

THE STINGER

IRMO HIGH SCHOOL'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

Hands that Help

Letish Thomas and Meghan Waddell

There is a greater need than ever to help our less fortunate students at Irmo High School. Members of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) have decorated holiday trees to help our students and their families. We are asking you, your family, business, organization or club to purchase a gift for a student or for one of their siblings. Families receiving gifts have been referred anonymously by our social worker.

If you are willing to lend a hand during the holiday season, please pull a "Hands that Help" ornament from one of the holiday trees in the East Wing and West Wing lobbies through December 12 or make a monetary donation toward a gift.

After pulling the ornament, please sign your name in the sponsor book. Please attach your ornament to the unwrapped gift and drop it off in either lobby on or before December 12.

Thank you so much for your consideration, caring and help.



Expand your worldview.

The Stinger Returns!

An editorial
by Angela McGregor

We are bombarded with a plethora of messages every day in a variety of forms. According to Templafy and techjury.net, more than 269 billion emails and 23 billion text messages are sent every day. No wonder your inbox is overflowing and your phone is blowing up! Today, most people get their news from the Internet, with traditional forms of communication declining.

Last year Irmo didn't have a student newspaper. After many years of production by journalism students, the paper folded. But today is a great day. *The Stinger* is back.

Why does it matter?

Sure, a student newspaper is not the primary source of information for, well, anyone. But it provides a voice for students. It is a vehicle for displaying talents in writing, editing, layout, photography and the arts. It provides connection. It is a vehicle for discovery, and discovery expands our worldview. Broadens our horizons. Enhances our experiences. Increases understanding. Looks good on a college application.

So whether you join us as a contributor or as a reader, we welcome your participation and we are glad to be back.

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HOMECOMING 2019

Irmo High Royalty
Kanaria Hicks and Trevor Jones Crowned Queen and King

SEAN REILLY

On a night filled with excitement and suspense, Irmo elected its homecoming court on September 27.

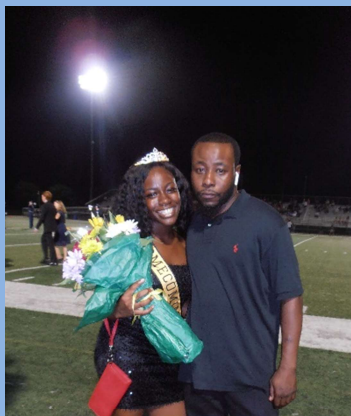
Seniors Kanaria Hicks and Trevor Jones were crowned queen and king. I sat down with them to talk about the experience.

How does it feel to be voted homecoming queen and king?
Kanaria: *It feels great. I was very nervous and shocked that I won.*
Trevor: *It feels good and I feel very accomplished.*

What did you do to prepare to win?
Kanaria: *I campaigned around the school, and my friends promoted me to other classmates.*
Trevor: *I campaigned on Snapchat and I talked to everyone around the school.*

Why do you think you won?
Kanaria: *Everybody loves me, and I never make anyone feel alone or uncomfortable.*
Trevor: *I was the best-known candidate.*

What made you want to run for Homecoming queen and king?
Kanaria: *My mom encouraged me to run.*
Trevor: *I wanted to be more involved.*



Freshman Princess, Kaliyah Hicks



Miss Yellow Jacket, Meredith Joyner, with crown bearers



Queen Kanaria and King Trevor with Principal Dr. Robin Hardy



Senior Princess, Savannah Kitchens
Senior Prince, Angelo Addison



Junior Princess, N'ia Brown



Sophomore Princess, Tishyra Johnson
Sophomore Prince, Alex Blocker



CROSS COUNTRY

Girls Dominate
Region Meet

The Cross Country team had an awesome showing at the Region 4-5A meet at Sandhills on October 30. The varsity girls dominated the competition, winning the meet and placing 2nd through 7th. The team was led by Katy Hall, followed by Sophia Henderson, Lily Jenkins, Carina Burdick, Ellie Hall and Esther Su, respectively. Seventh-grader Lola Gantt finished in 12th place. The team's score was 20, which is only five points from perfect.

The varsity boys' team finished third, led by Sean Ellsworth. Other top 15 finishers were Jonah Wendland and James Holiday.

Both junior varsity squads finished second, with Irmo's Natalie Weaver winning the girls' race, and James Hayes III leading the boys, finishing 6th.



Next up for the team is the State Qualifying meet on November 9, followed by the State Championships on November 16.



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

Irmo High Alumnus and Irmo High Newcomer Inspire

NEGHEMI MICAH

HANNAH VAUGHN

One of the great things about Irmo High is our team of dedicated teachers, focused on helping students achieve success. This month, Neghemi Micah spoke with Mr. Pappas, an Irmo High graduate who has taught at Irmo for 15 years.

Mr. Pappas writes riddles on his board every day, so the students have something to think about. He doesn't look them up; they are all from his mind! Of course, he doesn't have a different one every day forever. He reuses them every year for each grade.

