

# THE AMITY TRIDENT

LXXIV-No. 8

Amity Regional High School

Woodbridge, CT 06525

June 7, 2019

## Fifth Graders Visit for STEAM Day

by Evan Hollander '20

More than 400 fifth-grade students from the Orange, Woodbridge, and Bethany elementary schools visited on May 29th for Amity's fourth annual Science Technology Engineering Art and Math (STEAM) Day. Students were brought to different areas of the high school, such as the Middle Gym, the Black Box, and just outside the back doors, to explore tables with various demonstrations or activities to teach

and a half years ago by former science teacher Deborah Day and Dameon Kellogg, who is a math teacher and the Chair of the Mathematics Department. The reasoning was to accomplish the goals set forth by the Amity Board of Education. They wanted to make the elementary schools feel more integrated to the district by introducing fifth-graders to the high school.

STEAM Day was organized by faculty representatives from several departments, who comprised the STEAM Day Committee.



A fifth grade student participates in a robotics activity during Amity's STEAM Day.

Photo by Ningxin Luo '20

them about different subject areas. Students were ushered from one color-coded station to another by Amity students and the sound of a steam train played at intervals.

The idea of STEAM Day was first conceived over four

It was chaired by Dameon Kellogg and Kevin Berean of Amity Middle School Bethany. Kellogg wanted to recognize all of the 20+ teachers who spent the day at tables for STEAM Day.

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## Students Honor Teachers who 'Make Their Mark'

by Weiss Yuan '21 and Kabir Khwaja '21

Teacher Appreciation Week was held from May 6th to May 10th with the theme of "Teachers Make Their Mark." This theme was picked in part because teachers never seem to have enough Expo markers. Throughout the week, teachers were given various gifts including notes from students and portable chargers.

Starting on Monday, the PTSO provided breakfast for the teachers. Students also decorated the front rocks and made a banner.

On Tuesday, Principal Anna Mahon gave every teacher a portable charger that said "Be the Charge" (a play on this year's motto "Be the Change"). On Wednesday, the PTSO gave the teachers lunch, and on Thursday the AEA organized an ice cream social after school. Finally, on Friday the PTSO gave out coffee and treats to teachers.

The student government helped organize notes to be sent out to the teachers from their students. Claudia Lihar '21 said, It "was a very thoughtful and direct way for [the student body] to show our appreciation for our teachers." The principal's

committee organized a faculty meeting to give out these notes as well as more Expo markers. Lihar added that she hoped students would "continue to celebrate Teacher's Appreciation Week with the same amount of energy and enthusiasm."

For many students, sending notes was a great way to thank their teachers and tell them how much they meant. Ameya Menta '20 said, "Teacher's Appreciation week was such a fun experience to work on. I loved being able to write my teachers personal

Continued on page 2

## School Community Comes Together for Unity Week

by Jack Tajmajer '20

Amity exemplified inclusion near the end of May during a new "Unity Week." Each day of the week highlighted a different element of inclusion and aimed to better the school community by helping students focus on just being kind to others.

Ameya Menta '20 was one of the main organizers of the event. She said, "Unity Week was created for the sole purpose of educating

others and spreading positivity. Often times, especially with topics like these, they are approached in a negative way. While this can be beneficial sometimes, I'm a firm believer that positivity is the answer."

The week had days dedicated to cultural awareness, being an ally, inclusion, and community. It also overlapped with the ideas discussed during the last homeroom of the year. Students had opportunities to promote inclusion through painting rocks in the courtyard. They were also

encouraged to express themselves through their clothing each day, such as wearing something to represent their culture. The week ended off with a "commUNITY Assembly," where student speakers discussed equality, positivity, and the value of working together to spread tolerance. Students were called up to play games such as the human knot.

Akanksha Paul '20 said that she "had a great experience with Unity Week" and

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# Fifth Graders Visit for STEAM Day

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While the event was organized by faculty, much of the execution was undertaken by students. Science Research students created the passports used by fifth-graders and stuffed their “swag bags,” which contained goodies like bracelets and custom wallets.

Many Science Research students were also assigned to a fifth-grade teacher to guide them from station to station. David Sugarmann '20 was one of the guides who said he enjoyed seeing “the excitement in the 5th graders when they were at the stations. They were all very intrigued about what they were seeing and doing, and I was so glad that I could help create that experience for them.”

Other Science Research students managed tables with demonstrations. Non-Science Research students also ran tables, such as the Marine Biology, ceramics, and robotics tables.

Timothy Belcourt '20, David Dymarcik '21, and Benjamin Zheng '21 managed one of the robotics tables. Students had the opportunity there to control large robots. Belcourt said, “The kids seemed to really enjoy driving the robots. I was really happy to see them enjoying something that I’m so passionate about.”

There was also a table to represent Science Research. This year, it was called “Slime 101.” Students were able to learn about the science of slime, see a demonstration, and take a sample home. The table was run by Ella Marin '20, Rhea Dey '20, Natalie Prinz '20, and Evan Hollander '20. Marin said, “The kids loved it! [M]any of

them had experience with slime before so they knew what to expect, but they still enjoyed learning the science behind it and getting a sample to take home!” She also remarked that her favorite part of STEAM Day was “seeing the kid’s faces light up when they got to touch the slime.”

Kellogg tries not to compare the event year-over-year, but he said, “It was a great experience for the fifth-graders, and hopefully it leaves a lasting impression that sparks curiosity in them.” When he asked the fifth-graders how they were enjoying themselves, despite the fact that sometimes fifth-graders can be really candid, we never got any [negative responses].”

This year’s STEAM Day was an enormous success, and Amity students seemed to benefit just as much from getting to work with the fifth-graders as the elementary school students did from attending the event. STEAM Day would not have been possible without the dedication of Amity faculty and students.



**Fifth grade students participate in a blindfold activity during STEAM Day.**

*Photo by Ningxin Luo '20*

# Students Honor Teachers who “Make Their Mark”

*Continued from page 1*

notes and see so many students wanting to be able to give their teachers a nice message and show their appreciation.”

The tradition of organizing a day to appreciate teachers began in the 1970s. Eleanor Roosevelt advocated for educators to be given more appreciation and in 1976, the National Education Association created the first Teacher’s Ap-

preciation Day in Massachusetts. The day has grown into a week during which students give back respect to the adults that prepare them.

Menta further said the whole celebration was a great show of recognition from the students that made it possible, remarking, “We wanted to make sure that the daily efforts of teachers did not go unnoticed and through help from the entire student body we were able to do so.”

# Spring Fest Excitement!



**Amity High School held its annual Spring Fest during lunch on May 30th where students participated in a doughnut eating contest among several other activities.**

*Photo by Ningxin Luo '20*

# School Comes Together for Unity Week

*Continued from page 1*

that she “loved painting the rocks and that we had more opportunity to promote different cultures and ideas here at Amity.”

Another student, Lena MacDonald '20, said that she “think[s] that the idea of promoting inclusion is something that everyone should be thinking of all the time and that Unity Week went extremely well. I

hope that we have another one or a similar week more often.”

Though the week is over, the main message of it should not disappear from the Amity community.

Menta said, “It’s so important that as a community we start to accept each other for our differences because these are life skills that have to be carried to adulthood. Hopefully, this week served as a reminder to all that inclusion can spread.”

# Holocaust Survivor Educates Freshmen with Personal Stories

**by Audrey Marin '22**

Holocaust survivor Andy Sarnasky visited Amity High School to speak to freshmen on Tuesday, May 14th. Sarnasky’s speech was a follow-up to the World War II unit that students had been focusing on in their World History class. This event allowed students to interact with and ask questions to someone who experienced the Holocaust, providing much more than a reading or a picture.

Speaking to freshmen for an hour-long period, Sarnasky covered topics from his personal experiences to his many life lessons. He grew up in Budapest, Hungary and recalled what life was like being Jewish at such a point in history. Anti-semitism emerged when Nazi forces invaded Hungary.

Sarnasky remembers seeing Nazi troops march through the streets. He said, “My memories from that day will never be erased from my mind. It is vivid.”

Sarnasky described the struggle to walk to kindergarten as a young boy due to the verbal and physical abuse he received. He tried

to get the audience to understand how he felt as his world tumbled into discrimination and his identity was ripped away from him.

Jewish Hungarians could not be educated and were forced to wear a Star of David armband. Sarnasky and members of his family were relocated to the Budapest (Nagy) Ghetto. He described the danger and fear he felt all the time, the constant sound of warfare, and his uncertainties.

World history teacher Carol Asprelli acknowledged the importance of students hearing Sarnasky’s story. Asprelli said, “It is important for students to learn about the lives of those who perished in the Holocaust, to recognize how this terrible event began and continued, and to understand their role in stopping genocide today.”

Sarnasky described his journey to America at the end of the war and how he wept upon seeing the Statue of Liberty for the first time. “I have been in the United States for 62 years, and I cherish every moment,” he said. Freshmen were encouraged to appreciate the freedoms and opportunities they have.

Aditi Chalasani '22 re-

flected on the event, saying, “It was a very effective learning experience that gave me great insight into the hardships many Jews and their families experienced. Hearing the events told from the person who experienced them made everything feel much more real, and I would say that, in many of us, it built a stronger sense of sympathy and appreciation for the man who was able to share his story after going through so much.”

Learning about the Holocaust directly affected students in a more personal way and brought new insight to Amity. Robert Farbman '22 agreed

“It was a really powerful experience to be able to hear someone speak about a real experience,” Farbman said. “It extended our understanding past the pages of the textbook and forced us to realize the reality of what happened in the Holocaust and the effect that it had on so many people.”

