



Hilltop Notes

for the CHS Community
4.16.23



'I See IB Night' is Back!

After a three-year hiatus, CHS 'I See IB Night' is back! It will take place on Tuesday, April 25th from 6-8 pm (not Wednesday, April 26th as noted in some calendars). Come out and see:

- Our IB Middle Years Program Sophomores display their Personal Projects!
- Our IB Diploma Program Juniors students showcase their Theory of Knowledge Exhibitions!
- CAS project and Extended Essay displays created by our IB Diploma Program Seniors!

A diversity event organized by our CLRI Scholars will take place in the auditorium during part of the night as well. All are welcome to attend I See IB Night!

Student Council Hops in to Action to Help Others

Centaurians from City Honors Student Council kicked off Spring Break this year by volunteering to help our friends from the Fruitbelt Coalition with their annual Easter Extravaganza at the William-Emslie YMCA. Rayhona Nasimjonova and Eireann Kennedy were the masters of Bunny Bingo for dozens of delighted kids and parents.

Akuol Yak helped the chef prepare delicious hot food for everyone. Calieb Walker greeted everyone at reception, taking tickets and directing traffic. Lily Roberts, Hannah Nisengard and Sadie Dubick Coniglio made sure everyone was hydrated. Madeleine Harris gave away candy and toys to young people, freeing the Easter Bunny to work the room and pose for photos with fans. Finally, Darnell Fields was handpicked to star, behind the scenes, in the Easter Puppet Show. Here you see him on set, with two other concealed actors, moments before showtime.



CHS Mock Trial Wrap-Up

The City Honors mock trial team completed another excellent season, finishing 3-1 with victories over Sacred Heart, Williamsville North and St. Joe's. The close playoff loss was against Orchard Park, who got their revenge after we beat them last year.

This year's team included seven new competitors. Maggie Giancola and Daniel Moka competed as attorneys, both improving by leaps and bounds from their first practices into the playoff rounds. Kasity Pepper, Ava Azizoghli, Issrat Prova, and Ayeza Modassar all played witnesses for the first time. The case involved a construction accident, and all of them needed to be knowledgeable about construction safety. They embraced complex personalities of the characters and the technical aspects of the claims and defenses. Christian Bagby covered both attorney and witness roles in practice as an alternate, and with a year under his belt, will hopefully return next year along with the rest of the new team members.

Returning from last years' championship team was senior Liam Rio, who played the injured plaintiff this year, his third character in as many years. Liam will graduate as one of the finest witnesses we've ever had. Annika Wilewicz and Nathan Lloyd each made huge strides as returning attorneys, becoming more polished and persuasive in their questioning and arguments. They will hopefully lead the team next year and be even more spectacular once they get to compete live in a courtroom. Returning witness Tim Tidd left his traditional expert roles to play a passionate union leader, continuing to shine in competition. Senior Liam Cobb made a sensational transition from witness last year to closing attorney this year, embracing the larger assignment and attacking objections and rules of evidence like a seasoned veteran. The most valuable team member however was senior Ciah Courtney, a four-year veteran of the team who both excelled individually and assisted all of her teammates.



Our students learned valuable skills in presenting arguments, advocating for one side and reacting to opposing views. We look forward to another successful run next year! A special thank you to our attorney coaches who have devoted so much time and expertise to our team, Hon. Hank Nowak, and John Morrissey '06.

Buffalo Lacrosse Foundation Summer Lacrosse*

Looking for a spring sport for your child? Try lacrosse! No experience necessary. The Buffalo Lacrosse Foundation's Summer Program starts in May for boys and girls in grades 5-10. There is a discount code "bps23" that discounts registration by \$100.00. Aid and equipment is available to anyone that needs it. Visit the Website for more information and to register www.wnylacrossefoundation.org.



Congrats CHS All-County Musicians!

This past month, esteemed student musicians from around Erie County were selected to perform in various All-County Honors Ensembles. These students have gone through an extensive audition process to be selected for this honor. From our very own City Honors music program, we had the following selected:

Elementary All-County Band performed at Kleinhans Music Hall on March 19th:

-Ellie Packham, flute, grade 6

Elementary All-County Orchestra performed at Kleinhans Music Hall on March 19th:

-Henry Huebner, violin, grade 6

-Benjamin Kelly, violin, grade 6

-Grace Rio, viola, grade 6

Junior High All-County Orchestra performed at Franklin Middle School on March 12th:

