



UHS News

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Maureen Weaver, Principal

Website www.yrdsb.ca/schools/unionville.hs

June 2015

Message from our Trustee—Billy Pang

As the 2014-15 school year winds down, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize our parents and guardians for their ongoing support of our students throughout the year. We know that parents are our most important partners when it comes to educating your children. Good schools become better schools when they are connected with parents and families.

During the year, I hope you have had the opportunity to enjoy some of the many student performances, sporting events and cultural celebrations that take place in schools across our region. These events would not take place without the support of our school staff. I would like to thank the staff for their work to support student achievement and well-being.

Summer is a great time to relax and pursue hobbies or activities that complement the learning that took place over the school year. Whether you visit a museum, enjoy nature or just catch up on some summer reading, I wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable summer.

Inspire Learning!

Farewells...

We would like to say thanks, and extend best wishes to, Vice Principal Vincent Chow; teachers; Nathan Struck, Michelle Park, Freeyon Chung, Rupali Bhatt, Anna DeLorenzo, Tudor Cacenco, Tina Baghdadassarians, Rina Prasad, Shallu Sharma, Nancy Brown, support staff; Susan Vlachopoulos, Michelle Munro, Lindsay Stockert & Nellie Simtikidis.

All the best to Rita Riolo as she begins her maternity leave.

Happy Retirement...

Very warm wishes for a Happy Retirement to Don Carmichael, Sally Philipson, Sal Graziano & Robert Leonard.

Welcome...

We are pleased to welcome Sonya Borrell as Vice Principal, Scott Wilson as Head of Health and Physical Education & Gabrielle McGill as Interim Head of Guidance.

Welcome Back...

We are happy to welcome back Natalie Dummont, Nancy Wong, Kim Beneteau, Melisaa Caufield, Zafirah Damji & Kat Paunovic.



Each semester UHS provides learning opportunities that enrich students' learning and provide support for their success. Throughout this newsletter you will read about the various subject based opportunities in which students

have attained new knowledge, developed new skills, and created new perspectives. After reading the newsletter I am sure that you will agree that all subject area learning and experiences have benefitted our students this year, and have prepared them well for their future.

In June, 377 UHS students graduated, many recognized with honours standings, special awards, and certifications, and all were acknowledged for their years of commitment and perseverance needed to earn their high school diploma. UHS has provided a strong academic foundation for our students, by continuously adapting our school's curriculum to meet an ever-changing global society. Our graduates are well prepared to participate, to contribute, to take on new and demanding challenges.

Each day our students demonstrate their willingness to learn and to take on challenges both in the classroom and through extra-curricular activities. UHS students take the initiative to participate in one or more of the 30 clubs and committees that reach out to support UHS and the school community. Led by a strong student council, with co-presidents, Mary Zhao and Victoria Li, students this year built meaningful relationships through fun and engaging social activities.

Working always to build positive relationships with parents and guardians of our students is our school council. The UHS school council has focused on the well-being of our students by creating opportunities throughout the school year for parents and guardians to be informed and involved. I would like to thank the executive members who gave of their time to attend regularly and participate in the discussions. Sandra Allen, our school council chair, deserves special thanks for her commitment for the past three years to the council and to the school. Our school council invites all parents and guardians to join them in 2015-2016!

On behalf of the teaching staff, support staff, and Vice-Principals, Vincent Chow and Krista Pummell, I would like to wish all of you a safe and enjoyable summer.

Maureen Weaver
Principal

Pan Am

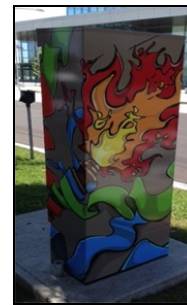
The Pan Am and Heritage themed public art collaborative between the City of Markham and the grade 9 and 12 AU classes was highly successful. The Director of Culture and the Public Art Coordinator were so impressed with the quality of the designs that the scope of the project was increased from producing three designs to eight. These works have been installed around the Pan Am Centre and throughout the City of Markham. Students who participated in the project were recognized by the Mayor at the Markham Theatre's Pan Am and Global Fest celebration on Wednesday June 17th.



