



2022 - 2023 YEAR END NEWSLETTER



A Message From The Principal

Dear UHS Community,

As we approach the end of another remarkable year at Unionville High School, I want to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude to each and every family for your unwavering support. On behalf of the entire administrative team, staff, and support staff, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all our families for their dedication and commitment to our students' education.

Throughout the year, your presence at numerous events, such as Parents' nights, concerts, performances, festivals, Grade 9 day, and commencement, has been nothing short of inspiring. Your active involvement in your child's education and our school community has laid a solid foundation for their success. Your unwavering support has demonstrated the value you place on education, and it has made a profound impact on our students' growth and achievements.

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the exceptional leadership of Dr. Anoosh Sharif, who served as our School Council Chair for the past two years. Dr. Sharif and the School Council Executive have selflessly dedicated their personal time and efforts to enhance our council's effectiveness. Their contributions have been invaluable, and we are immensely grateful for their commitment to our school.

At UHS, we pride ourselves on our vibrant and dynamic community. Our students, who continue to shine brightly not only within our school but also across York Region, are a testament to the outstanding qualities they possess. Their achievements and successes are a reflection of the guidance, support, and sacrifices made by our families. We encourage you to continue fostering a balanced lifestyle for your child, one that encompasses academics, active living, personal passions, and interests. We have found that students who engage in activities beyond the classroom tend to be the happiest and most fulfilled. As a school with a rich foundation in the arts, athletics, volunteerism, social activism, and global contributions, our graduates are equipped to become valuable contributors to society. They are not only prepared for post-secondary education and the workforce, but also possess the ability to question, create, and solve problems creatively. These are assets so necessary for a challenging employment market.

As you peruse through this newsletter, you will have the opportunity to witness the remarkable achievements of each department within our school. I am immensely proud of the work they have done and the impact they have had on our students' lives. I want to extend my sincerest appreciation to our dedicated teachers, whose tireless efforts both inside and outside the classroom truly make a difference. It is their passion and commitment that make UHS an extraordinary and unparalleled educational institution.

As we bid farewell to this remarkable year, let us celebrate the achievements and growth we have witnessed. Let us cherish the memories and valuable experiences that have shaped us as a community. Together, we have fostered an environment where our students can thrive, explore their passions, and develop into compassionate and critical thinkers.

As many of you already know I will sadly be leaving UHS to work at Pierre Elliott Trudeau High School. I have loved my time at UHS and the interactions I have had with students, families and staff. However, I would like to welcome Principal Susie Nunes, and the new administration team of Vice-Principal Dawn Imada-Chan, Vice-Principal Raymond Luong and Vice-Principal Patrick Belmonte. This team will be an asset to UHS and the school community. It would be remiss of me not to congratulate Vice-Principal Amol Gheewala on his recent promotion to Principal. He will be missed by us all.

On behalf of the school's administration team and staff, I want to wish you all a restful and rejuvenating summer break.

With gratitude,

SueLyn Cheong

Alternative Education

Semester 1 & 2 Highlights - 2022 - 2023

Students celebrated Taurus birthdays as there were a large number of Taurus staff and student birthdays in May. It was an inclusive and celebratory month to that brought students together.

Several students were accepted into great co-op placements. Almost all students were able to earn or rescue their credit. Several students got university and college acceptances.

A number of students competed both in the arts and athletic events.

Business

Top Ten Finishes!

The Business department is very proud of our students' entrepreneurial and management skills as they "took care of business" this spring! Mr. McCaffrey's and Mr. Himelson's Entrepreneurship classes worked hard to create their own small businesses, competing with each other to sell goods and services to the school community. The results were impressive, as student teams created some amazing products, and generated over \$1,200 in profits that will be donated to the SPCA and the SEVA food bank! Way to go entrepreneurs!

The marketing class learned about trade shows and automotive marketing during their visit to the International Auto Show. In the classroom, students gained relevant and valuable skills for their future careers, as they learned about business technology, marketing, accounting, economics, leadership, finance, entrepreneurship and international business.

UHS' Business students continue to excel academically through their hard work, but they also excel in contests outside of regular class activities. Thanks to the mentorship of Mr. Pan and a great team of teacher advisors, our DECA team performed excellently at the Provincial Championships, 17 top 10 finishes and 7 of our students qualified for DECA's International Career and Development Conference in Orlando! Despite facing thousands of competitors from around the world, our team had two students finish top 10 in their respective events against hundreds of competitors at the international stage.

Thanks Business students for a fantastic year, we hope you have a great summer!

The UHS Business Department

Co-Op Education

Co-operative Education provides an experiential learning opportunity for students to **earn high school credits** and gain valuable experience by exploring a potential career choice. *Students can earn 2 or 4 credits!*

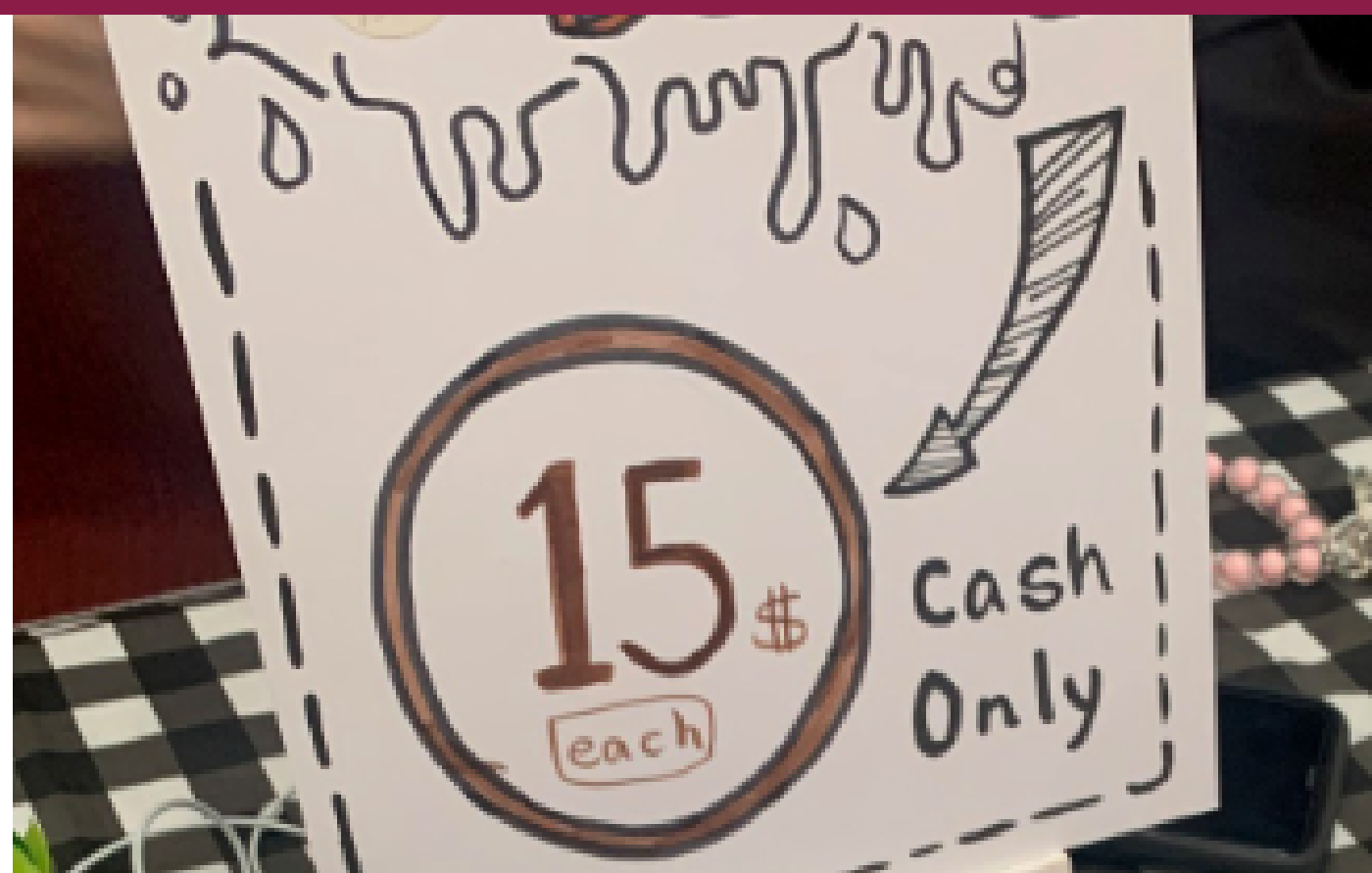
This semester, Unionville High School students explored careers in a wide variety of occupational areas including: **physiotherapy, chiropractic care, automotive service, accounting and finance, teaching, pharmacy, graphic design, web design and digital media, medicine and related health care professions, veterinarian and animal care, computer programming, app development, IT and networking, early childhood education, engineering, marketing, digital marketing, retail marketing, video production, event planning, culinary, and real estate.**

Many of our students also continue to be successful in the Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program.

