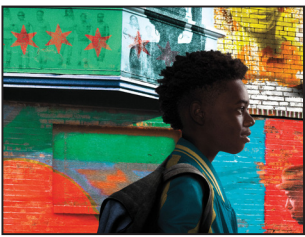


Aiming to show the true Chicago, “The Chi,” a new Showtime series written by a native Chicagoan, depicts the effects of crime on people and communities.



Each of the approximately 650 people killed in Chicago throughout 2017 has a story behind the statistics.



Students explain how figure skating provides them a chance to relax and let loose, as well as self-discipline and growth through competition.



University of Chicago Laboratory High School

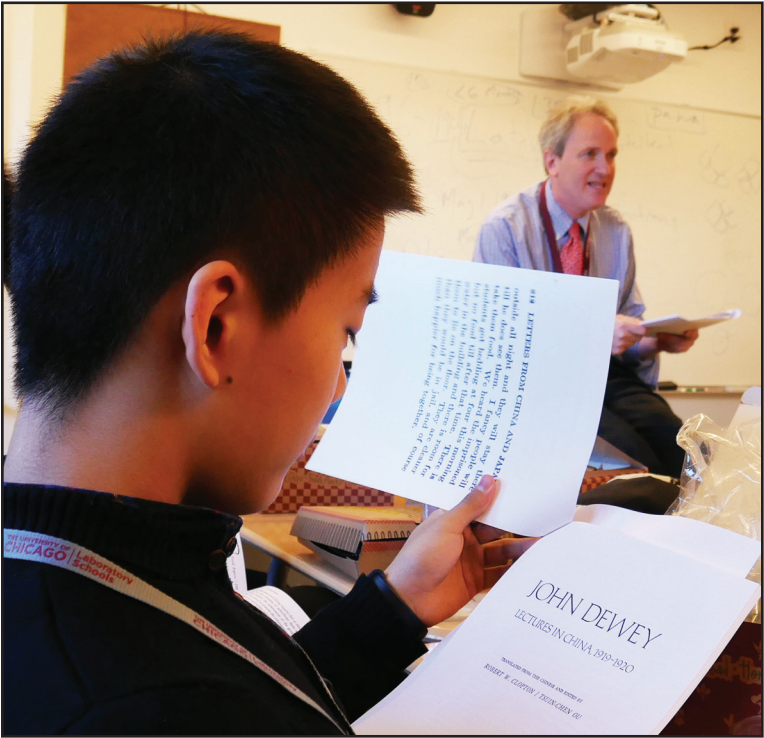
U-HIGH MIDWAY

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Donation will fund Dewey-themed China trips



MIDWAY PHOTO BY SONNY LEE

DEWEY FUN. Bruce Li, a student at Ren Da Fu Zhong high school in Beijing, reads about Lab Schools founder John Dewey during a presentation Feb. 2 with Director Charlie Abelmann. RDFZ exchange students will be invited to attend a May 2019 conference commemorating Dewey’s 1919 China trip.

by **SAMIRA GLAESER-KHAN**
NEWS EDITOR

A donation from a businessman with connections in the United States and China will allow Lab to learn about Lab Schools founder John Dewey in China.

The \$675,000 donation from Jun Zhou, chairman of Zhongtong Logistics Company in China and the Jefferson Education Group, will fund projects facilitating Chinese-American exchanges and exploring the role of Dewey in both countries. Additionally, the donation will enable projects building off the new Chinese exchange, which has students from Ren Da Fu Zhong (RDFZ) high school in Beijing visiting Lab through Feb. 12.

Jun Zhou’s donation will fund a conference at Lab in May 2019 commemorating the centennial of Dewey’s two-year trip to China with his wife, Alice, where he visited provinces and gave dozens of speeches. Next year’s conference will have speeches, panels and activities for students such as community service trips, art projects, and performances.

Part of the donation will also fund students and faculty travel to China during the summers of

Allocation of Donation:

Student and faculty trips to China during summers of 2018 and 2019

Conference at Lab in May 2019 commemorating Dewey’s China trip

Buddhism studies at the University of Chicago

Possible international study center

2018 and 2019. The rest of the donation has not been allocated. The administration is still working out the details for a possible international study center or other school programs looking at issues in education relating to Dewey’s ideas, director Charlie Abelmann said.

Dr. Abelmann is excited about the opportunity to involve students from the new Chinese exchange school in the projects funded by Mr. Zhou’s donation. He explained that students from RDFZ high school will be invited to attend the May conference. During the 2018 and 2019 summer trips to China, the administration plans for students from RDFZ Lab, and the University of Chicago’s Wood-

lawn Charter School working together on projects.

