

THE PINNACLE POST

24-25 CELEBRATION ISSUE

POINTS OF PRIDE

- ★ **PINNACLE DECA** had a blast at Orlando, Florida during the Sport and Entertainment Marketing Conference. Members visited Universal Studios and Disney World, participated in workshops, and heard from inspiring guest speakers about their experiences in the marketing industry. We had the chance to network with members from chapters across the U.S. and learn about marketing strategies from professionals leading the way in sports and entertainment. One of the highlights of the trip was going behind the scenes at Universal Studios to see how their marketing is put together.



- ★ **PINNACLE HS MUSICIANS SHINE IN WEST ALL-REGION HONOR BAND & ORCHESTRA!** Congratulations to our outstanding Pinnacle High School music students who auditioned and earned a spot in the prestigious West All-Region Honor Band and Honor Orchestra! Alex Blecha, Lauren Carney, Paul Varela, Eden Else, Andrew Engel, and Jacob Hughes showcased their dedication, talent, and hard work, securing a place among the region's finest young musicians. Their achievement is a testament to their commitment to excellence in music and the strength of our Pinnacle music program. These students will now have the opportunity to rehearse and perform with the best musicians from 46 schools in the West Region, culminating in a spectacular concert that highlights their incredible artistry on February 15th at Central High School. We are so proud of their accomplishments—way to represent Pinnacle HS!
- ★ **FBLA REGIONAL AWARD** Congratulations to Hannah Leakey on winning an FBLA Regional Award in digital photography! Congrats to Hannah on 1st place!



- ★ **PINNACLE ART STUDENTS:** This past weekend, The Shemer Art Center hosted its opening reception for the annual *New Horizons High School Student Art Exhibition*. This yearly event highlights the artistic talents of two upperclassmen from over 45 Arizona high schools in a range of two- and three-dimensional media. Pinnacle is proud to honor two students and their amazing artwork in this year's exhibition:



He Takes Children in His Clown Car, colored pencil, marker, and clown noses, by **Alaina Novey**, 12th Grade



La Flor de la Eternidad, ceramic sculpture by **Scarlett Dawson**, 12th Grade

During the opening reception, additional honors were awarded to students in the form of monetary scholarships: Novey received the Jennings Family Award, the Inspiring Youth Award, and the Colored Pencil Society of America (AZ Chapter) Award, and Dawson received the HB Moser Young Artist Award.



The *New Horizons High School Student Art Exhibition* is open to the public and runs until February 13th. More information about the exhibit is available [here](#).

- ★ **PINNACLE SPIRITLINE** competed at the AIA State Qualifier on January 15th and 16th. We are so proud and excited to report that Varsity Pom and Cheer advanced to the AIA State Championship on January 18th at Arizona Veterans memorial coliseum where they took 2nd place in state! Congratulations to Pinnacle Pom and Cheer!



- ★ **PINNACLE DECA** traveled to ASU Tempe this week to compete in District Competition! Taking 65 competitors, Pinnacle DECA took home 27 test medals, 9 first place role-play medals, and 7 second or third place role-play medals. Our first place role-play medals belong to, Aanya Guruprasad, Jeremy Dewey, Rushel Patankar, Surabhi Abhilash, Shivani Satheeshkumar, Robert Pointon, Sahana Jayachandran, Alex Wolman, and Cashus Kattau. Our chapter was incredibly supportive of each other, cheering as loud as possible for each other as they made their way to the stage! Pinnacle DECA also took part in the Marketing Graphics Competition. They were prompted to create two striking DECA pin designs within two hours, which will be used to represent Arizona in the pin-trading tradition at ICDC. Maika Pham, Rushel Patankar, and Rinoshia Netala rose to the challenge by taking 2nd place! Overall Pinnacle DECA landed 27 test medals, 16 role-play medals, and had a blast networking with students from different chapters of the North Phoenix and Scottsdale areas! We can't wait for State competition next month!



★ **PLAYER OF THE WEEK** Congratulations to Brooke Weinzetl on being named a Jersey Mike's Player of the week.



★ **B-INSPIRED AWARD** Congratulations to Senior, Connor Corey, on earning the B-Inspired Award for varsity. This award celebrates the life and legacy of Pinnacle Alumni, Brandon Wechsler.