Hearing the recollections and lessons of a Holocaust survivor helped students to understand the reality of the event. It shed a new light on the importance of acceptance and inclusivity at Amity.


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# Final Exams: Do We Really Need Them?

by Robert Farbman '22

As the end of the school year at Amity approaches and we inch closer and closer to finals, the stress of the student body has already begun to rise.

The mere notion of an exam that is not only worth 10% of a student's grade but also covers material from at least a semester is enough to make anxiety in the halls and at home skyrocket. And as I see final exams approaching on the horizon, I begin to question their importance at Amity.

Final exams are meant to assess the knowledge retention of students throughout the year and act as the final assignment for a class. It takes the subjects that students have learned about over many months and squeezes them into one high-stakes test. The freshman biology final, for example, will

include everything from human genetic structure to the extinction of the dinosaurs. Most class curriculum work the same way: the students will go through a unit, take a test or two, and move on. By the time that finals come around most of the class has forgotten the specifics of the earlier units, and students have to attempt to review every subject in enough detail to be successful on the exam.

This system has many problems, and one of its worst is its inability to act as an effective assessment of knowledge retention. Because of the way that curriculum are structured, students cram in a semester's worth of review into the week before the test, take the exam, and then forget it once they finish. Studies show that over the summer large amounts of students forget a lot of what they learned in school during the year. I believe that this is not only because of a lack of

review during the break, but also because of the overall finals system.

Instead of helping students remember what they learned, exams just make them learn it again quickly, setting them up to easily forget it.

Another issue with the current finals system is the unnecessary stress that it puts upon Amity students. In a time where high school students are more stressed than they have ever been and teen suicide rates have begun to rise again, it is important that we as a school examine ways to reduce stress and anxiety.

Finals come out as a huge culprit, as they clearly stress out the student body. As a full-time student, I can testify from experience on the high stress of school. Stress is important, but it needs to be justified, and finals don't present any real justification for the intense pressure that they create.

# Unity Week Falls Short

by Evan Kindseth '20

Amity's Unity Week was a very ambitious endeavor, and those responsible for it only had the best intentions. However, it did little to unify the community. The week had an excellent agenda but lacked in participation.

On Monday, the event for Unity Week was an extended period for homeroom. However, during homeroom, students only took a survey about Spartan Seminar. This was an individual, non-unifying event completely unrelated to Unity Week. Tuesday was supposed to be a "Cultural Awareness" day. The idea was to have people wear items showing their cultural background.

However, participants were hard to come by. On Wednesday, people were supposed to commit random acts of kindness. There are no doubts that random acts of kindness were committed, but it is hard to argue any were inspired by Unity Week. Nice people do nice things whether

or not it is "Be an Ally" day or not.

And people who are not nice were definitely not inspired to be kind just because it was a day dedicated to random acts of kindness.

Thursday was a day dedicated to inclusion, and people were supposed to wear tie-dye. But, yet again, people did not follow through. It is difficult to determine if people didn't know to wear tie-dye or chose not to, but the fact is, there were few participants. Some may argue the lack of people wearing tie-dye shows how people don't want inclusion.

Personally, I believe that almost everyone in the school wants inclusion but many students don't wear tie-dye. Informing people to wear tie-dye and motivating people to wear it is difficult, and the results were proof of this.

Friday's color choice had the opposite problem. Fortunately, many people wore their "Stronger than Hate" shirts, and these were clear endorsements of Unity Week. However, many times more

wore the color designated for that day: blue. Unlike tie-dye, many people wear blue on a regular basis.

On Friday, it was impossible to tell if someone wearing blue was supporting the event or just wearing what they wear to a regular school day. This is a bit of an oversight by those who organized Unity Week.

The final event of the week was the pep rally. The rally was not unifying in any sense. While I think many people love Maya Angelou's "Human Family," it is a very well-known poem, and something new and less trite would have been appreciated.

Additionally, the people picked for the first activity were the people in all the activities. While this may have been because of time constraints, this excluded those who were not picked for the first activity. If new people were selected each time more students would have been included in Unity activities.

This goes against the whole spirit of Unity Week: inclusion.

# THE TRIDENT

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# To Impeach or Not to Impeach? That Is the Question

by Zachary Garfinkle '22

It is clear to see why some people believe that Congress has a moral necessity to impeach Donald Trump. The long-awaited Mueller report demonstrated clearly that Russia interfered in the 2016 election to President Trump's benefit, and that the campaign encouraged and welcomed the illegal assistance.

Furthermore, the special counsel's report outlines no fewer than ten instances in which President Trump abused his power by illegally obstructing justice in order to undermine the investigation. On top of that, the President's moral failings are too

numerous to document. He has attempted to bar entry to the U.S. simply based on religion, denied reporters entry to events due to personal belief, and incited and caused violence toward minorities and dissidents. In short, he treats the Constitution as no more than a collection of obsolete, loose guidelines.

However, the issue is a tad more nuanced than this. While impeachment is certainly morally justified, is it really a smart political move? Though the issue is complex, I mostly believe that impeachment would be bad for the country. Nancy Pelosi, the Speaker of the House with 31 years of Congressional experience under her belt, firmly believes that impeaching President Trump

now is the wrong political move. One must consider that Pelosi is an experienced politician, especially more so than some of the younger and more progressive members of Congress with a rabid hunger for impeachment.

With age comes wisdom, and Pelosi's experience and seniority are important. Despite being an avid critic of Trump, Pelosi is willing to temporarily put aside her and the president's differences for the good of the country.

Some worry that impeaching Trump would turn him into a sympathetic figure. Time and time again, the president has proven that he loves playing the victim. Impeachment is a drastic move, only used in extreme cases. If Trump were to be impeached,

his supporters would rally behind him with a renewed vigor. History has shown that this could be the case; after the House voted for Bill Clinton's impeachment, he garnered the sympathy of much of the electorate, Democrats and Republicans alike. Also, the partisan divide in America could grow immensely if impeachment were attempted.

Pelosi believes, in a strange turn of events, that President Trump is in fact trying to get impeached. In this bizarro world in which Trump is, as he claims, a "stable genius," he wishes to be formally accused of unconstitutional crimes so that the majority-Republican Senate can exonerate him once and for all after the Democrat-controlled House votes to im-

peach him. I believe that despite her political expertise, Pelosi may be overestimating the president. There is not much substance to this rumor.

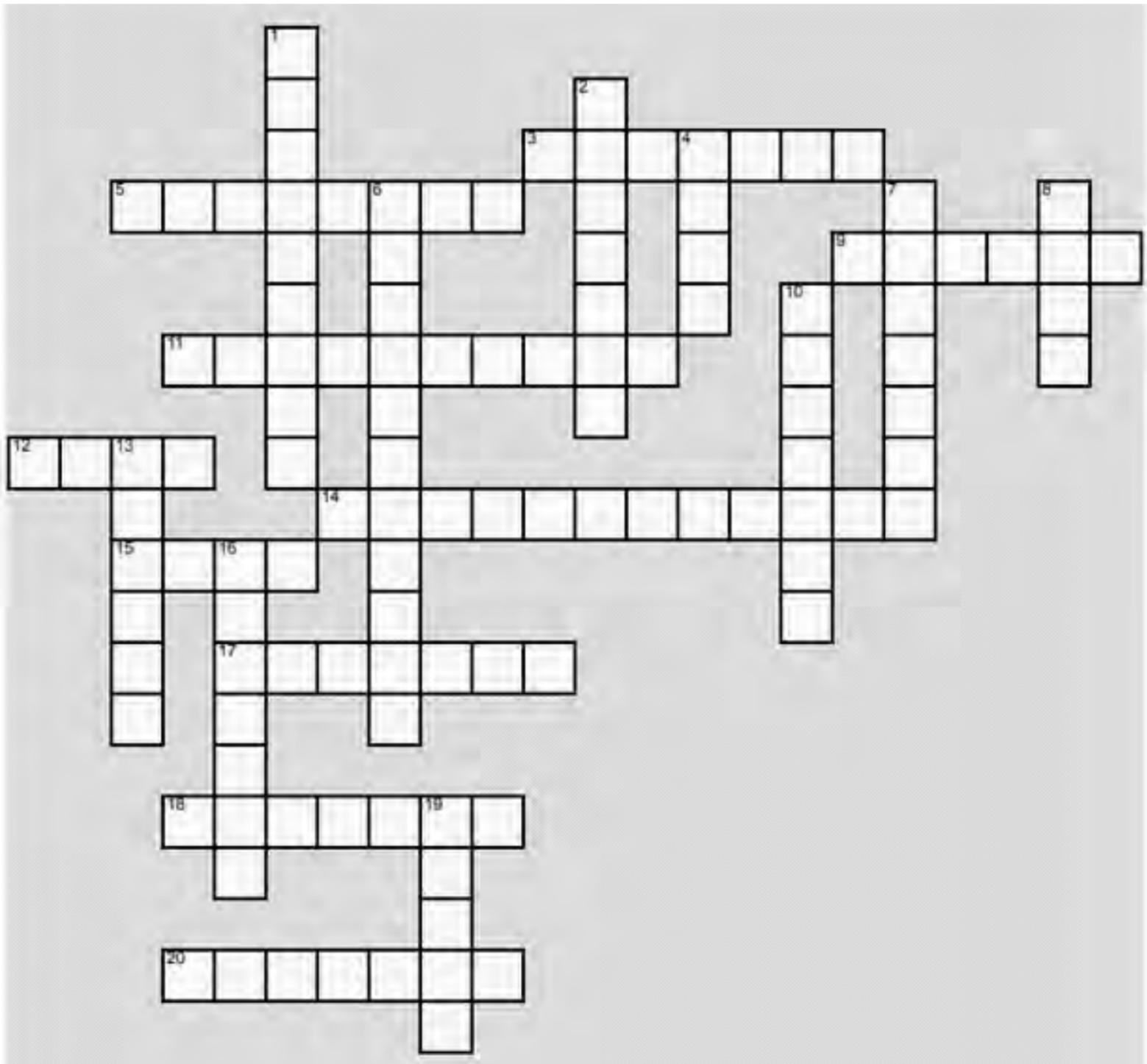
There are many reasons not to impeach, but a fear of playing right into Trump's Machiavellian scheme is not a valid one. The siren song of impeachment is a temptation for those who wish to see an end to the Trump era.