Dr. Abelmann wants students to retrace Dewey’s 1919 trip. He said the study tour would travel to Shanghai, Beijing and Nanjing, where students would read and discuss speeches Dewey gave in those places.

Before embarking on projects with Lab over the summer, students from RDFZ will first get to know U-High students through the new Chinese exchange program. While in Chicago, exchange students will tour the city, shadow their hosts at school and participate in a Chinese karaoke competition with their host students.

This is the first year that Lab is partnering with Ren Da Fu Zhong, a selective high school in Beijing. RDFZ is affiliated with Renmin University, one of the University of Chicago’s partner universities.

During spring break, 12 U-High students will fly to China to experience life at RDFZ. Chinese teacher Xiao Li Zhou, who organized the partnership, is excited about the new exchange program after having too little interest last year for an exchange program to take place.

Toxic turf: athletes express concerns about Jackman upgrade

by **KATERINA LOPEZ**
MIDWAY REPORTER

A plan to replace the grass on Jackman Field with turf has at least one soccer player concerned about toxic chemicals and evaluating whether he should play next fall.

Athletics Director David Ribbens emphasized that the grass field is overused and is no longer at optimal conditions for P.E. classes, athletic practices and games.

Sophomore Eli Hinerfeld is one player considering sitting out next

fall’s soccer season, citing numerous health concerns about some types of turf.

“I’m extremely opposed to the crumb rubber material used in many fields across the United States,” Eli said. “The little black particles commonly seen in children’s and athletes’ fields are often made of old,



Eli Hinerfeld

ground up toxic tires that can no longer be used.”

Studies have shown that some turf can be harmful to people with asthma, and if consumed could lead to cancer. A Yale University study showed that the material in the rubber used on turf fields can be toxic.

“What we found is that a large number of the chemicals in crumb rubber are classified either as carcinogenic or as irritants of some kind, including respiratory irritants which can be harmful to folks

with asthma,” said Dr. Gaboury Benoit, a Yale University professor of environmental chemistry and environmental engineering, in the Yale crumb rubber study.

Mr. Ribbens has considered multiple types of turf.

“The safety of the participants and of the field itself is a priority,” Mr. Ribbens said. “We’ve done our research and can say that the [turf] field is safe for participation.”

U-High soccer players already play on artificial turf fields for pre-season practices at a University of

Chicago field at East 61st Street and South Woodlawn Avenue. The teams also play on turf at other schools, including fields used by the Latin School of Chicago and Francis W. Parker School.

Artificial turf will be installed on Jackman Field during the summer in order for it to be ready for the fall season.

An installation company will be selected by spring, but Mr. Ribbens declined to disclose the companies being considered until a decision had been made.

Class at law school allows students to discuss rights

by **PRIYANKA SHRIJAY**
OPINION EDITOR

On Monday nights, eight U-High students head to law school. They join eight students from the U. of C. Woodlawn charter school for “The Constitutional Rights of Minors from the Minors’ Point of View,” instructed by law professor Emily Buss and assisted by law students. Each session focuses on a different Supreme Court case.

During the class, Woodlawn and Lab students benefit from each others’ different points of view coming from a charter and private school. While public charter school students at Woodlawn have constitutionally protected rights, private school students at Lab are not guaranteed those rights. Nonetheless, Lab’s policies on freedom of expression are influenced by the Constitution.

History teacher Christy Gerst is the supervising teacher from Lab.

She said high school students, law students and Professor Buss spend a little bit of time discuss-

ing the Supreme Court case before they break into small groups to discuss and debate hypothetical scenarios.

According to Yael Rolnik, a junior, the class first studied the free speech case *Tinker v. Des Moines*. They discussed its current relevance such as the right of students to kneel at sports games. In addition to *Tinker v. Des Moines*, they have since discussed *Bethel School District v. Fraser*, *Lee v. Weisman* and *Goss v. Lopez*. As a yearbook journalist, Yael found these free speech cases particularly interesting.

Ms. Gerst said for the students, there are three primary values in taking Professor Buss’s class: exposure to a possible career pathway, the opportunity to deeply consider Constitutional rights and their applications in schools and the deliberation over others’ viewpoints.

For Yael, the class offers her a new outlook on a career in law and teaches her about her constitutional rights as a student.

SCHOOL RIGHTS



MIDWAY PHOTO BY AMANDA LEVITT

NOT JUST FOR THE RICH. Tina Brown, a student at Robeson High School, talks to reporters Jan. 24 on the Midway Plaisance. She and other protesters gathered outside of Blaine Hall to bring attention to the underfunding of public schools in Englewood. The demonstration was aimed at Mayor Rahm Emanuel to say that students in public schools want the same opportunities as his children who attended the Lab Schools.

