

## Spaltro appointed temporary principal

by **Ariel Gans**

*Associate Editor*

The search for a principal continues.

In a few weeks, Frances Spaltro, Ph.D., will begin her year-long term as Acting associate principal, while Director Robin Appleby and her advisory committee continue the search.

With current Principal Scott Fech beginning as Lab's Director of Educational Programs on July 1, the committee spent two months conducting a national search to replace him. Two finalists from a pool of nearly 50 applicants each spent a day on campus the week of May 11 interviewing with the Lab community.

Following the on-campus interviews, the committee gathered feedback before submitting a recommendation to Ms. Appleby. However, prior to being offered the position, the recommended candidate withdrew his application, causing the search to extend into next year. Meanwhile, Ms. Appleby appointed Ms. Spaltro to be acting associate principal for the next year, allowing U-High to continue to make progress on all current initiatives. Ms. Spaltro is a Latin teacher and World Language department co-chair.

"We had always known that there was a possibility that the search might not result in identifying the right person for the job," Ms. Appleby said. "So simultaneous to conducting the search, we were also considering internal candidates for an acting associate role."

"There's a difference between 'acting' and 'interim' principal," Ms. Appleby said. "Acting associate principal means that the role will only exist next year, and while Dr. Spaltro will be the leader of the high school, she may not have all of the responsibilities of regular principalship. Dr. Spaltro, Ms. Ahmed, and Ms. Campos will take a team approach."



*photo by Nikita Dulin*

**Frances Spaltro assists sophomore Zora Navarre with a Latin project. Starting this summer, Ms. Spaltro will assume responsibilities as acting associate principal.**

Ms. Spaltro will work with Assistant Principal Asra Ahmed and Dean of Students Ana Campos to lead U-High. Mr. Fech, in his new role, will advise and mentor that team. They will meet soon to divide responsibilities for next year and get advice about what needs to be done.

In 13 years at Lab, Ms. Spaltro has served as Lead Advisor, coached Dance Troupe, coordinated May Project and been a faculty sponsor for the Model United Nations team. As co-chair of the World Languages Department for the last two years, she understands how administrative decisions are made.

"Ms. Spaltro was the best fit given what we were looking for," Ms. Appleby said. "Which was somebody who knew the high school and students well and was

really supportive of student activities. She's also very highly respected as a teacher both by her colleagues and by her students, so she seemed like somebody who would fit well into the team and leadership role for a year."

Ms. Spaltro emphasizes that this is a one-year position. "They need someone to step in for a year only, and I'm willing to do it. It wasn't a difficult decision, but it was an important decision, and I'm very much looking forward to the challenge."

Though stepping out of her role as department co-chair and teacher for a year, Ms. Spaltro requested to continue with her Class of 2017 advisory group. Meanwhile, the school will hire a part-time teacher to cover her Latin classes and her elective, Ancient Greek Performance and Competition.

As for the principal search, the committee will not begin actively interviewing until early fall. Changes to the committee will likely include the addition of a high school learning and counseling department member and a U-High parent. Each candidate visit will likely extend over two days instead of one. The principal job description won't change and the application window will remain open over the summer.

Since the announcement on May 26, Ms. Spaltro has received unanticipated recognition from the Lab community.

"I've been really truly touched by the support from faculty, parents, administrators and students," Ms. Spaltro said. "It's not about pride, it's about faith in me to do this. It's an honor to do this for my community. This is a community that I'm devoted to and that kind of support means the world when you're stepping into something that is daunting."

## Construction continues apace Last week culminates in frenzy of ceremonies and graduation

by **Micaiah Buchheim-Jurisson**

*Associate Editor*

Over the next few months, Gordon Parks Arts Hall opens, Judd and the bottom floor of U-High undergoes renovation, a temporary Cafeteria arrives to Kenwood Mall, new pathways are added around the school and the other floors of U-High eventually begin undergoing renovations.

Gordon Parks Arts Hall is scheduled to be completed by the start of school in September, according to Associate Director Dave Stafford. Arts classes will move to the Art Hall starting in August.

The music classrooms in the West Belfield tower are included in the move to the new building.

The bottom floor of U-High will also undergo renovation, including Café Lab. Later, the other three floors of U-High will be renovated as well.

Similar to the plan for Judd, the offices and non-arts-related classrooms on the bottom floor of U-High will move temporarily to other locations in the school.

During the renovations of the Cafeteria, beginning in September, the school plans to set up a temporary cafeteria space in Kenwood Mall where "Lab Logs" playground currently stands.

The Café, scheduled to reopen in March 2016, is redesigned around food stations, as opposed to a single line.

"The new cafeteria will be much more efficient," Mr. Stafford said.

Beginning in August, all four floors and the basement will undergo renovation, and the offices and non-arts classrooms currently in Judd will be temporarily moved to other locations in the school, including in Blaine and the West Belfield tower. The senior lounge and dean's office will also move to the vacated music classrooms in the West Belfield tower.

After renovations, Judd will contain offices and U-High classrooms. Judd



*photo by Sarah Pan*

**The Gordon Parks Art Hall is set to open this fall, housing performance halls, studios and a digital media lab.**

207, which currently houses world language offices, as well as the current business office, will be converted to the new U-High library, and the middle school will gain full use of Rowley Library.

Some of the campus' green space lost in the renovations will also return, including Scammons Gardens and the "secret garden," the mall between U-High and what was Belfield — as it was colloquially known.

"There will be berms, water collection, a pond and benches," Mr. Stafford said. "When this plan was laid out, Mr. Magill wanted to make sure that there would still be a large amount of flat space," referring to a plan for the school laid out by former Director David Magill completed over a decade ago.

Additionally, a number of passageways are being added and renovated to increase accessibility between Judd and U-High, a path which currently bends around a classroom, and will become straight. An office and classroom will be added to that space.

Lastly, after everything else is completed, a passageway will be added between the third floor of U-High and the third floor of Judd.

by **Talia Goerge-Karron**

**and Raghu Somala**

*Midway staff*

The last week of the school year will be a jumble of tests, final events, awards ceremonies and celebrations. Labstock, May Projects, academic and athletic awards ceremonies, Prom and finally graduation all put a cap on the 2014-15 year.

Seniors spent the past four weeks at work on May Project, one of the last events in their high school career. Many chose projects that involved research or travel. The seniors presented projects June 4 in Upper Kovler.

The U-High Awards Ceremony also took place today during an extended assembly period at International House, where various accolades were presented alongside department awards to students of all grades.

Tomorrow, from 3:30-6 p.m. on Kenwood Mall, the annual Labstock concert will highlight musical acts from the student body. Sophomore Alex Lund has been tapped to organize the musical acts. Student Council will grill hot dogs, hamburgers and veggie burgers and provide popsicles, all free for U-Highers. Students also can perform karaoke by talking to their class representatives. Interested performers should email Alex at alexlund@gmail.com.

Saturday, June 6, the Museum of Science and Industry will be the venue for the Prom from 6:30-10:30 p.m. Tickets are \$115 per person, which includes dinner. Organizers chose to use the museum's dramatic backdrop rather than decorating around a theme.

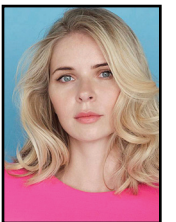
Next week, seniors will gather for the annual Graduation luncheon Wednesday, June 10, at the Cloister Club in Ida Noyes Hall from 11:30 a.m. 1 p.m. Immediately after lunch, rehearsal for

graduation will take place until 3:30 p.m. at Rockefeller Chapel. Honorary diplomas will be awarded at the luncheon, a time for seniors to give toasts about their class.

Final exams are scheduled for math and science during the last week of classes. Science will take place Tuesday, June 9 from 9-11 a.m., and math will be the same time on Wednesday, June 10.

Graduation will be the next day, June 11, at Rockefeller Chapel. Seniors must be in Lower Kovler by 1:30 p.m. to line up. The ceremony begins at 2:30 p.m. and typically lasts 90 minutes. A reception for the Class of 2015 will begin immediately afterward on the Booth School of Business lawn.

Lily Koppel, U-High Class of 1999, journalist and author of two books will be speaking at the Class of 2015 graduation ceremony, along with Senior Class President Whitney Beach and Cultural Union Vice President Apoorva Gundeti.



**Lily Koppel**

There will also be musical performances from seniors Valentina Gardner, Sebastien Labossiere, and Karen Dai.

"We chose Ms. Koppel because she was a successful graduate of Lab, and also on the come up," Whitney, member of the Selection Committee, said. "She's a published author of a few books such as The Red Leather Diary and The Astronaut's Wives Club—which ABC is turning into a television show this year. We asked teachers for recommendations for a speaker, and they suggested her to us. Then when we called her, she said yes immediately. She was our first choice, and we were very glad that she was so enthusiastic."



# Appleby, Fech reflect before looking ahead

*Communication among five campuses important, says Director Robin Appleby*

by Micaiah Buchheim-Jurisson  
Associate editor

In the fall, Midway Editor-in-Chief Mike Glick sat down with Laboratory Schools Director Robin Appleby to discuss Ms. Appleby's vision and goals for the school. On May 27, the Midway returned to talk to Ms. Appleby to reflect on her first year as director and to look ahead.

**What is the most idiosyncratic thing you've seen at Lab so far?**

Two things: Lab itself has undergone a lot of change, and is still in the midst of a lot of change with construction, and that tends to color how people think about their work in the place. So there are concerns about how we maintain community when we're split into two campuses — what are the steps we take to improve if our communication seems to have broken down, what will be the impact of having a new director or having people in new positions. So that is something that has been an active piece on people's minds. It isn't necessarily that they're resistant to change, but they're trying to understand how change will affect their lives here. So that's one thing. And because Lab is well established, and because many of the faculty have been here for a long time, change is not as common here in the culture of the place as it might be in other schools that have shorter histories or more turnover.

Another thing that's been particular to Lab is the sort of ownership that people have of the place. Alumni, students, teachers, administrators, everybody really feels that they own a piece of the place, and sometimes, that can create a bit of conflict over who owns what and who gets to decide what, and that is probably a stronger tension here than I've seen in other schools.

**If we're sitting in this spot a year from now, what would you like to be able to check off as an accomplishment?**

I think I would like people to think about how the five schools create one whole school. We've got five divisions of the school and we've got Lab overall; how do we manage the transitions for students between those schools more smoothly, and how do we get the faculties of those five schools talking to have more understanding of how the curriculum piece goes together, because that's really important.

I think that we would like to engage our alumni more. Our alumni are tremendously passionate and there's a lot more we can be doing to encourage alumni to come onto campus, to encourage them to come to student events here and to keep them engaged.

**We've recently finished a multi-million dollar capital program, built two new buildings,**



Photo by Paige Fishman  
Lab Schools Director Robin Appleby and U-High Principal Scott Fech enjoy the sunny spring weather while sitting in the courtyard discussing the last few weeks of school.

**and begun remodeling. What is next? In other words, what is the compelling reason to continue to support Lab?**

Lab will have a launch, sometime in the next year, of a campaign, and we're in the process now of defining what our targeted goals will be. We know a significant portion of this next campaign will align with the University's Inquiry and Impact campaign—what do we want to fund that will help further education.

We know a big piece of this will continue to be financial aid, because we would like to meet more of the financial aid needs that our population has. But we're also in the process now of articulating programs that people could give to to support for long term. So for instance, we had a very generous gift this year from a family that will support programs between Lab and the Charter Schools of the Urban Education Institute that will actually allow students from Lab and the Charter Schools to be able to work together, perhaps take some nighttime classes together, and get involved in programs in the future. We're just beginning to develop that. So funding for educational programs would also be an important part of the next campaign.

I would love to create — and I have suggested it to the Board of Directors — basically an umbrella organization, a center for experiential learning, so that we could support faculty in the development projects

on experiential learning, that we could potentially provide faculty course relief while they develop new ideas and do research, that we offer more courses, particularly in middle and high school, that would offer more hands-on experiential learning that kids tend to get more of at the younger ages. This would allow us to expand our community partnerships as well.

**In your interview with Michael, you also mentioned increasing collaboration with the University on different programs.**

So the work with the Urban Education Institute has been a big success, because we talked about it at the beginning of the year, and we were able to get a significant amount of funding to enable that to go forward. Another example of what we've had success with this year is that we've gotten funding for students to go to the Marine Biological Laboratory this summer, so we have 10 students going on full-pay scholarships. We have also received funding from the University of Chicago Women's Board to continue to further develop that in 2016, and write a curriculum for during the school year for students to use and do research. So we're constantly looking for ways to expand those relationships. We're planning next year in Gordon Parks to have one University speaker each term to do an open community and family lecture, geared towards adults and kids and families.

