43 Sounds of indifference
- 45 Applies in advance for a uni.
- 46 Used to be
- 47 Gets comfortable in a new place
- 49 Marvel movie starring Chadwick Boseman
- 52 Biting humor
- 53 To have knowledge about a prank

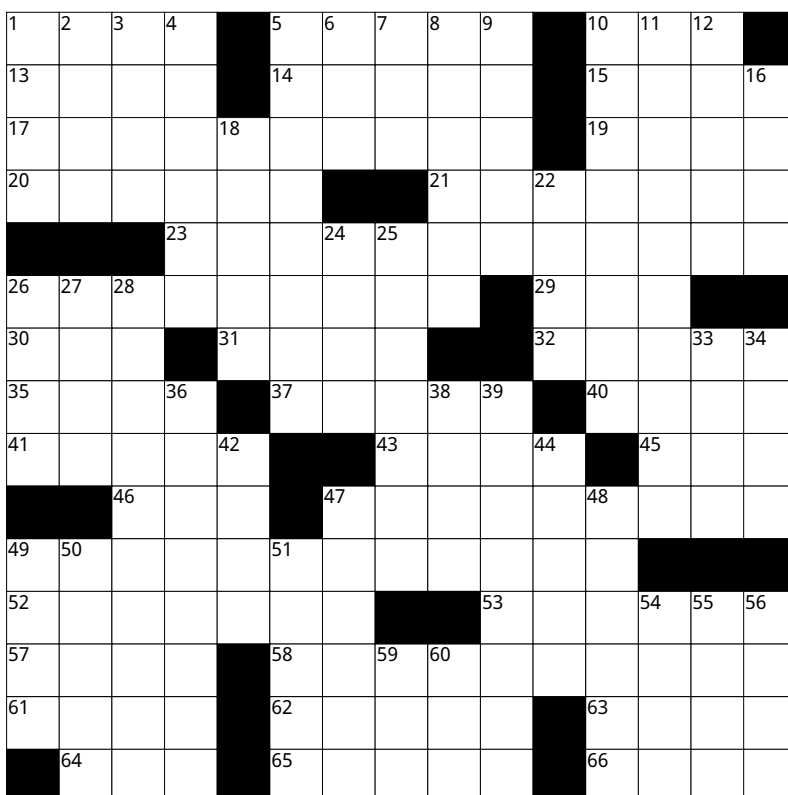
- 57 Actor Miller of "The Flash" and "The Perks of Being a Wallflower"
- 58 Cheer for a University hinted by the ends of 17A, 23A, and 49A
- 61 Chemical used in Off! bug spray
- 62 Relevant, in law
- 63 Website for crafts
- 64 ____-cone
- 65 What haste makes
- 66 Word after Navy or arctic

DOWN

- 1 Epic tale
- 2 Pairs
- 3 Breakfast chain known for pancakes
- 4 Cowboy contests
- 5 Disingenuous speech tactic to persuade
- 6 Gerund ending
- 7 Also
- 8 Coves or bays
- 9 "Obviously!"
- 10 It's struck by a mallet in a game performed on horseback
- 11 Hardest figure skating jump
- 12 Vowel sequence
- 16 Groove in a tire or the 1980 NFL MVP Brian
- 18 Less than right?
- 22 Soap actress Sofer or the container ship that split on the coast of New Zealand
- 24 French river that feeds into the Seine
- 25 Person relieved of slavery or serfdom
- 26 Decorated, as a house on Halloween
- 27 Present
- 28 Chief Supreme Court Justice known for Brown v. Board of Education and Miranda v. Arizona
- 33 Ex. Roller coaster or carousel
- 34 Didn't make the target
- 36 How dotted notes are played
- 38 Pain in the neck

- 39 Cry to mother after a sister's slap
- 42 "____ silly question, get a silly answer"
- 44 Dictator's aide
- 47 Holiday Inn competitor
- 48 Clichés
- 49 Abb. for a teacher's degree
- 50 Vegges out
- 51 "Hogwash!"
- 54 Evening, as seen in an ad
- 55 "____ boy!" (Exclaim at a gender reveal party)
- 56 Texter's sign-off
- 59 Tax collecting org.
- 60 Allow

Photo: amazon.com



By Madeleine Stone

A Little Literature:

A quarterly blurb about books you might not have heard of...YET!

