

The Dragon's Post

Our Hamden Middle School
Student Newspaper

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Winter/Valentine's Issue

HAMDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL

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The Ski and Snowboard Club!



Reporting By: Hayley Apuzzo



Want to try something new? Then I think the Ski and Snowboard Club is for you!

The Ski and Snowboard Club is a great opportunity to try something new! Who knows, it might just be your secret talent! Learning something new and having fun with your friends is the best feeling! So why not give it a try?!

The Ski and Snowboard Club starts in January and ends in February and there is an informational session to learn more about the club in October. There are 5 trips of fun! Don't even worry about buying your own Skis or Snowboards, because you can rent them there! Mr. Cebula and a lot of other teachers come on the trips with us and all. I can say is that they make it such a better place!

My personal experience - I would definitely recommend this club to anyone who wants to try something new! The first time riding in a double decker bus was definitely life changing. The first time being on a ski lift was a new confident version of myself! The first time putting on skis was very thrilling! I have created so many memories from this club and I can't wait to join again next year! The only thing I would recommend is taking lessons because they are a lifesaver! My friends and I started skiing this year and all I have to say is that it's never too late to start! I hope I see you next year!

D.I.Y. Paper Hearts Valentine's Day Craft

A 7-Step Project

Reporting By: Hayley Apuzzo

Any color paper works perfectly!

Materials - Scissors, Stapler, Dark pink paper, Red paper, Light pink paper, and Ribbon.

Step One - Take your scissors and cut your dark pink paper into a couple strips of paper.

Step Two - Make a heart shape with the dark pink strip of paper. Then take your stapler and staple the middle of the heart.



Step Three - Continue to do the same two steps but this time with your red strip of paper.

Step Four - Place the dark pink and red heart next to each other on the table. Staple the middle of the hearts together, please be careful with the stapler!



Step Five - Continue to step one with your light pink paper. Then do step four with all your hearts so it makes a circle. There should be around 9 hearts.

[Click here for a video!](#)

Step Six - Take your ribbon and put it in between one heart. Then skip over one heart, then put the ribbon through the other heart.

Step Seven - Cut your ribbon with your scissors when you think there's enough ribbon. Then, tie a knot and make a bow with the ribbon.

Grade 7 Chorus Winter Concert

Reporting By: Hayley Apuzzo

Grade 7 Chorus Winter Concert was held on Thursday, January 23rd at 7:00 pm in the HMS auditorium! Family and friends came to see the students' hard work over the last two quarters. The chorus performed "Adoramus" which is a Latin piece, "The First Snow" was a song talking about the winter season, and finally "Defying Gravity" from the new movie *Wicked*! The crowd really enjoyed the solo performances! Mr. O'Herron really enjoyed the performance and encourages everyone to give chorus a try next year!



Click to watch "Defying Gravity" performance!

Click to watch "First Snow" performance!



Click to watch "Adoramus" performance!



8th Grade Winter Concert

Band & Orchestra

Reporting By: Zariya
Elahee & Olivia Song

On January 16 (aka Zariya's birthday!), the 8th grade band and orchestra performed their winter concert.



The orchestra performed the four songs symphony theme: Incantations, Loch Lomond, Spy Rock, and Music for the Royal Fireworks and for one of them their orchestra director, Mr. Gunn, even joined them as he played the drumset alongside them!

Lastly, the band performed 3 songs. The band played "African Bell Carol," "A Wild Western-etude" (which was a CMEA audition song), and "Cantina Band," from the Star Wars series!



Everyone say, "Happy Birthday" to Zariya!

NJHS Valentine's Day Fundraiser

Reporting By:
Gia Damico

The National Junior Honor Society held a fundraiser for Valentine's Day this year.

During this fundraiser, they sold very cute bears and flowers for Valentine's Day. All of the profits for this sale are going toward buying lunch for the Hamden Police Department.

The NJHS did a very nice job with the fundraiser.

This is one of the bears that were sold.