Currently, UHS offers:

- Business
- Arts and Culture
- Health and Wellness

A Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) is a specialized program which allows students to experience a range of customized, career-focused learning opportunities while working towards their diploma. Field trips, guest speakers and workshops are fundamental to the program.



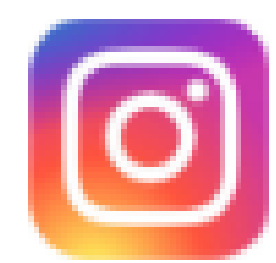
We are proud to announce that as of September 2023, UHS will be offering the ICT (Information Communications Technology) SHSM, where students can focus and gain experience in communication systems, computer systems, or software and digital media.

Students now have the opportunity to customize their high school experience, explore new ways of learning, participate in valuable workshops and seminars and attend industry related field trips. Learn how your child can take advantage of these vibrant and exciting programs by browsing the YRDSB website at www.yrdsb.ca



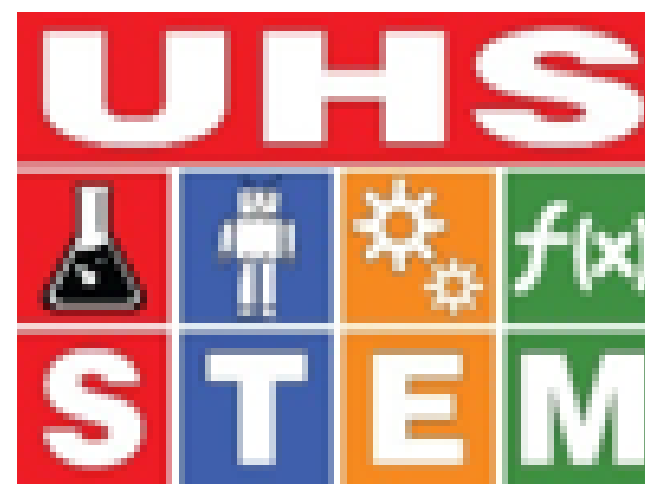
As always, our gratitude goes out to our community partners for their ongoing support of our students, our school, and our program. You are the key to our success and the achievements of our students!

If you or someone you know is interested in providing an experience for our students, feel free to contact the Co-op Office here at UHS at 905-479-2787, Ext. 220 or email jennifer.minos@yrdsb.ca



Follow us on INSTAGRAM @uhscoop to see our students in action! Visit us at www.uhscoop.com for more information on the program.

Computer Studies



Congratulations students for completing another academic year. A special congratulations to the graduating class of 2023. We would like to wish you the very best in all of your future endeavours.

It has been a pleasure to teach and interact with students and parents in Computer Science courses and extra-curricular activities supported by the Computer Studies department at UHS such as: The Computer Science Club, The Robotics club and the many contests we facilitate. We would like to wish our Grade 12 graduates the very best as they pursue their post-secondary goals. We are very pleased to share that many students from our school have been successful in gaining admission to computer science associated programs in several post-secondary institutions. It has been a very gratifying experience to see our students excel in our courses and choose pathways related to Computer Science. We wish them well and we will certainly miss their presence and contributions to the school life.

Our student leaders and supervising teachers have tried their best to create a community of learners and support them in a variety of ways. Special thanks goes to the teachers in the department and members of the Computer Club and Robotics Club executive teams, who are graduating. Your commitment and support is greatly appreciated. We would like to wish all the graduates the very best in all their future endeavours.



As part of the curriculum, students learnt: Programming (grade 10-Python, grades 11 & 12 – Java), Algorithm Design, Project Management, Overview of Computer Hardware, Inquiry Based Learning on topics in Computer Science, and explored the impact of computer technology on society.



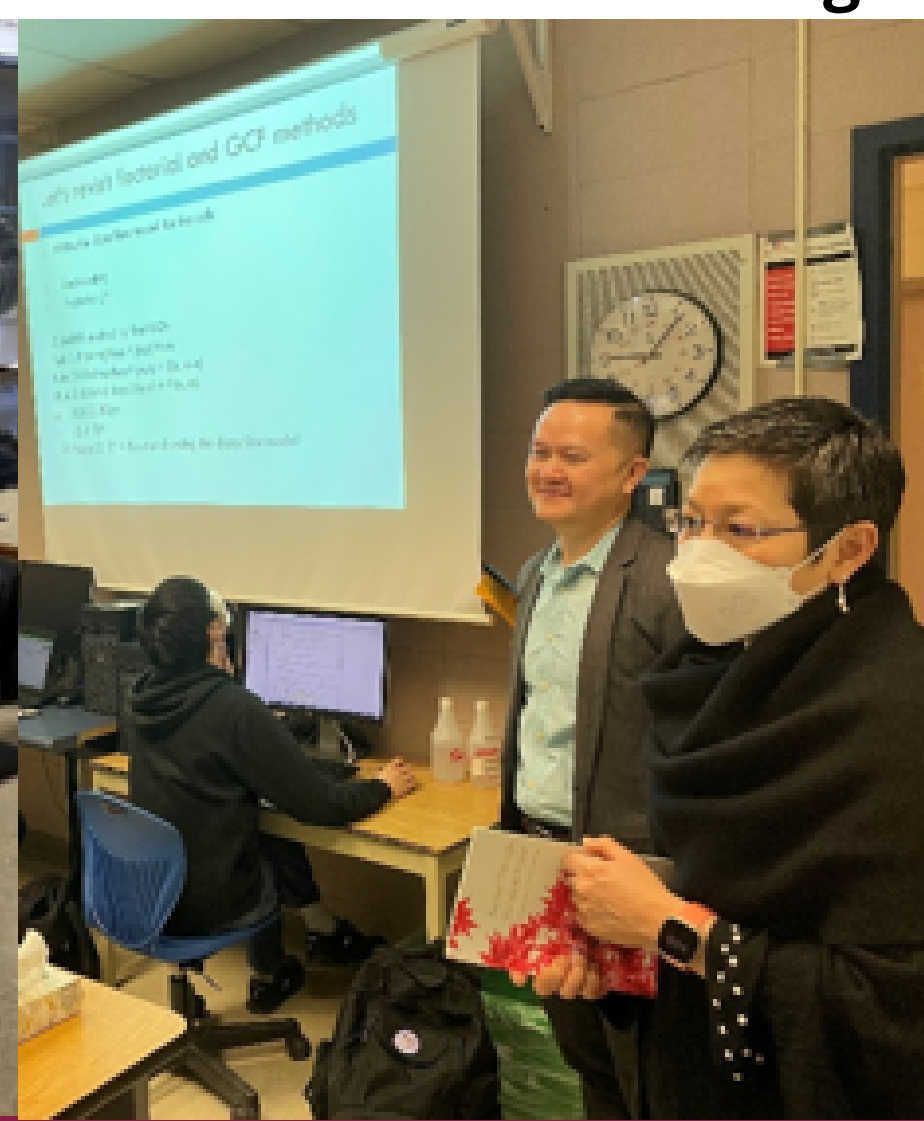
Students at the school were offered the extra-curricular opportunities to be part of the Computer Club, which met weekly, where they learnt: programming, Web development, algorithm design; and also prepared for programming contests. Being part of Robotics Club, provided students the opportunity to explore the intricacies of Robotics. Students were also provided the opportunity to participate in programming contests, Ontario Skills Challenge and in Robotics competitions.

We would like to thank all the students, parents, administrators, teachers, past graduates and guest speakers for their keen interest to encourage students to learn and develop an appreciation for this very intriguing discipline of computer science. We also would like to thank as we bid fare well to our Principal Ms. Cheong and our Vice-Principal Mr. Gheewala who are leaving us at the end of this year. Our best wishes are with them as they continue to serve our board.

We would like to wish you all a restful summer and the best for the new academic year ahead.

Teachers: Jey Anandarajan (Subject Head), Raymond Do, Brian Cho & James Kotsopoulos.