- ★ **B-INSPIRED AWARD** Congratulations to David Kinsey, on earning the B-Inspired Award for JV. This award celebrates the life and legacy of Pinnacle Alumni, Brandon Wechsler.



- ★ **B-INSPIRED AWARD** Congratulations to Zach Wiitala on earning the B-Inspired Award for Freshmen. This award celebrates the life and legacy of Pinnacle Alumni, Brandon Wechsler.



- ★ **B-INSPIRED AWARD** A special congratulations to Taylor Edmonds on earning the B-Inspired Inspiration Award. For anyone that knows Taylor's story, she is truly an inspiration! Congrats Taylor! This award celebrates the life and legacy of Pinnacle Alumni, Brandon Wechsler.



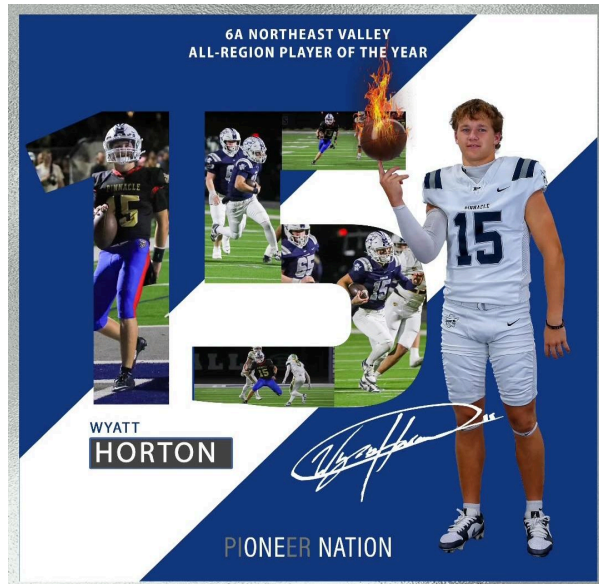
- ★ **WE HAVE BIG NEWS!** Congratulations to Senior Riley Hammett on her logo being selected for the America250 Celebration. Riley's logo will represent Arizona in the National Celebration of America's 250 years of existence.



- ★ **PINNACLE BASKETBALL CELEBRATED 25 YEARS!** On December 3rd players from the very first team (class of 2002, we did not have seniors when we opened) came back and were honored at halftime. Please watch this awesome [video](#) celebrating the early years of Pinnacle basketball... You will see some familiar faces! Thank you to everyone who helped put this night together!



- ★ **PINNACLE FOOTBALL** Congratulations to Wyatt Horton 6A Northwest Valley All Region Player of the Year!



★ **NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT SIGNING DAY** A special congratulations to our athletes who signed this week on the national Letter of Intent Signing Day!







★ **PINNACLE VOLLEYBALL** Congratulations to our Boys Swim and Dive Team on winning second place in state!



- ★ **PINNACLE VOLLEYBALL** Congratulations to Addison Nicks on earning the title of “AllRegion 1st Team” for the 6A Desert Valley Region!



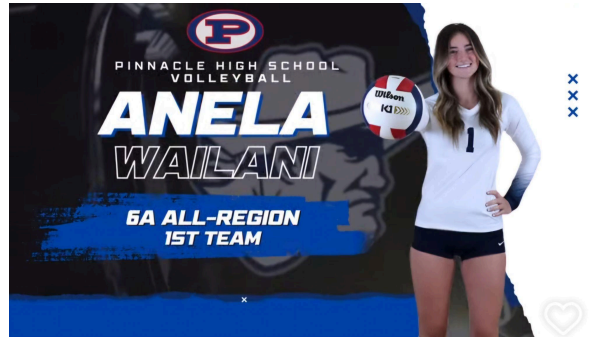
- ★ **PINNACLE VOLLEYBALL** Congratulations to Blayne Seligmiller on earning the title of “AllRegion 1st Team” for the 6A Desert Valley Region!