He is very enthusiastic while teaching his classes. He says this helps students to be enthusiastic about what he is teaching. He chose to teach chemistry because it stood out to him and he had no idea what chemistry was until he had the class.

Mrs. Arie Boyd was his chemistry teacher, and surprisingly his favorite teacher. If he could have any power "it would have to do with time, anything to do with it- alter it, go to the past, go to the future..." If he could pick any food to appear in front of him at this very moment it would be pizza! Probably everyone's pick also. Mr. Pappas is married with two sons and a dog. He is a local celebrity, having appeared in a commercial for a credit union.



Mr. David Pappas

Hannah Vaughn introduces us to one of our new teachers, Ms. Hoffman.

Ms. Hoffman is one of our many new additions to Irmo High School. She is a very energetic and caring person who loves helping others learn, going to concerts, and hiking. She became interested in teaching after being a camp counselor over the Summer, as well as when she was a history major in college. She's now been teaching for three years and decided to come to Irmo after learning about the school during a career fair. She liked the diversity of our school and its atmosphere.

Hoffman teaches U.S and World History but she enjoys U.S. History more because she likes helping her students make connections and experience different views on the topic at hand. She also loves when her students are interested and excited about what they're learning and helping students see themselves in History. However, if Miss. Hoffman wasn't a teacher, she would be an Education Policy Researcher due to her strong passion for history.

Her family includes her three brothers and one sister, who she sees as sweet and funny. Luckily, all of them live in South Carolina, so she doesn't have to travel far to see them. She sees both her mom and grandma as her biggest role models because of what strong women they are. To conclude, Miss. Hoffman is a very happy and passionate person who loves helping others make connections and learn new things. She's a great addition to our school and we hope she chooses to stay with us for many years to come!



Ms. Adelaide Hoffman



KIDS IN THE HALL

What do you like best about IHS this year?



The athletics
Surya Swaminathan, 9th grade



The people
Sydney Bostic, 10th grade



My classmates
James Baxley, 11th grade



My teachers who teach seniors.
more informally.
Billy Nickles, 12th grade

THE ARTS

The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood Hits the CFA Stage November 7-9

MARCALA DORES

Come see The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood at IRMO High School’s Center for the Arts! Robin Hood (Kyle Mason) encounters The Lady Marian (JoAnn Ford), Prince John (Mark Blankenship-Brown), the Sheriff of Nottingham (Carl Creighton), and the Town’s Guy (Megan Cipolla) in the Sherwood Forest.

With this group and the Merry Men combined, they’ll give you a show you won’t want to miss! So order your tickets using the link below and come watch in the Irmo High School Center for the Arts, 6671 St. Andrews Road, Columbia, South Carolina. Showtime and ticket information will be listed under *Productions* and *Tickets* on Irmo’s Center for the Arts’ website: <https://www.irmocenterforthearts.org/>



2019-2020 Gold Series

2019-2020 GOLD SERIES
Irmo Center for the Arts

The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood
November 7-8 @ 7:00pm
November 9 @ 3:00pm
A Monty Pythonesque comedy about the legendary, gallant guy-in-green himself! An adventure for the whole family!

December 19 @ 7:00pm
Our Annual Gold Carpet Gala with holiday flare! Join us for a showcase of ALL the Arts have to offer at Irmo High School! Hot beverages will be served at the Main Attraction on Main Street opening reception beginning at 6:30pm

Sister Act
Featuring: MAIN ST

February 27-28 @ 7:00pm
February 29th @ 3:00pm & 7:00pm
The feel-good musical comedy based on the 1992 hit film! You won't want to miss all of the drama, soul, and, of course, outrageous dancing!

TCHAIKOVSKY IN TUTUS
May 8 @ 7:00pm
This season's annual Symphonic experience will take you on an exploration of Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4, also known as *Fate* or *Fatal*. Dinner will be served at 5:30pm. Dinner tickets sold separately

PULSE
May 15 & 16 @ 7:00pm
Irmo Dance Company is teaming up with Irmo Percussion to bring you an evening of movement and rhythm: where body and soul collide!

VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITIONS AT THE GALLERY ON MAIN
THE MAIN ATTRACTION ON MAIN STREET: DECEMBER 16TH - FEBRUARY 14TH
IB VISUAL ARTS SENIOR EXHIBITION: APRIL 20TH - MAY 5TH
IB OPENING RECEPTION: APRIL 29 5:00PM - 6:00PM
Viewings can be scheduled Mon-Fri 9:00am-3:00pm through Irmo High School



The Bands of Irmo Impress in Competition



SEAN REILLY

The Irmo Marching Band concluded a successful completion season, earning superior ratings (the highest rating possible) in their last four competitions.

- The band placed second with a superior rating at James F. Byrnes High School.
- The band placed first with a superior rating at Blythewood High School.
- The band placed sixth with a superior rating at the South Carolina Lower State competition.
- The band placed seventh with a superior rating at the South Carolina State competition.



We want to congratulate them for a good job this season. We know they have been working hard, and that hard work has paid off!