However, some caution must be exercised. Impeaching the president could have serious repercussions, and the House of Representatives should take this into account before acting rashly.

Opponents of the current administration should remove Trump through their votes rather than hope for impeachment.

## June Crossword Puzzle

by Zachary Garfinkle '22



**Across**

- 3. The civilization that lived by the code of Hammurabi
- 5. The upcoming fourth installment in the movie series:
- 9. Chess piece that can only move on one color
- 11. Last day of school: June \_\_\_\_\_
- 12. Surname of prolific horror writer
- 14. The Fourth of July is also known as \_\_\_\_\_ day
- 15. Current U.S. Attorney General
- 17. Ryan Reynolds "Detective \_\_\_\_\_"
- 18. Character that dies in endgame
- 20. State that recently outlawed nearly all abortions

**Down**

- 1. Controversial man running for office in Italy: Caio \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Shakespeare's tragedy about witches and Scotland
- 4. Democratic candidate that wants a universal basic income
- 6. Lil Nas X's and Billy Ray Cyrus' \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. Scientist/entertainer who made a video about global warming
- 8. NASA wants to get to the moon by two thousand twenty \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. King of the North
- 13. Thanos' adopted daughter
- 16. NBA Finalists: Warriors and \_\_\_\_\_
- 19. Surname of the politician who died on the same day as Jefferson.

## Matthew 5:17

Zachary Garfinkle '22 submitted his original short story "Matthew 5:17" to the Connecticut Student Writers Magazine. Parts I & II were published in earlier issues of The Trident. The conclusion appears below.

"Get up," he demanded. The elderly man grunted. Jacob repressed the urge to help him up. He escorted him to the door, holding the pistol against the decrepit man's temple. Suspecting it would be one of his last, Jacob took a deep breath before he stepped outside to face the police.

The cacophony of sirens was so much louder now, drowning out the sound of Jacob's racing heartbeat. His face was illuminated by a blinding blue light while Merkis' face was covered in red.

"Release the hostage or we'll have no choice but to fire!" warned an officer. The police were intruding on this private matter; they had no place in this. Jacob squinted against the flashing lights, tightening his grip on the pistol. He pressed it up against Merkis' head with greater force, his index finger brushing the trigger. In response, two officers turned off

the safety on their weapons. They were fully prepared to end Jacob's life in an instant. It was a race to the trigger; either Jacob would shoot Merkis, or the police would kill Jacob in an attempt to save the hostage. The tension in the air was palpable, as was the inevitability that someone would meet their end in the coming moments.

The old man gave Jacob one last look of desperation. It conveyed several complex, tangled emotions simultaneously; fear, despair, and paradoxically, a hint of acceptance.

The resounding boom of the gunshot was heard across the entire town. His arms extended to his sides, a man lay prone on the ground like a cross. He left behind a trail of blood as he was dragged off the rickety porch by his ankles.

In the following days, the neighbors would talk amongst

themselves, tentatively glancing at the house with morbid curiosity. They would whisper about the crimson stains on Old Man Merkis' porch. In the following months, futile attempts to sell the house would be made. In years to come, dauntless children would sneak into the accursed place on dares. Generations of vermin would breed, grow old, and die, perpetuating and honoring the house's legacy of death and squalor. The town would face hardships. Merkis' run-down house would witness them all. It stood blissfully unaware of the bloodstained history contained in its walls in its indifference. Immortalized in its bloodstained past, it would stand tall but ruined for decades. When it would finally fall, it would collapse without warning in the night, its wooden skeleton crunching sickeningly.

## Amity Science Research Program Takes Home Awards

by Sienna Wang '20 and  
Claudia Lihar '21

On Friday, April 26, students from the Amity Science Research program went to Norwalk Community College to compete in the 16th annual science fair and showcase their research.

Students left at around 7:35 am and arrived at the fair at around 8:00 am.

They returned at the end of the day, at around 2:15 pm.

The students brought their poster boards, displaying their research from the 2019-20 school year, and their black binders filled to the brim with mentor communications, research journals, and summaries of previous research studies.

At the college, students checked in and went into one of the four science classrooms reserved for the fair.

Though a smaller fair, there were still many high schools attending, including Amity, Greenwich, Newtown, Joel Barlow in Redding, Darien, King School, and Ridgefield.

The setup of the classrooms allowed for students from different schools and STEM categories to interact with each other, learning more about different fields and sharing with each other their science research experiences.

Students waited by their poster boards, from 8:00 am to around 1:00 pm, presenting a total of two times to groups of two to three judges, all with scientific credentials. Students presented projects regarding chemistry, engineering, environmental science, and beyond.

The judges scored the students on components including literature review and background, procedure, results, presentation style, poster board, creativity and novelty, responses to questions, and depth of knowledge.

Natalie Prinz '20 enjoyed the experience immensely, stating that "one of the best moments of the day was presenting to the judges and having them ask relevant questions I was able to answer and also seeing a wall stacked with so many pizzas at lunch."

At lunch, students interacted with each other, with pizzas and snacks provided by the Norwalk Community College.

After filling up on a seemingly endless amount of pizza, students attended the award ceremony.

Awards were given out based

innovation and creativity, which is essential to improving yourself as a person. I also talked to two people that were not from our school about how junior year was the hardest year in high school, and we bonded over that experience."

These science fairs not only allow students to be immersed in an environment rich with research and other students who are equally interested in STEM, but they also allow students to interact with each other and form new relationships along the way.

Many students would recommend the Norwalk Science Fair in particular to participate in.

Aamnah Malik '21 states that the Norwalk Science Fair has a less competitive atmosphere, giving "the experience of presenting without all the stress. It's a relaxed way of improving."

Many people enjoy the friendly nature of this fair, which is less competitive than others, making it the perfect chance for students to improve their presentation skills without feeling as pressured.

In fact, Mason Zhang, '21 recommends that other Science Research students attend this fair, not only to improve themselves, but also because "you get to meet a lot of people from different schools and learn about different applications of science."

There are many opportunities for Science Research students at this fair, including improving their skills, meeting new people, and learning about other students' research.

Director and instructor of the Amity Science Research Program, Catherine Piscitelli was impressed by the work and innovation of the students.

She stated, "It was memorable to see the nervous excitement of the students before judging sessions began.

"Science fairs are important," Piscitelli added, "because they give students an opportunity to showcase what they've done all year and share their enthusiasm with others."



Students at the Norwalk Science Fair.  
Photo courtesy of the Amity Science Research Department

on the scores of the judges, which were tallied and discussed during the day and lunch period.

The award ceremony was simpler than other science fairs, as it was not split by categories. Instead, the fair opted to award a total of seven awards, with first, second, and third place awards and four honorable mentions.

Amity students took home three of the seven awards. Jack Tajmajer '20 and Eesha Acharya '21 received honorable mentions.

Shyam Viswanathan '21 received first place out of the entire fair for engineering a shoe that can alert the blind before they collide with objects in front of them.

Tajmajer said, "STEM is important because it encourages

## How to Make the Most of Your Summer

by Jessica Miner '20

Memories of cold waves crashing on the hot sand of Starbuck Beach flood Tyler Billehus' mind as he thinks back to his high school summers. For five years beginning at age fifteen, Billehus, a teacher at Amity Regional High School, spent his summers lifeguarding at his local beach with many of his best friends.

Although most of his days consisted of small chores like setting up the beach, taking out the trash, and cleaning bathrooms, he and his fellow lifeguards always found ways to make the job fun. One summer there was a man walking around the beach with a metal detector.

"We took nickels and dimes and threw them all over the beach," Billehus explained with a laugh. "We were really REALLY bored."

Summer is a time for highschool students to gain experiences that not only fill their lives with fun, but also to discover what they love. Trying new things and going out of their comfort zones, kids have the ability to make summer unforgettable and maybe even find their passion.

### 1. Find a summer job

In high school, students are at the age where they can begin forging their path within the workforce. There are many places looking to hire students for part time openings. Lauren Marino '20, is looking forward to her job at camp Canadensis this summer. After being a camper for seven years, Marino's passion for working with kids as well as her love for camp, has lead her to a position on staff. Marino reminds fellow students "When you put your time and effort into a summer job it shows you what it's like in the real world." Obtaining a job as a student to work on responsibility as well as money management from a young age can grow potential as well as clarify students' interests.

### 2. Spend a day at the beach

In need of a relaxing beach vacation after a long year of work? Connecticut is home to over twenty beach locations offering a quick getaway for visitors across the state. Not only can students relax and unwind at their local beach, but there are also many activities for adventure seekers. Gabby McGovern '20 recommends paddle boarding which she finds both thrilling and calming. "When I paddle out into the water, everything that I have been worried or stressed about kind of just melts away," McGovern reflects. Connecticut beaches are inclusive for all ages providing beautiful scenery, clear waters, and experiences to treasure for years.