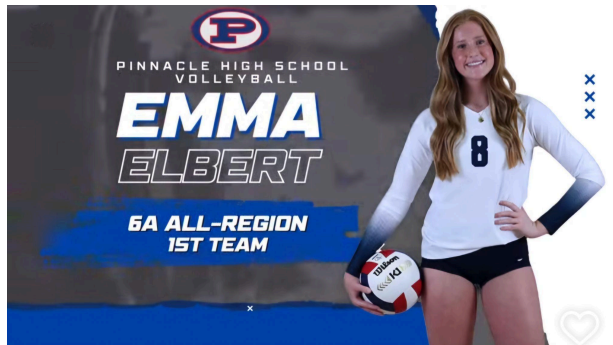
- ★ **PINNACLE VOLLEYBALL** Congratulations to Hope Westra on earning the title of “AllRegion 1st Team” for the 6A Desert Valley Region!



- ★ **PINNACLE VOLLEYBALL** Congratulations to Anela Wailani on earning the title of “AllRegion 1st Team” for the 6A Desert Valley Region!



- ★ **PINNACLE VOLLEYBALL** Congratulations to Emma Elbert on earning the title of “AllRegion 1st Team” for the 6A Desert Valley Region!



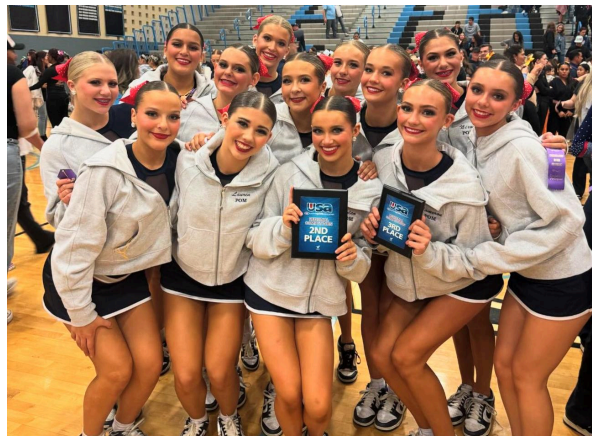
- ★ **PINNACLE DECA** had an exciting past week! 19 students traveled to Seattle Washington for Western Region Leadership Conference! Students engaged in leadership workshops, explored Seattle, met chapters from as far as Hawaii, and toured different companies such as Microsoft and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. These 19 students also competed in a test and a roleplay category, in which Surabhi Abhilash and Gus Ulrich placed top of each of their divisions. Students had a fun and engaging learning experience at WRLC while growing closer with each other. Pinnacle DECA made memories that will last for infinity.



★ **PINNACLE SPIRITLINE** took to the competition floor for the first time this season last Saturday and brought the heat! All 7 of the routines qualified for USA Nationals in Anaheim, California. We are so proud of our spiritline athletes for their dedication to their sideline duties as well as the competitive aspect of this program. Our placements can be celebrated below!

USA Regional 1 Results

- JV Show Cheer - 1st place
- Varsity Show Cheer - 1st place
- Varsity Pom- 2nd place
- JV Jazz - 2nd place
- Crowdleader - 2nd place
- JV Pom - 3rd place
- Varsity Jazz - 4th place



★ **THE PINNACLE BIG BLUE BAND HAS DONE IT AGAIN** After an incredible season, the Pinnacle Field Ensemble had their final performance on Saturday, November 9th, at the AZMBA Marching Band Championships. Competing against 25 other bands in our division, the Pinnacle Band achieved the highest ratings and earned special awards in General Effect, Visual Performance, Music Performance, and Percussion. This brings our total to 20 out of 25 possible caption awards this season!

Throughout the entire season, the ensemble consistently achieved the highest scores in Percussion, Visual, and General Effect. At the Championships, the band was awarded 1st place in Class 1A with a record-breaking score of 81.325, surpassing last year's champion by 10 points. Tanque Verde High School took 2nd place with 78.038, and Sierra Linda High School placed 3rd with 75.788.

We are also proud to announce that Pinnacle was the only PVUSD marching band to win their class!

This victory was particularly meaningful for our students. It marks a historic season for the Pinnacle Band—we have never been undefeated, earned this many caption awards, or achieved as many 1st-place sub-caption wins at Championships in a single season.