Homecoming incident reduces upperclassmen at dance



MIDWAY PHOTO BY SOPHIE HINERFELD

DANCING THE NIGHT AWAY AT FORMAL. Yanni Simmons, Destiney Williamson, Jordan Mahome and Ariel Montague get down dancing at Winter Formal Feb. 3. More than 70 percent of the students at Winter Formal were lower classmen.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Harvard win first in years for MUN

For the first time in 14 years, the U-High Model United Nations team took the top award at the Harvard MUN competition, which was in Boston Jan. 25-28. The team received the Best Large Delegation honor, and all 16 U-High delegates received an individual award. Next up for the team is another trip to Boston for the Boston Invitational Model UN Conference Feb. 9-11, where U-High expects to send 17 delegates.

— NICKY EDWARDS -LEVIN

Math team disappointed with 4th

Despite two students receiving perfect scores, the Math Team placed fourth at a recent contest. At a North Suburban Math League competition Jan. 31 at Walter Payton College Prep, Fiona Abney-McPeck, freshman, and Charles Chen, junior, were U-High's top scorers. "It was actually not our best competition," co-captain Roshni Padhi, junior, said. The team was scheduled to compete in the American Mathematics Competition Feb. 7, but results were unavailable at press time. Upcoming competitions include the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics competition Feb. 24 and the NSML finals in March.

— MIRA COSTELLO

Change helps struggling students

Students who are on the fine line between academic success and possible failure of class will now have an earlier intervention. New to Lab counseling this year, when a student receives two C-minuses or one D, they are put on academic notice. Students speak with counselors and parents to determine the difficulty and available supports. According to guidance counselor Tracy Graham, the plan was put in place when Principal Stephanie Weber observed that there had been no official intermediary phase other than possible informal conversations with counselors before a student would be put on academic probation after two D's or an F. The new policy was created by Ms. Weber who, according to Ms. Graham, was able to look at the school with fresh eyes when she joined Lab in 2016. Ms. Weber decided that steps should be taken to help struggling students before they are put on probation.

— PRIYANKA SHRIJAY

Goal of Connections is \$3 million

In a few weeks, parents, faculty and other members of the Lab community will come together with the goal of "Changing the Game." The biennial gala fundraiser, known as Connections, has the goal of raising nearly \$3 million to renovate Jackman Field and to increase financial aid. With the sports theme, Connections will take place March 3 from 6:30-11 p.m. at the Geraghty, an event space in the lower West Side. According to Danielle Broadwater, Lab's Assistant Director of Special events, the committee is hoping to draw 600 to 800 guests to the event. Ms. Broadwater explained that if the funding for Jackman Field is raised, turf will be installed and be ready for use by sports teams in September. In addition to remodeling Jackman field, funds raised by Connections will go toward financial aid. "Typically Connections always has a financial aid

by **SAMIRA GLAESER-KHAN**
NEWS EDITOR

According to Student Council data, only 30 percent of student attendees at Winter Formal were upperclassmen — lower than the percentage of upperclassmen at Homecoming in October, members of Student Council say from their experience attending both dances. This follows an incident at Homecoming where nearly everyone left early after Dean of Students Ana Campos told students to dance less aggressively. While juniors and seniors may feel that school dances are over-chaperoned, organizers and younger students say dances still provide a safe environment for freshmen and sophomores to bond and have fun. According to junior Tosya Khodarkovsky, less upperclassmen attended Winter Formal because they believe that there are too many adults around to have fun, especially following the incident at Homecoming.

component as far as the proceeds of the event, and we again this year, as we did in 2016, will help plan financial aid," Ms. Broadwater said. The largest amount of money the Parents' Association has ever raised with this event is \$1.9 million. However, the planners say that extensive preparation that has gone into planning the event, including sign-up parties and the creation of an ad book, will make this an achievable goal.

— IVÁN BECK

World Language Week is March 5-9

Families around the Lab community speak over 58 languages, and each and every one will be represented during World Language Week, March 5-9. According to Frances Spaltro, world language chair, during World Language Week, Café Lab will serve food representing each of the languages taught at Lab. The World Language Department will host trivia and other games in the Cafeteria during free periods. Additionally, entrances will have banners with "welcome" in all 58 languages.

— AMANDA CASSEL

Science team is on road to states

The science team placed second Feb. 3 at the Huntley Invitational, an Illinois Science Invitational competition. The team has a regional competition this weekend at Fenwick High School. If the team does well, the competitors will go to state and then hopefully advance to nationals, according to team captain Aden Goolsbee. This would be the first time the team advanced to the national competition in spring. In earlier ISO competitions, U-High placed fourth at the University of Chicago Invitational Jan. 20, and second at the Harlem Invitational Jan. 9 at Harlem High School in Machesney Park.