-Lucy Pendley, bass, grade 7

-Aidan Rio, bass, grade 8

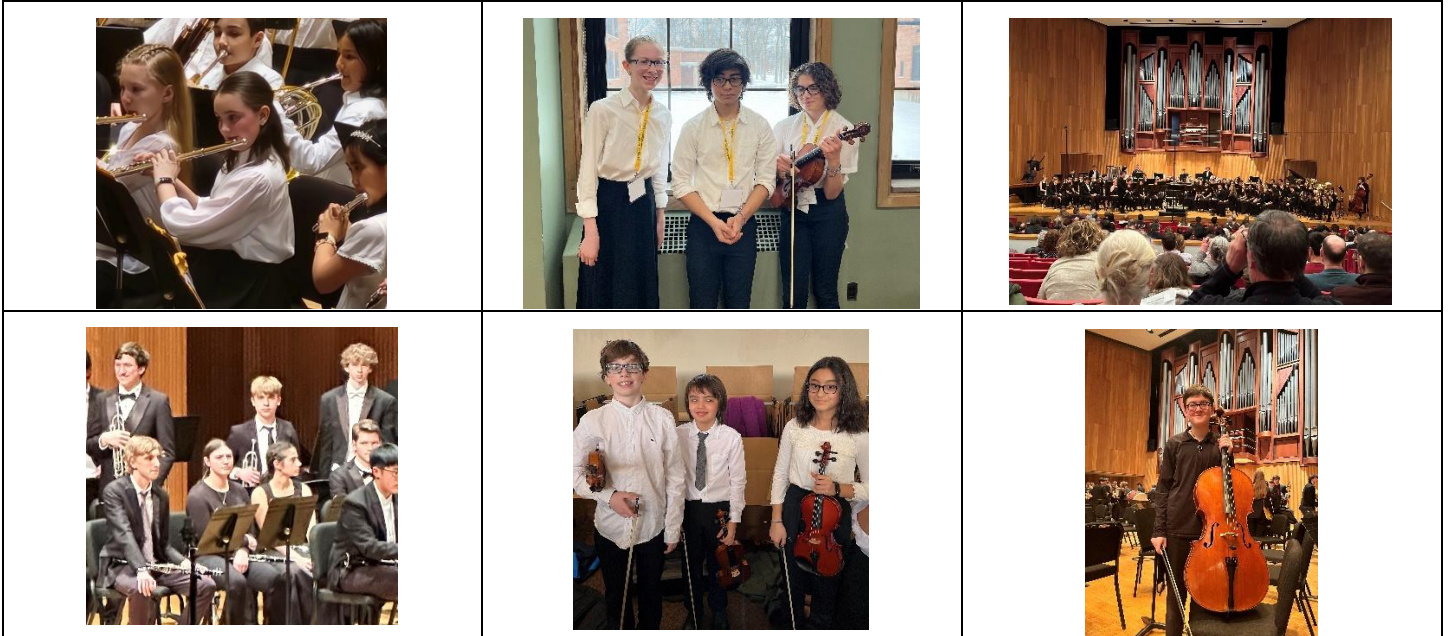
-Tara Land, viola, grade 8

Senior High All-County Orchestra performed at UB's Slee Hall on March 26th:

-River Braverman, cello, grade 10

-Leo Burger, oboe, grade 12

Senior High All-County Band performed at UB's Slee Hall on March 26th:
-Lucas Costelo Barnum, Grade 11



Is Your Child Leaving Us? ☹️

If your child will not be attending City Honors for some reason next school year, please contact your child's school counselor as soon as your plans are confirmed. We have many students on the waitlist to enter CHS and would like to let them know if they have a seat as soon as possible so that they can attend our spring orientations, participate in our summer reading program and have a positive and successful transition to our school. Thank you for your consideration of these children. Emails for our school counselors can be found [at this link](#).

** Please Note: Announcements in this newsletter marked with * mean the activity is not organized by City Honors School or the Buffalo Public Schools. The school and school district neither endorse nor sponsor the organization or activity represented in this material. The distribution of this material is provided as a community service.*

Reminders for Our Families During This Time of COVID

Keep Our CHS Students and Staff in School- Keep Our Families Safe! We strongly encourage you to consult with your family doctor about having everyone five and older in your household vaccinated for COVID/receive a COVID booster where applicable. Need more reasons to get vaccinated? [Read more from the CDC](#). This is a critical matter for our school to function and to keep our community safe!

Free COVID Testing: The ECDOH offers free, walk in rapid ID Now and PCR testing at 608 William St Buffalo, NY from 9AM-3PM and at 3359 Broadway Cheektowaga, NY at 8AM-PM M-F. [Click on this link](#) for more information on these sites.

When You Need A Helping Hand

BPS Staff and Family Helpline: The Buffalo Public Schools have established a 'Staff and Family Helpline' at 716-816-7100 to provide answers within 24 hours to our most frequently asked questions in the areas of Technology, Mental/Physical Wellness, Instruction and Professional Development, Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Initiatives (CLRI), Multilingual, Elementary and High School needs, Food Services, Child Care, and Volunteerism. If you need assistance in any of these areas, please contact the hotline number.

The CHS Student Support Team (SST): If you are seeking additional support or assistance, please do not hesitate to make a referral to the CHS SST. The Request for Assistance Form can be found [at this link](#). Once your form is submitted, a member of the SST will be in contact with you.

Mental Health Supports: Here is a [quick reference guide](#) which provides contact information for mental health support from the Buffalo Public Schools and our partner organizations.

Connect with CHS!

Click on the following links to better connect with the CHS Community

[CHS Website](#)

[CHS on Facebook](#)

[CHS on Twitter](#)

[CHS on Instagram](#)

[Pelion Outdoor Classroom at City Honors](#)

[Easy/No Cost Ways to Support City Honors](#)

[Fosdick Field Restoration Project](#)

[City Honors/Fosdick-Masten Park Foundation](#)

[CHS PTSCO \(Parent, Teacher, Student, Community Organization\)](#)

[New York State Dignity Act \(DASA\) Information](#)

Children are endangered by underage house parties and underage drinking. Concerned adults, teachers, students and friends can call 24 hours a day in Erie County to report planned underage drinking parties; underage drinking parties in progress or other activities that may be harmful to the health, safety and welfare of young people. The tip line (1-800-851-1932) is ANONYMOUS, CONFIDENTIAL and free. Erie County now has a "Social Host Law" that holds adults accountable for allowing minors to drink. [LEARN MORE](#)