## Despite new position, Fech will still be 'down the hall'

by Elizabeth Chon  
Associate editor

After three years in his position, U-High Principal Scott Fech will begin a new role as the Laboratory Schools Director of Educational Programs starting July 1. Mr. Fech will work with administrators and teachers of all grade levels and divisions.

This reflective interview took place May 27.

**What initially drew you towards the position as director of educational programs?**

I guess what draws anyone to anything is that there is something interesting. If I had some success as a high school principal, can I have some success with a wider group and larger school community? So far, I've been very focused on the top end of the precollegiate education. The majority of my experiences have been middle and high school, but you don't come as blank slates in high school. You don't come as blank slates in nursery school either, since you've had experiences at home with your parents, but all of the work that has to happen between the ages of three and 15 is really fascinating to me. So the opportunity to learn more about that and to see how all

these pieces come together, is interesting to me as an educator.

**What do you like most about being principal of U-High?**

The most important thing to me is feeling so welcome from the very beginning and getting to know the people who are associated with Lab — the faculty, the students, the parents. In all of my educational history books, and in all of my preparation as an administrator and a teacher, Lab is always mentioned. And there's a sense of humility that comes with that, that I'm here. And I'm reminded of that all the time. Moments when you see the success, when you're in a classroom and you see something really cool happen in an experiment. Or when you see a lightbulb go off in a math classroom. Or when you get to be a witness and a participant in an English discussion. To be a part of the jazz concert last night and hear the amazing things that are happening. It's all of that. And there's going to be more of that.

If I had a dollar for every time that someone said, "Well now that you're leaving," and I say, "But I'm not leaving, I'm just going down the hall." I still have every intention of staying connected to the high school, but also

to the other schools as well.

**What will you miss most about being principal?**

I'll miss the direct interaction with students. It's not that I won't have that, and I'm going to seek that out, but it's not as easy because I'll be pulled in a lot of directions, in a lot of different ways. I probably won't be able to develop the same level of relationships with incoming students. With the seniors, we've known each other for a long time, so that will be maintained. And it's the same with the rising juniors and the rising sophomores. But it'll be harder for me to get to know the incoming freshmen. There is something very special about being principal, so I will miss that. But I think it's offset by the excitement of the other opportunities that are going to be presented.

**What are you looking forward to the most for next year?**

I'm going to say it's on two fronts. One is that I'm an adviser, and to be with my advisees in their senior year and to walk with them through that process; I'm really excited about that. And that goes for all of the seniors. I've seen such growth and such maturity and so many successes. I've seen peo-

ple pick themselves up and dust themselves off when they face challenges and to see where that has brought this class is really exciting.

Especially now that I'm a dad for the first time, I'm excited to learn more about the early childhood education program here. My intention in the fall quarter is to spend a day with a Nursery 3 teacher, to spend a day with Nursery 4, kindergarten, first, second, third, fourth and fifth grade. I want to learn what their day-to-day life is like.

For the middle school, I know a little bit more because my first principalship was at a grade 7-12 school, so I've worked with that age group. But what is it like to be a homeroom teacher? What is it like to be a special area teacher? What is it like to be an art teacher? I'm excited to see that and learn about that and begin to make connections.

I also know that one of the additional responsibilities is going to be the university partnerships, so I look forward to extending my understanding of what we already do but also seeking out other opportunities and supporting our faculty members. And I look forward to working with all the principals and supporting the needs of their divisions.



# SCHOOL'S OUT FOR GOOD

*U-High loses three longtime educators as they retire after a total of 80 years at Lab*

## Lee Gustafson, music

by **Maia Boussy**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

"I cannot find the words of gratitude and thanks for all the students and families that I've had a chance to work with as well as colleagues and administrators," said music teacher Lee Gustafson, who will retire this year after teaching at the Laboratory Schools for 32 years in the lower, middle and high schools.

In his 46-year career, Mr. Gustafson has taught AP Music Theory, Explorations in Music, Jazz Band, and the Band in fifth through eighth grades.

After hearing about the position from his college classmate, former Lab music teacher Dominic Piane, Mr. Gustafson came to work as a band teacher in the middle school.

"I had taught in public schools for 14 years and found out from Dominic Piane that they were looking for a new music teacher," he said. "He contacted me and we talked about what the position would involve. After teaching a couple practice classes, I got the job."

Mr. Gustafson felt it was time for him to retire so he could experience new things, starting with his son's graduation from Knox College June 7.

"After 46 years, I am in a financial position where I can afford to retire and take advantage of my remaining, hopefully healthy and productive, years doing things that I have not been able to do up until this point," Mr. Gustafson said.

Exploring both the West Coast and Europe, Mr. Gustafson plans to spend his retirement traveling.

"I am going to travel, both domestically and internationally," Mr. Gustafson said. "Within the United States, I want to travel to the Rocky Mountains, Colorado and New Mexico. Internationally I want to go to the U.K. — England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. I also would like to possibly go to Sweden and Germany, as well as Norway and Finland."

"My wife continues to work; she's an attorney with a global aerospace corporation," he said. "She has to do significant international travels and I'm now going to tag along with her, something I haven't been able to do before."

One of the highlights of his career, Mr. Gustafson has enjoyed watching and participating in the development of the Laboratory Schools over the past three decades.

"It has been absolutely interesting to see and to observe the growth of Lab School, both physically, with the new arts wing, middle school, and gym that are being built, and the size of enrolment. We have grown substantially in size and diversity and that's been a really remarkable thing to observe and be a



**Lee Gustafson**

part of."

His time at the Laboratory Schools has had a significant impact on Mr. Gustafson.

"My son was a 'lifer,' from age three through high school," he said. "I have to say, both professionally and personally, this school has been a great place to be as a teacher. It has been a joy and a pleasure. I will remember Lab School fondly and with great respect."

## Bud James, physical education

by **Marissa Martinez**  
*Associate Editor*

Head Coach of U-High cross country and track and field. Founding member of Running USA. Recipient of the 2015 Illinois Track and Cross Country Coaches Association Hall of Fame award.

Though he didn't originally plan to coach runners, gym teacher Bud James has invested a lot of his time and energy to running, contributing everywhere from U-High to coaching the U.S. National Team in Seoul for the 1992 International Road Relay. Mr. James has taught at the Laboratory Schools for 27 years.

"Running sort of chose me rather than me choosing it," Mr. James said. "I was told to coach track in my first year. I started running when I was in college as a part of my college baseball fitness program, and continued it after I graduated."

Even after he worked his way up to being a nationally recognized coach and race director, Mr. James still wanted to do more for his community. He co-founded Running USA, a company that strives to improve the status of road racing through different events, with about 25 other running industry figures in Los Angeles. Mr. James also set up an ITCCCA scholarship award in 1995 to help high school runners go to college and continue running.

"I got a bunch of money from the Chicago Sporting Goods Expo by organizing a group of people to continually run on treadmills for the five days of the show. It paid by the hour, and turned out to be a good amount, so I donated it to ITCCCA with the stipulation that it be used for a scholarship."

Mr. James will miss his students after retiring.

"After I retire, I will miss the kids, who constantly reinforced to me that the future is in their hands," Mr. James said. "I also will miss the constant interaction with students who never make a day the same as any other."

## Carolyn Walter, English

by **Clyde Schwab**  
*Associate Editor*

For English teacher Carolyn Walter, teaching runs in the family. Part of four generations of English teachers, Ms. Walter never planned to follow her mother and grandmother into the classroom.

"I saw my mother always grading papers and working and I thought that I didn't want to do this," Ms. Walter said. "Then, when I was in college, I got to the point where if I was going to be a theoretical about something, I'd rather be theoretical about English than something like math."

After 21 years at U-High, Ms. Walter will retire at the end of June.

Born in Marion, Ohio, Ms. Walter went to Marion Harding High School and, after graduating in 1968, went to the College of Wooster where she studied English. However, it wasn't until she graduated and participated in a Masters of Art in Teaching program at the University of Chicago recommended to her by her adviser that she discovered her love for teaching.

"Coming to the MAT program here, I saw how purposeful and creative I could be designing curriculum," Ms. Walter said. "It seemed so exciting to break down skills so that students could acquire them and create curricula to do that. That's when I knew I could teach for my whole professional life, because it's always new and exciting."

Despite her long history at U-High, Ms. Walter emphasized the flexibility to let her curriculum evolve.

"I see what my students know, what they don't know and then modify things and change things," she said. "I saw that curriculum design wasn't dead and could be ongoing, and it was the antithesis of asking questions then answering them."

According to sophomore Eamonn Keenan, Ms. Walter's ability to be flexible in her curriculum helped foster an inquisitive learning environment.

"I remember coming into sophomore year pretty anxious of what English 2 was going to bring," Eamonn said. "Ms. Walter made the transition incredibly easy and pain free. The curriculum she enforces follows an incredibly intuitive timeline, and it provides really compelling topics. I'm going to sincerely miss the environment of the classroom and the guidance in and outside the classroom Ms. Walter has provided."

Even in retirement, Ms. Walter won't be far from a classroom since her daughter also continues the family craft of education.

"I love that she teaches at the Wolcott School," Ms. Walter said. "She didn't know that she wanted to be a teacher, either, but she started out doing Teach for America in Baltimore and got her MAT degree at Johns Hopkins. So we've always enjoyed reading some of the same things and discussing teaching. She's like another colleague for me."



**Carolyn Walter**

# Middle and Lower School faculty bid fond farewell to Lab

by **Alex Harron and Natalie Glick**  
*Associate Editor and Midway Reporter*

Other Lab faculty members are also retiring this year. They were honored with a retirement reception May 28 in Upper Kovler.

High school science teacher **Daniel McDonald** will retire this year and declined to be interviewed.

This was 5th grade teacher **Bob Kass'** 25th year at the Laboratory Schools. Before coming to Lab, he taught both junior high school and college in Florida and California.

"I started teaching because it was useful," Mr. Kass said. "It adds value to our community and hopefully to a society as a whole. It gives me the opportunity to engage with people, be that students, colleagues or parents. It has also always challenged my mind to find ways to communicate and help students learn or frame a subject or topic in such a way that it's meaningful to them."

Mr. Kass has always worked to teach his students lifelong lessons.

"I hope to have contributed a whole range of things to the Lab Schools," Mr. Kass said. "Perhaps the most important is teaching students not to be super competitive or outperform their classmates, and to be respectful, caring, decent human beings. I worked hard to create a safe environment where everyone feels safe and doesn't have to worry about how they will be treated by their classmates."

**Elaine Woerner** first came to the Lab community in 1994 as a parent. She was a stay-at-home mom who volunteered at school, and in 2000 she got her first job at Lab. She worked first as an assistant teacher for first grade for six years, then took her job

in the admissions office.

"The transition is going to be really hard," Mrs. Woerner said. "I have so many friends here, and I love my job."

Mrs. Woerner plans to move with her husband to Michigan City, Indiana, to get away from the city but still be somewhat close to Chicago.

"I want to be closer to the lake, and my husband wants to be near big trees and the ocean," Mrs. Woerner said. "But we also still want to be close to Lab so we can come back and visit if we want."

**Michel Lacocque**, a counselor for the middle school, is retiring after 20 years at the Laboratory Schools. He started in 1974 as an assistant nursery school teacher but became a high school counselor a year later. He worked this job for eight years before returning to his former position in the middle school.

"I have a really good job," Mr. Lacocque said. "I don't have to punish people, I don't have to grade the students, and instead I get to watch them grow as kids."

After retiring, he plans to spend his winters in Southern California with his family. He also hopes to spend much of his time in Michigan near New Buffalo.

"Part of me wants to hold on. I went to University of Chicago for grad and undergraduate school," Mr. Lacocque said. "My family and I lived all around the world, switching schools from place to place. It felt really good to stay here and find a community that was central in my adult life."

**Connie Barrett** is an academic specialist for the primary school, who has been at Lab school for 31 years. Mrs. Barrett's first year was in 1984 as a read-



*Photo by Gabriella Conforti*

**At a retirement party May 28, middle school counselor Michel Lacocque chats with high school counselors Kevin Van Eron and Camille Baughn-Cunningham.**

ing teacher with 1st through 5th grade.

"I really enjoyed working with the younger kids and watching them grow," said Mrs. Barrett, who in the early 1990s started working at summer school. "I love working at summer school. I get to know the kids a lot more than during the year."

Leaving the school will be bittersweet for Mrs. Barrett. She doesn't know how she will spend her time after leaving.

"I am just letting it happen as it wants," she said. "All I know is I want to help people in any way that I can."

Mrs. Barrett will try her best to come back and visit the school. "I will come back for summer school to teach, and to see people," Mrs. Barrett said. "I will miss Lab a lot."



# After year of challenges, Finance Club raises \$21,000

by **Dheven Unni**  
*Midway Reporter*

Next year, U-High’s Finance Club will be investing donors’ money on the New York Stock Exchange, with an eye on benefitting Lab.