### 3. Go to a concert

What could be better than spending a night listening to your favorite artist with your best friends? Concerts are a perfect way to get your friend group together and enjoy something everyone has in common. Screaming the lyrics at the top of your lungs, letting go of all of your worries and responsibilities for a night, can be both exhilarating and refreshing. Popular arenas in Connecticut such as Xfinity, Webster Bank, and Mohegan Sun have a wide variety of summer shows that will appeal to all music lovers.

### 4. Take a Hike

Explore the hiking trails in your area and become one with nature. Not only does this provide some much needed exercise after sitting in school for nine months, but is also a fun way to enjoy earth's beauty. Each unique trail provides climbers with different scenery, skill levels, and destinations to create specialized visits. With trails located throughout the state, guests can experience the beauty of Connecticut with a birds eye view.

### 5. Stay up late watching movies at the drive-in

The drive in theater is not just a romantic scene from old movies. These theaters can be experienced by movie lovers right in Connecticut. With three locations throughout the state, movie night at the drive in can become an accessible tradition for high school students. Mallory Boiano '20 frequents the Southington Drive In during the summer. She explains that the delicious food, quality time with friends, and great movies keep guests coming back for more. Her love of nature sets the outdoor theater apart from others, "I like nature and being outside, it's more comfortable and more peaceful," Boiano reflects. Sitting in the bed of her dad's pick up truck alongside her closest friends, watching old movies play across the enormous screens as stars twinkled above them. Nothing could be better.

### 6. Visit an amusement park

What could be more exhilarating than experiencing every drop, twist, and whirl on each coaster at the amusement park? Connecticut is home to Lake Compounce and Quassy Amusement which attract adventure seekers from all across the state. After a quick ticket purchase, visitors can enjoy hours of coasters and mouth watering food. Both Lake Compounce and Quassy include water parks appropriate for all ages.

### 7. Explore Mystic Aquarium and Seaport

Mystic Aquarium and Seaport are two experiences that will be enjoyed by all ages. Mystic Aquarium, home to incredible beluga whales, sea lions and many other jaw dropping animals provides an inviting environment for students to explore and learn about these fascinating creatures. With interactive experiences such as a ray touch pool, as well as feeding shows, Mystic Aquarium is sure to wow guests. Mystic Seaport, the largest maritime museum in the country, provides engaging displays to further attract viewers to the beautiful boats that drift across the seas. Galleries displaying models of old ships draw in viewers to learn about the history of Connecticut's seaports.

Taking opportunities and trying new things can only lead you later success.

"Try out as many things as you can because that will help you find out what you want to do later" Billehus advised with a smile.

Summer is a time for students to take a break from academics and soak up as many experiences possible to further enrich their lives. Don't let summer of 2019 go to waste. Fill each day with something new, making each moment of your vacation unforgettable.

# THAT'S ALL, FOLKS... SI

## SORTED BY NAME

**Jenna Aconfora** University of Rhode Island  
**Madeline Adzgian** Ithaca College  
**Austin Agapiou** Fairfield University  
**Carys Alsgaard** University of Bridgeport  
**Juliana Amici** Siena College  
**Kaylah Anastasio** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Mounisha Anumolu** Dartmouth College  
**Samuel Barbieri** Bucknell University  
**Craig Barletta** Albertus Magnus College  
**Keely Barletta** Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences  
**Talia Barry** University of Tampa  
**Alejandra Barry-Ruiz** Goucher College  
**Sara Basyouny** University of Connecticut  
**Nicholas Bates** Fabrication Apprentice  
**Lani Beaudette** West Virginia University  
**Daniel Beckwith** University of South Florida  
**Caroline Bednar** Quinnipiac University  
**William Beesly** Lincoln Technical University  
**Rebecca Beloin** University of Connecticut  
**Jared Beltz** University of Connecticut  
**Joseph Benedetti** University of California- Berkeley  
**Sophie Benjamin** University of Rhode Island  
**Emily Berkeley** Connecticut College  
**Elana Bershtein** University of Wisconsin  
**Catalina Betancur-Velez** Providence College  
**Ryan Biagetti** Temple University  
**Katelyn Blake** University of California-Davis  
**Donald Blanchardon** Embry Riddle  
**Harrison Blume** Syracuse University  
**Pranpariya Boonyalai** USC School of Cinematic Arts  
**Nelson Bordeleau** University of New Haven  
**Andrew Boulton** University of Connecticut  
**Cole Bova** University of Connecticut  
**Abigail Bowser** Michigan State University  
**Jay Boynton** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Emily Bretthauer** University of Connecticut  
**Kayla Britton** Eastern Connecticut State University  
**Harry Brochinsky** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Jake Bronson** Saint John's University  
**Neylani Brown** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Elizabeth Brownfield** University of Chicago  
**Benjamin Bruder** Gap year in Israel, then University of Connecticut  
**Christopher Bullers** University of Connecticut  
**Sarah Bullers** University of Connecticut  
**Emily Byun** Rhode Island School of Design  
**Alexander Cadelina** University of Connecticut  
**Will Cadelina** Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
**Angelina Carlino** Jefferson University  
**Lindsay Carloni** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Cameron Carre** University of New Haven  
**Gabriella Caruso** Quinnipiac University  
**Danielle Casapulla** Iona College  
**Christian Castro** University of New Haven  
**Guo Cheng** University of Connecticut  
**Carly Chervenak** Salve Regina University  
**Marc Chodos** University of Miami  
**Hannah Choi** Gap Year  
**Rachel Ciarleglio** Eastern Connecticut State University  
**Madelyn Ciskowski** University of Delaware

**Jason Clini** University of Texas-Arlington  
**Marcello Colonna** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Daniel Comeau** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Emma Conte** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Molly Cooper** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Logan Corris** Saint John's University  
**Amanda Coscia** Marist College  
**Molly Cox** Babson College  
**Anthony Criscuolo** Gateway Community College  
**Rachael Crow** University of Connecticut  
**Frank D'Acunto** Wentworth Institute of Technology  
**Adam Daddio** University of Rhode Island  
**Liel Davidi** University of Connecticut  
**Rossington Deck** Fairfield University  
**Claire Degennaro** Fairfield University  
**Paige DeGoursey** University of Connecticut  
**Stephen Delaney** Quinnipiac University  
**Christiane Delda** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Andrea Delvecchio** Wilkes University  
**Joseph Dibenedetto** University of Connecticut  
**Brennan Dimauro** University of Connecticut  
**Joseph Direinzo** University of Rhode Island  
**Kayla Dixon** Merrimack College  
**Rebecca Doyle** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Maxwell Dragan** University of Colorado Boulder  
**Rosie Du** Harvard University  
**Jessica Edwards** Rochester Institute of Technology (for illustration)  
**Ira Einbinder** Purdue University  
**Deyah El-Azhari** University of Colorado - Boulder  
**Dize Eron** Albertus Magnus College  
**Hayley Esparo** Drew University  
**Anthony Esposito** Saint Joseph's University  
**Cailey Esposito** Saint Joseph's University  
**Dana Estra** Boston University  
**Joseph Falvey** Champlain College  
**Samuel Farbman** Tufts University  
**Elaina Ferraro** Smith College  
**Caroline Fertman** James Madison University  
**Jacob Feuerstein** Cornell University  
**Parker Fitzgerald** Penn State University  
**Julie Fleischman** University of Rochester  
**Gabriella Flemmig** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Mary Foley** Fairfield University  
**Sebastian Formica** University of Rhode Island  
**Zoe Franklin** New York University  
**Patrick Freeman** University of New Haven  
**Timothy Frieden** Northeastern University  
**Benjamin Fucci** Aircraft Mechanic  
**Marcelle Gagnon** Xavier University  
**Brittany Gambardella** Sacred Heart University  
**Joseph Gentile** Pipe Welder  
**Chloe Gherlone** Quinnipiac University  
**Austin Gilbride** Bates College  
**Annalise Giordano** University of South Florida  
**Aislinn Glazer** Unity College  
**Alisa Glenbovitch** University of Connecticut  
**Sebastian Gonzalez** Quinnipiac University  
**Zachary Gordon-Burns** University of Connecticut  
**Taylor Gourdier** University of Connecticut  
**Shiva Gowda** Duquesne University  
**Shaun Graham** University of Rhode Island  
**Payton Grande** Marist College  
**Christopher Greco** Marist College