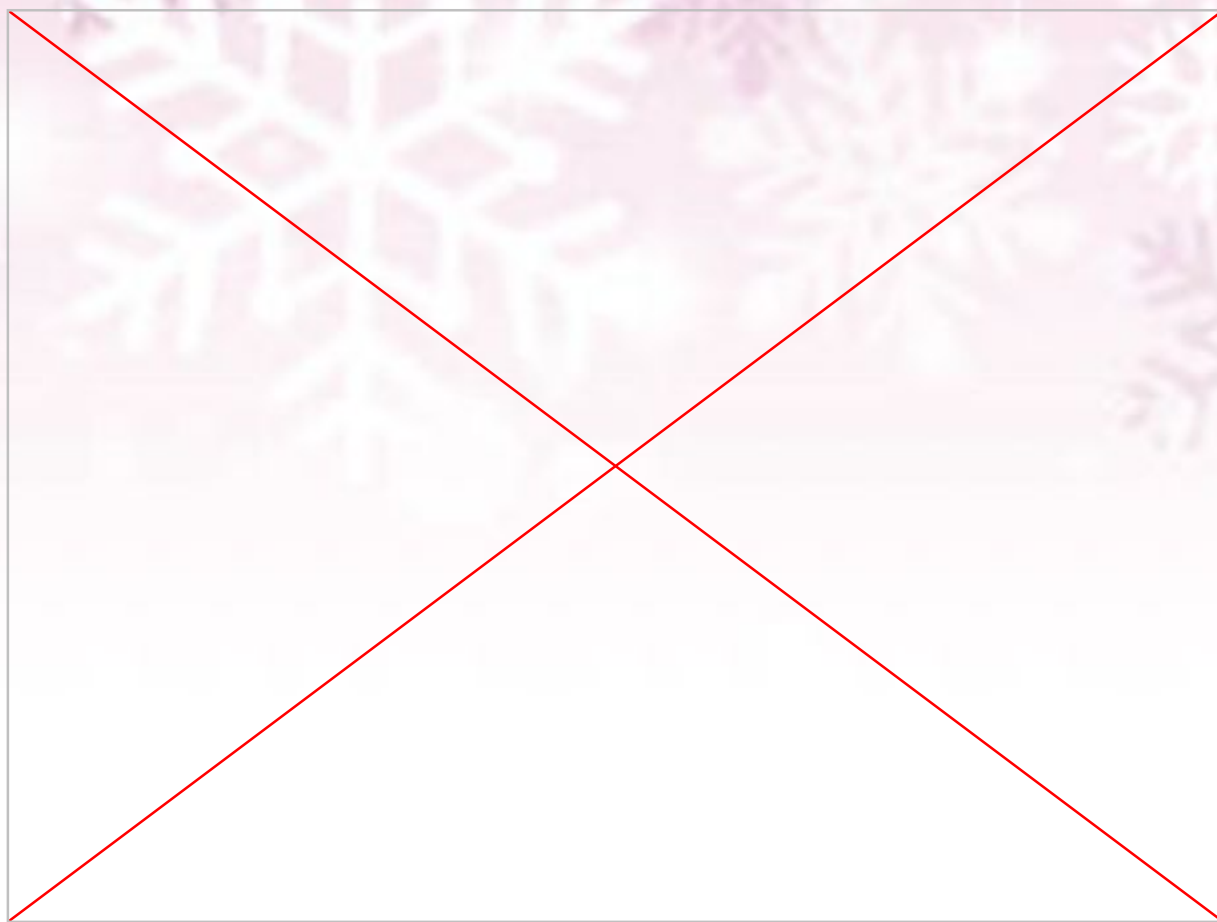


The Voice of Hamden

Reporting By: Audrey Quinn

The Voice of Hamden was held at Hamden High School on January 8th.

During The Voice, 14 contestants competed to be The Voice. There were two groups competing to be The Voice of Hamden: the first group was the Junior Category (elementary and middle school students), and the second group was the Senior Category (high school students).



Watch as Staff Reporter Audrey Interviews *The Voice* performers.