— SAMIRA GLAESER-KHAN

Russian-speaking students needed

This quarter, Extended Day is running a Russian heritage speakers language program at Earl Shapiro Hall for students in nursery through second grade. Russian-speaking high school volunteers will be paid. The program runs on from 2:10-4:30 p.m. on Mondays and from 2:10-3:30 p.m. on Fridays. Anna Rzhetsky, sophomore, is the only volunteer so far. "It's finally a chance to involve my heritage more in my school activities," Anna said. "I'm looking forward to helping kids out with their Russian, and in general just speaking the language more."

— OLIVIA CHENG

New course will focus on genocide

The Road to Genocide is a new year-long course to be taught in 2018-19 by Susan Shapiro which will analyze the origins and development of the concept of genocide. According to Ms. Shapiro the course is important because "we all need to know how to take sides against injustice." The first half of the course will examine the history of Germany, especially Nazism and Jews in Europe. The second half will focus on history of other genocides in Eurasia and Africa and the United Nations Genocide Convention, according to the new program of studies. The course will feature a research trip to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. Course registration is open until Feb. 18 at 9 p.m.

— GRACE ZHANG

Junior Shreya Dhar agrees with Tosya. "I didn't go to winter formal because of what happened at Homecoming," Shreya said. "I just don't want to be caught in a situation like that where I might get in trouble." Ms. Campos believes it is unfair to call dances over-chaperoned with four chaperones on the dance floor who only step in if they believe the students' behavior is harmful or if someone could potentially be hurt. "After Homecoming, I had students come to me telling me that the aggressive dancing was not fun for them and that part of the dance ruined their experience, and we can't have that," Ms. Campos said. "Our main priority is to keep students safe." While she believes it is unfair that upperclassmen say the dance is over chaperoned, Ms. Campos understands the decline in interest as students get older. "As people grow older they learn how to drive and can take them-

selves to social events outside of school, and that's completely understandable," she said. "But for the students who do attend, dances allow students to come together and have fun." Freshman Nicholas Pietraszek enjoys the bonding experience of dances. "I like the social direction that we as students get out of it," Nicholas said. "We get to hang out with our friends. School dances are a lot less about being formal and just about building connections with your friends. I would like even more activities such as some prompts for games." Even though fewer seniors and juniors attend Winter Formal and Spring Fling, All-School Treasurer Otto Brown said Student Council spends the majority of its budget on these dances and Homecoming, with each requiring about \$2,000-3,000, some of which will be regained through ticket sales. Otto said dances are important because they are tradition.

Students miss less school than teachers say they do

by **JACOB POSNER**
FEATURES EDITOR

While it may seem to students that teachers often complain about students missing class, a recent analysis of attendance data shows that U-High students are in class nearly all of the time. Colin Rennert-May, English department chair, attributes teacher concerns to a limited perspective. He said, "you notice that this student, who is struggling or is frustrated in some way, has been absent four times over the past two weeks or something, and is behind and is struggling and is not doing well because of that." To address observations like this, Learning Counselor Kevin Van Eron coordinated a study with the help of three faculty last year. Mr. Van Eron analyzed absence data across all grades, classes and departments, finding the average attendance rate was 96.3 percent. Dr. Van Eron determined students average 6.89 absences per class period per year, one third of which were attributed to illness. The next highest contribu-

tors were extracurricular activities, field trips, family travel and student retreats. There was little notable variation of absences across departments. Debate and Model UN contributed the most to absences due to extracurriculars. In November 2017 Dr. Van Eron presented his findings at a faculty meeting, mollifying many teachers who had voiced concerns. "One thing I admire about Lab is that the faculty is very passionate about what they teach," he said. "People take seriously being in school, trying to do well, and I think that if there's anything I discovered in this study, it just proves that that's the case." Mr. Rennert-May agreed that many teachers were satisfied. "Missing class is never ideal, sometimes there are consequences that come out of it," Mr. Rennert-May said. "It's hard to recreate that in other circumstances, but also it seems like, in many cases, students are finding ways to be successful despite those absences."