**Jacqueline Greco** Sacred Heart University  
**Nicole Gregory** Sacred Heart University  
**Carly Grenier** University of Tampa  
**Danielle Grosso** Fairfield University  
**Allison Grubman** Emory University  
**Alec Guerra** Metro North Conductor  
**Alexis Halstead** University of Florida  
**Marion Hamilton** Bryn Mawr College  
**Kevin Han** University of Connecticut  
**Abigail Harbinson** Rollins College  
**Jessica Hatrick** Central Connecticut State University  
**Kalynna Hauser** Western Connecticut State University  
**Meagan Hawkins** University of New Haven  
**Hannah Hayes** University of New Hampshire  
**Charles Hoddinott** Plumbing  
**Benjamin Holt** Gateway Community College  
**Kaylee Huber** Michigan State University  
**Colin Hughes** Western New England University  
**Allison Hummel** University of Connecticut  
**Julia Hurlburt** SUNY Cortland  
**Benjamin Inclima** Catholic University  
**Niha Irshad** University of Connecticut  
**Khaled Jarad** Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
**Yuchen Jiang** Cornell University  
**Alexa Johnson** University of Connecticut  
**Cole Johnson** Quinnipiac University  
**Paul Johnson** College of William and Mary  
**Izabella Jones** University of Vermont  
**Declan Kane** Merrimack College  
**Joshua Kane** University of Maine  
**Jillian Kaoud** Marist College  
**Heather Keevil** Clark University  
**Chloe Kehlenbeck** University of Connecticut  
**Thomas Kergaravat** University of Connecticut  
**Andrew Kimball** University of Tampa  
**Nicole Kisiel** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Evan Kober** University of Southern Maine  
**Art Koleci** University of Connecticut  
**Samuel Koorejian** University of Vermont  
**Ethan Kron** Trade School  
**Victoria Krzysztopik** Emmanuel College  
**Cole Kuchachik** Sacred Heart University  
**Olivia Kudasik** University of Rhode Island  
**Lindsey Kupcho** Lafayette College  
**Jason Ky** University of Connecticut  
**Tara Laugeni** Endicott College  
**Arielle Lavi** Brandeis University  
**Rian Lebreck** University of Connecticut  
**Eli Lee** Purdue University  
**Hyunbeen Lee** Purdue University  
**Thomas Lee** Colgate University  
**Adam Leszczak** UMass Amherst  
**Jacob Lettick** University of Connecticut  
**Maya Lévasseur** University of Rhode Island  
**Jason Li** Bentley University  
**Gabriel Lipsitz** Syracuse University  
**Felix Liu** Purdue University  
**Thomas Livesay** Duke University  
**Clarens Lopez** University of Connecticut  
**Julia Loschiavo** Curry College  
**Antrim Lottick** New York University  
**Jenna Lu** Franklin and Marshall College  
**Jason Luciani** Iowa State University  
**John Lumpinski** Siena College  
**Madison Mackay** American University  
**Cassidy MacNamara** Sacred Heart University  
**Samuel Mahler** University of Michigan  
**Cassidy Marchitto** University of New Haven  
**Nico Markette** Curry College  
**Chiara Marrello** Air Force  
**Connor Marry** University of Connecticut  
**Samuel Martin** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Madeline Mason** University of Albany

**Nicholas Mastrangelo** Marist College  
**Madelyn Mccollough** University of Pittsburgh  
**Erin McCormack** University of South Carolina  
**William Mckeon** James Madison University  
**Jonathan Mcnelis** University of Connecticut  
**Dalia Medovnikov** Curtis Institute of Music  
**Akshay Mehta** Elon University  
**Brendan Messina** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Forrest Miller** Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
**Ryan Miller** Merrimack College  
**Phillip Mingione** University of New Haven  
**Tara Mohseni** Tulane University  
**Jay Moon** Boston College  
**Amanda Moran** Curry College  
**Lillian Morrissey** University of Maine  
**Carlee Mulherin** Curry College  
**Rakin Munim** Boston University  
**Aidan Myatt** University of Connecticut  
**Luke Nemecek** University of Connecticut  
**Hayden Nork** Purchase College, SUNY  
**Connor Norton** University of Connecticut  
**Keith Norton** Work  
**Gabrielle Nusbaum** University of Rhode Island  
**Kaitlyn O'Brien** University of Connecticut  
**Sophie O'Brien** University of Rhode Island  
**Brianna Oakley** University of New Haven  
**Matteo Pacelli** Gateway Community College  
**Kenneth Page** Bryant University  
**Liam Palazzo** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Gabriella Pantalone** Arizona State University  
**Richard Papa** Central Connecticut State University  
**Spencer Paragas** Virginia Tech  
**Arianna Pargen** Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
**Soo-Jin Park** University of Connecticut  
**Daniel Parker** University of Connecticut  
**Dorothy Parniawski** Gateway Community College  
**Sana Pashanker** Duke University  
**Jay Patel** Marist College  
**Wesley Perler** Boston University  
**Jason Perrotti** University of Colorado Boulder  
**Lilah Perrotti** Temple University  
**Brooke Pethigal** Marist College  
**Madelyn Pickett** University of Connecticut  
**Olivia Pisano** Western Connecticut State University  
**Ian Pittenger** Yale University  
**Jack Pletter** Colby College  
**John Poland** University of Connecticut  
**Julia Potter** George Washington University  
**Sandrine Pyne** University of British Columbia  
**Lillian Querker** University of Connecticut  
**Unaiza Rana** University of Connecticut  
**Christopher Reed** United States Marines  
**Toddia Reynolds** University of Bridgeport  
**Lauren Richetelli** Quinnipiac University  
**Charmaine Robichaud** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Jeremy Robichaud** Trade School  
**Diego Rodriguez** Bryant University  
**Madeline Rosenberg** University of Maryland  
**Abigail Runda** EMT Training  
**Corinne Sadinsky** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Nico Sagnelli** Northwestern University  
**Isabel Salazar** Western Connecticut State University

# SENIOR INTENTIONS 2019

**Mia Sandberg** Syracuse University  
**Stefan Santos** Air Force  
**Dean Saracino** Iona College  
**Summer Schaaf** Florida State University  
**Jonathan Schachter** Duke University  
**Samuel Scheps** Indiana University-Bloomington  
**Benjamin Schiff** University of Connecticut  
**Andrew Seaton** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Nora Shahin** Gateway Community College  
**Michael Shepa** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Spencer Shepard** Lehigh University  
**Dakota Sicignano** University of Connecticut  
**Benjamin Simon** Stony Brook University  
**Jake Skolnick** Syracuse University  
**Madison Smith** University of Texas - Dallas  
**Willow Smith** University of Connecticut  
**Robin Snetsinger** Hobart and William Smith Colleges  
**Hannah Sosensky** University of New Hampshire  
**Katerina Spanolios** Marist College  
**Kobi Spence** Hampton University  
**Peter Spodnick** University of Rhode Island  
**Napoleon Stardellis** Quinnipiac University  
**Neha Sudhir** Barnard College  
**Sarah Sudhoff** Salve Regina University  
**Jared Sullivan** University of Connecticut  
**Avital Sutin** University of Connecticut  
**Lily Swain** Bryant University  
**Thomas Swat** Southern Connecticut State University  
**Makayla Syphrette** University of Connecticut  
**Amelia Taddei** University of New Hampshire  
**Swetha Tadepalli** University of Connecticut  
**Luke Tassiello** Saint Joseph's University  
**Keri Tenerowicz** Cornell University  
**Ashley Thomas** Siena College  
**Aman Thombre** University of Illinois - Urbana Champaign  
**Kevin Tian** Rutgers University  
**Grace Tiddei** University of Connecticut  
**Anthony Tom** University of Tennessee - Knoxville  
**Madison Tom** Rhode Island School of Design  
**Daria Torrenti** University of Richmond  
**Jacqueline Tran** Sacred Heart University  
**Christian Tzepos** University of Connecticut  
**Jonathan Unger** Rochester Institute of Technology  
**Evan Urda** University of Rhode Island  
**Isabella Ursini** University of Rhode Island  
**James Van Hise** Notre Dame Prep School  
**Julia Vinci** Western New England University  
**Connor Visnic** Providence College  
**Olivia Vitale** Ithaca College  
**Geoffrey Wadey** University of Connecticut  
**Wen Yuan Wang** Stony Brook University  
**Joseph Wasikowski** Albertus Magnus College  
**Rachael Weber** Curry College  
**Reed Wegman** University of Connecticut  
**Talia Weintraub** Indiana University  
**Carolyn Werth** Skidmore College  
**Stephanie White** Make-Up Artist  
**Pierre Wright** University of Hartford  
**Ari Wyner** University of Albany  
**Elina Yang** Bentley University  
**Hillary Yin** Johns Hopkins University  
**Garrett Young** University of Maine  
**Michael Young** Western Connecticut State University  
**Kate Yuan** Dartmouth College  
**Samuel Zhang** Purdue University  
**Xiaoxi Pamela Zhang** Bard College  
**Kevin Zheng** University of Connecticut

**Niki Zheng** University of Connecticut  
**Rich Zheng** Rochester Institute of Technology  
**Clare Zorena** Sacred Heart University  
**Samantha Zygadlo** Western Connecticut State University