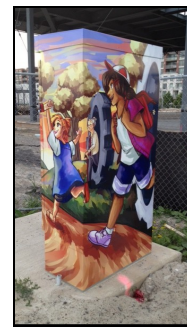
Artist: Abbie Siu
*Crosswalk Designs



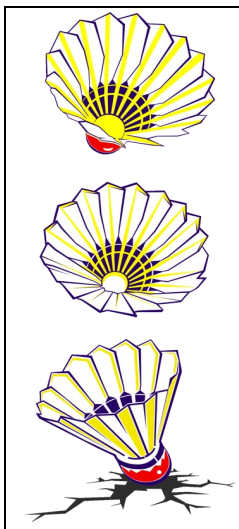
Artist:
Joyce Liu



Artists:
Jeremy Chan
Jimmy Hung



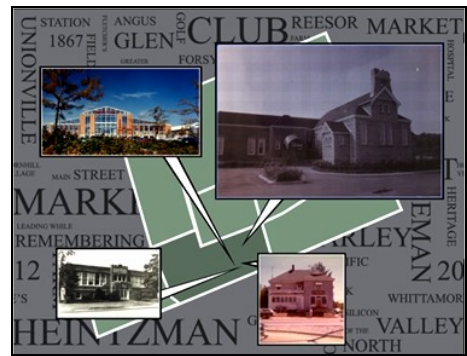
Artist:
Karen Lee



Artist: Yuki Cao &
Nancy Yuan
* Street Designs



Artist: Mitsuki Zhang



Artist: Christopher Chiu
*This traffic box wrap is one of four map designs created by Christopher

Visual Arts

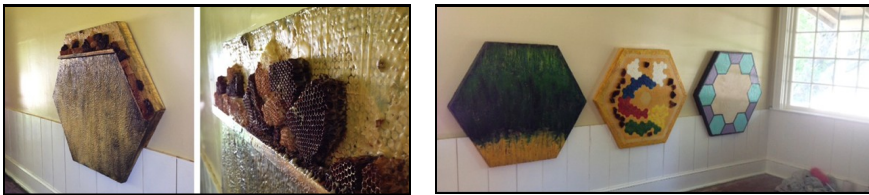
Second semester proved to be busy and productive for all students and staff in our Visual Arts Department! The Arts Unionville collaborative, Alchemy, was an exciting beginning to second semester. Grade 9 Arts Unionville students, by popular demand, created a new sand drawing set to live music. Mr. Papa's grade 11 Arts Unionville class created five large drums that the music students played on stage accompanied by drama and dance students. The Alchemy show was well received and established a framework for future collaborative productions and the energy for second semester.

Another exciting community initiative was the Honey House restoration project located at the Markham Museum. Early second semester our grade 11 Media Arts class received an \$8,500 grant from the Ministry of Education to design and build an interactive artwork communicating the relationship between bees, the environment, and our society. The artwork will be installed this summer; an unveiling is tentatively scheduled for September. This project connected various community partners who shared their learning, expertise and resources with our students: Markham Museum, York Universities' Packer Lab, and Karen McKenna (beekeeper).



Media Arts students have designed interactive artworks for the Honey House (above) as part of the Honey House restoration project.

Through the design process students explored various technologies: Photoshop, Illustrator, Flash animation, augmented reality, Little Bits, Makey Makeys, video projections and 3D printing, in addition to sound recording and editing. Inspired by bees, students learned it was possible to paint using melted beeswax. This process is called encaustics. Engaged by this idea, a two-day encaustics workshop led by encaustics artist Laura Culic was arranged and hosted at the Markham Museum.



Four of the six encaustic panels, without their Plexiglas components, arranged in the Honey House.

The student's created six amazing encaustic works, each four feet by four feet, over two days. The students designed their interactive components to be integrated with their encaustic artworks. They will be printed on transparent plexiglas and overlaid on top of the encaustic artworks separated by four inch spacer bolts.

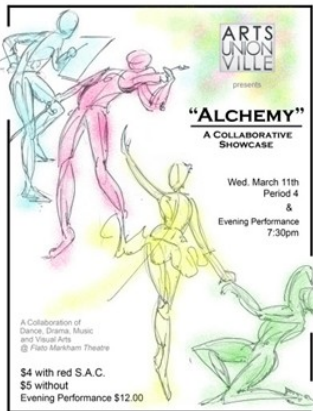
The grade 10 photography class had the opportunity to visit some of the residents at the Unionville Homes Society where they were able to talk to the residents and take their photograph. Our photography students took portraits of the seniors, edited them back at school, and then these portraits were displayed alongside the artwork created by the Unionville Homes residents. The Unionville Homes Society held their annual art show at the end of May. Both students and seniors enjoyed this opportunity and we look forward to collaborating with them further in the future.