Sophomore Alec Kaplan and junior Schuler Small co-founded Finance Club. Already friends, they realized that the only finance-related course offered is AP Economics. Feeling that this was not enough, they decided to found Finance Club for other students who were interested in financial markets. Unlike clubs at other schools, Finance Club will not be using simulated money.

“A lot of schools use imaginary money, but we think it’s a valuable experience to manage real money in a real portfolio,” Alec said. “Currently, we are still in our early stages and we’re doing mostly fundraising right now. The goal is to get a portfolio with real assets so we could teach our members about in-



Alec Kaplan

vesting and stocks. They can actually participate in managing a portfolio.”

At the end of every school year, Finance Club will donate five percent of their portfolio to the school. Finance Club will not have any control over what the funds are used for, since it’s an open donation. However, they hope that the extra money will be used for charity and education.

Alec and Schuler have worked with numerous investors to contribute money to Finance Club.

“I’d say our biggest successes have been working with the investment office and the Lab administration to get our portfolio set up,” Alec said. “We’ve been very successful with fundraising; we’ve already raised \$21,000. We’re planning to raise more in coming months. Our goal is to have \$100,000 raised by the start of next school year.”

When Alec and Schuler had difficulties creating their portfolio, the University of Chicago community helped.



Schuler Small

“Setting up the account was a challenge,” Alec said. “Our account is set up with the University of Chicago Investment Office. Meeting their requirements has been tough, but the entire Lab administration, especially the director, have been extremely helpful. The University of Chicago community as a whole has made this very easy for us.”

Lab Schools Director Robin Appleby had declined a similar proposal, but eventually approved the club with the assistance of a number of consultants. Finance Club considers her approval a huge success, since they would be incapable of running without her approval. By putting real dollars into the stock market, they were doing something previously unheard of, and had to create a charter with the development office as a result.

“Our other big success was our first donation, because that really got the ball rolling,” Schuler said. “The first thing we want to do is get off the ground in our investing. This year we’ve had to jump through a lot of logistic hoops. We were idealistic in hoping we could

start this year. Our first steps are going to be gaining awareness. We have a lot of capital from donors and we don’t want it to just sit around.”

Officially, Finance Club will not start until the beginning of next year, when its leaders hope for 20-30 members. Schuler and Alec plan to feature Booth School of Business professors and hedge fund managers during their lunchtime meetings.

The primary goal of Finance Club is to expand to the point where there are participants from each grade. Eventually, Lab’s Finance Club will expand to contain the University of Chicago charter schools as well.

“There’s a couple different programs that work with the charter schools,” Schuler said. “Essentially, we want to create a similar partnership. The goal is to provide more investment education.”

Schuler said, that beyond just expanding to charter schools under the purview of the University of Chicago, he and Alec would like to engage in partnerships with organizations at other top-level schools—both public schools and other private schools.

## Student Council elected; many returning

by **Alex Lund**  
*Midway Reporter*

As of May 1, U-High has a new student council.

A popular theme was the transparency of student council, furthered particularly by Student Council Treasurer candidates Jonathan Lipman and Nikita Dulin. Other candidates, such as Junior Class President candidate Tobias Ginsburg and Senior Class President candidate Micaiah Buchheim-Jurisson, capitalized on providing free food for students.

Dean of Students Ana Campos, Student Council’s adviser, also stressed the importance of communication between representatives and students.

“I think that’s really important for students to know what student council is discussing, so that would be one of my challenges and goals for them,” Ms. Campos said. “Transparency can be as simple as posting minutes, being active on their Facebook groups, weekly updates in the daily bulletin — any number of ways they could think about to update students. Now they have a brand new website. That’s a big accomplishment for the year.”

Another general topic addressed by candidates was the exemption of student athletes from physical education courses. Despite failed attempts to accomplish this over the 2014-15 school year, candidates continued to use this as a part of their platform.

Ms. Campos clarified that Illinois state law requires certain years of physical education, a challenge that the past Student Council chose not to take on. She emphasized, however, the accomplishments of the former Student Council.

“They made a proposal to the faculty about dress code that they would like to see addressed as well as suggested revisions in the handbook,” Ms. Campos said. “They have students that are sitting on the handbook committee with the faculty and me, and implemented a pilot of a Regenstein book drop. They increased attendance at the first two dances of the year by a hundred kids at each. Overall, they just had a really good year in terms of discussing things that matter to them and wanting to debate and discuss as a group and then see what comes out of that and move it forward.”

Most of the Student Council will be made up of returning members. Cultural Union President Daniel Zhu, junior, sees this as a strength.

“I have held the position as CU for the past two years and I can give the guidance to my fellow members who may consider running for the position next year,” Daniel said. “In terms of my standing for the whole school, my job is to make school-wide events as enjoyable as possible, and will be receptive to any suggestions of events that students may have.”

### 2015-16 Student Council

#### Student Council

President Fabrice Guyot-Sionnest  
Vice President Fikayo Walter-Johnson  
Secretary Christopher Healy  
Treasurer Jonathan Lipman  
Cultural Union President Daniel Zhu  
Vice President Max Rochester

#### Senior Class, 2016

President Kimya Buckner  
Vice President Mbella Beseka  
Cultural Union Representatives  
Alexander Foster and Schuler Small

#### Junior Class, 2017

President Matthew Ferraro  
Vice President Taylor Thompson  
Cultural Union Representatives  
Pascale Boonstra and Katherine Zhang

#### Sophomore Class, 2018

President Elizabeth Van Ha  
Vice President Rachel Schonbaum  
Cultural Union Representatives  
Florence Almeda and Sonny Lee

## Blur: New Renaissance theme shifts focus

by **Sarah Pan**  
*Midway Reporter*

The closing of spring quarter means the admiration of a year’s work. Particularly, this time of year means the distribution of Lab’s art and literature magazine, Renaissance.

“We’re going for a different look and feel this year,” junior Julia Hedges, co-editor-in-chief of the art board, said. “Our theme is ‘blur,’ whereas last year the background of our magazine was geometric and blocky.”

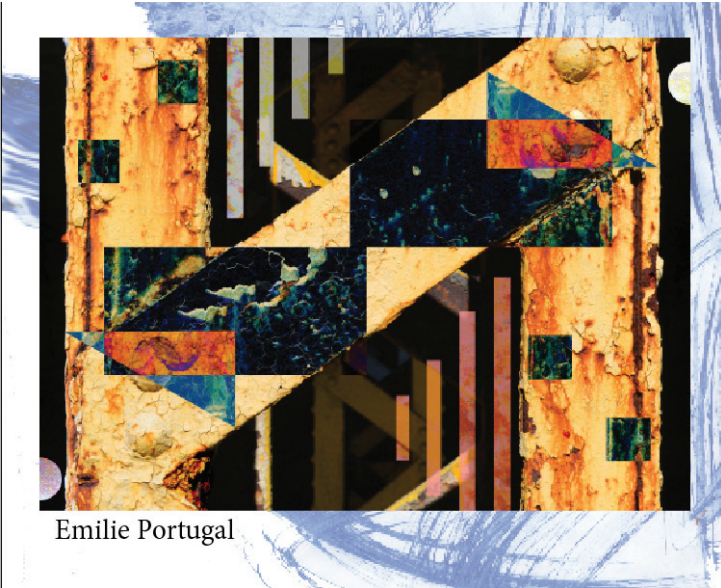
“At the beginning of the year, we gathered the entire board and explored and discussed potential themes, based on aesthetics and cohesiveness,” Julia said. “Our main focus when picking a theme is to do something that doesn’t detract from the art on the page.”

Though the design theme will change, the focus of the magazine remains the same, year to year.

“We try to exhibit Lab’s best art and writing,” Julia said. “It’s one of the only mediums students interested in the creative arts, writing and visual, can express themselves with.”

There are similar notions in the literature side of the process.

“We have so many talented writers



Emilie Portugal

Photo courtesy of Renaissance staff

Though senior Emilie Portugal’s artwork stands out in its linearity, The slashes of blue that provide background to her composition exemplify Renaissance magazine’s ‘Blur’ theme.

and artists at this school, but such talent often goes unrecognized,” Arun Sharma, editor-in-chief of the literature board, said. “Renaissance is one of the few opportunities in the year when we have a widely circulated publication solely featuring the work of Lab School writers.”

Each Board member plays an important role as the year winds down.

“The problem is that the board meets after school, so a lot of people drop out in the spring,” Julia said, “because

they play soccer and get stressed and stuff. I think our biggest problem is member retention throughout the year. It’s a very work-heavy club, especially in the spring when the magazine deadline approaches.”

Their work has rewards, though.

“The best thing about working on the magazine is being able to look at the final product and know that you made the entire thing,” Julia said. “Ren is special because it’s a magazine made solely by students for students.”

Arun also enjoys seeing the variety of writing submitted to Renaissance.

“The discussions are always rich during our meetings because the writers at this school have a lot to offer,” Arun said. “In my opinion this strength stems from the diverse experiences of students at this school. What I find most valuable is that, through our pieces, the magazine captures a snapshot of these experiences.”

Renaissance will be published for the school community within the next few weeks, and will be distributed in the cafeteria.

## Yearbook to arrive in Fall

by **Syrah Russell**  
*Midway Reporter*

With a redesigned 2015 U-Highlights yearbook coming out next fall, the yearbook staff members are on track to complete their work sooner than before.

Junior Nora Lin, one of four editors-in-chief, has high hopes for the book.

“Our new style features more planned white space and quote boxes that give students opportunities to vocalize their thoughts,” Nora said. “We tried to get more coverage on students who aren’t as prominent but still are doing really interesting activities.”

The 18 students on yearbook staff not only changed the design, but further changed the way that they work. Wayne Brasler’s retirement required the staff to quickly transition to a new style and work hard to get caught up.

“The addition of Mr. Aimone half way through the school year was not the most graceful transition,” Nora said. “We had to figure out a new system that would salvage what we had missed during fall quarter. It was pretty stressful in the beginning of the process because we were constantly behind. I think the changes will bring a yearbook we can all be proud of, and hopefully a better system for future years.”



# Clubs build on foundations for next year

From new coaches to new members, six academic teams lay plans to improve

## SCIENCE TEAM

by Elizabeth Meyer

Midway Reporter

### Recent Results:

Illinois Science Olympiad: Regionals, March 7, second place; State, April 17-18, 18th place

Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering competition: Regionals, Feb. 17, first place; Sectionals, March 19: first place; State April 13: first place

Junior Engineering Technical Society competition, Feb. 27: Varsity A, fourth place; Varsity B, first place; JV A, first place; JV B, did not place

The team will compete at nationals in Grapevine, Texas, June 28-July 2.

Northeastern Illinois Envirothon competition April 8: Varsity, second place; JV: fourth place

### News/Changes:

Created a middle school science team

### 2015-2016 Officers:

Officers and captains for next year will be appointed by current captains.

### Goals for 2015-16:

"My goal for the team this year was to do better than last year," said junior captain Tiffany Suwathee, "and we did." Science Team also competed at JETS, an engineering competition, and qualified for nationals in June.

"Next year I really want to work the Sci-Oly team to top 10 at state," Tiffany said. "We have some really strong juniors, and since Leah Umaniski started the middle school team, I think we'll be getting some good freshmen too."



Tiffany Suwathee

## MATH TEAM

by Averie Miller

Midway Reporter

### Recent Results:

Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics competition, May 2: first place, Grade-level event results: Algebra I team, first place; Precalculus team, first place; Geometry team, second place; Algebra II team, sixth place

### News/Changes:

The math department will select new faculty coaches at the beginning of next year. The team also seeks tougher competition.

"We are also moving up to a higher division to compete in next year called 3A, which is much more competitive than the one they are in now," junior Jonathan SooHoo said. "The upgrade was the team's choice since they have been placing first in their division at

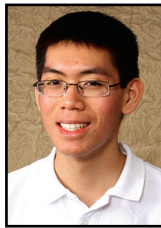
state for a while, so the team voted on moving up."

### 2015-2016 Officers:

Head coach: Joseph Scroll

### Goals for 2015-16:

"Next year we want to get better on communication in our Junior-Senior 8-Person and Freshman-Sophomore 8 person events," Jonathan said. "We sometimes have time and organizational issues since multiple people work on the same question. We tend to get bogged down with it and a bunch of people try to work on it, when again we have other problems that need to be done."



Jonathan SooHoo

## MODEL UNITED NATIONS

by Sonny Lee

Midway Reporter

### Recent Results:

Harvard MUN, Jan. 29-Feb. 1: did not place

Northwestern MUN, April 9-12: best large delegation

### News/Changes:

Following long-standing tradition, juniors took over the preparation process for the last conference of the year, which was April 9-12.