Facebook's Messenger Kids app raises parents' concern

by **DHEVEN UNNI**
EDITOR IN CHIEF

After social media messaging apps at Lab caused cyberbullying issues, lower school parents and counselors are now concerned about student expectations on the internet after Facebook's release of Messenger Kids Dec. 4. Messenger Kids allows children as young as 6 to communicate with family and friends, though parents control the contact list their children can message. High School Learning Coordinator Kevin Van Eron, who has a young daughter, sees that students who grew up with social media feel too comfortable with what they are posting, rather than learning increased responsibility from their experience. Mr. Van Eron said, "this year has been very troublesome, because Facebook, Snapchat and Instagram have caused a fair amount of pain for individuals in our high school." Dr. Van Eron said these situations can be more common with middle schoolers through sophomores. Without a way to get rid of

social media, administrators and teachers are forced to adapt. "Social media and messaging apps are a fact of life at this point," middle school counselor Matt Landa said. "It's always going to be present even if it keeps changing. Our role is to make sure the use of it aligns with the mission and values of the school, and that requires constant assessment of how students use it, when students use it, what students are using it for." Rather than control over contacts, Dr. Van Eron thinks content should be regulated and kids need increased training in social media. Messenger Kids includes a feature where parents can see and report anything they find inappropriate. "Texting is useful, certainly in high school, provided that it's managed appropriately," Dr. Van Eron said. "Some messaging apps would be appropriate too, if they're limited in what you are messaging. It would be a great social service if the organizations that provide these apps made sure people were trained in how they should be using it."

THE REAL CHICAGO?

‘The Chi’ shows new perspective of city

Chicago writer brings authentic experience to TV

by **LEAH EMANUEL**
ARTS EDITOR
& **SAM FLEMING**
CHICAGO LIFE EDITOR

Distinguishable from other Chicago TV series, “The Chi” is written by Lena Waithe, a writer raised on the city’s South Side, and focuses on the true complexity of the area that is often minimized to gangs, guns and violence. Waithe emphasizes nuances and depth of characters’ lives while highlighting the closeness of the community.

Unlike Spike Lee’s “Chiraq” and other movies and shows alike, “The Chi” is an authentic portrayal of the city that will inflict discomfort, pride and love from its Chicago viewers. Though only 4 episodes have been shown, the Showtime series incorporates drama, romance and comedy in its realistic and intricate depiction of life on the South Side of Chicago.

Crime

The series gives meaning to the continuing cycle of violence within the city. Rather than painting those who commit crimes as bad people, Waithe dives into the numerous layers and more intricate reasons for the crimes.

With a track from Chicago’s Chance the Rapper playing in the background, “The Chi” opens with a teenage boy biking through a neighborhood. With a big afro and vibrant clothing to match his flowered backpack, Coogie (Jahking Guillory) bikes past graffiti and moving trains, parking lots and basketball hoops, as well as boys practicing backflips on an abandoned mattress with artwork behind them that reads “From struggles come strengths.” This simplistic scene does not last long. As Coogie is stopped at chain-link



SHOWTIME

fence to feed a dog, viewers hear the first gunshots in the series. Biking to the young black man lying dead on the sidewalk of the city, Coogie steals his chain and shoes then rushes off before the police come. This propels the show into a cycle of violence and confusion.

With the show’s story arc centered around a set of crimes, “The Chi” excels at showing the personal reasons behind crimes and how one crime leads to another.

Community

Growing up around the violence and crime in the city builds strong relationships and a sense of communal protection.

“The Chi” revolves around how everyone is connected, and how individuals tend to look out for each other. However, the show emphasizes how standing up for people you love can be dangerous. The strong familial connections are very apparent in the first few episodes of the show. The anguish of characters who have lost family members mixed with necessity to carry on with their lives unveils how members of the community lean on each other for support.

Maneuvering his way through the streets, Coogie’s older brother Brandon (Jason Mitchell) makes his way to a bar to meet his moth-

er. As he walks down the street, Brandon stops steps away from the door to place a few coins in the white cup held out by a homeless man. As he walks away, Brandon tells the man to have a blessed day. This simple act of kindness highlights the connectivity and strong sense of community within the neighborhood.

These strong connections are also indicated in the youngest characters in the show. Concealed behind a car, a boy named Kevin (Alex Hibbit) attempts to remain quiet as his nervously watches a murder transpire before his eyes. Caught in the wrong place at the wrong time, Kevin and his two friends, Papa (Shamon Brown) and Jake (Michael Epps) must stick together and help each other through the repercussions of what they witnessed.

Law Enforcement

Nobody in “The Chi” trusts the police. From the youngest characters, to the old man on the block, admiration for the CPD is rare. The show portrays an “us vs. them” narrative between the community and the police, but also pushes this narrative to a deeper level.

Sitting among her son Jason’s basketball trophies, medals and team photos, Tracy (Tai’isha Davis) cries with a mix of anger, con-

fusion and sorrow to Ronnie Davis (Ntare Guma Mbaho Mwine), who had been the boy’s prominent father figure. Talking through the night of Jason’s murder while working together to cope, Tracy tells Ronnie he needs to find the man who did this. “Cops ain’t gonna do shit Ronnie, you know it.”