Eight students from William Berczy's photography club were invited to come into a grade 11/12 photography class where our senior students had the opportunity to show how photograms are created and how the darkroom operates. The senior photography students demonstrated great leadership as they enthusiastically mentored the elementary students through the photography process.

We're excited to report that a Visual Arts and Modern Languages international trip to Paris and Rome has been approved for the 2016 March Break. Currently, thirty-one students are enrolled. If you are a student enrolled in a Visual Art or a Modern Languages course for the 2015/2016 school year, and are interested in attending this trip, review the trip's itinerary and sign up while space is still available. Please direct questions to Mr. Clodd (Visual Arts Dept. Head) shane.clodd@ydsb.ca. To view the trip's itinerary click on the below link: <http://www.eftours.ca/1702219DX>

On behalf of the Visual Arts dept. we wish to thank the parents and guardians for their support and encouragement in all of our department's artistic endeavours throughout the school year. We hope everyone has a safe summer full of creative adventures. We look forward to your continued support next year.

Dance



Our semester began with preparation for our Arts Integrated performance “Alchemy”. All of our grade levels worked tirelessly to build innovative work with other Arts Unionville departments for what was presented at the beginning of March at Flato Markham Theatre. The show was a huge success and the audience was left impressed with the high ranking talent we have here at UHS. It was such a valuable experience for our students to work in collaboration in a cross-disciplinary manner with the resources we have available within our school.

Shortly after our “Alchemy” performance, preparations began for “Dance Highlights 2015”. On May 13th, our dancers graced the stage at Flato Markham Theatre hosting an elementary show performance, a UHS student matinee, as well as an evening performance for family and friends. The show highlighted work from students, staff, and guest artists including Stephanie Bergeron, Patrizia Ferlisi, Ryan Lee, and Tori Mehaffey. The show was once again a huge success and we were so impressed with the professionalism and talent of our students. Congratulations!



This semester we also had the opportunity to attend The Russian National Ballet Theatre’s performance of “Cinderella”. Seeing live professional work is a huge asset to our program as students develop the critical lens and thinking skills required for thought analysis in the arts. This performance offered students an alternate take on a well-known beloved classic. It is always so interesting to see various interpretations of work. It was a lovely afternoon at the theatre.

Dance
Unionville HS

Family Studies



York Region
Children's Aid Society

Students in Family Studies courses continue to be challenged to think about personal choices and how they impact themselves and the world around them within the areas of food, family, and fashion. Community partners shared their expertise on issues of hunger and food sustainability; healthy personal relationships; and society's role in keeping children safe.

In addition to sewing skirts and shorts, fashion students developed awareness of issues of ethics and environmental responsibility in the production and marketing of fashion products. Their reuse/recycling projects, which required all materials to be from existing clothing, were innovative and fun.

Culinary skills were honed and safety rules practised in food labs as students prepared culturally diverse foods, and family friendly meals. Kids can cook!

Thanks to Ms DiLorenzo, an enthusiastic member of the Family Studies Department this year, who will be leaving UHS. We will be welcoming back Ms Damji from maternity leave in the fall.

Music

Congratulations to all members of the Music Department for another fantastic year. The following students were recognized for their outstanding contributions at our annual Music Awards Banquet.

Special Recognition: Dilshan Anandarajan, Gloria Chang, Wesley Hui, Gretchen Lee, Mathew Ko, Andy Liu, Darren Mak, Cameron Ting, Derek Xu, Michelle Ng, Anabelle Ng, Darryl Lee, Joseph Diao, Bruce Luo, Eric Luo, Jasper Choi, Diane Huang, Rosa Alaimo, Leland Cheung, Cyrus Ng, Kevin Chan