### 2015-2016 Officers:

Presidents: Andrew Chizewer, Julian Lark

Senior Director of Logistical Affairs: Andrew Chizewer

Directors of Novice Affairs: Ilana Dutton, Genevieve Liu, Jacob Mazzarella — these students help new members to transition onto the team

Directors of Delegate Preparation: Grace Anderson, Andrew Chizewer,

Julian Lark, Gabby Conforti, Genevieve Liu — these students create exercises, obtain feedback, and oversee practices for delegates

Press Secretary: Julian Lark

Treasurer: Gabby Conforti

Secretary: Jacob Mazzarella

### Goals for 2015-16:

"We finished this year as the number three team in the country," president Andrew Chizewer said. "Next year I would like to be number one. We have the talent and I believe that if we are well prepared and driven enough we can accomplish that goal."

"I think we will stick to the same framework that has bolstered our success in the past," Andrew said. "But specific changes will be dependent on situations we're presented with next year."



Andrew Chizewer

## SCHOLASTIC BOWL

by Ileana Minor

Midway Reporter

### Recent Results:

"A Tournament Run On Pennies, Half-Pence and Yen," April 25: second place

Texas Invitational, March 28: The all-senior A-team of Adam Fine, Maddi Ross, Alex Schonbaum and Clare Keenan placed second; Adam was third scorer overall. Junior Lauren Onel and senior Clare Keenan placed eleventh and fifteenth overall respectively.

The team will compete next at nationals, June 6-7

### News/Changes:

Ranked in the top 35 teams in the country

### 2015-2016 Officers:

President: Lauren Onel

Vice president: Harry Ni

Board:

Recruitment: Nigel Van Ha

Secretary: Jason Lin

Treasurer: Ravi Nayak

Public Relations: Marcel Dupont

Publicity: Daniel Zhu

Junior Board Representative: Emma Mueller

### Goals for 2015-16:

"We want to work on recruiting, because we always need more people," said junior Lauren Onel. "Next year we want to work on starting a middle school team. We tried this year, but it didn't work out."

Starting a middle school team allows more recruitment and for students to start earlier in order to have more time to improve over the years. This group would meet at lunch, and would be supervised by a few upperclassman, as well as adviser Colin Rennert-May.



Lauren Onel

## CERTAMEN

by Syrah Russell

Midway Reporter

### Recent Results:

Saint Ignatius Competition, Dec. 2: Junior level, first place; Senior level, fourth place

Walter Payton Competition, Feb. 10: Junior level, first Place; Senior level, third Place

### News/Changes:

"We are looking to expand Certamen to the middle school so that we can gain early interest in the club," junior and

captain Logan Young said. "Hopefully we can gain new members once those students reach high school."

### 2015-2016 Officers:

Captains: Hazel Martello, Logan Young

### Goals for 2015-16:

Build on middle school program so members are ready for high school Certamen in subsequent years.



Logan Young

## DEBATE TEAM

by Natalie Glick

Midway Reporter

### Recent Results:

Woodward National Championship tournament, March 20-22: freshman Alex Blocker and sophomore Michael Hellie took second place; Michael took 15th speaker; sophomore Jennifer Jiao took 22nd speaker

Iowa City West tournament, March 27-29: Senior Luke Newell and junior Reed Rosenbacher took first place; Luke took second speaker

Tournament of Champions, April 25-27: Luke took 14th speaker in the country

### News/Changes:

"In preparation for next year, most

of us are going to be spending four or more weeks at debate camp improving our skills, learning more about debate" Reed said. "Over the summer almost all of the team is going to some debate camp."

### 2015-2016 Officers:

Captains: Robert Bacon, Alina Cui, Reed Rosenbacher

### Goals for 2015-16:

"Most of the success of the team is due to Ana O'Hara, the head coach of the team," Reed said. "We are hoping that Ana comes back next year to organize and coach us to victory once again"



Reed Rosenbacher

## Newspaper staff honored

by Micaiah Buchheim-Jurisson

Associate editor

Keeping with a longstanding tradition of excellence, the U-High Midway newspaper and members of its staff have received national and state honors for their work. The Illinois Journalism Education Association named the Midway Best Overall Newspaper in Illinois for its division, while Midway staff members earned 20 individual awards, including Editor-in-Chief Michael Glick being named to the IJEA's All-State Journalism Team for the second year in a row.

Two U-High journalists received national honors in the Quill and Scroll International Honorary Society for High School Journalists: Elizabeth Chon in news writing and Clyde Schwab in feature writing. They are eligible to apply for scholarships when they are seniors.

These students earned individual

awards in IJEA contests: Advertising: Michael Glick, second and third place. Centerspread: Grace Anderson and Michael Glick, first place; Grace Anderson, third place. Writing: Luke Murphy, second; Michael Glick, third. Comic Strip or Panel: Lydia Fama, first; Kat Flocke, second. Editorial Cartoon: Lydia Fama, first. Feature Writing: Michael Glick, first; Grace Anderson, Micaiah Buchheim-Jurisson and Julian Lark, second. Front Page Design: Michael Glick, second. Headline Writing: Luke Murphy, first. News Writing: Julian Lark, first; Maia Boussy, second. Overall Design: Midway staff, second. Review Writing: Clyde Schwab, second. Sports Writing: Alex Harron, first; Micaiah Buchheim-Jurisson, second; Editorial Writing: Staff, second

Michael Glick had previously been named runner-up as the Illinois Journalist of the Year.



Photo by Nikita Dulin

Attracting lines of preschoolers, junior Julia Hedges volunteered to face paint at the annual Rites of May festival on Saturday, May 16 at Earl Shapiro Hall.





## FOOD

The summer season brings a new set of foods, all conveniently available within our Chicago borders. This summer, find fresh produce, rich barbecue, or sample from a variety of local food trucks all within a small budget. Take your taste buds on a tour of all Chicago has to offer.

- **Chicago's Ribfest:** This festival on the intersection of Lawrence and Broadway showcases the best ribs from both local and national restaurants. Even non-rib lovers can enjoy live entertainment at this three-day event running June 12-14, noon-10 p.m. Friday and Saturday, noon-9 p.m. Sunday.
- **Farmers' Markets:** Scattered throughout the Chicago neighborhoods, farmers' markets offer fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers and plants, as well as baked goods, seasonal jams and other homemade goods. Lasting through October, you're bound to make a satisfying deal on your produce purchases.
  - Daley Plaza: Thursdays until Oct. 29, 7 a.m.-3 p.m., Washington Street
  - Green City: Saturday/Wednesday until Oct. 31, 7 a.m.-1 p.m., South Lincoln Park between Clark and Stockton Drive
  - Hyde Park: Thursdays June 4-Oct. 29, 7 a.m.-1 p.m., Harold Washington Park
- **Taste of Randolph:** Visitors can discover new foods for free from acclaimed restaurants along "Restaurant Row" by trying free samples at this free street festival held June 19-21. For a two hour period during the day, the Restaurant Oasis will offer each person a free item. Dinosaur Jr., the Dandy Warhols and Best Coast also headline the live music performances.
- **Taste of Chicago:** A celebration of a variety of cuisines and restaurants, Taste of Chicago is an outdoor food festival with various restaurant stands. It is held between July 8-12 and is located in Grant Park, between Jackson and Columbus. The Chicago skyline as well as multiple concerts throughout the festival offer the perfect backdrop for trying new dishes and cuisines.
- **Taste of Lincoln Avenue:** This iconic event sprawls over six city blocks on a major artery in the heart of Lincoln Park. Visitors can look forward to musical performances ranging from classic rock to indie to blues as well as over 100 different vendors. This weekend event runs July 25-26 from noon-10 p.m. daily on N. Lincoln Avenue between Fullerton and Wrightwood.
- **Food Truck Fest:** Known for its mobile food trucks, Chicago hosts this festival every summer to continue the tradition and supply the public with convenient food during our only fairly comfortable season. With a variety of trucks such as Fat Shallot and Gino's Steak Truck present, there's bound to be something for everyone. Located in Armour Square Park on June 27-28 and open from noon-10 p.m.
- **Hot Dog Fest:** Presented by the Chicago History Museum, Chicago's Hot Dog Fest celebrates one of the city's landmark foods. Exclusively serving Vienna Beef Hot Dogs, spend a day or two chowing down on a summer favorite while overlooking beautiful gardens along the museum. Located on Clark Street and LaSalle Drive, the festival runs Aug. 7-9 from 11 a.m.-9 p.m.
- **Taste of Greektown:** Dive into gyros, grilled lamb, Greek salad and souvlaki at this year's Greek fest on Aug. 22-23 from noon-11 p.m. A number of local restaurants participate to bring Chicagoans a truly Greek experience to this festival located on Halsted St. in Greek Town. Beyond the traditional Greek fare, the festival will also feature music, dancing and Hellenic bands.
- **Roscoe Village Burger Fest:** After some of Chicago's finest restaurants fire up their grills to make their unique version of the delicious burger, visitors will be allowed to vote for their favorites. There will music and a Kids Zone as well as arts and crafts vendors. It takes place July 11-12, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. in Roscoe Village.
- **Fiesta Italiana:** Celebrating Italian culture, music, and dance, Festa Italiana presents an array of authentic Italian food. It takes place Aug. 13-16 at Taylor Street and Ashland Avenue.

## FESTIVALS

Summer and its free time allow students and faculty alike to participate in the greater Chicago community more directly. Meet new people and engage in exciting activities this summer with the summer set of Chicago festivals.

- **Printer's Row Lit Fest:** Founded in 1985 by the Near South Planning Board to attract visitors to the former bookmaking hub, Printer's Row Lit Fest has grown to cover five city blocks on Dearborn between Congress and Polk. The festival attracts more than 200 booksellers from across the country displaying new, used and antiquarian books and featuring more than 200 authors participating in panels, discussions and a variety of other programs. It takes place June 6-7 on Printers Row from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
- **Remix Chicago:** This ecologically friendly art and music festival held in Logan Square focuses on encouraging communities to take advantage of recycled materials. Held June 6-7 from noon-10 p.m. daily, this is a celebration of recycled art and crafts from both professional artists and community members. The festival also includes workshops, kid's activities, unique food vendors and live music from indie bands.

# FREE OR CHEAP FUN THINGS TO DO IN CHICAGO THIS SUMMER

## CONCERTS & MOVIES

From music to movies, everyone is a fan of something. Show appreciation and celebrate your passions and interests with people from all over Chicago this summer through concerts, movies and much more. Take a friend or a family member, and be entertained throughout Chicago.

- **Movies in the Park:** Grab a blanket, a picnic and some friends and head to local park for an evening this summer for film screenings. Times for all screenings will vary based on when sundown occurs. Featured movies include classics like "Breakfast Club" and "Apollo 13." Hyde Parkers in particular can head to the Midway for screenings on Wednesday nights. Check out the Park District's website at [chicagoparkdistrict.com/events/movies/](http://chicagoparkdistrict.com/events/movies/)
- **Millennium Park Film Series:** This series includes free movie offerings at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion. The series continues every Tuesday evening through Sept. 1 at 6:30 p.m. and will highlight films such as "Back to the Future" and "Dirty Dancing." Films will be presented on the latest and most sophisticated outdoor screen using the Pavilion's state-of-the-art sound system.
- **Rush Hour Concerts:** For all those music lovers, River North will host Rush Hour Concerts every Tuesday through Aug. 25 at 5:45 p.m. in St. James Cathedral at Huron and Wabash streets. Audience members will enjoy classical chamber music from soloists, duets and chamber groups.
- **The Chicago Air and Water Show:** Featuring daredevil pilots, parachute teams and jets over Lake Michigan, the Chicago Air and Water Show is the perfect event for watching your favorite planes! Held on Aug. 15-16 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on North Avenue Beach, pilots are sure to throw you for a loop as they pull fantastic tricks and stunts.
- **Star Wars Fan Fare:** If you are a fan of Star Wars, June 13 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. there is an ETC Toy and Comic Book Show that awaits your attendance! Star Wars collectibles, movie memorabilia, action figures and more can be found at this event hosted by Horizon Science Academy. The best dressed child and adult will win \$50 in dealers bucks to spend with vendors at ETC.
- **Downtown Sound:** Have a picnic or take a seat on the Great Lawn in Millennium Park during this weekly concert series and enjoy musicians from a variety of genres: indie, pop, rock, and beginning this year, electronic and contemporary. Every Monday and Thursday night through July 23 starting at 6:30 p.m., all are welcome to take advantage of this showcase.
- **Make Music Chicago:** Chicago joins hundreds of cities around the world in this annual tradition on June 21. Musicians of all ages and skill levels play at various locations around the city for hours on end, celebrating music and the talented musicians of our city. Hear a wide variety of genres, instruments, and musicians in public venues around the city throughout the day.
- **The Bells of Summer:** Grab a blanket or a lawn chair and head over to Rockefeller Chapel this summer for the 50th anniversary of their Carillon concerts. Enjoy these bell recitals with family or friends each Sunday at 5 p.m. Concert goers are also invited to climb the 271 steps to the top of Rockefeller to enjoy the beautiful view and stained glass windows alongside the music.
- **Jazzin' at the Shedd:** Enjoy jazz music, fireworks and 32,000 different animals in exhibits like the Abbott Oceanarium and Wild Reef at Shedd Aquarium any Tuesday between June 17 and Sept. 9. Admission is just \$18 if you plan ahead by purchasing tickets online and you can even pet the stingrays for an additional \$3.
- **Uptown Saturday Night:** Treat yourself to free showcases of local artists and performers on the second Saturday of each month until the end of 2015 in Uptown. While there, discover this historic neighborhood through its entertainment venues and cultural hot spots. Check [outexploreuptown.org/na-portal-only/uptown-saturday-nights](http://outexploreuptown.org/na-portal-only/uptown-saturday-nights) for specific performances and times.