The band students are incredibly grateful for the unwavering support of the PHS administration. Your efforts have been instrumental in our success, from providing us with new lights and air conditioning in the band room, to driving equipment trucks, offering

words of encouragement, handing out awards, securing practice space, handling transportation issues, etc...

Thank you for everything you've done, both on the frontlines and behind the scenes, to help us reach this level of achievement. Your support made the students feel proud to enter and leave the competition field as PHS Pioneers!



★ **PINNACLE CROSS COUNTRY** A big congratulations to our Girls Cross Country team! They recently qualified for the State Competition for the first time since 2021. We look forward to cheering them on!



- ★ **PINNACLE BADMINTON** Congratulations to Paige Kroening and Payton Crank on earning the title of Badminton D1 Doubles State Champions!

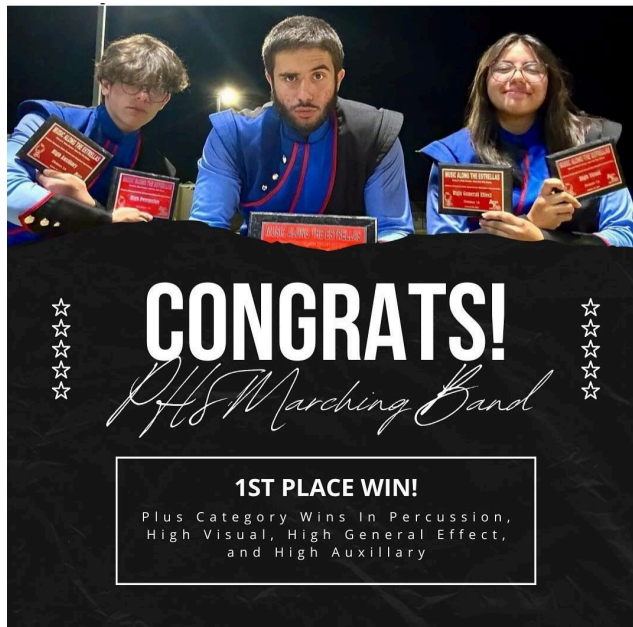


- ★ **PINNACLE DECA FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE** Pinnacle DECA had an exciting week! On Monday our chapter attended Fall Leadership Conference! Members took a trip to The State Farm Stadium and attended workshops, got to meet new members, hear from guest speakers, network with members from other chapters, and even stay to watch the AZ Cardinals beat the LA Rams 17-15!



★ **THE PINNACLE BIG BLUE BAND HAS DONE IT AGAIN** We are excited to share that the Pinnacle Marching Band just completed their third competition of the season at Agua Fria High School in Avondale, and despite a few challenges—road closures, disorganization at the host school, and the heat—the students delivered an outstanding performance!

The band earned another 1st place finish, along with 4 out of 5 special caption awards for highest scores in our class. We took top honors in General Effect, Visual, Color Guard, and Percussion! Our final regular season festival will be this Saturday at Buckeye High School, and then we're off to Mesquite for Championships on November 9th. The students have been doing an incredible job, and I'm beyond proud of their hard work and progress.



★ **THE PINNACLE BIG BLUE BAND HAS DONE IT AGAIN** This weekend, PHS hosted our band contest, welcoming 29 bands and 47 solo/ensemble performances. It was a huge success! Our students worked hard from 7 AM to midnight, along with NHS volunteers and parents, to greet bands from across Arizona (Yuma, Florence, Prescott, Vail, Tucson, Kingman, Flagstaff). Our band competed against tough competition, including 4 of last year's top 8 bands, and secured 1st place overall (4.8 points ahead of 2nd), along with 3 of 5 special captions: Outstanding Percussion, General Effect, and Visual Performance. (We

narrowly missed the Outstanding Music award by .313 and Outstanding Color Guard award by .4)

- ★ **THE PINNACLE BIG BLUE BAND** The band had their first contest at Mountain Ridge High School, and they truly shined. They placed 1st in their division and "swept the captions," which means that 7 out of 8 judges awarded them a first-place finish, and they earned first place in nearly every sub-category. We took home 1st place in General Effect, Music, Visual, Percussion, and Colorguard.