## SORTED BY INTENTION

**Air Force** Chiara Marrello, Stefan Santos  
**Aircraft Mechanic** Benjamin Fucci  
**Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences** Keely Barletta  
**Albertus Magnus College** Craig Barletta, Dize Eron, Joseph Wasikowski  
**American University** Madison Mackay  
**Arizona State University** Gabriella Pantalone  
**Babson College** Molly Cox  
**Bard College** Xiaoxi Pamela Zhang  
**Barnard College** Neha Sudhir  
**Bates College** Austin Gilbride  
**Bentley University** Jason Li, Elina Yang  
**Boston College** Jay Moon  
**Boston University** Dana Estra, Rakin Munim, Wesley Perler  
**Brandeis University** Arielle Lavi  
**Bryant University** Kenneth Page, Diego Rodriguez, Lily Swain  
**Bryn Mawr College** Marion Hamilton  
**Bucknell University** Samuel Barbieri  
**Catholic University** Benjamin Inclima  
**Central Connecticut State University** Jessica Hatrick, Richard Papa  
**Champlain College** Joseph Falvey  
**Clark University** Heather Keevil  
**Colby College** Jack Pletter  
**Colgate University** Thomas Lee  
**College of William and Mary** Paul Johnson  
**Connecticut College** Emily Berkeley  
**Cornell University** Jacob Feuerstein, Yuchen Jiang, Keri Tenerowicz  
**Curry College** Julia Loschiavo, Nico Markette, Amanda Moran, Carlee Mulherin, Rachael Weber  
**Curtis Institute of Music** Dalia Medovnikov  
**Dartmouth College** Kate Yuan, Mounisha Anumolu  
**Drew University** Hayley Esparro  
**Duke University** Thomas Livesay, Sana Pashanker, Jonathan Schachter  
**Duquesne University** Shiva Gowda  
**EMT Training** Abigail Runda  
**Eastern Connecticut State University** Kayla Britton, Rachel Ciarleglio  
**Elon University** Akshay Mehta  
**Embry Riddle** Donald Blanchardon  
**Emmanuel College** Victoria Krzysztolik  
**Emory University** Allison Grubman  
**Endicott College** Tara Laugeni  
**Fabrication Apprentice** Nicholas Bates  
**Fairfield University** Austin Agapiou, Rossington Deck, Claire Degennaro, Mary Foley, Danielle Grosso  
**Florida State University** Summer Schaaf  
**Franklin and Marshall College** Jenna Lu  
**Gap Year** Hannah Choi  
**Gap year in Isreal, then University of Connecticut** Benjamin Bruder  
**Gateway Community College** Anthony Criscuolo, Benjamin Holt, Matteo Pacelli, Dorothy Parniawski, Nora Shahin  
**George Washington University** Julia Potter  
**Goucher College** Alejandra Barry-Ruiz  
**Hampton University** Kobi Spence  
**Harvard University** Rosie Du  
**Hobart and William Smith Colleges** Robin Snetsinger  
**Indiana University** Talia Weintraub  
**Indiana University-Bloomington** Samuel Scheps  
**Iona College** Danielle Casapulla, Dean Saracino  
**Iowa State University** Jason Luciani  
**Ithaca College** Madeline Adzigian, Olivia Vitale  
**James Madison** University Caroline Fertman, William Mckean  
**Jefferson University** Angelina Carlino

**Johns Hopkins University** Hillary Yin  
**Lafayette College** Lindsey Kupcho  
**Lehigh University** Spencer Shepard  
**Lincoln Technical University** William Beesly  
**Make-Up Artist** Stephanie White  
**Marist College** Amanda Coscia, Payton Grande, Christopher Greco, Jillian Kaoud, Nicholas Mastrangelo, Jay Patel, Brooke Pethigal, Katerina Spanolios  
**Merrimack College** Kayla Dixon, Declan Kane, Ryan Miller  
**Metro North Conductor** Alec Guerra  
**Michigan State University** Abigail Bowser, Kaylee Huber  
**New York University** Zoe Franklin, Antrim Lottick  
**Northeastern University** Timothy Frieden  
**Northwestern University** Nico Sagnelli  
**Notre Dame Prep School** James Van Hise  
**Penn State University** Parker Fitzgerald  
**Pipe Welder** Joseph Gentile  
**Plumbing** Charles Hoddinott  
**Providence College** Catalina Betancur-Velez, Connor Visnic  
**Purchase College, SUNY** Hayden Nork  
**Purdue University** Ira Einbinder, Eli Lee, Hyunbeen Lee, Felix Liu, Samuel Zhang  
**Quinnipiac University** Caroline Bednar, Gabriella Caruso, Stephen Delaney, Chloe Gherlone, Sebastian Gonzalez, Cole Johnson, Lauren Richetelli, Napoleon Stardellis  
**Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute** Will Cadelina, Arianna Pargen  
**Rhode Island School of Design** Emily Byun, Madison Tom  
**Rochester Institute of Technology** Jonathan Unger, Rich Zheng  
**Rochester Institute of Technology (for illustration)** Jessica Edwards  
**Rollins College** Abigail Harbinson  
**Rutgers University** Kevin Tian  
**SUNY Cortland** Julia Hurlburt  
**Sacred Heart University** Brittany Gambardella, Jacqueline Greco, Nicole Gregory, Cole Kuchachik, Cassidy MacNamara, Jacqueline Tran, Clare Zorena  
**Saint John's University** Jake Bronson, Logan Corris  
**Saint Joseph's University** Anthony Esposito, Cailey Esposito, Luke Tassiello  
**Salve Regina University** Carly Chervenak, Sarah Sudhoff  
**Siena College** Juliana Amici, John Lumpinski, Ashley Thomas  
**Skidmore College** Carolyn Werth  
**Smith College** Elaina Ferraro  
**Southern Connecticut State University** Kaylah Anastasio, Jay Boynton, Harry Brochinsky, Neylani Brown, Lindsay Carloni, Marcello Colonna, Daniel Comeau, Emma Conte, Molly Cooper, Christiane Delda, Rebecca Doyle, Gabriella Flemmig, Nicole Kisiel, Samuel Martin, Brendan Messina, Liam Palazzo, Charmaine Robichaud, Corinne Sadinsky, Andrew Seaton, Michael Shepa, Thomas Swat  
**Stony Brook University** Benjamin Simon, Wen Yuan Wang  
**Syracuse University** Harrison Blume, Gabriel Lipsitz, Mia Sandberg, Jake Skolnick  
**Trade School** Ethan Kron, Jeremy Robichaud  
**Temple University** Ryan Biagetti, Lilah Perrotti  
**Tufts University** Samuel Farbman  
**Tulane University** Tara Mohseni  
**USC School of Cinematic Arts** Pranpariya Boonyalai  
**UMass Amherst** Adam Leszczak  
**United States Marines** Christopher Reed  
**Unity College** Aislinn Glazer  
**University of Albany** Madeline Mason, Ari Wyner  
**University of Bridgeport** Carys Alsgaard, Toddia Reynolds  
**University of British Columbia** Sandrine Pyne  
**University of California- Berkeley** Joseph Benedetti

**University of California- Davis** Katelyn Blake  
**University of Chicago** Elizabeth Brownfield  
**University of Colorado Boulder** Maxwell Dragan, Deyah El-Azhari, Jason Perrotti  
**University of Connecticut** Sara Basyouny, Rebecca Beloin, Jared Beltz, Andrew Boulton, Cole Bova, Emily Bretthauer, Christopher Bullers, Sarah Bullers, Alexander Cadelina, Guo Cheng, Rachael Crow, Liel Davidi, Paige DeGoursey, Joseph Dibenedetto, Brennan Dimauro, Alisa Glenbovitch, Zachary Gordon-Burns, Taylor Gourdier, Kevin Han, Al-lison Hummel, Niha Irshad, Alexa Johnson, Chloe Kehlen-beck, Thomas Kergaravat, Art Koleci, Jason Ky, Rian Lebreck, Jacob Lettick, Clarens Lopez, Connor Marry, Jonathan Mcnelis, Aidan Myatt, Luke Nemecek, Connor Norton, Kaitlyn O'Brien, Soo-Jin Park, Daniel Parker, Madelyn Pickett, John Poland, Lillian Querker, Unaiza Rana, Benjamin Schiff, Dakota Sicignano, Willow Smith, Jared Sullivan, Avital Sutin, Makayla Syphrette, Swetha Tadepalli, Grace Tiddei, Christian Tzepos, Geoffrey Wadey, Reed Wegman, Kevin Zheng, Niki Zheng  
**University of Delaware** Madelyn Ciskowski  
**University of Florida** Alexis Halstead  
**University of Hartford** Pierre Wright  
**University of Illinois - Urbana Champaign** Aman Thombre  
**University of Maine** Joshua Kane, Lillian Morrissey, Garrett Young  
**University of Maryland** Madeline Rosenberg  
**University of Miami** Marc Chodos  
**University of Michigan** Samuel Mahler  
**University of New Hampshire** Hannah Hayes, Hannah Sosensky, Amelia Taddei  
**University of New Haven** Nelson Bordenaleau, Cameron Carre, Christian Castro, Patrick Freeman, Meagan Hawkins, Cassidy Marchitto, Phillip Mingione, Brianna Oakley  
**University of Pittsburgh** Madelyn McCollough  
**University of Rhode Island** Jenna Aconfora, Sophie Benjamin, Adam Daddio, Joseph Direinzo, Sebastian Formica, Shaun Graham, Olivia Kudasik, Maya Levasseur, Gabrielle Nusbaum, Sophie O'Brien, Peter Spodnick, Evan Urda, Isabella Ursini  
**University of Richmond:** Daria Torrenti  
**University of Rochester** Julie Fleischman  
**University of South Carolina** Erin McCormack  
**University of South Florida** Daniel Beckwith, Annalise Giordano  
**University of Southern Maine** Evan Kober  
**University of Tampa** Talia Barry, Carly Grenier, Andrew Kimball  
**University of Tennessee- Knoxville** Anthony Tom  
**University of Texas- Arlington** Jason Clini  
**University of Texas- Dallas** Madison Smith  
**University of Vermont** Izabella Jones, Samuel Koorejian  
**University of Wisconsin** Elana Bershtein  
**Virginia Tech** Spencer Paragas  
**Wentworth Institute of Technology** Frank D'Accounto  
**West Virginia University** Lani Beaudette  
**Western Connecticut State University** Kalynna Hauser, Olivia Pisano, Isabel Salazar, Michael Young, Samantha Zygadlo  
**Western New England University** Colin Hughes, Julia Vinci  
**Wilkes University** Andrea Delvecchio  
**Worcester Polytechnic Institute** Khaled Jarad, Forrest Miller  
**Work** Keith Norton  
**Xavier University** Marcelle Gagnon  
**Yale University** Ian Pittenger

# The Memory Project: Creating a Lasting Impact in Peru

by Natalie Prinz '20

For the 11th year, the Jamie Hully Arts Foundation has funded the Memory Project to allow Drawing and Painting II, AP Drawing, and Honors Art students to create portraits of children in need around the world. These children face substantial challenges such as poverty, violence, war, neglect, or a loss of parents.