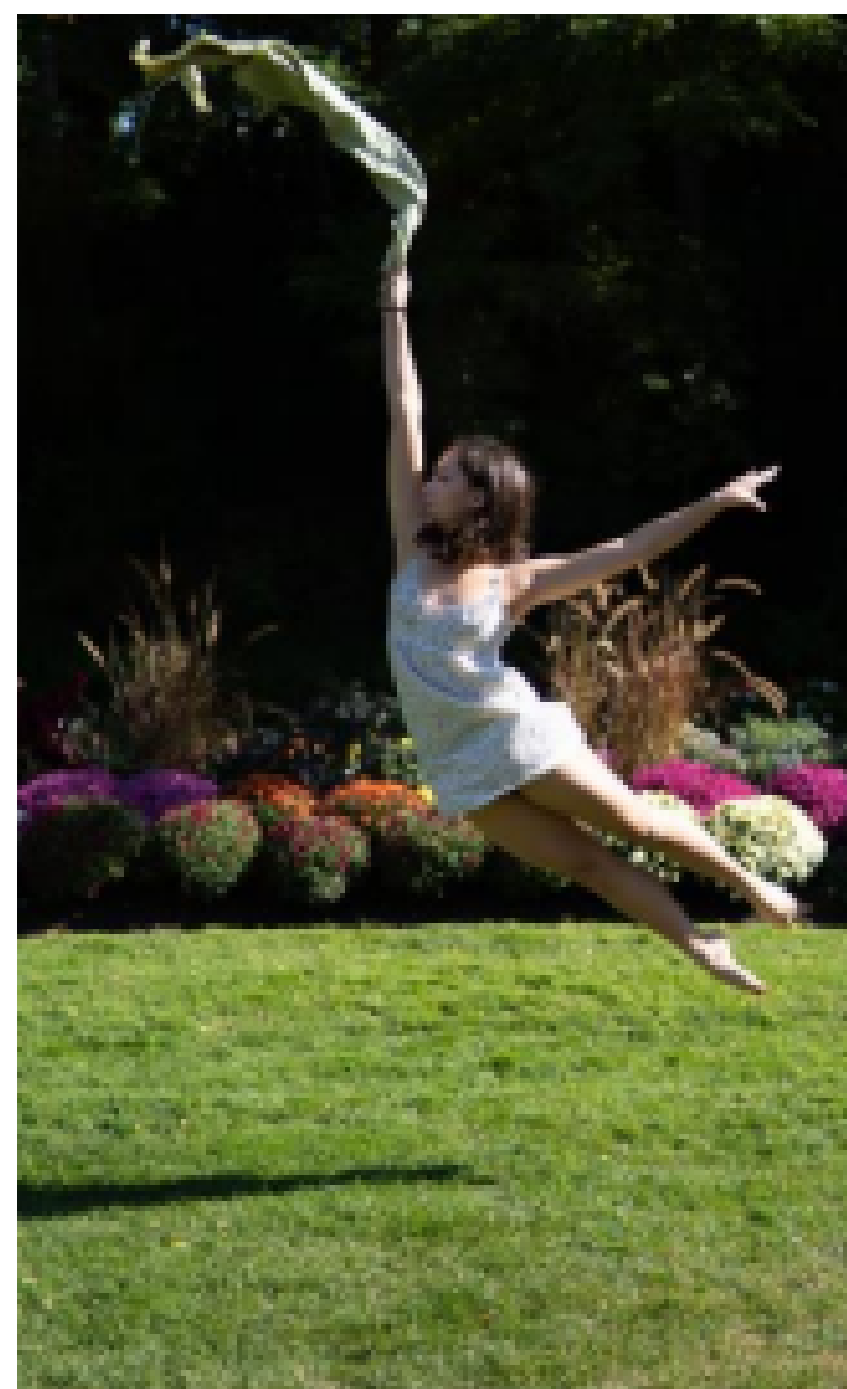
Computer Studies Department



Dance

What a year **Arts Unionville Dance** has had! It's been wonderful getting back into the groove of performance and allowing our students the opportunity to shine on stage once again!

Performances



We began the year with preparations for a full department piece directed and choreographed by our grade 12 AU Dancers. This work was performed for our AU Information Night performances when Grade 8's had the opportunity to visit and learn more about what our programs entail. It was a lovely depiction of our collective department strengths and we had a great time performing this work as an ensemble.

Then came LUNA! With performances in early December, this themed production required we spent the time leading up to this to dedicate to the creation of the classwork all related to the theme of the night sky. It was a beautiful hour long show that we were able to share with both the UHS community as well as parents/guardians.



Before we knew it, we were in the depth of the new semester creating work in collaboration with our peers and colleagues from all the arts disciplines for 'Alchemy'. This show featured a wealth of works offering arts students an opportunity to create with arts departments. The original work created was outstanding; this show is a unique feature we offer here at Arts Unionville.

...and then there was 'Dance Highlights 2023'; a remarkable spectacle of dance featuring a wide array of student, faculty, and guest artist work. We welcomed guest artists George Absi, Jaya Chawla, Sierra Kellman, Monique Pascall, Colleen Snell, and Claire Whitaker. We are so proud of the work we produced and especially of our incredible student choreographers who took creative risk and freedoms. Bravo to all who challenged themselves creatively in creation and performance!



Field Trips

This past fall, the grade 11 and 12 AU Dancers collaborated with Ms. Gardham's photography class. We took a field trip to Alexander Muir Park in Toronto to take advantage of the gorgeous fall foliage and landscaping the park has to offer. The dancers worked with photographers to capture stunning photos. We are very grateful for this long standing partnership.



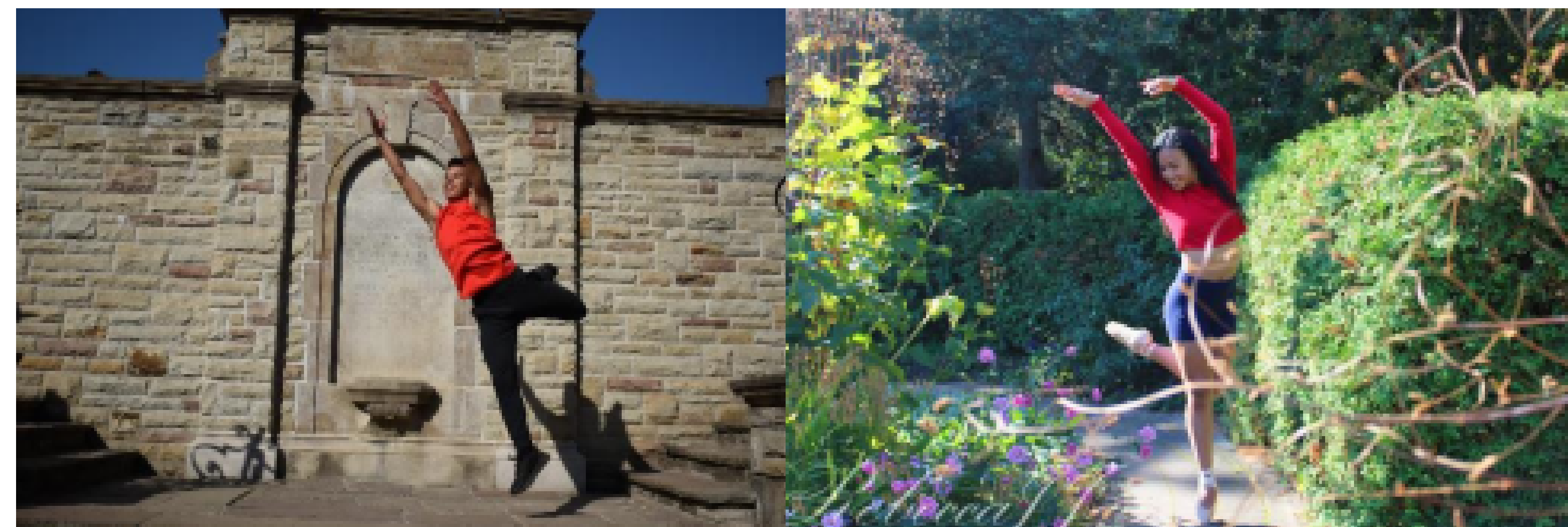
On April 5th, AU Dance attended Transcendance Project's 'A Grimm Night' at The Great Hall in Toronto. This site specific performance was as enchanting as it gets, with the opportunity to follow the stories as they unfold within the premises. This was a beautiful display of Toronto professional talent as well as a creative interpretation of how dance works can be presented. It was especially inspiring for our young dance artists to have the opportunity to chat and ask questions with the artists following the show.

On May 25th, we once again took a bus to the city to watch Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre's production of 'Teasing Gravity' at Fleck Dance Theatre at Harbourfront. This company produces professional work featuring young artists and we were able to witness a lovely collection of dance created for the company by incredible talent. It was especially wonderful to see our grade 12 AU Dance student Caitlin Feanny shine in the company. We are grateful for this outreach opportunity.



The year wrapped up with various summative assignments including anatomy, dance history, and global dance research assignments.

We are so grateful for all the support and especially to be able to work with such enthusiastic and dedicated students in Arts Unionville Dance. We can't wait for what's to come in September...but first, enjoy a safe and relaxing summer holiday!!!



DRAMA HIGHLIGHTS 2022-2023 ACADEMIC YEAR

Drama Department

Another award winning year in creative leadership!