- **Chicago Blues Festival:** As the largest blues festival in the world, this event draws over 500,000 fans who will enjoy free performances over the course of three days on five stages, proof of Chicago's status as the "Blues Capital of the World. Taking place in Grant Park from 11 a.m.-9 p.m. on June 11-13, this historic festival will include headliner Buddy Guy as well as centennial tributes to Willie Dixon and Muddy Waters.
- **Chicago Bike Week:** Held June 12-19, Chicago Bike Week is a celebration of cycling throughout Chicago. Some of the events include a bike tour of the South Loop on June 15, as well as "Napoleon Dynamite" being played at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park on June 16 at 6:30 p.m. A Chicago Triathlon Checkpoint Challenge encourages participants get clues to bike throughout Chicago starts at The Bean on June 18 at 6 p.m. Also on June 18, Daley Plaza hosts a pop-up bike fashion show at from 7 a.m.-

- 3 p.m. It ends with a Bike To Work Rally at Daley Plaza from 7-9 a.m., with a provided continental breakfast from 7-Eleven.
- **Fiestas Puertorriqueñas:** From June 18-21, this festival features a celebration of Puerto Rican culture. Traditional Latin music, authentic food such as arepas, carnival rides and a passionate parade are a few of the items visitors can look forward to at this vibrant festival. Located in Humboldt Park, this festival runs 3 p.m.-10 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and noon-10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.
- **Chicago Zombie March:** Chicagoans clad in tattered robes, smeared with fake blood and wailing in pain will gather in Millennium Park for the annual Chicago Zombie March on June 20. All zombies are invited to arrive at the park as early as noon for free zombification makeup. At 3:30 p.m., the crowd will walk to Daley Plaza and later head to the ABC7 News Station.

## MUSEUMS & CULTURE

Want some culture while school's out? Then the various museums and concerts this summer are for you. Cheer on the arts without having to buy expensive paintings or pay for music festivals. Educate yourself outside of school and take the opportunity to learn more about the world.

- **Art:** Throughout Chicago's city streets and building lies a variety of public art by many famous artists for anyone to explore. The bike path is dotted with sculptures and each neighborhood has its own unique artistic style, particularly Pilsen, which is full of murals and street graffiti art. Other highlights include the Agora in Grant Park, Fountain of Time in Washington Park, Monument with Standing Beast on Randolph Street and the famous Picasso sculpture that resides at Daley Plaza.
- **Art Fairs:** A common staple of Chicago summers, art fairs provide a glimpse into local paintings, sculptures, ceramics, jewelry and photography. These neighborhood events often include live bands and a variety of food vendors. Whether you're looking to purchase a piece or simply want to enjoy artwork outdoors, visitors can make a day-long experience out of these interesting street fairs.
  - Stars of Tomorrow Youth Arts Fest: June 6, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Kennicott Park 57th Street Art Fair: June 6-7, Saturday 11 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 57th Street between Cornell and Hyde Park Boulevard
  - Old Town Art Fair: June 13-14, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Old Town Triangle Neighborhood Artsfest on Michigan Avenue: July 10-12, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Chicago Tribune Tower West Loop Art Fair: Aug. 22-23, noon-10 p.m., Halsted and Washington
- **The Hyde Park Art Center:** The Hyde Park Art Center has free galleries as well as a range of inexpensive classes in areas like ceramics, cartooning and darkroom photography. Upcoming exhibitions include Cosmosis, which will be featured through Aug. 23, and Creatures from the Concrete Aug. 4-Dec. 6.
- **Chicago History Museum:** Have you lived in Chicago your whole life, but don't know about its past? Learn about our city's history through fun exhibitions, located within a bike or bus ride away. General admission is \$14, but Illinois residents get free admission on July 4 and Aug. 17-21, 24-28, and 31.
- **Museum of Contemporary Art:** See collections of interesting and inspiring art within our city, all at the MCA. Exhibitions rotate out regularly, meaning there is always something new to see. Admission is free for Illinois residents every Tuesday, opening at 10 a.m.
- **The Shedd Aquarium:** Although the sun is much appreciated, when the warmth turns to burning heat, a free day at the air-conditioned Shedd Aquarium is a perfect way to stay cool and entertained. For every Monday or Tuesday until June 16 starting at 9 a.m., this opportunity is open to all Illinois Residents free of charge.
- **Museum of Contemporary Photography:** The museum at 600 S. Michigan Ave. holds a collection of photographs like no other. Wander through photographs of everything from Birmingham, Alabama, to Butte, Montana.
- **Young Chicago Author Workshops:** Nurture your love for poetry or rapping in free, artist-led workshops at the YCA headquarters located at 1180 N. Milwaukee Ave. Check [youngchicagoauthors.org](http://youngchicagoauthors.org) to find schedules for specific workshops.
- **Chicago Cultural Center:** A former Chicago Public Library and Civil War Memorial, the Chicago Cultural Center at 78 E. Washington St. stands as testament to all the city has to offer. Beyond its historic walls visitors can view exhibits on native artists and musicians like Cheryl Pope and Archibald Motley. If you make a reservation in advance, residents also have the opportunity to share their story through the nonprofit organization StoryCorps, which will then be archived at the National Library of Congress.
- **Shakespeare in the Park:** Breathing new life into William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream," the Chicago Shakespeare Theater will once again perform Shakespeare in 18 neighborhood parks throughout the Chicago area. The productions will begin July 18 at Gateway Park and run through Aug. 17.

- **Chicago Pride Parade:** With many brightly colored floats, loud music and a multitude of people, the Chicago Pride Parade taking place June 21 is one of the most exciting ones of the year. Though it takes place on the north side, running up Belmont and Montrose, it is worth the trek from Hyde Park. One of the best viewing locations for floats can be found toward the end of the route on Diversey.
- **Square Roots Fest:** As the new version of the much-missed Folk and Roots Festival, Square Roots presents music, dancing, food and fun for all ages. Check out more than 60 local artists, bands, and performers on four different stages on Lincoln Ave. between Montrose and Wilson on July 10, 5 p.m.-10 p.m.; July 11, noon- 11 p.m. and July 12 noon-9 p.m. Recommended \$5 donation for children and \$10 donation for adults.
- **Chinatown Summer Fair:** A fun neighborhood to explore anytime, Chinatown also hosts an

- annual Summer Fair. On Sunday July 19, from 10 a.m.- 8 p.m., this fair will draw visitors from all over the Midwest. Activities include traditional lion dancing, Chinese classical dance and music and martial arts among many other displays. There will be artisans, food from neighborhood restaurants, a petting zoo and pony rides.
- **Reggae Fest:** Featuring two stages of Jamaican music performances as well as a variety of fair trade food from vendors and trucks, this festival runs from Aug. 15-16 and begins at noon. Performers from around the world are involved in this festival located in Humboldt Park, bringing international culture to Chicago.
- **Chicago Fashion Fest:** Looking to discover your brand new personalstyle this summer? Try exploring Fashion Fest. Outdoor runway shows, live music and the discovery of new fashion designers are the highlights of this year's festival. This two-day festival will shut down East Divi-



## KEY

- **Free**
- **Free/Pay:** Entering is free, but specific attraction or food might cost money
- **Donation:** A donation is recommended when entering
- **Pay:** Entry costs money

Edited by Maia Boussy and Grace Anderson.  
Activities compiled by Talia George-Karron, Sonny Lee, Alex Lund, Averie Miller, Ileana Minor, Sarah Pan and Dheven Unni.  
Art by Kat Flocke.

## PLACES

Take advantage of Chicago's only mildly comfortable season and spend some time this summer outside! When the sun is shining, Chicago can be beautiful in the right places. Here's a guide to where to go when you want to explore, relax, or even exercise — all within your price range.

- **Navy Pier:** Take a bike ride to Navy Pier and explore the many attractions they have! Attractions span from an \$8 ride on the famed 150-foot Ferris Wheel or an \$8 miniature golf course to walking through the Crystal Gardens. Aon Summer Fireworks take place at Grand Avenue every Wednesday and Saturday at 9:30 p.m. through Sept. 5 as well as July 4, adding a bit of extra color to your summer.
- **Lincoln Park Zoo:** From giraffes, lions, reptiles and birds, all types of animals can be seen at the zoo for free. Enjoy some time in a beautiful piece of architecture framing the skyline over at the South Pond. Yoga classes, outdoor classes and educational programs are also held at the Lincoln Park Pavillion on the Nature Boardwalk. Appreciate a wide variety of plants at the Lincoln Park Conservatory.
- **Millennium Workouts:** Feel like waking up for some early morning yoga? Grab a mat and head over to the Great Lawn at Millennium Park to enjoy views of the city and cleansing activities like yoga, tai chi, pilates and zumba beginning at 7 a.m., 8 a.m., 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. respectively. These workouts are held every Wednesday through Sept. 2 sessions and run 45 minutes.
- **The Point and 57th Street Beach:** Promontory Point is the perfect place to have a picnic with friends, play Frisbee or soccer, and watch a movie on a sheet when it gets dark. It is also located right next to the beach, so you can swim before or after you eat. Blending into the Point and stretching alongside the Museum of Science and Industry, this local beach is the perfect location for a lazy beach day (when the weather will finally allow). The beach supplies the warm sand and cool water: all you need to bring are your friends and the sunscreen.
- **Explore Humboldt Park:** With over 219 acres of park land, Humboldt Park is the perfect place to explore. Designed in the 1870s, it houses the Institute of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture as well as a field house with a fitness center, two gymnasiums, a lagoon, a replica of the Chicago Cubs stadium, "Little Cubs Field," tennis courts and baseball fields.
- **The Bloomington (606) Trail:** Named after Chicago's base area code, the Bloomington 606 trail used to be abandoned elevated train tracks that have been transformed into a beautiful trail through Bloomington avenue to Ashland Avenue lined by park space, flowers and trees. Bikers, runners and walkers are all welcome to enjoy this green space starting, appropriately, on June 6. This historic space combines nature's beauty with Chicago history dating as far back as the Great Fire, making it a treat for any visitor no matter your interests.
- **Parade of Boats:** Head to the East end of Navy Pier this summer to view a parade of Chicago's most beautiful sailboats. While there, visitors will learn about the boats themselves as well as their crew and can look forward to music and dancing after the parade. The Parade of boats will be held July 16 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- **Chicago Botanic Garden:** Despite the long trek to Glencoe, the Botanic Garden makes up for it with over 385 acres of vast and sprawling gardens. It has a world-renowned bonsai tree collection. Opened in 1972, the garden is a beautiful place to walk, explore, take pictures or just relax.
- **Garfield Park Conservatory:** One of the largest conservatories in the nation, The Garfield Park Conservatory houses an impressive array of flowers and vegetation. Escape into this tropical landscape to walk and think.
- **Maggie Daley Park:** Head over to the brand new Maggie Daley Park for some outdoor adventures. Featuring a picnic grove, a jungle gym set containing bridges and slides, tennis courts and a fieldhouse. The park is located downtown just west of Lake Shore Drive and is open from 6 a.m.-11 p.m. daily.

- **Chicago Jazz Festival:** The Chicago Jazz Festival focuses on appreciation for all forms of jazz by highlighting both local and internationally renowned artists. The four-day festival kicks off with a performance from Butler, Bernstein & the Hot 9, and closes with Muhal Richard Abram's Experimental Band. It runs Sept. 3-6 at the Chicago Cultural Center, and Millennium Park from 6:30-9 p.m.
- **The Chicago Antique Market:** Highlighting over 250 vendors indoors and outdoors with antiques, paintings and drawings, furniture, clothing, jewelry, beads, and food, the Chicago Antique Market will have something for everyone. It runs June 27-28, July 25-26 and Aug. 29-30 on Randolph St. from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Student tickets are \$3 before the event, and \$5 at the door, both with a student ID.



