



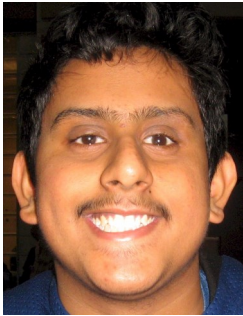
THE UPPER ST. CLAIR HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

The Gateway to Information for the Year 2020 and Beyond...

Your New Library: Fast Lane to the Future

Winter 2020

SPOTLIGHT ON LIBRARY MEDIA ASSISTANTS



Anurag Dey -A sophomore, Anurag decided to volunteer as an LMA because he, “wanted to help out students in the library and make it a better place for others.” He recommended becoming an LMA to Mihir and Shilp, so they may earn IB community service hours. This

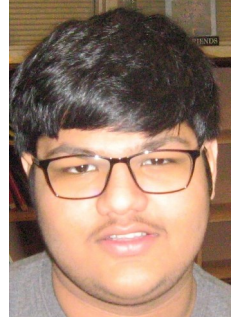
school year, “has been good, but more difficult than last year, because some of the teachers have higher expectations.” Anurag’s favorite subject is honors world history because he loves to learn about the world and the past. He enjoys playing basketball and loves to spend time with his little sister, a third grader at Streams. Anurag’s advice to his fellow students is to, “use your time wisely and focus on academics before sports and on what you want to achieve.” Thank you, Anurag, for helping us out in the library so much.



Mihir Parmar - Now a junior, Mihir is focusing on his school-work, and consequently, his grades have been very good. His family moved here in 7th grade from Mt. Lebanon. He appreciates all of the interesting classes, independent time, and activities that USCHS offers. At first he found high school chal-

lenging, but now his favorite classes are math and science because he enjoys logical applications. Mihir plays violin in the orchestra, and is considering playing recreational basketball. In his free time, he likes to watch sports, and especially enjoyed the Super Bowl. Thank you so much for volunteering in the library, Mihir.

Shilp Shah- a junior, Shilp has wanted to work in the library since last year, when he moved here mid-semester from India. Now, he finally has the free mods to do so. Initially, Shilp found the transition to USCHS very challenging. This year has been much better because he has made friends, and adjusted to school. His favorite subjects are math and computer programming because he likes solving problems by using his analytical skills. Shilp is considering joining the Smart Desk next year. In his free time, he likes to play table tennis in cafe321, and to play badminton outside of school. We are so glad you are an LMA now, Shilp — thank you for all of your help!



Courtney Silverman - a senior, Courtney became an LMA because Lauren Wolfe recommended it. Courtney enjoys being around books, and reads whenever she can. Senior year has been stressful, but “fortuitous,” because she has made two big decisions: she will attend Duquesne University and study nursing. Courtney realized nursing is an ideal career for her because she is interested in medicine, and the high energy nursing requires. Not surprisingly, Courtney’s favorite subject is anatomy. Although she feels ready to leave the high school, she is happy there is one more semester to prepare her to move on to college. Courtney is a member of the marching band, and works part time to save money for college and for daily expenses. In her free time, she likes to read, watch TV, and hang out with her family watching medical drama shows. Good luck Courtney at Duquesne—we will miss you!



Teacher/Librarian Collaborations Nov. 2019—Feb. 2020

Ms. Despines' and Ms. Rentschler's SMART DESK students delivered technology based TED TALK presentations. The students are again stationed at the front of the library, and may be reached at hs-support@uscstudents.org, or at extension 2626.

Ms. DeWalt's MYP academic English students listened to book talks about contemporary, award winning plays, to choose a supplemental drama for their assignment. Later, the classes found an iconic drawing or painting that represents different aspects of daily life during Elizabethan times, and described its significance in 1000 words or less. This assignment was completed in anticipation of reading *Romeo and Juliet*.

Ms. Hess' health classes learned the importance of distinguishing between authentic, valid health sites, and 'fake' health sites that masquerade as being legitimate.

Mr. Sabram's English classes conducted background research for Yukio Mishima's, *The Sailor Who Fell from Grace with the Sea*, as well as Dostoevsky's novel, *Crime and Punishment*. Later, they analyzed and applied the themes of Hemingway's, *The Old Man and the Sea*, to their research papers.

Mr. Loboda's law classes researched the history behind the criminal insanity defense in criminal proceedings, and either defended or prosecuted its use in specific trials.

Ms. Lardas' Latin classes replicated famous antique Roman structures using a variety of materials, and explained their significance.

Ms. Guarnaccio's and Ms. DeWalt's English classes surveyed staff and students' background knowledge about WW II and the atomic bomb, in preparation for reading Steve Sheinkin's, *The Bomb*.

Ms. Cecelia's junior English classes analyzed various authors' works for their research papers.

Ms. Gouker's and Ms. Buccilli's English classes continued researching their topics for their semester-long information research project.

Ms. Tungate's AP English language class learned the difference between primary and secondary sources, and where they can locate them, to support their thesis.

Mr. Edwards' IB history classes signed out *ACCESS PA* books for their research topics. Thank you to **Ms. Gallo** for organizing this!

International Education Week Action Day "Food for Thought" Nov. 21, 2019:

The Environmental Club hosted a booth where students could pledge to recycle, and could learn how to sort school items for the recycling or the trash bins. To further promote recycling, visitors were reminded where recycling bins are located throughout the school.

The UNICEF CLUB, held an online petition drive, requesting that Congress help fight childhood malnutrition. The following club members participated:
Ashvita Saxena, Haley Qin, Claudia Ng, Kara LaGoy, Olivia Fera, Keira Fortunato, and Jahn Markella.



TRICK OR TREAT FOR UNICEF FUNDRAISING RESULTS: In support of the *US FUND FOR UNICEF*, the following funds were raised:

High School	\$555.04
Ft. Couch (sponsored by Ms. Robinson)	191.26
Total:	\$746.30

Congratulations to the following HS students for collecting the most UNICEF donations, and winning *Barnes & Noble* gift certificates:
Alison Caruso, Jasmine Dietiker, Olivia Fera, Kara LaGoy, Claudia Ng, and Evan Vopal, as well as Ft. Couch student *Ishaan Sharma*.

A special thank you to **Mr. Sabram's** homeroom for also contributing so much }