Spirit: Ryan Quong, Charissa Lansing, Alice Li, Stella Chen, Cindy Ko, Katie Hatanaka, Alexandra Ma, Daniel Velyvis, Jasmine Yeung, Alison Yip, Lashai Martin, Kristyn Felushko, Diana Yang, Gretchen Lee, Katherine Inglis, Jessica Ho, Tina Huang, Isaac Kolbiens, Joanne Leung, Alex Liu, Yi Ling Soh, Catherine Wang, Tommy Xia, Leanna Anandarajan, Kate Hatanaka, Daniel Velyvis, Joelle Wong, Greg Barrett, Claire Lu, Rachael Chan, Anabelle Ng

Most Improved: Owie Wong, Ting Fung Lau, Tyler Tsao, Isaac Kolbiens, Alex Liu, Stella Chen

Leadership: Jasper Choi, Melissa Feather, Gloria Chang, Chloe Cheng, Joseph Diao, Cindy Luo, Darren Mak, Jane Tong, Charis Wong, Owie Wong, Jesse Wu, Wesley Hui, Joey Chan, Ethan Cheng, Manuel Lok, Alexandra Ma, Rachel Lai, Victoria Gallant

Tri-M AWARD: ALISSA KONG

MELODY ADAMS AWARD: CHARISSA VANDIKAS

REAGAN GREAVETTE MEMORIAL AWARD: CHARIS WONG

ZAVITZ SENIOR MUSIC AWARD: DARREN MAK

MOST VALUABLE PERFORMER AWARDS -

CONCERT CHOIR : MELISSA FEATHER

CHAMBER CHOIR : TIFFANIE SAMUELS

COLLABORATIVE PIANIST AWARD: LI QUAN SOH

ARTS UNIONVILLE PIANO AWARD: CHARISSA VANDIKAS

PERIOD 4 VOCAL CLASS: MANUEL LOK

ARTS UNIONVILLE STRING: BRENDAN RUAN

SHOWTIME PIT ORCHESTRA: CYRUS NG,

TERENCE CHAN, JASPER CHOI

GRADE NINE BAND: ALEX GAN AND DARRYL LEE

SYMPHONIC BAND: GRACE KIM

UHS CHAMBER WINDS: IAN FONG

WIND ENSEMBLE: KATHERINE MAO

Performer of the Year:

DARREN MAK AND CHARISSA VANDIKAS

Drama

The Drama Department has had another very busy and exciting semester!

Our students have continued to demonstrate their enthusiasm, dedication and skills through their excellent performances. We have had a wide variety of opportunities for our students this semester both inside our classrooms as well as public performances. Students have continued to show their commitment and talent through their work in mask, improvisation, Clown, as well as modern scenes and monologue performances.

Thank you to all our families and students for their hard work and support of the UHS Drama Department.



Phys Ed

A number of athletic activities concluded during the months of May and June.

Unionville's Girls' Slo-Pitch, Girls' Soccer, Ultimate, and Track & Field teams enjoyed successful spring seasons competing against other YRAA schools from across York Region. Thank you to coaches Crowther, Sanchez, Papa, Wozniak, Hunt, Park, Dietrich, McCaffrey, and Kotsopoulos for volunteering their time to mentor these athletes.



UHS staff and students competed in an intramural spring basketball league during the month of May. This co-ed competition took place in the mornings before class and after school. This year's champions were the teachers!

Appreciation is extended to Venket Ravivarma for organizing the event.

In September UHS will welcome Mr. Scott Wilson to the teaching faculty. Mr. Wilson will be the new Department Head of Health and Physical Education, as well as the Athletic Director. Welcome Scott!

Terry Fox Run

The Unionville High School community has enjoyed a tradition of charitable giving throughout its history. Since the school's opening, staff and students have generously supported the Terry Fox Foundation. Money raised through the Terry Fox Walk & Run has been used to support cancer research. To date, our donations total in the thousands of dollars.

The 2015 Terry Fox Run will be held on Wednesday, September 30th. A barbeque for participants will follow this fundraising event. Students may participate for a cost of ten dollars. Sign up at Registration or the week prior to the event!



Library



We are most fortunate to have the help of many students who volunteer time in the library; we rely on these volunteers to shelve books and assist at the circulation desk. Many of these students have been working with us since grade nine and are now graduating; we thank them for the time, effort and commitment over the years; best wishes to all our graduating volunteers as you continue your studies. Congratulations to **VANISHA HIRA** who is the recipient of the Library Volunteer award this year. Vanisha donated many hours of time throughout her high school career and was an exceptional volunteer.