While the characters may not trust the police, “The Chi” shows police officers who genuinely care about the community and those who feel their job is a lost cause. Detective Cruz (Armando Riesco) is a thoughtful officer who focuses on the human aspect of the violence and recognizes the different individuals involved in the crimes, while Detective Wallace (Brian King) portrays a more belligerent and complacent type of officer. As the two detectives argue differing viewpoints on the case, Wallace says smugly, “They’ll eventually kill who needs to be killed and then we file the paperwork.”

This internal conflict within the police makes it easy to understand why the community feels like they can’t be trusted.

Despite the additions of some juicy, cliché television drama to keep viewers eager for coming episodes, Ms. Waithe depicts the South Side of Chicago in its purest form.

Encapsulating the numerous layers of a South Side community, Ms. Waithe aims to help non-Chicago natives recognize the character of the city beyond accusations in the media including comments by President Trump saying Chicago is a “war zone.”

Though some scenes confused Chicago natives, like a Pink Line L train pulling into the Garfield Green Line station, “The Chi” has gained a strong following of proud Chicagoans.

In a raw depiction of the city and the characters within it, this new series paints Chicago with all of its bruises and beauties. Watch “The Chi” on Showtime Sundays at 10 p.m.

On the big screen:
Other TV shows
based in Chicago

Throughout history, Chicago has been a desirable venue for numerous successful shows. While “The Chi” is the latest, here are three others currently on TV.

“Shameless” (2011-present)

Taking place on the south side of Chicago, “Shameless” focuses on the family of Frank Gallagher, an unemployed man who spends his time alternating between his duties as a single father of six children and his alcoholism. While Gallagher spends most of his time drinking at bars, his kids are forced to learn how to take care of themselves. “Shameless” airs Sunday nights on Showtime, and is available on Netflix.

“Chicago Med” (2015-present)

“Chicago Med” follows the Gaffney Medical Center’s elite team of doctors as they navigate not only the frantic pace of the Emergency Room but also the complex relationship between coworkers and friends. “Chicago Med” airs Tuesdays at 9 p.m. on NBC.

“Superior Donuts” (2017-present)



CBS

Arthur Przybyszewski’s doughnut shop, Superior Donuts, is quickly falling behind the other “trendy” donut shops. As struggling business owner, Arthur is about to sell his shop when he meets Franco, a 20-year-old who talks his way into a job and convinces Arthur that he can still compete in a rapidly gentrifying neighborhood. “Superior Donuts” airs Mondays at 8 p.m. on CBS.

— NIKHIL PATEL

More alumni, professionals will lead Artsfest workshops

by **AUDREY MATZE**
MIDWAY REPORTER

Whether they plan to draw their classmates as Star Wars characters, make vivid protest posters or set up still-lives of sweets and candy, U-High students eagerly wait for this year’s Artsfest, a day dedicated to teaching arts to students, while committee members and teachers alike are working hard to promote and emphasize the importance of the event.

On Feb. 22 each student will participate in four assigned workshops as well as two all-school assemblies.

The festivities will begin with a performance from the Jesse White Tumblers, and conclude with a performance by U-High alumni Bardo and his hip-hop group Allied Forces. Bardo will also encourage enthusiasm for the arts as keynote speaker.

“Artsfest is a place to showcase individual student passions,” art teacher Brian Wildeman said, hoping freshmen will sign up for workshops in a timely fashion so they can choose their favorites.

Registration for The Hunt, a scavenger hunt designed to build

Artsfest:

Art in the Dark:

Wednesday Feb. 21
Café Lab
7-10 p.m.

The Hunt:

Registration began Feb. 1. The task list was made available on Feb. 5 on both Schoology and Facebook.

Workshops: Students are able to sign up for Artsfest workshops online through today at 3 p.m. Individual schedules will be posted Feb. 16.

anticipation for Artsfest, began Feb. 1. Teams of up to six members take pictures of their completed tasks and send them in by Feb. 21.

According to coordinator Sahar Siddiqui, winners will be announced at the Artsfest closing ceremony and will be awarded tickets to the Pitchfork Music Festival.

Art in the Dark, an art-themed dance, will take place Feb. 21, the evening before Artsfest.

The night’s activities will include

henna tattoos, tie-dye and karaoke. As usual, the dance will have an emphasis on student performance and showcasing the various types of art enjoyed by U-High students.

“By art, I don’t just mean painting and drawing,” Sahar said, emphasizing the variety of artistic disciplines students have an opportunity to participate in.

In addition to those led by students and faculty and even the director, young alumni and professional artists will lead workshops, including a figure drawing class led by Lillian Rosner, who recently finished her master’s degree in art education at the University of Chicago. Others include a T-shirt decorating workshop with Lilla Dent and a voice acting class with Miranda Garfinkle.