By Shriya Krishnamurthy

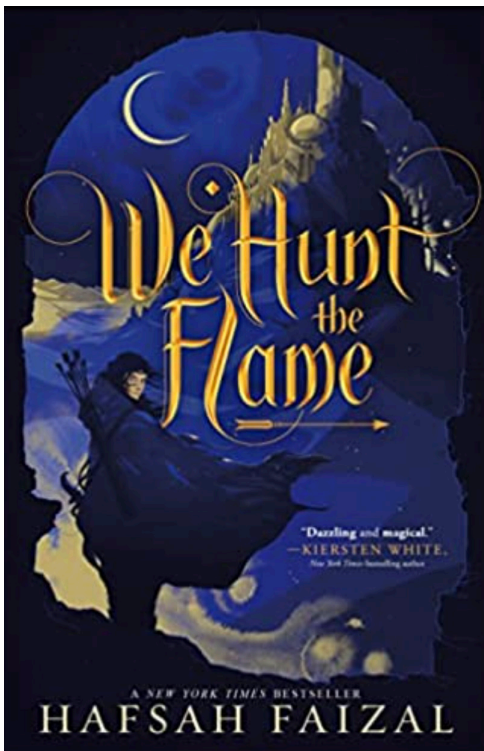
TODAY'S TOPIC: Desert Tales

Yes! We are almost at the end of the school year! Summer is only a few days away!

To get you in the zone for those warm days on the beach, in the desert, or in the pool (wherever you decide to vacation), I have come up with a couple of books that are filled with fantasy, mysticism, and heat waves (aka the desert). Enjoy these wonderful stories of mythical jinni and Middle Eastern folklore.

We Hunt the Flame (Sands of Arawiya duology)
by Hafsah Faizal

The Stardust Thief (Sandsea trilogy)
by Chelsea Abdullah

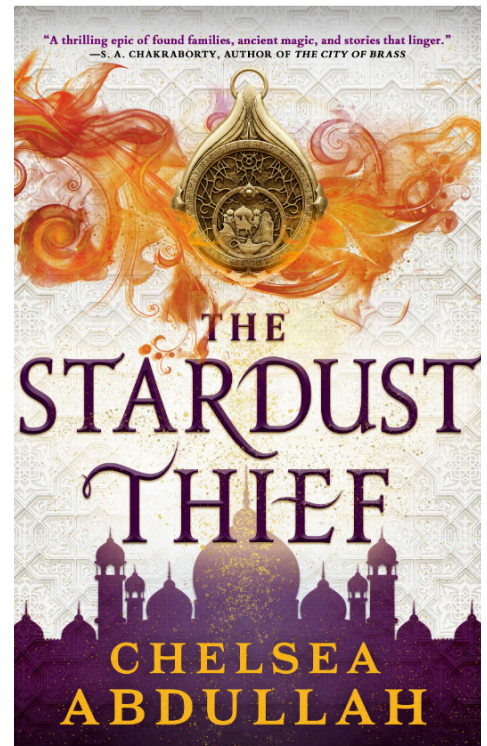


Zafira spends her days as a man. Not literally, but it is her disguise every time she goes hunting. In other words, she disguises herself as a man in order to feed her village because she is the only one who can go into the Arz (a cursed forest) and come out without going insane. Nasir, the only son of the sultan, is the Prince of Death, the sultan's personal assassin.

Neither Zafira nor Nasir can be authentic - Zafira as a female hunter would be rejected from society, and Nasir, the kind, compassionate assassin would be severely punished. When both of them are sent on a quest to restore magic to their world, they cross paths and discover that they have more in common than they thought. Venturing through the ifrit-filled, cursed island of Sharr, the two protagonists (and their friends) must find the legendary book that can save the land - the Jarawat - before it is too late. But they also face dangers and enemies that threaten to destroy everything they care about. The Lion of the Night, a powerful sorcerer who wants to unleash darkness, is their most formidable enemy yet. Will they be able to overcome societal prejudices and their own fears and work together to save their world? Or will they succumb to the darkness that lurks within them? Read to find out!