# Picturesque Pilsen

*Alongside traditional Mexican food, Pilsen serves as a hub for authentic art and culture*

by **Clyde Schwab**  
*Associate Editor*

Strolling down 18th Street on a humid day, as the block buzzes with activity, a few storefronts stick out among the predominantly Spanish signs. Pseudo-grungy vintage stores and sleek coffee shops appear occasionally between bars and taquerias, their polished vibrance juxtaposing the simple, aged shops that scream of authenticity. The street seems on the brink of change.

Pilsen sits southwest of downtown, bordered on the south by the Stevenson Expressway and the Chicago River, on the north by 16th Street, on the west by train tracks and on the east by Canal Street and the Chicago river. Pilsen is easily reached by car or bike from Hyde Park, while public transportation requires a train to the McCormick Place then a bus. While the neighborhood spans much of the lower west side, the commercial activity lies primarily on 18th Street with the rest of the neighborhood devoted to residential areas, industrial zones and warehouses.

Pilsen served as a gateway to the city for immigrants, including the Czech, German and Irish. Since the 1960s, Pilsen has been the home of the now predominant Hispanic population. Despite resistance from many community members, a process of gentrification has taken over Pilsen since the early 2000s, which some think will alter Pilsen's status as a holdout for the Mexican-American middle class.

One can glimpse this complicated and diverse history through the eclectic crowds at local venues such as Jumping Bean Cafe. Customers range from Latino families and University of Illinois students to decaffeinated, disheveled artists and proto-hipsters enjoying one of the Cafe's many specialty lattes.

Taking a break from the muggy Chicago spring to enjoy my delicious yet overly sweetened iced mocha, I peered at the walls of the cafe, elaborately and vividly decorated with paintings, news clippings and music posters.

Since its beginnings as a gateway for immigrants, Pilsen has supported a tenacious appetite for art. Murals of community leaders, Aztec gods and otherwise remarkably detailed and colorful scenes decorate alleys and walls scattered throughout Pilsen. Alongside the local galleries that line the streets lies the National Museum of Mexican Art. The art in both the galleries and museums mirrors the neighborhood in its kinetic and varied style, though much of it maintains a politicized tone.

## Pilsen Summer at a Glance

### June 5-7: Taste of Little Village: Flavors of Mexico

A range of restaurants offer samples of authentic Mexican food along 26th Street between California to Sacramento. Visitors can also enjoy local bands.

### June 6-7: Food Truck Social

Held on 18th Street between Racine and Throop, this two-day food truck festival from showcases the variety of Chicagoland food trucks. Highlights include Tamale Spaceship, Honky Tonk BBQ and Chicago Cupcakes! Suggested \$5 donation.

### July 30-Aug. 2: Fiesta del Sol

As the largest Latin American festival in the Midwest, this four-day festival draws 1 million people. Visitors can look forward to an arts pavilion, authentic Mexican food and live music. Donations accepted.



While a walk along the busy, commercial 18th Street is wonderful, deviating to the seemingly deserted train tracks along 16th Street yields vibrant results. Sponsored by the Chicago Urban Art Society, murals scattered throughout Pilsen depict portraits of community leaders, geometric patterns, ancient Central American style art and elaborate scenes. Vividly colored murals serve to discourage gang graffiti and offer a space for independent art and political discourse. A number of internationally recognized street artists were commissioned to kick off the project.

*Photos by Clyde Schwab*

One can witness such work at Prospectus Gallery, owned and operated by Israel Hernandez. The gallery, just off 18th Street, serves as a break from the often crowded streets. The colorful work within stands in stark contrast to the white interior. On display is a retrospective of Jose Guerrero, a Chicago based artist, featuring a selection of his linocut prints from 1964 to the early 2000s. Prints range from depictions of intersections in Pilsen to prints of farmers.

In his thick accent, longtime Pilsen resident Hernandez offered some insight into his life in Pilsen and how it's changing.

"The gallery started out of necessity. I grew up here in Pilsen all my life, and I've seen all the problems that were happening in the seventies," Hernandez said. "So we decided to bring something positive into the neighborhood. The problem is that for many years, this has been a working class neighborhood. So, there are a lot of new businesses and shops, but a lot of people are being displaced, especially in this economy. Most of the manufacturing jobs are no longer in Chicago. Everything is about profit."

With a mural coated exterior containing brightly colored shapes, the popular restaurant Neuvo Leon is frequently packed by Pilsen visitors. A frequent patron of Nuevo Leon, Spanish teacher Craig Reubelt describes the authentic feel of the restaurant environment and its food.

"To me, it always feels and tastes like someone's grandmother is cooking in the kitchen," Mr. Reubelt said. "The restaurant itself is very well established and the portions are always good no matter what you order. I've never been disappointed there. They have some traditional items and some more unique items like pork stew, but, no matter what, I always leave feeling full and satisfied."

Past Nuevo Leon and further down 18th Street, sits Knee Deep Vintage. The cheerful, trendy owner and longtime South Side resident Carlos describes, how this curated thrift store provides a cool but affordable (read cheap) clothing spanning decades. Following the neighborhood trend, Knee Deep Vintage, is lined with colorful shirts, paintings, and a section in the back devoted to vintage western attire.

Over a soundtrack comprised of the Smiths, Carlos described his shop's position in Pilsen and how he's seen it change alongside the other recently opened vintage stores in Pilsen.

"There really isn't any competition because we never offer the same stuff. I honestly haven't seen the neighborhood change since we first opened, other than fewer abandoned storefronts. The change that people are worried about is completely natural, and it is better to see open business than vacant buildings. We don't want to do anything other than co-exist, and any opposition we've seen has been from people who are fairly new to the neighborhood."

## Old Chicago-style pub on the rise in Hispanic locale

by **Alex Harron**  
*Associate Editor*

The name is misleading.

Dusek's Board and Beer located at 1227 W. 18th St. in Pilsen offers an array of delicious menu items for people under 21. Reservations can be made online through the website or by phone for parties of five or more. They will not seat you until the majority of your party has arrived.

Tucked away on the southwest side of Chicago, Dusek's is a cozy restaurant with a quaint charm. The exposed brick walls and wooden tables and chairs give it an Old Chicago feel. The restaurant has two large rooms with tall glass windows offering a street view. Chalkboards filled with messages and signatures from past patrons cover the bathroom

walls; chalk and erasers are provided. Street parking can be found within a couple blocks of the restaurant.

For Sunday brunch, the restaurant was packed with many college-aged, well-dressed people. Our server was incredibly nice and knowledgeable about the menu.

The menu, created by Chef Jared Wentworth, offers a wide variety of dishes, all with a slight twist to them. Our party of six ordered the omelet, steak and eggs, iron roasted Prince Edward Island mussels, white cheddar mac and cheese and two Danish pastry cinnamon rolls. Dishes arrived together on wooden boards, iron pans and patterned bowls, making them easy for our group to share. Each item also includes a beer pairing for consumers over 21 years old. Because it was incredibly busy, it took a while

for the food to come out.

Spiced goat cheese, roasted spring onions and oyster mushrooms filled the medium-sized omelet and came with a side of herbed potatoes. The fluffy omelet melted in my mouth and the side potatoes were perfectly seasoned. The steak and eggs were also a good portion and just as delicious. The slightly spicy mound of mussels served in a large bowl with a delicious broth was my favorite dish. The creamy mac and cheese also had a slight spice to it. The sticky cinnamon rolls served hot with a rich frosting were delicious. Entrees and small plates ranged from \$14 to \$32 apiece.

I would definitely go again, but I would suggest going with a party of five or more in order to make a reservation, order food to share and split the check.



# Film devoted to teachers' lives, tickles ribs

Movie features U-High alumnus Karl T. Wright, while finding humor in the teaching experience

by Julian Lark  
Associate Editor

7:30 p.m. on a Thursday, a crowd of 40 gathers in a dim theater. Kibitzing, they're an assortment of National Public Radio associates, Chicago Teachers' Union members, and five U-Highers — three current, two former. The crowd's common thread sits near the front in a bright blue sweater; U-High alumnus Karl T. Wright ('79), featured in the film projected, "Teacher of the Year" in addition to hosting the event alongside the U-High Alumni Association.

With the dimming of lights, Teacher of the Year, an independent film written and directed by California English teacher and part-time stand-up comedian Jason Strouse, featuring Mr. Wright as physics teacher Eric Sanders, flashes onto the screen. An actor who may be recognized from his one-to-two-episode roles on shows such as "Gilmore Girls," "Big Bang Theory," and "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia," his home-town



Holding up a cliché "No Whining" sign up to a student in trouble, Keegan-Michael Key plays Principal Ronald Douche (he clarifies to students that it's pronounced "doo-SHAY"), an ineffective leader who provides English teacher and main character Mitch Carter (Matt Letscher) with more reasons to transfer jobs from teaching to high-paying lobbying for a special interest group.

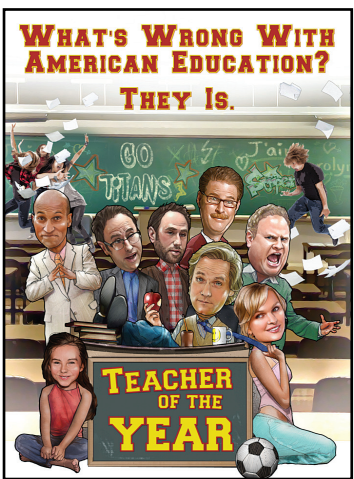
audience cheers at every Mr. Wright's every appearance.

From a driving soundtrack of the Chicharones' alternative hip-hop, to up-close-and-personal interviews with characters throughout the film, and even to the shaky hand-held cinematography, the aesthetic is unmistakably sitcom-esque. Though an entertaining — and at times quite touching — movie, Teacher of the Year belongs thoroughly amongst faux-reality television shows such as "The Office" and "30

Rock." This may, quite logically, be the product of the director's desire to turn it into a TV serial beginning in August of this year.

Center-stage is the struggle experienced by English teacher Mitch Carter, played by Matt Letscher, after receiving the California "Teacher of the Year" award. He is given an offer to leave his teaching job for \$150,000 a year advocating for a private school interest group. This internal debate is somewhat undercut by a chal-

lenge faced by his colleague and friend Math teacher Brian Campbell, played by Chris Conner, who is falsely accused of molesting a student. Though Mr. Carter's successful defense of his close companion is a meaningful part of the film, a touching moment with his daughter strikes very real emotion to the main conflict. Near the end, the message of the film — a tribute to the work of teachers everywhere — is delivered in a heavy-handed, but still touch-



Official movie poster

ing, manner. As the struggling soccer team that Mr. Carter is coaching scores a goal, he is buried in players, and his voice booms through as though narrating, "Teaching sometimes feels like you're leading your students through a dense fog the fear is that you're leading them in the wrong direction."

It is in this message that the movie's strength truly lies. Like a sampling platter of teachers' daily life experiences, the film lays out scene after scene of weighty, funny, and sometimes cringe-worthy vignettes. From competition between departments to casual gossip and a much-maligned parent-teacher conference day, the movie strays from its canned plot to show glimpses of a distinct profession.

Available on iTunes and numerous video-on-demand providers, the movie is worth the watch, even if only to support another U-Higher in Hollywood.

## This weekend in Hyde Park:

Chicago's 68th  
Annual Art Fair  
June 6-7, 2015



www.57thStreetArtFair.org

## 30 years later, 'Goonies' entertains new generation

by Christine Obert-Hong  
Editor-in-Chief

Celebrating its 30th anniversary this month, "The Goonies" is a classic that most of our parents know but that, unfortunately, only some of today's adolescents have actually seen. The movie follows a group of kids living in Astoria, Oregon's "Goon Docks" neighborhood as they search for hidden pirate treasure to save their homes from foreclosure.

First released in 1985, this classic adventure-comedy was written by Steven Spielberg, known for directing "E.T.," "Schindler's List" and "Jurassic Park," and is considered among the decade's best adventure motion pictures.

The first time I watched "The Goonies" was about 11 or 12 years ago — back when everyone still owned a VCR player and VHS tapes. Just hearing the title again sent me on a little trip down memory lane.

As anyone would expect from something filmed in the '80s, the graphics in "The Goonies" aren't exactly at the same level as what we see today. Nonetheless, because said graphics really only consist of boobytraps such as an entire cave filling up with sea water — since dinosaurs and aliens are a bit out of the question for a pirate treasure hunting movie — they're easy to ignore.