WHITE PINE

We have just finished another successful year of the White Pine Reading Club. Many thanks to our student leader **LILIA HOUSER** who led the group so ably; we will miss you and wish you all the best as you enter university in the fall. White Pine begins again in October 2015--listen for announcements and check the library bulletin board and website for meeting dates.



As always, we have been busy all year teaching a wide variety of classes; I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleague and fellow teacher-librarian, **MS. LAWTON**, for her expertise and commitment to all aspects of the library program here at U.H.S.



KEEP READING!

We wish everyone a relaxing summer break and look forward to seeing you in September. Until then, visit your local library or bookstore for reading material—and if you read something fantastic this summer, come let us know in the fall!



English

Creativity and imagination have been identified by education professor Michael Fullan as key skills for students to develop for future success. (*A Rich Seam*, 22) This semester students in the English department have had many opportunities to develop these skills.

Our grade 9 classes, once again, attended a performance of *Romeo and Juliet* by Classical Theatre Project at the Toronto Centre for the Arts. The grade 10 students had Shakespeare come to them with a series of in-school workshops led by guest artists from *Shakespeare in Action*. Several



grade 11 classes attended a screening of *Selma* and hosted a guest speaker from the Canadian Civil Liberties Association to support their novel study. In addition, grade 11 students also created their own film adaptations of various modern plays, showcasing their creativity and critical thinking skills. In May, the grade 11C students went on a field trip to Graffiti Alley and other downtown locations to find material for a creative writing assignment. Finally, in grade 12 the students demonstrated their deep learning about Shakespearean drama through their own original songs, artwork, creative writing and dramatic performances.

In late April, a lunch-time reading of student work was organized. Also, three members of the department acted as staff advisors for the student magazine *expression*, a collection of student writing and artwork that was published late in May.

We wish everyone an enjoyable summer and hope you continue to develop your creative voice.

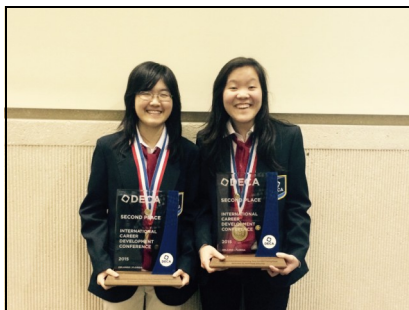
Business

Students Take Care of Business

The UHS Business Department had an exciting spring, both inside and outside the classroom. Our team of business teachers worked hard to make connections between classes and the world of business, including interviews with business leaders at their workplaces, field trips to examine current consumer trends and marketing strategies at the Canadian International Auto Show, and networking with the Chartered Accountants of Ontario at the No Limits Conference. 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's business students continue to excel academically through their hard work, but they also excel in contests outside of regular class activities.

Due to a very strong performance in the Provincial Championships and the support of Ms. Rine and Ms. Sloan, Unionville's DECA chapter earned 10 spots at the DECA International Career Development Conference competition in sunny Orlando. Even though they faced thousands of competitors from all over the USA and the world, our team had a very strong performance. Congratulations to Eason Gao for making it to the finals, Diana Huang and Judy Song for their top 10 finish, and to Angela Tan and Jocelyn Lee who placed 2nd overall in their category, way to go team!



Thanks business students for a great year!

Moderns

The FSL & International Languages Department at UHS has had another very busy & exciting semester as all of our classes engaged in several linguistically & culturally enriching activities.

We kicked off the semester with a French-immersion skiing/snowboarding trip to St. Donat, QC as Mr. Lansing accompanied 13 of our language students as they participated in many outdoor and indoor activities while learning about Québécois culture over 4 packed days.

Next up in late February and early March were 2 trips down to the Bloor Hot-Docs Cinema to see two different French films as part of the French-language film festival *Cinéfranco* in which many of our French students across all grade levels participated.

Ms. Suzanne Lefebvre or *Chef à l'École* was back at the end of March to do a baking workshop with 4 periods of Grade 9 students while over 40 grade 9/10 French students enjoyed an authentic French lunch at Café Crêpe downtown in May.

As a culminating project, the grade 11 Mandarin class researched and presented on a profession of interest to them while the grade 12 class compared and contrasted two variety shows currently airing in China. Our grade 12 French students presented an important historical Francophone figure as a culminating assignment.