Welcome, to the world of Magic! Yes, I capitalized the word Magic, because if you read this book, I guarantee you'll feel the same way. Loulie al-Nazari (known as Layla to some), the fabled Midnight Merchant, makes her living selling magical relics (illegally, in the black market). She finds and sells these relics with the help of her jinn bodyguard (also illegal). One

night, Loulie finds herself saving the life of a boy who gets stuck under the spell of a vengeful jinn. But she doesn't know that the boy is none other than the second son of the sultan, the very sultan that Loulie despises. With her location revealed to the sultan, Loulie has no choice but to agree to an outrageous task - to find a fabled lamp that has the power to destroy all jinn. Against her will, Loulie agrees, but only because her only other option is to be executed. So begins the journey of a lifetime. A journey so perilous that at times, all is thought to be lost. Are you brave enough to experience the wonders of jinn, enchantment, and mysticism?



Class of 2023... What's Next?

Thank you to all who took the time to share their plans with Fox Tales.
We wish all of the graduates nothing but happiness in their next steps in life!



Alfred University

Emmanuel Drappatz

Allegheny College

Charles Stasolla

Appalachian State University

Makayla Mulholland

Arizona State University

Mahnoor Manha

Ashland University

Payton O'Toole

Baldwin Wallace University

Sean Feczko

Erik Wilson

Bella Capelli Academy

Amelia Marchese

Isabella Stipetich

Binghamton University

Linus Cline

Brandeis University

Luke Curran

Brigham Young University

Caleb Hahl

Brown University

Sophie Shao

Bucknell University

Talia Bugel

Aura Chuck Hernandez

Butler University

Silas Owens

Carnegie Mellon University

Ishaan Acharya

Emilia Cody

Jonathan Li

Nathania Lingam

Chatham University

Eleanor Fox

Colgate University

Lindsay Scheffler

College of Wooster

Philipp Drappatz

Community College

of Allegheny County

Andrew Acevedo

Ross Carney

Olivia Ebel

Madisyn Elwood

Casey Forst

Kameron Greil

Hassan Hamadi

Julianna Kelly

Kenneth Kidd

David Kihn

Lucia Gargarella

Grace Lowe

Jacob McDonnell

Kathryn Murray

Efrain Orozco

Samuel Rabinowitz

Hyunsu Ro

Sydney Ward

Alayna Wright

Community College

of Butler County

Ryan Angerman

Dartmouth College

Sonny Hur

DePaul University

Eden Brush

Owen Patel

Drexel University

Prajval Sreenivas

Duquesne University

Nicoletta Didomenico

Stephanie Lee

Roman Mason

George McDermott

Nathan Snyder

Jack Swenson

Peter Tran

Edinboro University

Sophia Gustafson

Allie Watters

William Whitmer

Emerson College

Matthew Veltri

Emory University

Helia Hamidi

Fordham University

Jacob Martin

Santino Pistella

Gannon University

Alina Stiger

Gap Year

Tasiana Clark

Harbor Geller

Isaak Kirkland

Derek Kramer

Oona Kreidler

Chasity Leas

Hiro McCutcheon

Nicholas Sundo

Daniel Uhl

Milo Wright

Sophia Zonno

George Mason University

Harshavardhan Thennanchar Rajaram

Grove City College

Nathan Moore

Gustavus Adolphus College

Johana Asplin

High Point University

Emma McIlroy

Indiana University

William Fera

Katherine Jenkins

Alexsander Kirby

Aadil Pattada

Stella Swenson

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Dominic Cassol

Laura Graca

Ailani Mitchell

Victor River

Alexa Zacharias

Ithaca College

Zoe Broyles

Cali Johnson

Andrew Orlando

John Carroll University

Andrew Begg

Michael DeCecco

Juniata College

Zachary Johnston

Kent State University

Sophia Demetri

Layke Moore

Aidan O'Brien

Marley Pistella

Zulaikha Shay

Sam Smith

LaRoche University

Alagammaai Subramanian

Loyola Marymount University

Michael O'Day

Massachusetts

Institute of Technology

Arvind Seshan

McGill University

Sasha Tan

Mercyhurst University

John Sipe

Miami University (OH)