The portraits, however, bring joy to the children. Every year, videos sent back to Amity students of the children being very thankful for the art which

was shown through singing, dancing, and laughing.

It is a meaningful and personal project for Amity students and makes a powerful change for the children facing massive struggles in their own lives.

Art teacher Elizabeth Smolinski said, "The students who have participated cite the Memory Project portraits as their favorite project of the year, due to the deeply personal nature of it."

The children have no access to photography, so it is amazing to see the reactions of the children as the portraits are hand delivered by the project's volunteers.

Tracy Lu '20 creat-

ed a portrait and said, "I'm glad that I can create artwork that makes an impact on children around the world."

Lauren Walsh '20 who participated in the project last year said, "I spent so much time making the painting of this Haitian girl named Louis that I felt like I personally knew her. Amity should definitely continue this annual project as it serves as an inspiration to both creators and receivers of the portraits."

She reflected by saying, "Such a simple project led to an incredible feeling."

This year, the portraits are going to Peru to affect the lives of 51 children.



Johan by Jenny Liu

Photo contributed from Kayla Morgan

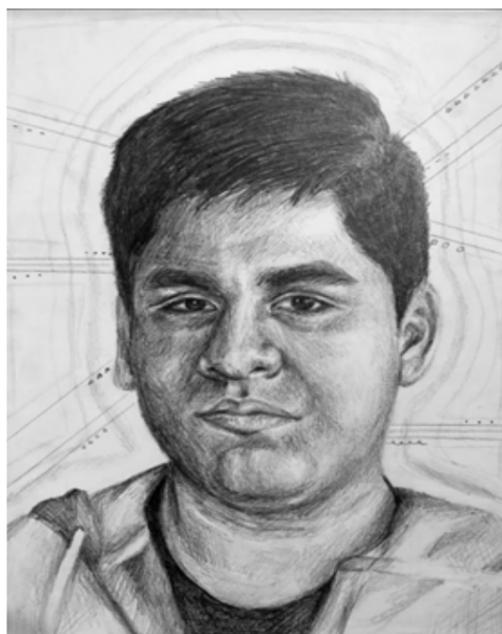


Luna by Rachel Ciarleglio



Luna by Rachel Ciarleglio

Photo contributed from Kayla Morgan



Angel by Tracy Lu

Photo contributed from Tracy Lu

# This Summer's Must See Premier Arts Events

*International Festival of Arts and Ideas*

Date: June 8-22

Location: New Haven

Description: Festival of theater, music, dancing, and visual arts

*Shubert Theater: A Bronx Tale*

Dates: June 26th-30th

Location: Shubert Theater, New Haven

Description: A story about a man stuck between his father he loves and his mob-boss.

*City Seed's Wooster Square Farmers Market*

Date: Every Saturday morning 9am- 1pm

Location: New Haven

Description: The perfect place to find local foods, clothing, and crafts.

*Connecticut Summerfest*

Date: June 13-19

Location: The Hartt School, West Hartford

Description: A cultivation of emerging musicians and composers who put on nightly concerts.

*The 46th Annual Fine Arts Festival*

Date: July 20-21

Location: Downtown Westport

Description: This festival exhibits various categories of arts like paintings, photographs, prints, ceramics, jewelry, and many more for sale.

*Shakespeare on the Sound: Twelfth Night*

Dates: June 20th-July 7th

Location: Pinkney Park, Rowayton

Description: One of Shakespeare's most beloved comedies.



International Festival of Arts and Ideas Logo

Photo from parknewhaven.com

**Congratulations to Amity Creative Theatre for the eight Sondheim nominations they received for their performance of "Catch Me If You Can," including nomination for best musical. Ryan Kennedy and Marty Gnidula were also nominated for best actor. Andrea Kennedy won best choreography at the awards ceremony at the Shubert Theatre in New Haven on June 3.**

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Book Review

# “Conversion”: A Page-Turner Lacking Closure

by Nicole Mongillo '20

The novel “Conversion” by Katherine Howe, is one of those books that creates a mysteriously engaging plot supplemented with well-crafted themes that just cannot seem to find a way to satisfyingly end what it started. The story is intriguing from the first line, and immersion only amplifies as it continues.

The novel follows Colleen Rowley, a high school senior at the pretentious St. Joan’s Academy near Boston. Colleen’s school garners national attention as girl after girl falls prey to a “Mystery Illness,” which causes seizures and speech impediments, among other ailments.

As hopes of finding a plausible cause for the illness dwindle, rumors and public hysteria escalate rapidly. Colleen’s story is juxtaposed with interludes from Ann Putnam, a real woman of the early 1700s, confessing her involvement in the Salem Witch Trials to a reverend fourteen years after the fact.

The author expertly demonstrates how even though we may be centuries away from the gruesome outcomes of the trials, we still fall prey to the same pitfalls of fear and misinfor-

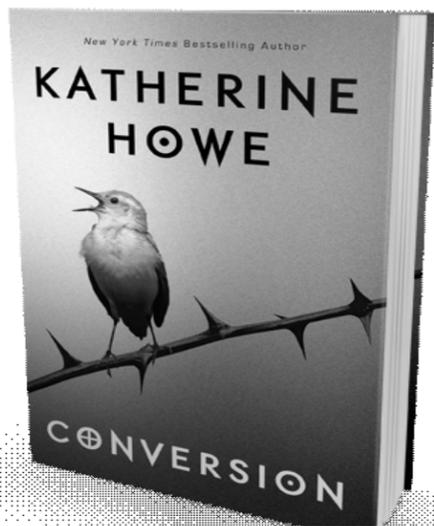
mation. The dire necessity of questioning what people claim or assume to be true is one of the most vital takeaways of the story, as it helped Colleen see through misinformation about the disease, and would have saved many condemned women in Ann’s time.

Because of all the connections between both girls’ stories, the ending of the story is highly anticipated. There were several indicators of a potentially intriguing twist to explain the mystery illness and a strong, meaningful connection between Colleen and Ann, beyond the concurring themes of their tales.

However, no such ending occurred. The disease explanation felt extremely lackluster compared to all the clues and hints at a larger problem that later turned out to be unreal.

One can understand that Howe was trying to show how getting caught up in the panic of a situation can seriously impact the ability to tell fact from fiction, but the ending felt rather uneventful and boring.

As a whole, the book shed valuable light on the unmanageable pressures teenage girls face, as well as examined the very real effects mental health struggles can have on young women; however, the book sets a high bar for itself that it does not live up to in the end.



# Symphonic Wind Ensemble Ends with Spring Concert

by Kayla Morgan '20

This year’s annual Symphonic Wind Ensemble Spring Concert was held on Thursday, May 9th. This concert is a culmination of all of the hard work that the musicians have put in since the Winter concert in December.

With all of this time, the band pushes themselves to learn the five following songs: Farandole, Sla-

va, Forged in Fire, King Cotton, and Incantations. These five songs ranged in difficulty from a song written for middle schoolers to a piece by Leonard Bernstein.

Junior pianist Nicole Cohen said, “This year’s songs were overall a lot more difficult to learn than last year’s. These songs had so many key changes and varying tempos. However, this just made the feeling a lot better after the concert because

we all knew that we could play these songs.”

The Spring Concert is also the last concert for the graduating seniors. Next year the band will be losing many hard-working, ambitious seniors. This year’s seniors were responsible for coordinating many facets of the band including the annual Music in Motion. They took control and helped choreograph multiple numbers for the show.

Sophomore Mason Zhang said, “It’ll be hard next year without the seniors. All of the seniors were so passionate at band, and it showed through their playing. They were some of the best musicians in the band. They held the band together and will be very hard to replace.”

This concert could not have happened, though, without Conductor Phil Dolan.

Zhang said, “Mr Dolan puts so much work and effort into this band. He methodically picks pieces that can challenge us but are possible to play, he urges us to practice, and gets time for the whole band to rehearse together before the concert.”

The next time the band’s hard work can be seen is during Music in Motion next Fall.



Seniors Spencer Shepard, Julia Potter, Rosie Du, and Dalia Medovnikov  
Photo contributed by Rosie Du

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# Boys Tennis Wraps Up Strong Season

by Elliott Wyndorf '20

After a shaky start to the season by losing to several schools such as Guilford and Xavier, the tennis team began to hit their stride in the second half of the season. The biggest win of the regular season came against Guilford. Going into this match, both teams knew that the winner would get the 3 seed in the SCC tournament, and the loser would get the 4 seed.

After six out of the seven matches were finished, Amity and Guilford had each won three a piece. The deciding match would be the Number 1 singles match, which had sophomore Brett Gloria '21 playing for Amity, and Gianni Esposito for Guilford.

Tied 5-5 in the third set, rain started to pour on the court, and the match had to be resumed the next day. Gloria would end up being victorious, winning

the biggest match of the regular season.

By the end of the regular season, the team was able to finish with a solid record of 13-5.

"Regular season we did pretty well but we could've done better," said Gabe Sabetelli '20. "We lost to a team [Fairfield Prep] we previously beat but that's pretty much it."