We were also able to put plans in place with the Visual Art department for a 9-day international European tour to Italy and France over the March Break in 2016 when we will visit Paris, Milan, Florence & Rome. Over 30 students have enrolled on this tour but spots are still available!

Visit eftours.ca/enroll and enter tour # **1702219DX** for more information.



Science

Contest Winners!

Congratulations to all our future scientists that enthusiastically braved the challenges of the Science Competitions offered this year at UHS this year. Our students made us proud. Amongst our high achievers are...

In Physics...

- **Cody Xu**, who placed in the 96th percentile, and **Shahin Jafari**, who placed in the 80th percentile, in the Sir Issac Newton Contest (Grade 12 Physics contest)

In Chemistry...

- **Zijian Wei** and **Shahin Jafari**, who both placed in the 95th percentile, in the Waterloo Chem 13 News Competition (Grade 12 Chemistry contest)
- **Zeyu Guan**, who both placed in the 90th percentile in the Waterloo Avogadro Competition (Grade 11 Chemistry contest)

In Biology...

- **Claire Zhou**, who is our top student in of U of T biology contest

In YRDSB Science Olympics...

UHS won 3rd place in overall combined score in junior and 2nd place in overall physics. Congratulation to the Science Olympics team (The picture on the right taken during the science competition)



Other News

The science department is pleased to welcome back Ms. N. Wong returning from her parental leave. We also want to give Mr. Cacenco our best wishes for his next assignment.

Finally, we want to wish our graduating students success in all their future endeavours and, to all our UHS students, a safe and happy summer with their families.

Math

Congratulations to all students. Medals for the top award winners along with Certificates of Distinction or Participation will be included with your report card. If any are missing please see Mr. Wozniak when school resumes.

Top UHS math contest students:

Canadian Math Open – Zijian Wei, Joseph Diao and Cody Xu.

Canadian Senior (CSMC) – Cody Xu, Zijian Wei, Ang Li, Nicole Sheng, Wenbo Liu, Yang Qin, and Yun Xu.

Canadian Intermediate (CIMC) – Henry Yue, Bill Shu, and Linda Deng

American Math Contest 12 (AMC12) – Joseph Diao, Zijian Wei, and Cody Xu.

American Math Contest 10 (AMC10) – Yue Weng, Bill Shu, and Timothy Kwan.

AIME II – Joseph Diao, Zijian Wei, Cody Xu and Yue Weng.

USAJMO – Yue Weng

Pascal – Linda Deng, Alex Gan, and Darryl Wu.
Fryer – Michael Jiang, Lina Lam, Bill Zeng, Joshua Chan, and Linda Deng.

Cayley – Yijin Kang, Sofia Fong, and Michael Zheng.

Galois – Lucille Huang, Sarah Zhao, Sofia Fong, and Katherine Mao.

Fermat – Yiqian He, Weixi Zhuo, and Joseph Diao.
Hypatia – Yue Weng, Shawn Li, Joseph Diao.

Euclid – Zijian Wei, Joseph Diao, and Wenxuan Liu.

Have a great summer!

History



The History Department is very excited to announce our trip to Vimy Centennial 2017. In April 2017, students from across Canada will be participating in ceremonies to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge and UHS will be part of this once in a lifetime experience. Vimy Ridge holds an iconic place in Canadian history.

After his participation in this battle, Brigadier General A.E. Ross wrote, **"In those few minutes I witnessed the birth of a nation."** 2017 also marks the sesquicentennial anniversary of Confederation.

The federal government is planning a series of events marking this important anniversary which will begin at Vimy in April 2017. UHS students are encouraged to sign up for this historic opportunity in September to make sure they secure a spot on this extraordinary international trip.



Geography

We have had a fantastic year in geography at UHS!

In May, the grade 9 geography classes hiked 8 km along the Niagara Escarpment where we explored the natural features of a preserved space. We learned about our natural landscapes and how humans interact and can impact this space. This semester, students worked extremely hard on their scrapbook assignments in which students investigated and analyzed a city in Canada. Students also worked on an urban design project together in groups and had an opportunity to develop a "livable city" through considering themes such as transportation, infrastructure, urban design, land use and environment. We would like to thank members of The City of Markham's Planning and Development Services Department who shared their time and expertise with our design teams as they presented their innovative ideas.