Caroline Bonidy

Colin Westerberg

Millersville University

Jayvion Allison

Moore College of Art & Design

Mia Fraga Ruiz

New York University

Jonathan Farah

Northeastern University

Abigail Boleng

Davina Chang

Evelyn Fabel

William Rice

Luka Romero

Nova Southeastern University

Cooper Stevens

Ohio University

Lily Claire Adams

Daniel Downey

Charles Lusk

Jack Wilk

Pace University

Anna Li

Penn State University

Lilly Adamo
Dylan Flanders
Tatiana Free
Arjun Golla
Katherine Hallman
Lauren Johnson
Trevor Katz
Tyler Miller
James Nanci
Aiden Pounds
Kevin Quinn
Keagan Royal
Stella Ruane
Peyton Shema
Payton Shurina
Alex Tsai
Lydia Weidner
Joseph Zgurzynski

Penn State - New Kensington

Daniel Clyde
Alexander Wilson

PennWest California

Tyler Gasiorowski
Molly McNaughton

Pittsburgh Technical College

Sydney Francis-Perka

Point Park University

Ghost Snyder

Pratt Institute

Mikhail Ion

Purdue University

Elsie Smith

Regis University

Samuel Charlson

Robert Morris University

Dawson Krisky
Antonio Mantella

Rochester Institute of Technology

Matthew Fiedler
Luke Smith
Adam Zimmerman

Savannah College of Art & Design

James Nicholas

Savannah State University

Violet O'Connell

Seton Hill University

Jackson Stevens

Slippery Rock University

Donay Allen
Sam Elder
Sofia Pinizzotto
Vincent Tavolario
Laci Toomey

Saint Francis University

Jonah Davis

Stanford University

Lawrence Liu

Syracuse University

Coleman Faub
Natalia Fernandez Trevino
Scarlett Luden
Stephen Santilli
Alexandra Solomon

The New School

Schulyer Mainier

Temple University

Aviana Gerasole
Ramadani Mada

Tulane University

Nathaniel Green

University of Alabama

Maya Bradley
Mia Fortun

University at Buffalo

Olivia Roenker

University of Central Florida

Kathryn Billings

University of Cincinnati

Eliza Meyer

University of Colorado Boulder

Enzo DeCecco
Lilygrace Goodworth
Mercer Murton
Dylan Srodes

University of Delaware

John Friday
Leah Kenyon
Tatum Markel
Ellie Rich
Oliver Stephany

University of Florida

George Tabor

University of Illinois

Daniel Kim

University of Kentucky

Aiden Aluise
Sava Berger
Monique Coutu



University of Kentucky, continued

John Delaney
James Hanna
Kelsey Kavalir
Andrew Michalak

University of North Carolina
(Charlotte)

Benjamin Evashavik

UPMC St. Margaret School of Nursing

Tessa Ondo

University of Pennsylvania

Ananth Kashyap
Diya Reddy

University of Pittsburgh

Delaney Asbury
John Paul Brach
Camila Cavalcanti
Siheng Chao
Kaiji Dehus
Anna Drum
Christopher Ernharth
Zoe Fitzsimmons
Nicholas Harris
Talis Jacob
Matigan Kirk
Samuel Kuhns
Paul Kullmann
Matthew Lu
Rachel Persichetti
Jack Resek
Christina Ricci
Hyunjin Ro
Augustina Schopfer
Thomas Selwood
Ryder Smith
Zachary Sullivan
Joseph Thomas
Daniel Wang
Luiza Weissmann
Keonha Ye
Matthew Zoschg

University of Pittsburgh - Greensburg

Hunter Taylor
Raymond Zong

University of Pittsburgh - Johnstown

Aisling Beresford
Damian Blum
Matthew Fugh
Dylan Geibel
Tyler Kiley
Zoe LaGamba

University of South Carolina

Mia Lynch
Mia Nury

University of Wisconsin, Madison

Aiden Dorneich

Valparaiso University

Eli Conklin

Virginia Tech

James Harris

Washington University

Zachary Gordon

Western Michigan University

Landyn Moore

West Virginia University

Ava Clump
Alexis Fabrizi
Nurie Kim
Alexander Macek
Quentin Miske

Williams University

Blaz Vavpetic

Work Force

Donald Cooley (Maintenance)
Zoe Demuth (Cosmetology)
Katherine Fisher (Petco)
Christian Gaston
Mason Heininger (Hockey)
Shannon Held (Trade School)
Tyler Jennings
Dylan Michalowski
Isaiah Pick
Molly Piper (Cosmetology)
Gavin Purnell
Timothy Rolewicz
Shawn Rygelski (Real Estate)
Musa Shay
Dylan Verderber
Jamil Washington
Emma Wienand