Dramatic Arts: Highlights 2022-23

A return to live theatre, and our first Flato Markham Theatre Fall Showcase!

Award-winning Gr. 12 AU original production, *The Last Roll*, decorating UHS with acclamations from experienced artists in Canada's Theatre/Film Scene!

Gr. 11 AU Drama representing stories from our communities with *The Verbatim Project*, an original drama-journalism performance series!



Gr. 12 AU Drama
Spent 3 days,
2 nights @ NTS
Drama Fest

Dec. 21st Shows



AU took the stage at
Markham Theatre
for our first Fall
Showcase!



Something
Rotten!
Annual Musical with
another successful
run at Markham
Theatre in January!

1

GR. 9 & 10 CORE DRAMA

Celebrating deep learning through story telling and exploration in dramatic arts.

2

ALCHEMY 2023

Gr. 9 and 11 AU Drama Activated leadership, and creativity through story telling, and drama.

3

GR.9 AU DRAMA

Emerging AU UHS students with the many on-stage opportunities at UHS and FLATO.

Family Studies

Welcome to Family Studies

Hello UHS! Check out what Family Studies has been up to this past school year. With so many hands-on courses offering real-world life skills, students were able to show their personal style and flare in unique and inspiring ways.

Grade 9 - (HIF) Exploring Family Studies

Classes practiced their sewing and embroidery skills and made stuffed sock monkeys and felt stuffed animals. The Grade 9s also learned all about shopping on a budget and were able to make delicious meals for 4 all for under \$20.



Grade 10 - (HFN) Food and Nutrition

Students made some delicious chocolate chip cookies as well as beef tacos, mini cheesecakes and pancakes with real whipped cream. They completed a "Meal at Home" assignment where they were able to plan, shop and prepare an entire meal for their loved ones. They made sure that their meals were nutritious, delicious and all made from scratch. Parents and guardians were so pleased with the results! The Grade 10s were part of an Iron Chef competition where they showcased a 'secret ingredient' and made tasty bites for our teacher judges. Congratulations to the winners!



Grade 11 - (HFC) Food and Culture

Classes explored foods of the world and made dishes from Europe, Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, and Latin America. Chef Candace from Candace's Catering joined us for the day and worked with 3 HFC classes who made bison meatballs, wild rice and strawberry juice as part of the 'Food From This Land' unit.



Grade 11 - (HPW) Working with Infants and Young Children

Students started the semester off with an exploration of the theories associated with child development. Later in the semester the class participated in a sleep study that included a sleep lab. Outside of the classroom we investigated the importance of play and the students were given the opportunity to experience and evaluate through participation in movement activities. Finally, we also got the chance to put our culinary skills to the test and complete a full food lab centered around baking nutritious snacks for young children.

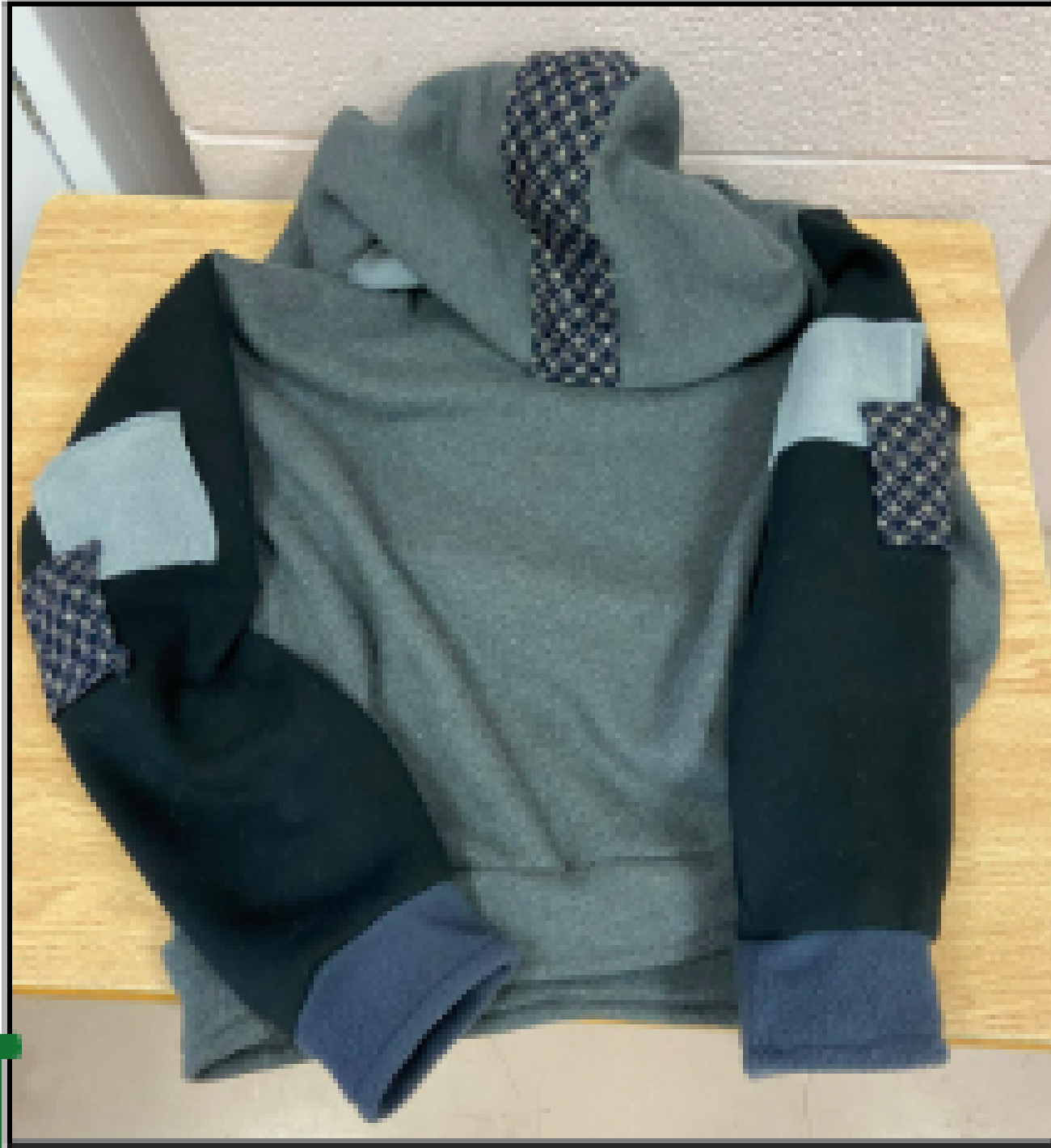
Grade 12 - (HFA) Nutrition and Health

Grade 12 students learned about how to make healthier food choices by examining and questioning existing big food and big farming rhetoric. They learned about the nutritional needs throughout the life cycle stages. They were also able to expand their culinary skills throughout the course during food labs that included a vegetarian lab, animal protein and fats labs. For their culminating cooking projects - each homemade, from scratch dish - was carefully chosen to provide maximum nutrition while highlighting a specific nutrient.



Grade 12 - (HNB) The World of Fashion

Students expanded their sewing skills, making fashion items such as tote bags and hoodies. Each one a work of art - stylish and functional! The students also created a bulletin board with their thoughts and ideas on what fashion means to them. Their inclusive and personal responses showed that fashion is not just a great way to express oneself but also a way to demonstrate our uniqueness and build confidence. What does fashion mean to you?



Grade 12 - (HHS) Individuals and Families in Canada

Classes explored how different agents of socialization (i.e. family, friends, media, government, school) impact their values, beliefs and overall development. We took a deep dive into this phenomenon by examining how celebrity culture can create severely negative outcomes for those in Hollywood. We also got real and honest about what qualities we look for in our "significant other" through exploring relationship and mate attraction theories. Lastly, we examined the components of healthy and unhealthy romantic relationships as well as parent-child relationships in order to prepare us for a smooth and relatively harmonious entrance into adulthood.

Grade 12 - (HHG) Human Development Throughout the Lifespan

Classes learned about changes and challenges throughout the lifespan. A course highlight was using new understandings of brain science to deepen connections with those in our lives. Another highlight was the emphasis placed on learning about resources and strategies to build resilience. Students journaled almost daily, tried yoga, meditated and sourced books and podcasts that celebrate human strength and perseverance.



**Congratulations and best of luck to all the Grade 12 graduates!
The Family Studies department wishes you all a great summer!
See you in September!**

Geography

The 2022-2023 calendar year has been an exciting one for the Geography department. Teachers have been working hard throughout the year to create new teaching materials for the de-streamed program. Adding new assessments and evaluations with the partnership of students to best serve their needs has been a focus. Students have been busy designing cities using urban design techniques, understanding natural resource principles, breaking down Canadian demographic information, and building critical research analysis skills. It has been a great semester for students who are honing their skills to become lifelong learners.