The highlight of the film would have to be the group's dynamics. Though each kid couldn't be more different from the next, they all work well together to find the treasure. For example, Michael "Mikey" Walsh (Sean Astin), the closest thing to a protagonist in the movie, always tries pushing the group onward, Brandon "Brand" Walsh (Josh Brolin) continuously



Official movie poster

Three decades after its debut night, "The Goonies" still evokes strong memories from its fans, and appeals to new audiences today.

tries looking out for the group and his younger brother, Mikey, and Richard "Data" Wang (Ke Huy Quan) has all the tech and gizmos the group needs. What's even more heartwarming is the friendship between Lawrence "Chunk" Cohen (Jeff Cohen) and Lotney "Sloth" Fratelli (John Matuszak). Though Sloth is very monstrous in appearance, with a face that — quite literally — only a mother could love, the two bond over their love of food.

With finals and essays coming closer, give yourself the chance to be nostalgic — or try something new — and re-embrace your adventurous inner child with "The Goonies."





Editorial cartoon by Kat Flocke

AS THE MIDWAY SEES IT

# Wear the name of college that fits you best

For many years, the seniors have culminated their end-of-the-year spirit week in May with College Shirt Day, where students come to school wearing a shirt displaying the name of their future college. Throughout the day, friends take pictures together, and the entire class takes a group photo on the steps of Blaine.

Although the intention of the tradition is to celebrate the end of the seniors' high school career and the hard work they have put into college applications, some students feel College Shirt Day brings unwanted attention and judgment to those who were not accepted to their top choice schools. While this is unavoidable, it should not

prevent students from carrying on the tradition.

U-High's competitive culture is responsible for many students' anxieties regarding college name value, but students should not allow this to determine their self-worth. At the end of the day, it's about their education and their life, not what other people think about their college.

Some students feel self-conscious about wearing a college shirt to school because they fear that their classmates will make assumptions about their academic capabilities based on the school they decide to attend. However, the important part of college decisions is choosing the right school, not necessarily the most prestigious one.

A big name doesn't guarantee a happy, fulfilling college experience; students must assess their own wants and needs to find a school that will best support their academic, personal and social goals. There are many factors outside academics that influence college decisions, such as financial and family matters. For example, a student who was accepted to a famous college may end up going to a lesser-known college if the latter offers a better financial aid package. Even students whose families are able to afford college may decide to choose the most affordable option because they want to save money for graduate school in the future.

College Shirt Day is a longtime tra-

dition at U-High that allows students to take pride in themselves — not just for their choice of college, but for their hard work throughout their Lab career.

It is not about proving yourself to your peers; it's about continuing U-High's tradition. No matter the logo on the shirt, wear it with pride.

College decisions will always bring happiness to some and disappointment to others. But regardless of the schools students choose for themselves, they should not be defined by their college. The purpose of College Shirt Day is not to place labels on students, but to dedicate a day to celebrate diversity and the different skills, talents and interests of each individual.

# Remember the memories you make; they last forever

by Mike Glick  
Editor-in-Chief

Oct. 9, 2014.

I will never forget the day that U-High alum Stephen Dunham came to speak here. Nor, for that matter, will I ever forget the day before he came to talk.

Just 17 hours before Mr. Dunham told us how his track and field team had lost the ISL Championship more than 50 years ago, our soccer team had met the same fate. His team finished one race short of the ISL crown; ours, one goal short.

Yet, as I sat in Max Palevsky Cinema as I had countless times before, I

didn't feel sorry for myself. I didn't feel sorry for him.

Mr. Dunham showed me something that has changed my outlook on high school, success and life: Memories can last forever.

May 13, 2014.

I've been to Bixler Park hundreds of times. Literally. I went as a lower schooler to play in the fountains, as a middle schooler to play soccer and as a high schooler to play frisbee and eat croissants from Medici Bakery.

One experience stands out, though. About a month after junior retreat, my group decided to get together again to have a picnic. We laid out a blanket,

pulled out our lunches and sat down to talk, wanting to continue the connections that had emerged.

At retreat, we each discussed our life maps. Now, we've each become part of one another's maps.

Feb. 12, 2015.

As I flew out to California to visit my brother, about 100 U-High students also made a trip, albeit a shorter one. The destination: the Latin School of Chicago.

I have gone to dozens of U-High basketball games throughout the past four years. Unfortunately, I missed arguably the best one. U-Highers swarmed into Latin's gym, cheering the team

on to a huge victory that guaranteed U-High the ISL Championship. As someone who had led the cheers at the other games, I felt a weird combination of pride and dispensability. Pride, as I helped lay the foundation for those fans. Dispensability, as our fan section managed just fine without me.

As us seniors move on from U-High in the following weeks and months, these mixed feelings will likely well inside many of us. Lab will keep moving on without us.

It's on us to remember the memories that we have made. It's on us to stand in 50 years where Mr. Dunham stood on Oct. 9.

U-HIGH MIDWAY

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Quick Q

What is your favorite moment from this year?



Nikki



Charlie



Chris



Tatum

**Nikki Han**, freshman: I enjoyed the freshmen lock-in and going to the basketball game before with my friends.

**Charlie Sowerby**, sophomore: Going to state for cross country.

**Chris Healy**, junior: The Latin vs. U-High boys basketball game when a bunch of U-High students went to Latin's home court, filling it with our voices and helping U-High seal the ISL title.

**Tatum McCormick**, senior: Although I was injured and couldn't play, I enjoyed cheering on my teammates as we won our girls volleyball senior night game. It was a great way to end my time on the team.

— Compiled by Alex Harron and Natalie Glick



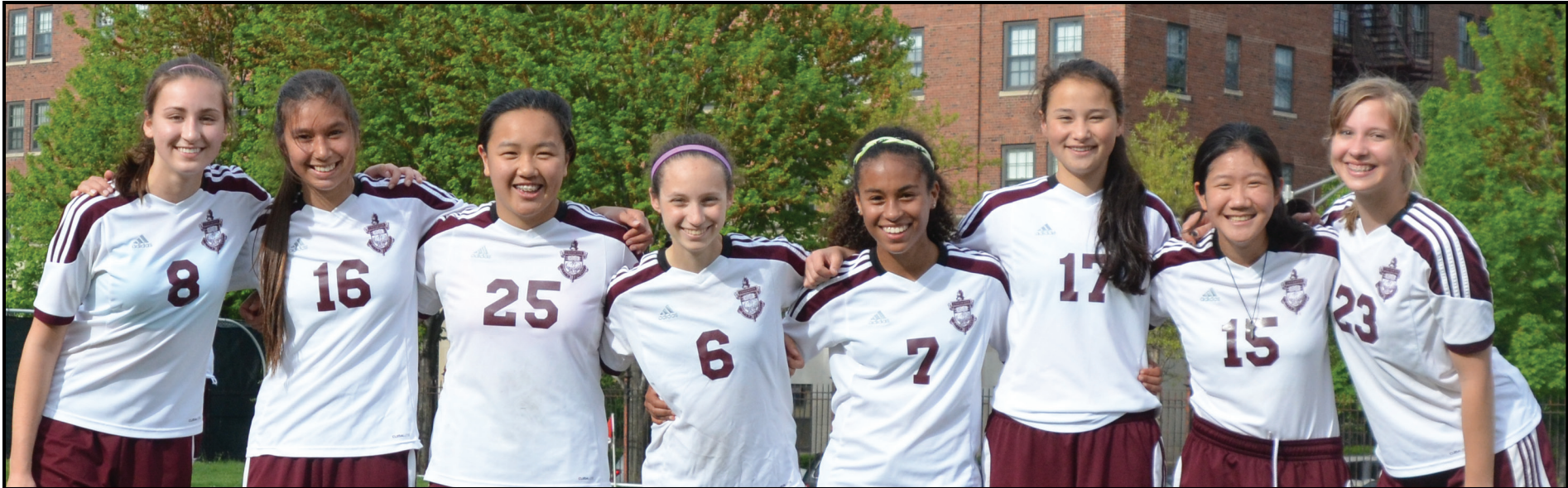


Photo by Loic Khodarkovsky

Eight freshmen, Tia Polite, Isabella Light, Elizabeth Van Ha, Anna Kenig-Ziesler, Kendall Cunningham, Rachel Schonbaum, Katie Stolze and Ileana Minor, played on the varsity girls soccer team this season.

# Eight freshman girls move up to varsity soccer

by Jackie Walker  
Associate Editor

Coach Mike Moses has coached U-High girls soccer for 20 years. On occasion, he has added up to four girls to the varsity squad. Never until this year, though, had he placed eight freshmen on the varsity team. After the graduation of nine players from last year's squad, U-High needed new players to fill the void. A combination of former JV players and freshmen competed for the empty spots. "Whether you're a freshman or a senior, it doesn't matter," Coach Moses said. "We put the most skilled players on the field. So with this year's team, it turned out that many of the freshmen coming in had quite a bit of talent. That's why a lot of them were moved up to the varsity team. "If you're a senior, yes, you might feel threatened by a skilled freshman. But ultimately that skilled freshman is going to make your situation better. I think that the juniors and seniors have seen this and said, "There's a reason why there's eight fresh-

men coming in. Our numbers weren't great and we needed to make our numbers equitable for varsity and JV, but these freshmen are going to make the program better as a whole because of their skill." With a varsity team composed of four seniors, five juniors, two sophomores and eight freshmen, the team balance depends heavily on the freshmen: Kendall Cunningham, Anna Kenig-Ziesler, Isabella Light, Ileana Minor, Tia Polite, Rachel Schonbaum, Katie Stolze and Elizabeth Van Ha. "At the beginning I was nervous because as freshmen, we made up such a large number of the team, and since there were a lot of seniors last year, we had a reputation to keep up," Tia said. "We had a lot of responsibilities in the beginning, but we all just jumped into everything." "When we were brought up to varsity, it wasn't a big transition for us," Kendall said. "It was nice to see some of the different ways other people played at different clubs, as well as to how our style fit in to the way the juniors and seniors play. It was a little intimidating at first, playing with juniors and

seniors, but we shared the atmosphere." Freshman Ileana Minor found the varsity team friendly and welcoming. "At first, I was disappointed that I was placed on JV," Ileana said. "But I started warming up to the people on the team. When I was moved up to varsity, I was a little upset because I was leaving my teammates, but it was exciting because I was moving up to a more experienced team. Most of the people I knew from club soccer were there so it was nice to play with people I'd played with before. I felt like I was under a lot of pressure because I didn't want to let down the coaches. It was hard to get to know some of the people on the team because they'd already spent a lot of time together, but they were really welcoming. It felt like a bunch of friends welcoming me into their group." Now that the season is over, players are reflecting on past games and how they could have been better. "We've had our losses in games and we've faced challenges, but we didn't make any excuses," Kendall said.

# Sailing Team transitions from club to varsity

by Marissa Martinez  
Associate Editor

After having club status for three years, the U-High Sailing Team is about to be a part of U-High's varsity lineup. In years past, students interested in sailing participated in the Columbia Yacht Club's program located on DuSable Harbor on the North Side. During their tenure at CYC, U-High members competed and raced against teams from Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin and Illinois, ranking 15th in the Midwest. A banner in Upper Kovler Gym will indicate that the sailing club is officially recognized, but not much else will change. Sailors will continue to compete at conferences around the United States and work through Columbia Yacht Club with the same coaches, still being connected to the Midwest Inter-scholastic Sailing Association. Athletic Director David Ribbens has

been an integral part of clubs becoming officially part of the high school. "To go from being a club to varsity, the team needs to establish commitment to the sport," Mr. Ribbens said. "They also need to show sustained interest. Eight students have registered for next fall, not including the five current people on the team. In addition, there are 30 to 40 students in grades 2-8 at Columbia Yacht Club who might be interested in joining our high school team." Sailing can also lead to a college career or scholarship for invested athletes. Clubs sports need administrative support because the school needs to finance the program and be confident that the sport will grow, according to Mr. Ribbens. "Clubs transitioning to high school sports have worked very well in the past, including the fencing team that started eight years ago and the squash

team, which went varsity last year," Mr. Ribbens said. "The parents have also been really helpful in making sure the program succeeded. I went to a sailing competition last November, and they were very excited about a possible school team." One of the founding members, sophomore Colleen Baumann, who has sailed since she was 11, says that the club going varsity means people will be a lot more invested in the sport. "Right now, there are four practices a week, and people come to about half," Colleen said. "Now that it's a more official sport, sailing will become a lot more serious. There has always been some form of a team at Lab, held up by one or two kids who are really into the sport, but now, since we have a lot of interested stu-

dents as young as fourth grade who will continue in high school, I think it will last." Colleen and Phoebe Lincoln, a junior, emailed and met with Mr. Ribbens to raise interest while improving the club's rankings in the sailing system to attract more participants. "I think that it's definitely important that sailing has been made into a varsity sport," Phoebe, who began sailing at age nine, said. "We've been trying to get a team large enough to compete. In the past, we've had to scrounge around to find enough people to compete in regattas. Now that it's a real U-High sport, students are a lot more interested in joining." The new U-High team will begin practices in August.