Youngstown State University

Zoe Murphy

Best Buddies SPRING FLING

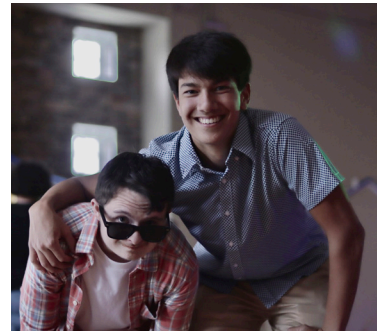
By Alex Navas



In April, Best Buddies collaborated with the DEI Council and National Honor Society to host the Best Buddies “Spring Fling” dance at the Lauri Ann West Community Center. The Best Buddies dance is such a popular event among students because it is a fun, inclusive event which enables ALL students to come together and celebrate their differences. This event promotes social inclusion and provides a fun and safe space for students of all abilities to interact and have a great time together.

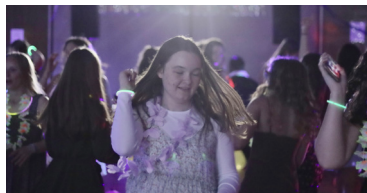
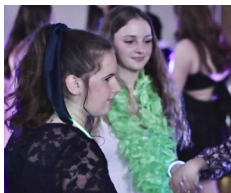
Everyone dressed in their fanciest attire for the occasion, and came together for a fun-filled evening of dancing, food, and friendship. The decorations were festive, with flower leis and glow-in-the-dark bracelets to dress up and take pictures with, and cool glasses to complete the look. The atmosphere was electric, complete with face painting and a DJ playing awesome music that got everyone on the dance floor. The food was delicious, with pizza, desserts, drinks, and snacks to keep everyone fueled for a night of dancing. There was also a raffle and many in attendance went home with cool prizes.

Overall, the Spring Fling was a great success and a testament to the power of inclusivity and community. The event was made even better with the help of DEI Council and National Honor Society’s involvement. We hope to see more collaborations like this in the future!





SPRING FLING



Artemis II Mission Update

By Abraham White

Following the success of the Artemis I moon mission, NASA has big plans for its sequel, Artemis II. “We are going,” proclaims the NASA webpage outlining its ambitious plans to return to the moon. The last manned moon mission, Apollo 17, took place in 1972. Since then, human spaceflight has progressed backward, consisting of low earth orbital shuttles and the science conducted onboard the International Space Station. While these exploits are incredibly scientifically beneficial, lunar exploration looks to the future by establishing a permanent human presence beyond low Earth orbit. The Artemis moon missions aim for the moon, while paving the way to Mars.

The launch of Artemis I was a story of patience. After four delays, two due to mechanical issues and two due to weather related concerns, Artemis I successfully launched from the Kennedy Space Center on November 16, 2022, despite being originally scheduled for launch August 29. The reason for these long stretches of time between launch attempts has to do with launch windows. When a space shuttle or other orbital spacecraft is launched, the only celestial body it has to deal with is the Earth. Therefore, delays typically last only a few hours while weather clears or while mechanical issues are being fixed. However, the Artemis moon missions are designed to go much further than low Earth orbit. Therefore, they must account for the

changing distances between the moon and the Earth. There are certain times where these distances are more favorable than others, especially within the context of preserving fuel and minimizing time in space. NASA seeks these launch windows, meaning every delay in the Artemis program typically results in a multiple week long reschedule.

Artemis I was all about testing the various components of the SLS (Space Launch System) as well as the Orion capsule, which will eventually carry astronauts to the Moon. Overall, the mission was a success, collecting vital data about the conditions the astronauts will face on their way to the moon. Artemis II seeks to build on the successes of the Artemis I. Four astronauts will be launched onboard the Orion capsule in order to complete a flyby of the Moon. They will continue to collect information about the effect of spaceflight on humans, paving the way for longer, potentially riskier flights.

The crew is commanded by Reid Weissman, a NASA astronaut with 165 days of in-space experience onboard the ISS. Victor Glover will pilot the Orion. Glover previously worked onboard the Crew-Dragon capsule in collaboration with NASA and SpaceX. Mission specialist Christina Koch currently holds the record for longest spaceflight by a woman, with 328 days under her belt. Finally, former Canadian fighter pilot Jeremy Hansen completes the crew.