Guidance

Exam Tips and Strategies Workshop

Every fall, the Guidance department provides an exam preparation workshop for our students who need strategies and/or a refresher. This year we held full day workshops for all students on **October 19, 2022**. Come out next year and discover the best strategies for studying, learn how your brain works to achieve excellent results, and optimize your time to increase efficiency. Be sure to check next year for dates and times.

Grade 11 and 12 Post-Secondary Information Sessions

On May 29th, the Guidance department hosted an information session for all our Grade 11 students interested in learning more about university and college! Included in the presentation was scholarship information, myth busting, preparation tips and was a chance for students to ask pertinent questions. Students can learn more about post-secondary information and scholarship information in the fall. Potential Grads will be asked to join the grad google classroom in the fall so they can receive all the latest information and updates!

Mark your calendars. UHS is hosting a Post-Secondary Information Fair on:

Wednesday, November 8, 2023
6:30pm to 8:30pm

Community Involvement Hours:

The summer break is a great time for students to work on completing their Community Involvement hours. If you have completed community service hours and have not handed in your forms, no worries, hang onto them and we will accept them when school opens in the fall. Please remember to submit your volunteer sheets to Guidance for approval **before** you commence any activity. Many opportunities are posted on our UHS Volunteer and Program Opportunities Google Classroom (enrollment code is **emu544b**). More information is also available on the board's [website](#).

Scholarship Information:

The Guidance Department continues to share information on a weekly basis about various scholarships available for student to apply to. There is also preparation for their post-secondary studies through our Scholarship and Enrichment opportunities Google classroom. This spring, we presented information to our Grade 11's about preparing for post-secondary options and scholarships. Every fall, the Guidance department provides a more detailed scholarship presentation for graduates to help students prepare their applications. Students will learn about scholarship resources (including The Scholarship Report), tips for financing their education, types of scholarships, bursaries and awards, as well as the application process.

We Are Communicating With You!

The Guidance Department is always working hard to keep are students and parents in the loop! Important messages and updates will be on Twitter, our school's website, newsletters, and the weekly Parent/Guardian Bulletin. Students can make an appointment with their alpha counsellor via Teach Assist and send their counsellor an email with any concerns to help them get the information they need!

Dog Therapy and Mental Health Presentation:

During the month of May, The St. John's Ambulance Therapy Dogs visitations were a huge success! Our students had the opportunity to visit with these furry companions to de-stress at the end of our school year. In addition, the YouthSpeak organization presented "Online Overdrive" where students learned about how social media affects mental health and were given strategies to help them increase their resiliency. We had over 500 students from all grades attend in-person for this event!





Mental Health Presentation:

Your mental health is important! As the summer approaches it is important to be mindful of your well-being and to take good care of yourself. Below are some mental health resources to assist your needs:

310-COPE: 905-310-COPE (2673) or 1-855-310-COPE (2673) - available 24/7

KidsHelpPhone: 1-800-668-6868, text 686868 - available 24/7

<https://mindyourmind.ca/> Mental Health Helpline: 1-866-531-2600 - available 24/7

<http://www.fsyr.ca/> Family Services of York Region 905-895-2371 or 1-888-223-3999

<https://www.yorkhills.ca/> York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families 905-503-9561

<https://hongfook.ca/> Hong Fook Mental Health Association 416-493-4242

www.youthline.ca Lesbian Gay BI Trans Youth Line 1-888-687-9689

Black Youth Helpline: 1-833-294-8650

Taibu Community Health Centre: 416-644-3536

<https://bouncebackontario.ca/> BounceBack is a free, guided self-help program that's effective in helping people aged 15 and up who are experiencing mild-to-moderate anxiety or depression, or may be feeling low, stressed, worried, irritable or angry.

Want to learn more about **college** and **university** programs? Visit these valuable websites for researching your future:

Ontario Colleges

October 18, 2023 and October 19, 2023

The Ontario College Fair is a one-stop event for all your college information needs.
Enercare Centre, 100 Princes' Blvd, Toronto, ON M6K 3C3

General information about college can be found at: <https://ontariocolleges.ca/en>

The Ontario Universities' Fair 2023

October 21 - 22 10am to 5pm

Metro Toronto Convention Centre – South Building

For more information about this event and virtual sessions, visit the [OUFs website](#)

HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!



History & Social Science



As the year draws to a close we have many achievements to celebrate across our classes. Our Grade 10 history classes were excited to be able to visit the Ontario Science Centre this past semester as part of a new unit on the history of Canadian science, technology and innovation. The Ontario Science Centre hosted a traveling exhibition called Indigenous Ingenuity: An Interactive Adventure which focused on the history and contribution of First Nations, Métis and Inuit science and technology in Canada.

Photo: Ms. Wu, Ms. Fong and Ms. Damji at the Indigenous Ingenuity exhibition at the OSC.

A special shout out to Mrs. Donaldson for coordinating this trip, and to our amazing teaching team Ms. Damji, Ms. Fong, Ms. Wu, Ms. Teh and Mr. Wang for pulling together this unique learning experience for our students.

Our grade 10 history team continues to look for innovative ways to bring history to life for students. We also hosted “hands on history” outreach kits from the Canadian Museum of History both semesters. Students were able to investigate Canada’s contributions to both World Wars by working with reproduction artifacts from these eras. Thanks to Mrs. Damji for facilitating the arrival of these very engaging learning kits!

Students got to try on reproduction uniforms learning about Canadian experiences while at war.

Thanks to Mr. Struk and Mr. Cash, our law classes were able to participate in a variety of experiential learning opportunities, too! Through mock trial competitions and guest speakers, and a visit to the Ontario Courts, our Grade 11 and 12 students were able to understand Canada’s legal system and what it looks like in action.

Volunteers from Ms. Faulkner’s philosophy class were privileged to work on an interdisciplinary project with the Visual Art Department in partnership with ALPHA Education and under the leadership of Mr. Clodd, to create works of art for the exhibition “Voices Unheard” that will be on display in Fall 2023. This grant based project is designed to build knowledge about the impact of racism on youth and to celebrate the lived experiences of our students. More details to come.

As we prepare to wrap up the school year, we are already planning to create even more engaging learning opportunities for students in all our humanities courses.

Library

It was wonderful to see the Library return to its usual hive of activity this year. The **UHS Library Learning Commons** provides our school community with a beautiful and welcoming place to read, work, and collaborate.

This year the Library hosted Coding and Chemistry contests, EQAO and OSSLT tests, grad photos and gown distribution, Guidance presentations, an ESSAC meeting, and guest speakers for Careers, Co-op, Law, SHSM, and the Black Excellence Club. Additionally, each period of the day saw upwards of 130 students spend their spare or lunch in the Library.

The Library Learning Commons also supported access to quality information through a variety of print and digital sources. Teacher-Librarians regularly supported students by teaching lessons targeted to their assignments. During an average month the Teacher-Librarians collaborated with more than 40 different classes.

This year the Library staff supported students researching a wide variety of topics. We helped students to learn about Indigenous activism, treaty rights, ecology issues, household toxins, social justice, Canada’s natural resources, Indigenous entrepreneurship, sociology issues, French artists from Africa and Asia, and modern Scientists, to name just a few of the areas researched this year.

When it comes to research, UHS students know that the library’s databases are a reliable way to research online. This school year, they conducted 97,292 GALE database searches. In the EBSCO databases, some of our student’s top search terms this year included the following:

Students are also accessing books to support their learning. UHS patrons borrowed 1,445 books this year, excluding renewals. Of those checkouts, 632 were non-fiction. The UHS community also loves to read for pleasure, as fiction titles accounted for 56% of the total books borrowed.

To continue reading this summer take advantage of Sora, the YRDSB’s online reading platform. Sora has many great fiction and non-fiction titles, as both ebooks and audiobooks. Students sign in to Sora using 0+ their student number. You may sign in to SORA [here](#).

Happy reading everybody!

tuktoyaktuk child to parent
peer pressure self image
desprez stem cell history
c++ eric wolf
anthropology racism
exposure to loud noise
vaccinium angustifolium

Math

The 2022-23 school year has been an exciting and busy year for the math department at UHS. We have organized a total of 10 math contests for students in Grades 9 through 12, offered by the Canadian Mathematical Society and by the University of Waterloo. This year, more than 550 contests papers were written at UHS, and students had a great time applying their problem-solving skills to tackle challenging math problems! We would like to extend special congratulations to the following students for their outstanding achievements: **Ruimian Zheng** (COMC Central Ontario Silver Award, CSMC medalist), **Xiaoxiang (Tony) Dong** (COMC Central Ontario Bronze Award, Euclid medalist), **Mengdie Yuan** (CIMC medalist), **Anna Liu** (Pascal medalist), **Yuefeng Zou** (Cayley medalist), **Henry Luo** (Fermat medalist), **Hanyu Liu** (Galois medalist) and **Frank Chen** (Hypatia medalist).