Colleen Baumann



Phoebe Lincoln

## SPRING SPORTS SCORES

by Marissa Martinez  
Associate editor

**Varsity Baseball:** The team defeated Latin 3-2 May 30 to win the 3A Regional Championship. Other recent results: lost to North Shore County Day School May 15, 0-10; lost to Latin May 12, 3-4; trounced Elgin Academy May 9, 8-6 and 23-5; beat Morgan Park Academy May 5, 10-2 and 12-4; defeated Northridge Prep May 4, 3-0; lost to Brooks College Prep High School May 2, 11-17; and won against North Shore Country Day School May 1, 7-6. **JV Baseball:** The team finished with a record of 8-1. Recent results: won against F.W. Parker May 15, 7-6; trounced Uno Charter School (Garcia) on May 7, 17-2; won against

Northridge College Prep May 4, 4-3; and defeated Uno Charter School (Garcia) April 28, 16-4. **Girls Track and Field:** 2A Sectional Championship, May 14, second place of 13 teams. Records: 4x800 relay, Alice Carlstrom, Lucy Kenig-Ziesler, Elsa Erling and Genevieve Nemeth, 10:00:06. High jump, Alex Thompson, 5-4". State qualifiers: Alice Carlstrom, Lucy Kenig-Ziesler, Elsa Erling, Genevieve Nemeth and Alex Thompson. Maroons won ISL Girls Track and Field Conference Championship for the third consecutive year, outscoring the second place team by 50 points. They also won the 12-team Chicago Christian Invitational, and placed second in the IHSA 2A Sectional meet.

Debbie Ribbens, Lynne Ingalls, Nick Puaca and Chris Koutavas were selected for 2015 ISL Girls Track and Field Coaching Staff of the Year. **Boys Track and Field:** The 4x800-meter relay team of Zach Emanuel, Charlie Sowerby, Schuler Small and Harrison Shapiro competed at the 2A state championships in Charleston last weekend. Jacob Meyer had his third consecutive appearance at the state track meet in both 1,600- and 3,200-meter races. **Varsity Boys Tennis:** Recent results: Sam Fleming won three matches and Ajay Chopra won one match, scoring 5 points for the Maroons, at the IHSA State Tennis Championships, placing the team at a tie for 43rd place in the state. **JV Boys Tennis:** The team fin-

ished with a record of 6-4. Recent results: beat Whitney Young May 15, 1-0; won against Morgan Park Academy May 7, 1-0; and lost to F.W. Parker April 28, 0-4. **Varsity Girls Soccer:** The team finished 10-5. Recent results: won against Proviso West May 14, 4-0; beat Illiana Christian High School May 13, 4-1; lost to Latin School of Chicago May 9, 0-1; beat Elgin Academy May 7, 1-0; placed 2-1 in the Glenbrook Cup Tournament May 1 and 2; and beat F.W. Parker April 28, 1-0. **JV Girls Soccer:** The team finished with a record of 1-5-1. Recent results: won against Uno Charter School (Garcia) May 5, 1-0; lost to F.W. Parker during a scrimmage April 28, 0-4.



# College prep activities earn varied verdicts

by Grace Anderson  
*Associate Editor*

Junior preparation process for college applications gets mixed reviews. Beginning the week they return from Winter Break, counselors and faculty members alike push juniors at U-High to start considering the college process concretely. The highlights of the U-High's preparation system include individual meetings with counselors, senior panels on the college process, the Junior Questionnaire, the Day with the Deans and of course, Junior College Workshop. This workshop is easily the most time-consuming of these activities as students attend weekly counselor-led meetings for 45 minutes. In small groups ranging, students learn about everything from how to conduct yourself on a college visit to the nitty gritty details of transcripts and standardized test scores.

As the eldest siblings in their families, Grace Broderick and Lucy Kenig-Ziesler agree that the workshop has been beneficial and informative. "College workshop has certainly been very interesting, especially for people like myself without older siblings," explained Grace. "The college process is so new to me that the workshops have a lot of information I would have overlooked otherwise. I've just found it helpful learning about the entire application process and especially the difference between simple things like Early Decision versus Early Action." Lucy noted in particular how helpful counselors have been when it comes to students' individual needs. "I think that the counselors really want you to know that you can reach out to them in any way," said Lucy, "and the information has been particu-



Photo by Nikita Dulin

Students from the UC Charter Schools discuss and rate mock applications with U-High students during Day with the Deans May 21. Student groups decided whether to ultimately admit, waitlist or deny each of the presented applicants.

larly helpful to me because I'm the oldest child in my family so I'm the first to go through the college process. On the other hand, while Schuler Small recognized the importance of some information provided in junior college workshop, he found some of the sessions unnecessary since he felt he already knew many of the basics. "I have mixed feelings in general about it," said Schuler, "but overall I think it's a necessary aspect of junior year. I think the part where they went over the different types of applications and their respective components was helpful. The meetings where we just talked about visiting colleges and different types of colleges was unnecessary, at least for me." Following the culmination of this workshop, juniors also participated in Day with the Deans, May 21. Part of

the school day was dedicated to juniors learning about the admissions process from different colleges' deans. Deans of admissions from University of Wisconsin-Madison, Swarthmore College and Knox College participated in the event. Choice and the individuality of a person's situation remained a common theme for the panelists, especially the dean for Swarthmore, Jim Bock. "I think choice is a wonderful thing," Bock said, "but too much choice can be paralyzing. In most other countries one test really determines if you go to school, where you go to school and what you do with the rest of your life. In the US we have the great privilege of choice but also the great responsibility that comes with choice." While Elizabeth Stolze found listening to the Deans helpful, she felt that the event ran longer than necessary.

## Class of 2015 headed to wider variety of colleges

by Julian Lark  
*Associate Editor*

From coast to coast and across an ocean, seniors look forward to their post-U-High careers with a variety of collegiate and professional plans. "There's no surprises with what schools are our most popular, but I'm seeing a wider scattering of schools, not just the usual suspects," college counselor Patty Kovacs observed. "I think that U-Highers are looking at choices with values beyond brand name in mind. "They're considering the 'fit' factor, affordability, and many are taking a more clear-headed look at admissions — some years the process has been entirely a job of explaining to kids that certain schools are out of reach given a certain record of grades and testing." A big change in recent years has been a shift from University of Michigan to the University of Chicago and University of Illinois as the main schools chosen by U-Highers. Ms. Kovacs thinks this is a product of higher financial awareness amongst U-Highers. "When I got here first, University of Michigan had the highest acceptance and matriculation rates, but has been since replaced by UChicago and the University of Illinois," Ms Kovacs said. "I think that's a good thing, because a reason behind that is that families are much more aware of student loan debt, regardless of their economic situation, and they ask themselves, is the grass really that much greener on the other side of the state line? Why should I pay more for an out-of-state tuition when a really good school with in-state tuition is so near?" Some seniors chose to specialize into particular fields of study right from their application, including Natalie Holley, who chose to attend New York University's Tisch School of the Arts with the aim of studying Television Production. "When I was little, I'd watch the 'behind the scenes' parts and all of that," Natalie explained. "I thought that was normal, but over time I realized that that's just what I liked. But I grew up and kind of thought, 'that's not a real job.' But then I came to Lab and thought I might do journalism, so I took the program for a quarter, and I realized that was not for me, so I thought communications would be something I'd be interested in." Though she's not taken formal classes in television production at U-High, she took her passion and pursued it through the advice of college counselors. "During Junior College Workshop, we had a thing on specialized majors, and how for certain programs you have to send a portfolio of your work, and I real-

ized, 'oh shoot, I don't have anything,'" Natalie said. "So I talked to Ms. Wagner, and she said I should sign up for an internship or summer program. There was a summer program hosted at Northwestern, with cherubs for different things, TV, film, et cetera." Though Natalie has found her passions beyond U-High's class offerings, senior Tristen Acevedo has made plans beyond the offerings of college. Taking a gap year with an eye on furthering his culinary interests, he said he plans to work as a Chef de Partie at the West Loop's Moto restaurant, beginning the day after graduation. However, he explains, pursuing the goal of chef has many paths. "Some people study hospitality and receive a bachelor's degree while others start on the job and work their way up," Tristan explained. "You could go to culinary school but that makes more sense if you want a slow-paced gentle introduction into the world of cooking. Your success in this line of work isn't determined by an Alma Mater but by your work ethic, creativity, and knowledge." College counselors provided a list of post-graduation plans for the Class of 2015, current as of May 28. **American University, Washington, D.C.:** Sebastien Labossiere **Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois:** Ivana Jureta **Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York:** Glenn Decety **Barnard College, New York:** Karen Reppy **Bentley University, Waltham, Massachusetts:** Jonah Berg-Ganzarain, Karla Douglas **Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts:** Francine Almeda, Philip Gianfortune III **Boston University:** Kaitlin Baumann, Emili Husain **Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island:** Jacquelyn Ingrassia **California Institute of Technology, Pasadena:** Walker Melton **Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota:** Maya Ben-Shahar **Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio:** Peter Knight **Columbia University, New York:** Elizabeth Libes, Kennedy Thomas, Justin Whitehouse **Culinary Career:** Tristan Acevedo **Delaware State University, Dover:** Carra Gray **Denison University, Granville, Ohio:** Sylvie Manuel, Justine Silverstein **DePaul University:** Quentin Griffin **Hamilton College, Clinton, New York:** Kendall Rallins, Benjamin Rhind **Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts:** Edward Litwin **Haverford College, Haverford, Pennsylvania:** Arthur Chang **Indiana University at Bloomington:** Whitney Beach **Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore:** Lily Olson **Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, Michigan:** Taylor Horton **Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois:** Edward Freyman **Lake Forest College:** Jordan Moran, Mikal Muhammad **Loyola University Chicago:** Gabriel Guevara **Luther College, Decorah, Iowa:** James Sinclair

**Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota:** Della Brown, Maxwell Brown, Miriam Lipman **Marymount Manhattan College:** Carlotta Plys-Garzotto **Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge:** Clare Keenan, Jane Maunsell **Michigan State University, East Lansing:** Kasey Kozak **New York University:** Natalie Holley **Northeastern University, Boston:** Wyatt Dandy, Leah Rosenzweig **Northwestern University:** Katherine Bauer, Sofie Rosenzweig, Clay Surmeier, Samuel Van Loon, John Williams **Norwich University, Northfield, Vermont:** Zachary Minor **Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio:** Jackson Martin **Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey:** Maddi Ross **Reed College, Portland, Oregon:** Lucas Fagen **Sarah Lawrence College, Yonkers, New York:** Catherine Eng **Scripps College, Claremont, California:** Tatum McCormick **Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York:** Gabriella De Maio **Stanford University, Palo Alto, California:** Xiaofan Dai, Alijah Futterman **The College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio:** Eleri Miller, Luke Murphy **The University of Iowa, Iowa City:** Clea Braendel, Emilie Portugal **The University of Texas, Austin:** Christine Obert-Hong **Trinity College Dublin:** Fen Truitt **Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts:** Eriko Koide **Undecided:** Gabrielle Beamon **University of British Columbia, Vancouver:** Daniel Bissonnette **University of California, Berkeley:** Michael Horio **University of California, Los Angeles:** Zachariah Emanuel, Jarrett Lampley **University of California, Santa Cruz:** George Hamilton **University of Chicago:** Jaideep Dhanoa, Miles Grogger, Apoorva Gundeti, Jeesea Kim, Kevin Li, Julia Martinez, Julia Mearsheimer, Aya Nimer, Storm Taft, Alexandra Thompson, David Yunis, James Zhang **University of Illinois at Chicago:** Raghu Somala **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign:** Rajan Aggarwal, Philip Blok, Charlotte Elfenbaum, Jinru Liu, Isabella Pon, E'lan Robinson, Alexander Schonbaum, Ross Tizes **University of Kansas, Lawrence:** Katherine Franks **University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana:** Katie Adlaka **University of Pennsylvania, Philedelphia:** Maryam Alausa **University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, Washington:** Carl Fohran, David Margoliash **University of San Francisco:** Virginia Differding **University of Southern California, Los Angeles:** Benjamin Friedman **Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee:** Jeffrey Jou, Henry Utset **Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, New York:** Nathaniel Posner, Miranda Scarlata **Washington University in St. Louis:** Geri Ross **Wellesley College, Wellesley, Massachusetts:** Jennifer Chien, Valentina Gardner **Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut:** Anna Knes **Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, Massachusetts:** Alexander Kim **Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut:** Clara de Pablo, Adam Fine, Michael Glick, Luke Newell, Madeline Sachs