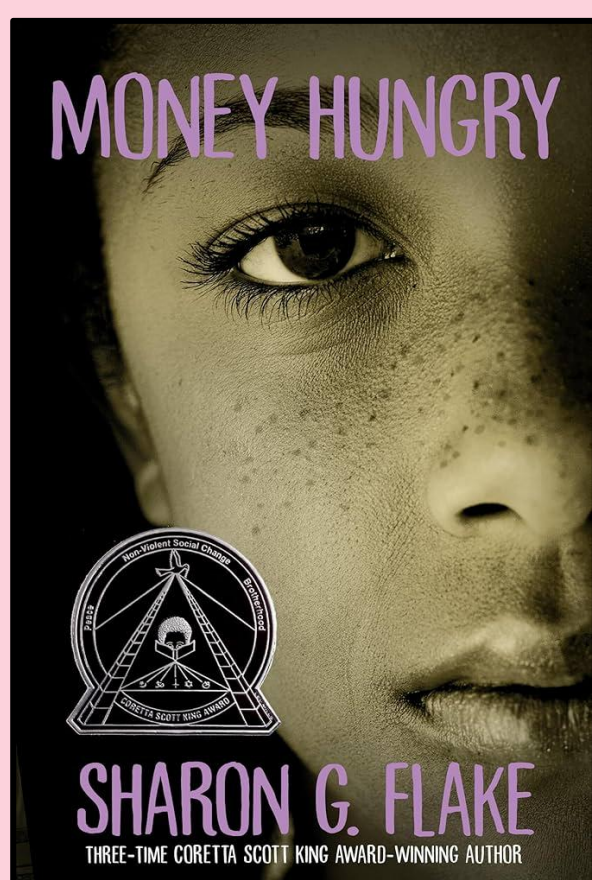
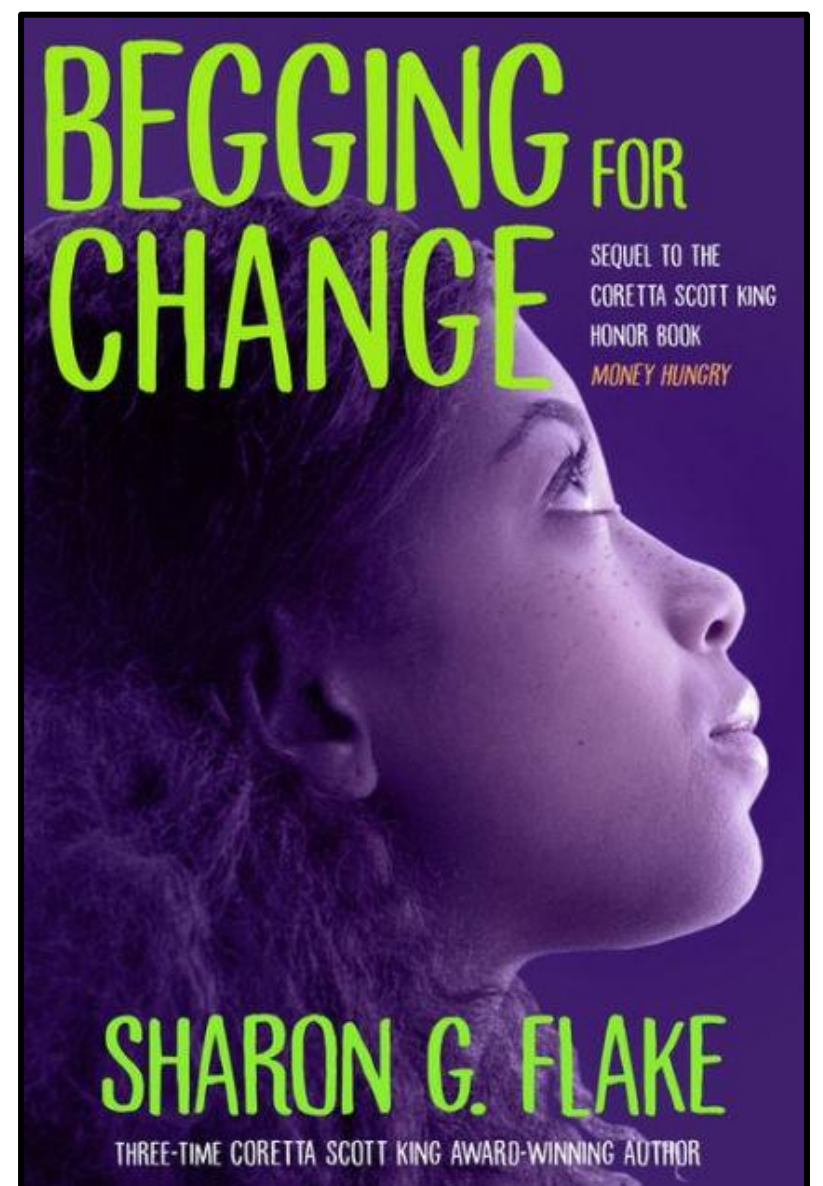
The Voice according to Audrey: The Voice of Hamden was just amazing. There were so many talented kids that were so brave to compete. I was amazed to see how many people competed. One of the people in the Junior Category is one my best friends, so I was so happy for him. I was so happy for Marcella who was the *only* middle school student to compete. Marcella won 1st place for the Junior Category: congratulations Marcella! Also, want to congratulate Olivia who is a 6th grader at Bear Path who also won the Junior Category. And for the Senior Category, I want to congratulate Scarlet and Hannah from Hamden High.

Book Review: Reviewed by Bridget Matungwa

Book Title: *Begging for Change*

Author: Sharon G. Flake

The book *Begging for Change* by Sharon G. Flake tells the story of a girl named Raspberry who faces tough challenges in her life. She struggles with her family's financial problems and the impact it has on her dreams and friendships. As Raspberry navigates her world, she learns important lessons about resilience, hope, and the importance of standing up for herself. The story highlights the difficulties of growing up in a tough environment while trying to find a way to change her situation.



Begging for Change is the sequel to the book *Money Hungry*. Check it out soon!