“They can expect to see high schoolers embracing the idea of ‘their day,’” Mr. Wildeman said, explaining what inexperienced freshmen can look forward to during Artsfest.

Most of all, he hopes that even freshmen who are not interested in pursuing careers as artists will enthusiastically participate.

AMERICAN EPIC



MIDWAY PHOTO BY SAM FLEMING

SHAKA TIME. Slide guitar player Billy Williams and Drummer Chris Tiuaana play Polynesian music for a seventh grade class on Feb. 2. A series of geographic locations featured in the “American Epic” documentary were created around Lab to provide the community the opportunity to explore the music through interactive experiences.

Set example for future social media users

As the Midway sees it ...

Instagram. Snapchat. Facebook. The social media options are endless. Now, Facebook is expanding to reach a younger audience with Messenger Kids.

As a new generation of kids grow up with the internet integrated into everyday life, current high schoolers must set a respectful, responsible example for internet use. The younger generation has to understand ethical decision making and the ramifications of using the internet while staying in line with Lab's values.

Most teens have seen some bad behavior on social media, from seeing a Snapchat of drinking on a Saturday night to offensive comments on Facebook. Teenagers need to create a new norm of kindness for social media. Younger siblings and other kids may not see every post you make, but they are generally aware of what you do and how you react.

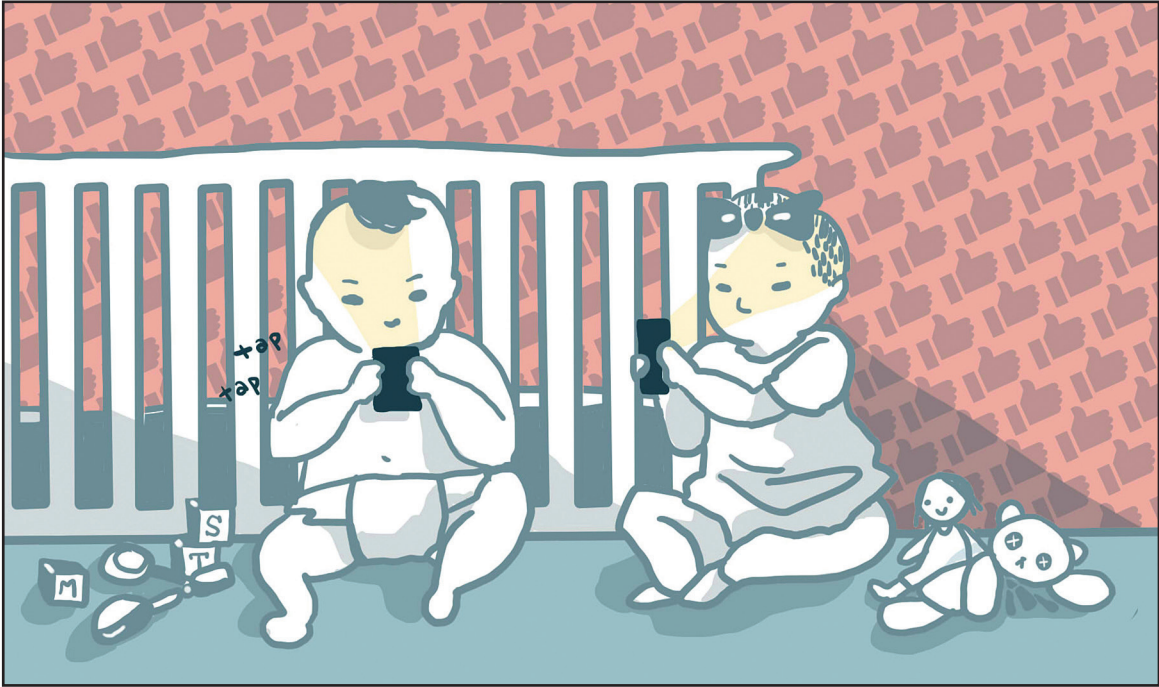
For everything offensive that is posted on the internet, there can be consequences both in the

short-term and long-term. These consequences can be as minor as talking to a teacher or a member of the school administration and as major as getting college acceptances rescinded. During summer 2017, Harvard University rescinded the acceptances of 10 students for posting insensitive memes in a Facebook group.

Younger students see you liking, commenting and posing for selfies — and they want to emulate that behavior. Yet, they do not always understand implications that social media can have on college, life and future jobs. Posting something illegal, insensitive or mean teaches kids that their behavior is normal without teaching them how to make responsible decisions.

As there have been incidents of everything from racist posts to rude jokes through the high school, everyone needs to be aware of the gravity that social media can have on the future. One rule that encapsulates this is: Do not do anything online that you would not do in person.