In grade 12 world issues we spent the semester investigating issues through inquiry based learning. Students asked questions, investigated through research and presented their findings. Together we took risks by learning new content through inquiry and weekly evaluated conversations.

This year we will be saying farewell to Mr. Graziano and Mrs. Brown:

Mrs. Nancy Brown has been with us since January but will be returning to Bayview Secondary School in the fall. Thank you for your hard work and dedication this semester. We wish you all the best.

Mr. Salvatore Graziano is retiring after 30 years of service. Mr. Graziano joined the UHS faculty in 1986 and has been a teacher with the York Region District School Board since 1985. Over the years Mr. Graziano has been actively involved in the UHS community as he has worked in the departments of geography, business, and co-op, coached the hockey team and planned numerous international trips to Costa Rica, Italy and Greece. Mr. Graziano's presence will be missed among the UHS hallways. We wish you all the best in your retirement as you plan to spend time with your family at your new home.

Co-op



U.H.S. CO-OP STUDENTS HAVE A BRIGHT FUTURE!!

Co-operative Education provides an opportunity for students to earn high school credits and gain valuable experience by exploring a potential career choice.

This semester, Unionville High School students explored careers in areas including: physiotherapy, architecture, engineering, photography, accounting and finance, teaching, day care, pharmacy, public relations, graphic design, web design, medicine, optometry, human resources, computer programming, IT, marketing, urban planning, by-law enforcement, veterinary medicine, personal fitness, and event planning. During our in-school sessions, we heard from guest speakers about the value of experience and networking; we explored the valuable library data base resources; and we discussed a wide variety of world of work related topics.



We congratulate our students for choosing to experience a potential career and give themselves an educational and future advantage by choosing co-op. They are now better prepared, and their co-op experience will enhance both their resumes and their post-secondary applications. Huge thanks go out to our community partners for their continuing support of our students, our school, and our program.

Next school year looks just as rewarding. Our program has grown significantly, and we look forward to another tremendous semester thanks to the enthusiasm of our students and the support of our community.

Feel free to contact the Co-op Department at 905-479-2787, Ext. 220, or speak with a counsellor in the Guidance department for more information about our program for your student. Should you or someone you know be in a business position to offer a placement experience to one of our students, contact us so that we can begin a community partnership that will be of benefit to our students and you.



Technology

The Technical studies department wrapped up another award winning year in 2015 with a Bronze medal in the Ontario Skills Competition and Silver medal and an Honourable Mention in the National High School Design Competition.

Karen Lee and Rose Li teamed up in the 3D animation category to take the Bronze at the May Canada Skills contest held in Kitchener. They were part of a strong, 12 student, UHS team that had won their categories earlier in the York Regional Competition.

UHS represented York Region in 3D Animation, 2D Animation, Photography, Architectural design, Robotics and Control Systems and Fashion Design. Meanwhile Miranda Gong won 2nd place in the senior Industrial Design category for her student chair design at the Design Exchange's (DX) Sears National High School Design Competition and Angela Lau took home an Honourable Mention in the Senior Architectural Design section.



The DX competition is a national contest with entries coming from all over Canada and recognition there is a huge honour. Winning entries are now on display at the DX's downtown Toronto gallery, located in the former Toronto Stock Exchange.

Guidance Services

Ms. Philippson is Retiring



Our Guidance Department will say a fond farewell to Ms. Philippson at the end of June as she is retiring from 27 years of teaching with the York Region District School Board. As Department Head of Guidance, she has truly been the engine that runs our school and her presence will surely be missed. Ms. Philippson has plans to travel, work part-time perhaps in a volunteer setting and basically enjoy not having to fight traffic every morning to start her day. We hope to see her return for our many Unionville events. We wish her all the best with her future endeavours!

Ms. Riolo will be on Maternity Leave

Congratulations go out to Ms. Riolo who will be leaving us for a year to be with her new baby daughter who is expected to arrive in the Fall. We wish her all the best in spending time with her growing family!



Financial Planning Presentation

On April 8th, our department hosted a presentation for students related to post-secondary financial assistance. The workshop was very well attended by graduating students wanting to know more about funding their post-secondary education. Thank you Ms. Riolo, Mr. Robichaud and Ms. Philippson for providing this much needed session! Further information can be obtained at: www.osap.gov.on.ca.