Room 242 has been a bustling place this year, with math extra help sessions held every Tuesday and Thursday, as well as the UHS Math Club meeting every Wednesday. We would like to thank over 30 students who volunteered their time after school to help other students. We would also want to thank the UHS Math Club executive team consisting of **Tony Dong, Yifan Zhang, and Ruimian Zheng**. They have done a fantastic job planning and leading activities and discussions on a variety of exciting topics, including logic and propositions, game theory, number theory, cryptography, cyclic geometry, graph theory, infinity, and more!

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the amazing teachers in the UHS Math Department this year. Their flexibility, adaptability, willingness to try new things, and dedication to putting our students first have made a significant impact on their learning. A special thank you goes to Ms. Megan Woo and Mr. Seyed Sajjadi for stepping in and doing an incredible job with their math classes this year. We wish them the best of luck in the coming year!

We would also like to congratulate Mrs. Susan Schmitt, who will be retiring in June. Throughout the 20 years at UHS, Mrs. Schmitt has made countless contributions to our school as a teacher and coach. We are grateful for everything she has done, and she will be greatly missed!

The Math Department would like to express our deepest gratitude to Mr. Wong, the Subject Head of Mathematics, for his exceptional leadership and dedication to his role this year. UHS staff and students are so grateful for your kindness and support. We look forward to seeing you back at UHS soon!

Moderns



Over the course of the semester, our language students participated in a number of engaging learning opportunities including novel studies, preparing and analyzing opinion surveys, and creating a variety of media products, including podcasts, videos, web pages and blogs.

We continue to incorporate a number of online resources into our language classes to provide authentic opportunities for students to interact with the language that they are learning. These resources have also allowed us to have students experience the vast cultural diversity of French-speaking communities around the world.

We also continue to incorporate a number of important themes and social justice issues into our curriculum this semester with materials that reflect diverse cultural backgrounds such as those of First Nations and Métis peoples, African and black Canadians, and those of Jewish heritage.

We were glad to have a section of Mandarin (Grade 10) running again this semester as we build back this program following the Covid-19 pandemic.

Our extracurricular opportunities such as field trips were still somewhat limited this year but in April, a number of our senior French students went to see two plays performed by La Troupe des Anciens, a theatre group associated with the University of Toronto. Next year, we hope to expand the number of extracurricular opportunities available to our language students, including in-school and out-of-school field trips, guest speakers, public speaking contests and a possible overnight French-immersion outdoor educational trip.

We look forward to helping students to continue their language-learning journeys next year and we wish everyone a safe and rejuvenating summer!

Music



Music Department Award Winners 2022-2023

Congratulations to everyone for an outstanding year in the Music Department. The following students were recognized for their outstanding contributions to department events at our Music Banquet celebration on June 12. Thanks to everyone for a fantastic year. Your perseverance and dedication has paid off. See you in September!

Spirit: Kenneth Chen, Kobe Chen, Aidan Cheng, Irene Dong, Michelle Jiang, Lily Jones, Kevin Leung, Helen Li, Artin Mirshahi, Mia Paunovic, Andrew Tsai, Shanthi Veerappan, Kimi Wong, Sky Yang, Tianyi Yu, Leeann Au, Joshua Camara, Anson Chan, Missy Chee, Haiqing Chen, Ruoxi Chen, Bethany Cheung, Shekinah Chisholm, Michelle Chou, Elise Chua, Anne Coutts, Sara Coutts, Frank Ding, Alice Du, Evelyn Esch, Sydnee Guglietti, Jacky Guo, Wenjia Han, Sarah He, Emily Hwang, Joanna Keng, Rosa Lai, Rosanne Lai, Mabel Lee Luo, Enoch Lee, Kellie Leung, Samuel Li, Calvin Liu, Catherine Liu, Isabella Liu, Katherine Liu, Vienna Liu, Isaac Lo, Henry Luo, Roxanne Ly, Erika Merkley, Maggie Ng, Kenny Ou, Isabella Peng, Labelle Qin, Bonnie Su, Jonathan Tan, Aria Tang, Harrison Vandikas, Carolyn Wang, Addison Wong, Aidan Wong, Cindy Wu, Kevin Xiang, Eugene Xu, George Xue, Joshua Yao, Olivia Ye, Emily Yi, Chloe Yip, Mandy Yuan, Carissa Yuen, Jane Zeng, Ariel Zhang, Tiffany Zhang, Audrey Zheng, Alexandra Zhou, Nick Zhu.

Special Recognition: Haiqing Chen, Kenneth Chen, Kobe Chen, Aidan Cheng, Kirsten Cheung, Irene Dong, Charlotte Fong, Michelle Fu, Michelle Jiang, Hanson Jim, Lily Jones, Adria Lai, Kevin Leung, Helen Li, Megan Lo, Artin Mirshahi, Averie Ni, Mia Paunovic, Andrew Poon, Jason Su, Andrew Tsai, Andreas Tsang, Vanessa Tung, Shanthi Veerappan, Kimi Wong, Eva Xie, Sky Yang, Catherine Yu, Maisie Yu, Tianyi Yu, Johnathan Zhu, Stanly Zhuang.

Leadership: Aidan Cheng, Bethany Cheung, Kavin Dhanasekaran, Irene Dong, Sydnee Guglietti, Emily Hwang, Lily Jones, Jacob Kooiman, Abigail La, Mabel Lee Luo, Enoch Lee, Helen Li, Isabelle Weirong Li, Kara Lim, Vienna Liu, Isaac Lo, Madelyn Ma, Erika Merkley, Artin Mirshahi, Maggie Ng, Mia Paunovic, Labelle Qin, Grace Song, Cynthia Tan, Andreas Tsang, Harrison Vandikas, Carolyn Wang, Aidan Wong, Sky Yang, Joshua Yao, Chloe Yip, Tianyi Yu, Carissa Yuen, Jane Zeng.

Most Improved: Joshua Camara, Missy Chee, Haiqing Chen, Jonathan Chen, Ruoxi Chen, Jacky Guo, Wenjia Han, Lily Jones, Kellie Leung, Kevin Leung, Samuel Li, Bella Liang, Calvin Liu, Vienna Liu, Roxanne Ly, Natalie Ng, Kenny Ou, Angus Pat, Labelle Qin, Atputhan Segaratnasingam, Aria Tang, Ricky Tao, Arvin Thayaparan, Samantha Tran, Harrison Vandikas, Ethan Wong, Cindy Wu, Eugene Xu, Katie Yang, Joshua Yao, Sunnie Yip, Ariel Zhang, Audrey Zheng, Nick Zhu.

Volunteer: Kelly Chen, Aidan Cheng, Michelle Chou, Sydnee Guglietti, Lily Jones, Joanna Keng, Helen Li, Mia Paunovic, Labelle Qin, Cynthia Tan, Samantha Tran, Aidan Wong, Sky Yang, Tianyi Yu, Jane Zeng, Alexandra Zhou, Stanly Zhuang

Music Graduate Awards:

MELODY ADAMS AWARD: **KAVIN DHANASEKARAN**
REAGAN GREAVETTE MEMORIAL AWARD: **EMILY HWANG**
BOB AND LONA RICHARDSON MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP: **KARA LIM**
ZAVITZ SENIOR MUSIC AWARD: **BETHANY CHEUNG**

MOST VALUABLE PERFORMER AWARDS:

CONCERT CHOIR - **Mia Paunovic**
CHAMBER CHOIR - **Emily Hwang**
CORE VOCAL - **Jacob Kooiman, Erika Merkley**
COLLABORATIVE PIANIST AWARD - **Megan Lo, Harrison Vandikas**
ARTS UNIONVILLE PIANO AWARD - **Bethany Cheung, Kavin Dhanasekaran**
SHOWTIME PIT ORCHESTRA - **Irene Dong**
AU STRING ORCHESTRA - **Kara Lim**
CORE STRING STRINGS BEGINNER - **Katie Yang**
UHS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA - **Isabelle Li**
GUITAR CLASS - **Kevin Leung, Sky Yang**
GUITAR ENSEMBLE - **Helen Li**
JAZZ ENSEMBLE - **Kobe Chen, Irene Dong**
SYMPHONIC BAND - **Artin Mirshahi**
GRADE NINE BAND - **Jonathan Chen**
WIND ENSEMBLE - **Grace Song**

Performer of the Year: Kavin Dhanasekaran

Physical Education

As this year comes to an end, the Physical and Health Education department and UHS Athletics celebrates another successful year! We offered more course sections than in the past decade. Our students were ready to get active. These courses ranged from Core classes, Fitness, Outdoor education, Kinesiology, and our grade 12 Leadership. There were very few quiet moments in the gyms or fitness room.