This statement accurately represents this team's mindset. While the regular season is important and they want to win every match possible, the real focus is on the post-season.

In the SCC tournament, this group of Amity boys did not disappoint. Going into the tournament, Sabetelli said, "I feel like we have a shot on making it to the finals. The playoffs will be tough but I'm confident we can make it far."

Sabetelli was right, as Amity reached the SCC finals After beating Bran-

ford in the Quarterfinals, Amity squared off against Fairfield Prep in the Semifinals.

Suffering a heart-breaker against Prep only three weeks earlier, the Spartans were determined win. Amity was on the brink of elimination when Tri-Captain Ben Schiff '19 was down at match point.

If he lost that point, Prep would have advanced to the finals. But Schiff fought back, and Amity won the match. Unfortunately in the finals, they got knocked out by Daniel Hand.

After a frustrating ending, Amity was still looking to make an impact as the state finals approached. After 3 rounds, Amity tennis player Brett Gloria '21 still stood with a legitimate shot to to win the Class LL singles tournament. He ended up making it to the Semifinals, an extremely impressive accomplishment.

# Girls Lacrosse Finishes on a High Note

by Jade Krukar '22

New year, new schedule for the Amity Girls Lacrosse Team this season. Starting this year, this team was placed in the Division 2 portion of the Southern Connecticut Conference. Because of this new position, they faced off against a new lineup of competition. However, these girls did not disappoint. The team ended with an impressive 10-8 record.

Finishing with this record was not an easy job. Throughout the season, these Spartans faced many tough teams including Jonathan Law, Foran, Southington, Hamden, West Haven, Norwalk, Masuk, Shelton, and Lyman Hall high schools.

If they lost, it was because the other team had truly deserved to win. Almost all of their losses were close games, and many of them went into overtime.

In order for a team to

18-7 on the road.

Once most teams reach their season goal, they ease up, but this lacrosse team is different. They fought through the playoffs, and won the qualifying round against Southington by a score of 13-7.

In the first round, they eventually took a loss against Darien, who is ranked 10th in the state.

In addition to being fierce competitors on the field, this team is like a family off the field. Throughout the year, the team bonded and completed many fundraisers such as a pizza fundraiser, krispy kreme donuts for senior night, and a car wash.

Overall, the season was a big success for the girls. "I couldn't be happier. I'm so proud of the team and every little accomplishment," says captain Maddie Pickett '19. "Each player brought something positive to our team and never failed to



Amity Boys Tennis Team Dressed Up for SCC Finals

Photo contributed by Brett Gloria



The Amity Girls Lacrosse Team in a huddle

Photo from @ag\_lax

be successful in sports, it has to set a goal. For this group of girls, their main focus for the season was to make States. This is by no means an easy task; out of 31 teams in the Class L division, only 20 make it into states. With this goal in mind, the Spartans worked tirelessly during practices and games.

Towards the end of the season, they achieved that goal after beating Foran

put a smile on my face. I will miss this group of girls more than anything but I know they will do big things."

This positive team spirit is exactly why this team is destined for great things in the years to come.

They fought hard this year, and their strong bonds off the field sets them up for a promising 2020 season.



# Baseball Makes SCC Final

by Benjamin Martin '21

On Monday May 20, the Amity Varsity Baseball team matched up against East Haven for the first round of the SCC tournament. The game was a pitchers duel between Amity starter Michael Shepa '19 and East Haven starter Nate Furino. Shepa tossed 5 innings allowing one run on four hits while striking out 5.

Will Rotko '20 threw two innings in relief allowing no runs and no hits while striking out 3. Offense was hard to come by for both sides but two big homeruns decided the game. In the third inning, East Haven's Jake Marquardt hit a solo home run making the score 1-0.

At moments during the game, it was looking like the Spartans would lose. But in the 5th inning that all changed. To start off the inning, John McNellis '19 singled. After McNellis started off the rally, Julian Stevens '21 continued it by hitting a line drive

allowing six runs on 3 hits while only striking out two. The Spartans struck once in the first inning on an RBI single by center fielder Julian Stevens.

Hand did not take long to respond. In the top of the third inning, Hand scored 2 on an RBI single by pitcher Julian Banerji and an RBI double by third baseman Anthony Depino. Daniel Hand continued their momentum into the 4th inning, when their right fielder Telford had an RBI single to take a 3-1 lead.

Things were looking grim for the Spartans, but Hand would soon find out that the game was far from over. In the bottom half of that inning that Spartans offense erupted, scoring 5 runs.

To start the inning catcher Jacob Crow '21 had an RBI single. Then second baseman Tanner Santos walked scoring Ryan Nuzzo '20 making the score 3-3. Then with bases loaded Cole Kuchachik '19 came up to the plate and hit a tri-

### Final Score

Amity: 7

Hand: 6

Coming off the win against Hand, the Amity Spartans went into their SCC finals matchup against their rival—the Cheshire Rams. The starting pitchers for the game were Rob Roles for the Rams and Jack Ranani '21 for the Spartans.

Roles allowed two runs on four hits while striking out two through five innings, and Ranani threw three innings allowing one run on five hits while striking out two.

The offense started right away for the Rams. In the bottom of the first inning, catcher second baseman Paul Villeco scored, making the score 1-0 Rams.

In the fourth inning, the Spartans tied it up with a solo home run by center fielder by Julian Stevens.

This tie held until the 6th inning, when the Spartans added to their lead with a sac fly by pitcher Jack Ranani, and a single

# Amity Frisbee Grows Its Team

by David Sugarmann '20

As we move into June, spring sports are starting to wrap for Amity. Because of this, we can now look back on each team's season and see all of the accomplishments and memories. In particular, Ultimate Frisbee has had phenomenal year, and its success, both on the field and off the field, seems destined to continue.

To start off, Ultimate Frisbee players around the country already start off against many challenges that other sports do not.

According to Sean Lee '20, there are some people out

there "that don't think it's a sport". This team uses this as motivation during every practice and game in order to prove the critics wrong.

A large part of the success of this team is due to the captains. Leading the way this year was Jessica Hatrick '19, Billy McKeon '19, and Ari Wyner '19. These captains inspired their teammates day in and day out, and created a legacy of greatness for their team. While these three seniors help the rest of the team with their throwing and catching techniques, they also stress the importance of having good sportsmanship.

In ultimate frisbee, there are no referees or officials to make calls during the game. When Lee was asked about this component of the game, he responded, "In my opinion, that's what makes the game special. By being our own referees, we gain a connection with other teams that you don't get in many other sports."

Consequently, the sport requires both teams to have good player conduct and to play fairly. Hatrick, McKeon, and Wyner emphasize and model this behavior, and it has definitely paid off.

When Lee was asked what the most crucial component of ultimate frisbee is, he stressed the importance of "commu-

nication." During every play of every game, every Spartan on the field needs to be in constant communication with one another in order to be successful.

If this is not done, players will not be where they are supposed to be, and the team will suffer. Because this aspect of ultimate frisbee is so vital, it has been a priority of this



Seniors Jessica Hatrick and Spencer Paragas on the field

Photo from @amity\_ultimatefrisbee

squad for the entirety of the season.

Lee explained that the team is a "since it's a small sport, it's a pretty tightly knit community." This could not be more true. Whenever there is nice weather, these frisbee players are always seen outside playing spikeball with each other and anyone else that wants to join. Doing this was made the team a lot closer.

During the season, the Ultimate team performed very well. One major highlight of the season was when the Junior Varsity team took home the Spirit Award at the Greens Farm Academy tournament. This is a testament to the amount of positive energy this team brings, and they definitely deserved it.

Later in the season the Varsity team got third place in a tournament hosted at Amity. A week later, the Spartans continued their momentum into States, placing highly and receiving a spirit award.

Lastly, captain Jessica Hatrick was selected into the Ultimate Frisbee All Star State Team.

When asked about the season overall, Lee replied, "The team and I enjoyed every second of it, and we are all so proud of our accomplishments."

This team had an amazing year, and it will be exciting to see what they do in years to come.



home run right over the center field fence, winning the game for the Spartans.

### Final Score

Amity: 7

East Haven: 6

Following the quarterfinals win on Monday, Amity went into their semifinals match against Hand. The starting pitchers for this game were John Lumpinski '19 for the Amity Spartans and Julian Banerji for the Hand Tigers. Lumpinski threw four innings for the Spartans, allowing three runs on six hits while striking out 7.

On the other end of the matchup, Julian Banerji threw 3 and two thirds innings for the Hand Tigers,

### Amity's Senior Catcher Logan Corris

Photo from orangectlive.com

ple which scored three runs making the score 6-3.

In the following inning, Amity's second baseman Tanner Santos '20 tripled, which ended up giving Amity a 7-3 lead. The top of the seventh was a little bit of a scare for the Spartans.

The Tigers scored three runs in the seventh on an RBI single by Anthony Depino, a sacrifice fly by catcher Kevin Girardi, and an RBI double by Will Kleinhenz. In the end, the Spartans prevailed, winning the game 7-6.

John Lumpinski was the winning pitcher and Will Rotko got the save.

by first baseman Sebastian Holt '19.

Things were looking good for the Spartans, but in the bottom of the seventh, the Rams offense scored three runs.

In the inning, Catcher Matt Costello doubled scoring second baseman Paul Villeco and SCC player of the year right fielder Ryan Strollo. This made the score 3-3.

Designated hitter Matt Downing officially clinched the game for the Rams soon after with a walk off single, bringing the final score to 4-3.

### Final Score

Amity: 3

Cheshire: 4

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