Post-Secondary Pathways

Unionville High School will be hosting this event on Thursday October 1st. It will begin at 6:30 pm. More information to follow in September!



Exam Tips and Strategies Workshop

There will be an exam preparation workshop for our grade 9 students on Wednesday, November 18th during Period 3 - be sure to mark it in your calendar!

Community Involvement Hours

Our students have been very busy completing their 40 hours of required community volunteer hours – and then some! Students are required to submit their volunteer sheets to Guidance for approval before they commence their activity. Many opportunities are posted on our bulletin boards and more information is available on the board's website at: www.yrdsb.ca/communityinvolvement.

Want to learn more about **college** and **university** programs? Choose to visit one or both of these fairs.

The Ontario Universities' Fair 2015

September 25-27

Metro Convention Centre – Toronto

www.electronicinfo.ca

The Ontario College Information Fair 2015

October 19, 20

Direct Energy Centre – Toronto

www.ontariocollege.ca

Students should stay current by checking the Guidance Moodle regularly!

www.moodle2.yrdsb.ca

Username: UHS student number

Password: student UHS login

Search UHS Guidance

Check **often** for new information!!

Special Education

It is hard to believe the school year is almost over! This semester many students took advantage of our Resource room for extra support and a quiet place to work. Our grade nines have adapted well to high school life and continue to work in a positive and co-operative manner with our support staff and special education resource teachers. Many are now demonstrating good self advocacy skills. The grade tens were engaged in inquiry based learning including preparing for the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test while the grade elevens researched their course selections for grade 12 and also began planning ahead for their transition from high school. In grade twelve the students were given direction and guidance in researching choices of universities, colleges and the work place. They also had assistance in completing their applications and resumes.

We look forward to continuing our journey together in the following school year and wish our graduating students all the best in their future endeavours.

What a year it has been for the Lifeskills class in Room 313! UHS has once again been amazing at supporting our fundraisers and helped us to raise over \$250 this year between Hoop it up, Mayfair, and the Breakfast Cafe. We have been out in our community sharing all the wonderful things that Markham has to offer and learning along the way. We congratulate 4 students who are moving on to their next journey and welcome our new students in September 2015! Have a happy and safe summer!

ESL

The students in the English as a Second Language program participated in a wide variety of fun activities this semester. We attended dance, music and drama shows performed by our own UHS Arts Unionville students and the International Dance Day at the Flato Markham Theatre. In February, we had a pancake breakfast with maple syrup to celebrate Shrove Tuesday. Our students went downtown Toronto to the Hockey



Hall of Fame where they watched a 3D film and played interactive games. We saw a production of *Tagged* at Young People's Theatre to teach the students about the importance of online responsibility. A police officer talked to the students about cyberbullying. Pastor Jackson spoke to the students about his immigrant experience. A speaker from Seneca College presented information on the different educational pathways available to students. Representatives from the Immigrant Youth Centre shared information about their spring programming with us. We took our level A and B English Language Learners to Cora's for breakfast followed by a trip to the Angus Glen Library for an orientation, tennis, badminton and basket-



ball for team building activities. As part of our school wellness initiative, the students participated in yoga workshops. We saw the IMAX movie "Island of Lemurs" and played with the interactive exhibits on the brain at the Ontario Science Centre. We studied North American animals on our visit to the Toronto Zoo. The year ended with an ensemble performance by the fusion music group Sound of Dragon, playing Chinese and western instruments.

As well, we had a number of clubs for the students to join. We had the NOW leaders run monthly socials that included all UHS students. There was basketball, table tennis, or badminton on Thursdays. The Mandarin Club, English Conversation Circle and After School Literacy program were available to support the social and academic needs of our students. We always encouraged our students to practice their English skills by volunteering as tutors in UHS classes.

We look forward to welcoming more VISA students this coming school year. This summer we will be running the Newcomer Orientation Week program again at Unionville H.S. It is with sadness that we say good-bye to Mrs. Brown. Her contribution to the ESL A/B program was much appreciated. We wish her all the best in her future classrooms. Next semester we welcome Ms. Boase and Mrs. Salloum to the ESL Department.