Athletics at Unionville continued to thrive. We offered well over 20 teams with the help from coaches in many departments. Our teams were competitive and committed to improving throughout each season. The participation numbers remain near the top of all of York Region.

Some highlights are:

OFSAA Badminton Girls Doubles Champions
YRAA champions for Rock climbing (4-years in a row)
YRAA Girls Snowboard Champions
YRAA T1 Badminton Boys Doubles Champions
YRAA T1 Badminton Boys singles

All of our Athletic achievements were celebrated at our year end Athletic Banquet. This was our first banquet in 3 years. It was amazing seeing everyone come out to celebrate such a great year. Awards were given to team MVP's and we had 6 Athletes of the Year awarded.

GO WOLVES!!



Physical Education

Science

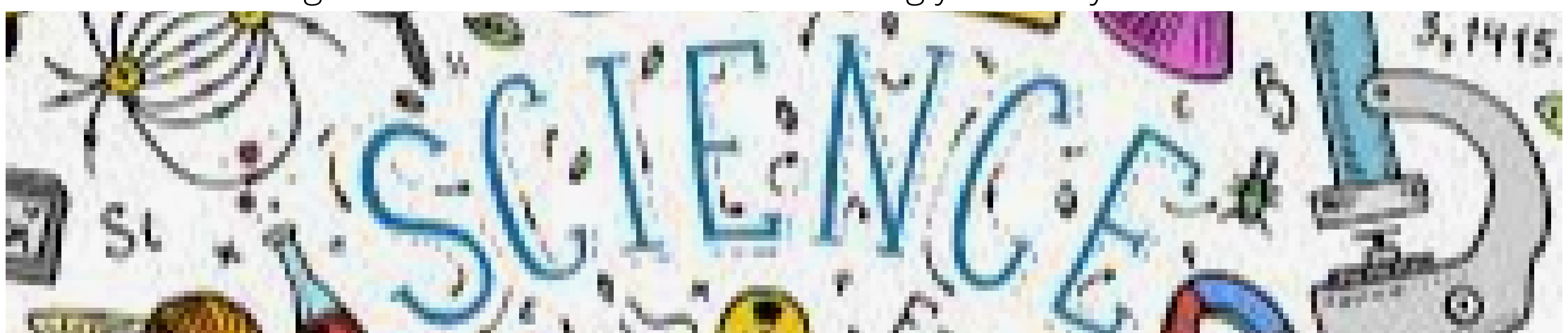
Our 2022-2023 school year has brought us back together in class and we have enjoyed a return to all of our usual class activities and more. Of special mention is a STEM event presented by the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics in March of this year. 'Inspiring Future Women in Science' brought fascinating career stories from several accomplished women in fields of science, technology, education and management to our students. Our assistant department head, Jeffrey Chan and eleven keen science students entered a research contest hosted by the Canadian Light Source, a research facility at the University of Saskatchewan. Of hundreds of entries worldwide, our UHS team was chosen as having submitted the best designed and most relevant research proposal, testing for heavy metal toxins in dyes used in the manufacture of fast fashion. Samples prepared by our team were shipped to the University's particle accelerator for cutting-edge science analysis. We, along with Mr. Chan and his team, anxiously await the results of their research.

Several science contests offered in the past were not running this year, but the University of Waterloo's Avagadro and Chem 13 News chemistry contests saw record participation at UHS this spring. Along with our numerous contestants, we had a record number of our chemists win awards. We had four Grade 11 students receive awards for the Avagadro contest and three Grade 12 students receive awards for the Chem 13 News contest. Congratulations all!

We are busy planning for the 2023-2024 school year. One exciting addition is a new Grade 12 science course, open to students who have not pursued senior science courses but want to better understand issues in health science, modern medical technologies, disease, nutritional science, public health issues and biotechnology. Science impacts all of our daily lives. This course, open to all of our students, is a welcome addition to our science course offerings.

The executive of our science club have done a wonderful job leading fun activities on Wednesdays for our many participants. Thank you on our students' behalf for all of your hard work

With a record number of students enrolled in our science courses for the next school year, a passion for science is alive and well at Unionville High School. We look forward to seeing you next year!



Special Education

Student Services:

(Teachers: M Caufield, B Serwaa, W Cao, J Parnell, J Chan, CYW: R Rayner)

Our students have demonstrated great growth and resilience this year. We continued to focus on supporting students to understand their Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and with self-advocacy so that they build those skills for transition to PostSecondary and future worklife. Students in our grade 10, 11 and 12 Learning Strategies courses worked on some practical life skills, by planning, purchasing and preparing healthy easy breakfasts and snacks in classes.

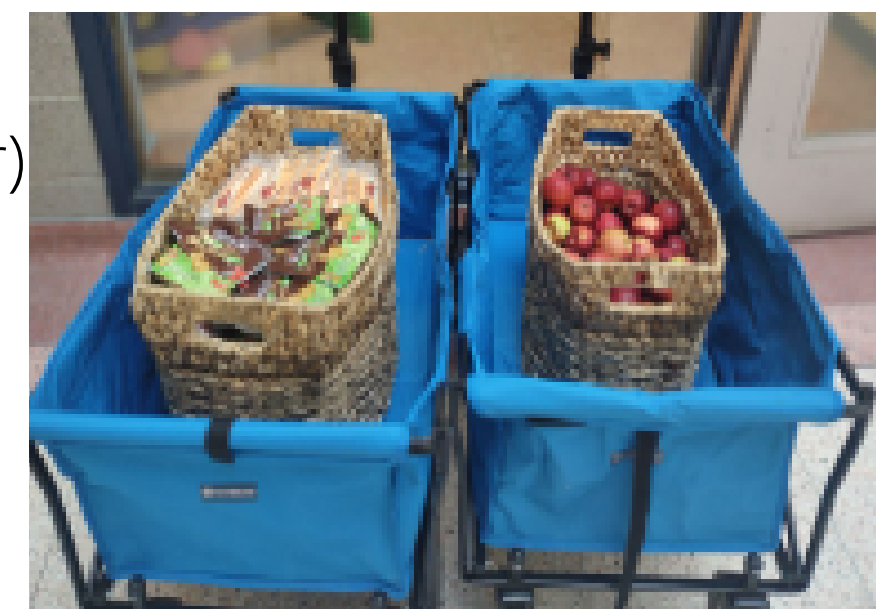


It is our hope that our Special Education students will unplug this summer, step away from their screens and devices and get some downtime so they may return to us in the fall refreshed. They deserve a break!

Life Skills Class:

(Teachers: A Boughtflower, P Manners, EAs: C Calcagno-Raffaele, C Atletico, R Rayner)

What a fantastic year it was getting back to our new normal routines! Work placements, track and field, prom, cooking, No Frills shopping trips, and Mayfair all a green light go! We were also honoured to be featured in the YRDSB Special Edition NewsLetter this year for the students' outstanding initiative with the UHS Snack Wagons! Even more fun was when other schools asked us how they could model something similar in their own schools. Yay Life Skills Class!



Autism Spectrum Disorder Class:

(Teachers: J Deluca-Kurek, W Cao, EAs: S Selvarajah, C Simpson, Liz Troyer-Lee, R Rayner)

This has been a great year for our growing class! Our students enjoyed many fun and new activities such as planting, art projects, social games, community activities, work experience, cooking and collaborating with Mrs. Boughtflower's class too. We had a special trip to No Frills to gather ingredients and make our own pizzas! Our students also had a super fun time with all our friends at our Disney-Themed Prom and Track & Field event—it was amazing! Thank you to all of our amazing teachers, staff and students for a fantastic 2022/2023 year.