This is a significant achievement, as it's the first time since 2018 that the band has swept the captions. We were also the highest placing PVUSD band at the competition, with a 5-point lead over the 2nd place band in our division. I am incredibly proud of these kids and their hard work!



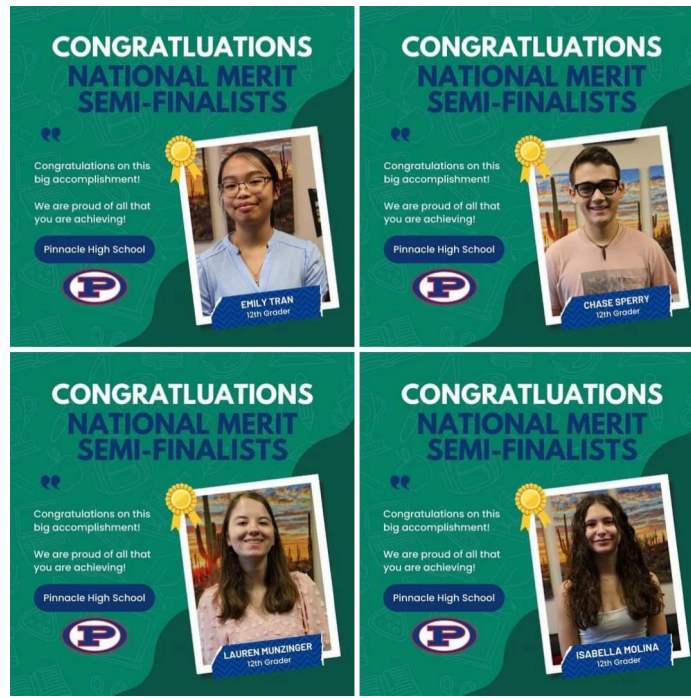
- ★ **CONGRATULATIONS** to Pinnacle Quarterback, Wyatt Horton, on earning the recognition of being an Ed Doherty Award Nominee. The award is managed by the Grand Canyon State Gridiron Club in conjunction with The Arizona Sports and Entertainment Commission and Wyatt was selected for his exceptional performances to date this season.



- ★ **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY** A big congratulations to our National Honor Society inductees! Our NHS hosted their induction ceremony this past Tuesday to welcome in their newest members.



- ★ **NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS** The names of the National Merit Semi-finalists were released to the media on Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2024. Pinnacle High School is proud to announce the four Pinnacle Pioneers that have been named National Merit Semi-finalists. Please congratulate Isabella Molina, Lauren Munzinger, Chase Sperry and Emily Tran!



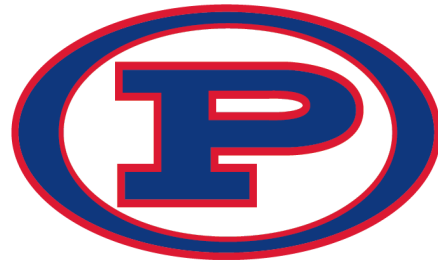
- ★ **NATIONAL MERIT COMMENDED SCHOLARS** The names of the National Merit Commended Scholars were released to Pinnacle High School and the students were presented with their *Letter of Commendation*. Pinnacle High School is proud to announce the twelve Pinnacle Pioneers that have been named National Merit Commended Scholars. Please congratulate Liam Allan, Ryan Delmarter, Evan Engstrom, Delaney Hill, Brandon Lenhard, Isabella Molina, Lauren Munzinger, Chase Sperry, Kate Torda, Emily Tran, Suhani Varshney and Zoe Willis!
- ★ **PROMISING RISING EDUCATOR AWARD** Soren Spiller has been selected to receive a 2024 Promising Rising Educator Award from Arizona State University's Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College for our school district for CTE! You can read her award letter [here](#). Congratulations Soren!





Welcome to the Class of 2028!

- ★ **FRESHMEN CAMP 2024** Pinnacle High School STUGO hosted approximately 700 incoming freshmen at another successful Freshman Camp held on Friday, August 2nd! This year's Freshmen had the chance to participate in various activities that helped welcome and induct them to our school's norms and culture! It was a wonderful time seeing them for the first time as high school students! Welcome class of 28!



PASSION, HONOR, SUCCESS