Artemis II is slated for launch in November of 2024.



MEET THE STAFF



Annalese
Bartolacci



Andrew
Begg



Karsten
Buchert



Mia
Costello



Josie
Giguere



Laila
Golla



Katie
Haas



Helia
Hamidi



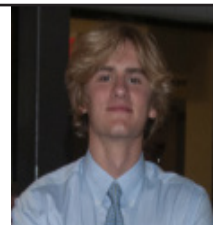
Trevor
Katz



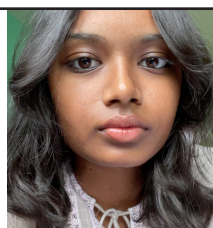
Leah
Kenyon



Shriya
Krishnamurthy



Henry
Koloc



Nia
Lingam



Megan
Mulhern



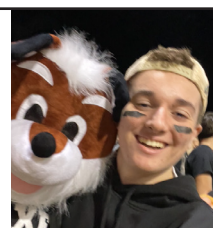
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Navas



Mahitha
Ramachandran



Safiya
Stewart



Abraham
White

**SPECIAL THANKS TO GORDON SNYDER PHOTOGRAPHY,
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Fox Tales

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Fox Chapel Area High School
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Fox Tales is a quarterly news publication created by the students of Fox Chapel Area High School. The mission of this publication is to showcase the many positive happenings in the Fox Chapel Area School District and surrounding community. Fox Chapel Area School District is comprised of six municipalities: Aspinwall, Blawnox, Fox Chapel and Sharpsburg boroughs, and Indiana and O'Hara townships. To contribute articles, photographs, or letters, please contact the Fox Tales faculty sponsor, Lisa Gibson, at Lisa_Gibson@fcasd.edu or 412-967-2479. Letters should not exceed 350 words.



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"Game of Tiaras" a Royal Success



Photos courtesy of MaryBeth Dixon

By Annalese Bartolacci

Performances of the Spring Comedy, "Game of Tiaras" were held on May 24, 25, and 26, and the cast and crew did an incredible job bringing this hilarious tragedy to life as they took on the roles of royalty in a play that combines the suspenseful plot twists of Game of Thrones with the disaster of a Shakespearean tragedy. Set in a Magical Kingdom - otherwise known as England - an aging king (played by Ghost Synder) decides to split his empire between his three daughters, Cinderella (Laura Carter), Belle (Kyra Gdovichin), and the Snow Queen (Vie Filar). As the calamity ensues, the audience is guided by hysterical narration (Aadil Pattada and Ryder Smith). "When you play the Game of Tiaras, you win or you die."

As with all of the fantastic FC productions, there are many students, teachers, and staff who pour their time and effort into making the show the success that it is. It is so evident all of the work these students and teachers have put into the show. Upon reflection on the production of Game of Tiaras, the cast had many praises for the show itself, their peers, and their experience with the Spring Comedy. Adi Pattada shared, "I really love how this comedy makes light of every situation and how it doesn't take itself too seriously, allowing the cast and crew to have fun. I find that each cast member's ability to have fun but also focus is something really special about them." This particular play has very unique characters that bring out the best in

those playing them. According to Kyra Gdovichin, "Ghost as the King is the most dynamic character. The accent is really funny and his jokes are perfectly timed. He is by far the funniest character in the play and it is something that everyone in the audience will enjoy." Sam Smith wanted to shout out Lincoln Marshall, who plays Smeagol, as a kind

of unsung hero of the cast saying, "In every single production, he is the first person to have his lines memorized. It's impressive

and only the cast knows that." When asked about the dynamic backstage and during rehearsals, the cast could not say enough about how much they appreciate their co-actors and how grateful they are that they have become close friends. Ghost Synder said,

"Something special about this cast is how passionate, imaginative, and creative they are. They all took these characters and this plot and made it their own. I hope people

were able to see that." As a departing senior, Ghost also had some inspiring advice for the underclassmen and anyone considering acting in the future, "Just do it! Be brave! Be loose! Don't hold back! Be dramatic and have fun!! Don't shy away from this because I promise you once you lose that self-doubt about your acting skills, or theatrical skills in general, you are going to go SO FAR!!"

Congratulations to the entire cast and crew on an outstanding performance.