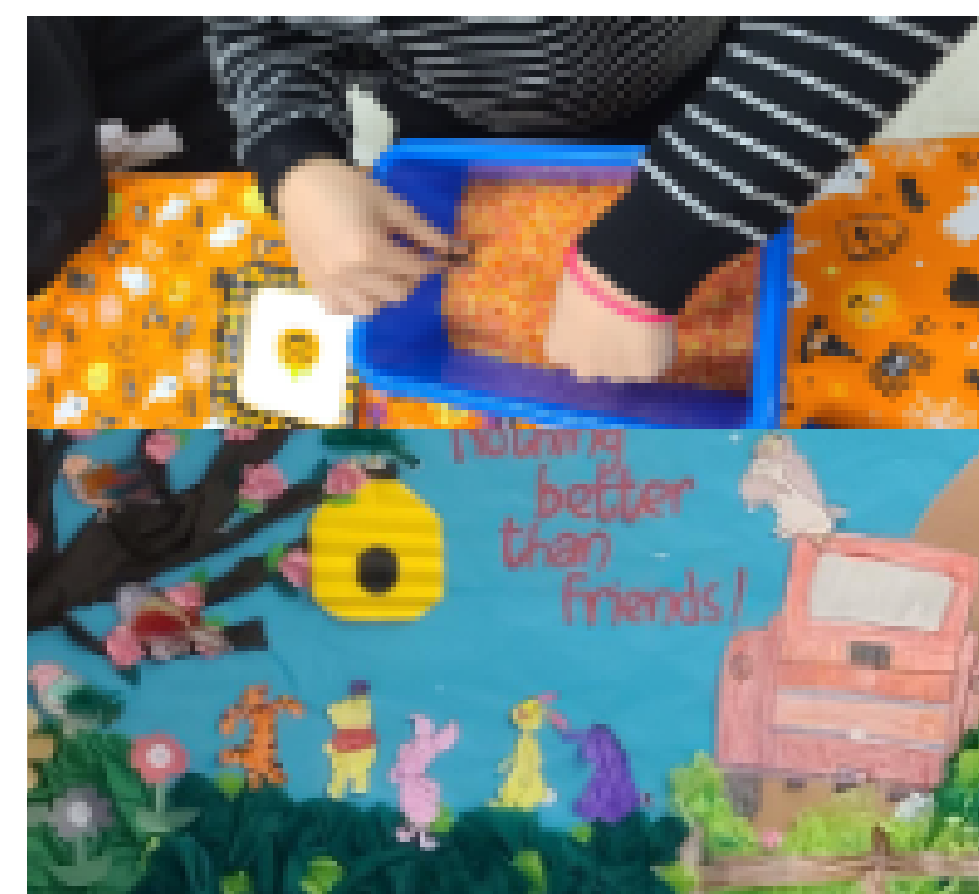
PEAK:

(Teachers: J Lethbridge, A Luborsky EAs: N Singh, J Suchoplas)

Our PEAK students and staff explored life skills, work skills and the world of work this year despite the students not being able to be in work placements.

Graduating Special Education Students:

Graduating students who are continuing onto Post Secondary in the fall should reach out to the Accessibility Services Departments at their respective Colleges and Universities, **do not wait until the fall**. Register now if they haven't already, as they will need to submit paperwork and meet with staff in order to ensure they receive accommodations right away in the fall. This website was shared with all students by their SERTs as it links directly to Accessibility Services at each Post Secondary Institutions: <https://www.transitionresourceguide.ca/>



Congratulations Grads!

Technology



Year-End Reflection: Celebrating Tech Students' Achievements!

As we bid farewell to another successful academic year, we are delighted to highlight some remarkable achievements and memorable experiences that our students have had in various Technological Education courses. It has been a year of growth, creativity, and collaboration, and we are incredibly proud of our students' accomplishments!

The enthusiasm for design and fabrication was evident in Mr. Dennis' and Ms. Lugosi's Grade 9 Exploring Technologies classes. Students learned about the design process and unleashed their creativity by fabricating their own designs using various woodworking equipment. Not only did they gain valuable hands-on experience, but they also designed, built and raced their own CO2 cars.

A small sample of the products and architecture models created by students in Ms. McMillan's and Ms. Wong's Grade 10-12 Technological Design courses are now available for viewing in the Tech Wing's display cases. Students enthusiastically embraced the realms of architectural and product design, immersing themselves in the art of utilizing the laser cutter this year!

In Mr. Layton's Grade 11 Communications Technology class, students focused on developing essential skills to self-regulate and be mindful of their mental health. By choosing their favorite movie or anime scenes, they embarked on a journey of recreating these scenes using production and post-production techniques they learned together. This creative exercise allowed them to tap into specific emotions that helped them feel better during challenging times, providing comfort and solace.

Meanwhile, in Ms. Wong's Grade 10 and Grade 11 Communications Technology courses, our students engaged in a meaningful partnership with the City of Markham. Students produced compelling video content designed for the City's social media platforms. This collaboration not only provided real-world experience but also showcased our students' talent and dedication to creating impactful media that resonate with a wider audience.

The students in Computer Technology and Engineering taught by Mr. Cho, Mr. Kotsopoulos and Mr. De Paolis have achieved remarkable successes over this past year. Some of this year's highlights included participating in various competitions and projects that showcased their skills and creativity in coding, robotics, engineering, and design. This includes attending and participating in Skills Ontario and eventually moving onto Skills Canada held in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Additionally, students also took part in the York Region Skills Challenge and the Canadian Open VRC Signature competition for VEX robotics held at the Markham Pan Am Sports Centre achieving success and developing friendships and memories. These achievements demonstrate the students' passion, talent, and innovation in the field of technology and beyond. We are proud of their accomplishments and look forward to their future endeavors going forward.

As the school year wraps up, we celebrate the resounding success of the 2022-23 yearbook. This marks the first yearbook publication since the 2019-20 school year, and it stands as a testament to the resilience and determination of our students and staff. The yearbook serves as a cherished memento of the unique memories and experiences shared throughout the academic year, and it is a true reflection of the vibrant spirit of our school community.

Lastly, we are excited to celebrate the Architecture Club students for designing a welcoming and inclusive Student Common! Their creative efforts will come to life this summer and be available to students in September. Congratulations to the visionary architects behind this project, and we eagerly anticipate the positive impact it will have on our school community!

We wish all our students and their families a restful and rejuvenating summer break. May you return in the upcoming year with renewed energy and passion as we continue to learn, design, create and build together.

Visual Arts

We are delighted to present to you the end-of-year newsletter for the Visual Arts Department at Unionville High School. It has been an exceptional year filled with creativity, exploration, and remarkable achievements by our talented students. From Grade 9 to Grade 12, our artists have embarked on a journey of self-expression and growth, honing their skills in various artistic disciplines. We are immensely proud of their dedication and artistic prowess showcased throughout the year.



The Grade 9 Open course commenced with an engaging exploration of the principles of design. Students delved into the world of geometrical patterns, symmetry, and the captivating chiaroscuro technique. Through magnified mechanical drawings, they honed their skills in capturing light and shadow, resulting in astonishingly realistic artwork. Moving forward, they dived into the realm of art history, crafting stunning Egyptian masks adorned with ancient symbols and vibrant acrylic paint. Clay pottery was another highlight, with students proudly creating their very first clay vases, enriched with Greek patterns and designs. Finally, their creative journey reached its zenith as they beautifully depicted the landscapes of Canada from coast to coast using pastels. We commend all the students for their hard work and exceptional artistry throughout the semester.

In Grade 10, our Arts Unionville students had the unique opportunity to translate their Unionville House perspective drawings into fused glass modular forms. Under the guidance of Melanie Kidd from Glasstronomy Studios, our students engaged in this fascinating project, resulting in awe-inspiring glass architectural works. We are thrilled to announce that these magnificent creations will be exhibited at the Fred Varley Art Gallery until June 16th. Additionally, our Grade 10 AU students demonstrated their compassion and global perspective by participating in the Memory Project. Through their watercolor portraits, they provided meaningful mementos to 28 youth in India who have faced significant challenges. This act of kindness connected our students with children across the world, fostering a powerful exchange of art and empathy.

Collaboration took center stage for our Grade 12 AU students as they partnered with Kingdom Development to design a remarkable 700-foot vinyl-wrapped mural. This vibrant artwork, adorning the construction site's hoarding along Hwy 7, beautifully captures the diverse population and personalities of Markham. The students skillfully depicted different ages, interests, positive interactions, and daily activities within our community through whimsical and lively original character designs. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Kingdom Development and Councilor Reid McAlpine for their support and dedication to this community-based project. Look forward to the installation of this captivating mural in July.

The year culminated with the Art Show Jazz café, where student artwork from the Core and AU visual arts programs took center stage. The event delighted participants as they witnessed twelve teams of two student painters creating original acrylic paintings accompanied by live music. We express our gratitude to the Music Department and the talented students who shared their musical gifts, providing a delightful ambiance throughout the show.

Furthermore, our students had the privilege of participating in various workshops and field trips, enhancing their artistic skills and expanding their horizons. From exploring Kent Monkman's works at the ROM to immersing themselves in fused glass jewelry workshops, metal clay workshops, and field studies in Main Street Unionville, our students embraced every opportunity to grow as artists.

We are also excited to announce an upcoming community-driven exhibit in collaboration with Markham Museum and the York Region District School Board Museum & Archives. "Standing In the Doorway: Lived Histories and Experiences of the Chinese Community" will celebrate the resilience and perseverance of York Region's Chinese Canadians. Our Visual Art students were invited to create illustrations and graphics that will be integrated into the exhibit's display boards, signage, and corresponding website. This remarkable exhibition will open its doors in September 2023.

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY SUMMER BREAK!