At U-High, many freshmen are told to get a Facebook account to



ARTWORK BY AMBER HUO

join clubs and to talk to friends. It is a primary communication device at U-High, which underscores the need to use social media responsibly. When students use social media for school purposes, they must keep in mind

that they should act with the same values of community and kindness that Lab values. By keeping in mind Lab's values, we can make strides toward more responsible content.

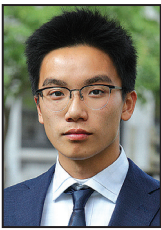
Social media at U-High should

reflect Lab's values. We need to be building community, and when responsible social media usage happens, kindness will follow.

This editorial represents the opinion of the Midway's Editorial Board.

America breaks promise when it denies immigrants homes

by **SONNY LEE**
DEPUTY EDITOR



"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

These are the words inside the Statue of Liberty's pedestal, part of a poem by Emma Lazarus. Since its dedication in 1886, the Statue of Liberty has become a beacon of freedom and a welcome from the United States to immigrants coming from abroad.

But I don't believe these words ring true any longer. As I hear news surrounding the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and

"Compared to Hong Kong, where both my parents lived before they were married, America was teeming with business, with job opportunities and a place that was 'better.' Everyone wanted a better life, and to them, America would be it."

the safety of Dreamers, individuals who came to the United States as minors now protected by DACA, I question whether America is still the safe haven to immigrants it was meant to be. America must take steps to keep the promise that the country was built on. All immigrants deserve a chance to naturalize into the country, whether that chance is a new policy or a reform

in the process to gain citizenship.

My parents came to the United States as immigrants more than 30 years ago to secure a good education for the family they would build together and to live the "American Dream" — a dream where everyone is welcome in America, a dream where anyone can work hard and succeed.

My father knew education was crucial to succeed and get a good job. He lived through the beginning of the Cultural Revolution in China, when many schools were not only shut down but weren't teaching basic math and science — instead, they were "brainwashing" children about communism. Because of this, my father was already years behind everyone else, and he knew he didn't want the same experience for his children.

From television, movies and the talk that went around, my parents

saw America as a place full of opportunities. Compared to Hong Kong, where both my parents lived before they were married, America was teeming with business, with job opportunities and a place that was "better." Everyone wanted a better life, and to them, America would be it.

From the moment my father stepped off the plane at O'Hare, he knew America really was better. He told me that day was clear, barely any clouds, simply a bright blue sky with open air and none of the humidity and stuffiness back in Hong Kong. He found jobs wherever he could, working first as a bartender, then a waiter and eventually moving into the kitchen.

Today my parents have their own business, two children and a home, none of which would have been possible if not for America.

The American Dream is the rea-

son why I'm here today. It's the reason I can write this and share my story as well as my parents'. It's the reason why I am at one of the best institutions and am lucky enough to have opportunities my parents couldn't have even imagined when they were my age. It's the reason I don't consider a boiled egg a birthday gift like my father did when he was a child. It's the reason I still believe in the American Dream and that immigrants, illegal or not, should be given the chance to naturalize into this free country.

People are willing to risk their lives traveling here to find safety and start anew. Why deny them the opportunity to contribute? Why not allow them to improve and add to the multitude of cultures, ideas and the economy.

To deny immigrants a home is to deny the promise of America.

Augmented reality will revolutionize future of technology

by **NIKHIL PATEL**
MIDWAY REPORTER



It's easy to see why some people are calling the iPhone X the most innovative iPhone yet. The most novel feature is Apple's augmented reality development platform for iOS devices, the AR Kit, which allows app developers to use the phone's camera to project a computer-generated image on the user's view of the real world.

Apple's ARKit has revitalized the field of AR by incentivizing AR

games, suggesting that businesses are the best vehicle to develop AR technology.

Some argue the government should incentivize this development using research grants since it doesn't have to worry about making profits, but those people fail to realize that the lack of worry itself would be a problem. Companies have a greater incentive to develop useful technologies.

By developing items that are most marketable, the companies generate the highest profits possible and revolutionize and simplify the way things are done.

There is infinite potential in

AR and AR experiences, and this massive market is far from being tapped. In the field of gaming, the pseudo-AR game "Pokémon Go" made almost \$1 billion in 2016, and, according to the International Data Corporation, by 2020 more money will be spent on AR development than on mobile gaming.

The development of AR Kit and the support for AR games on gaming consoles attest to this trend.

However, the most worthwhile usage of AR is in medicine. According to the Medical Futurist, a blog detailing advances in the field of medicine, AR could

"The same technology that has been used for gaming is now becoming a catalyst for saving lives."

revolutionize treatment in hospitals. In the emergency room, three-dimensional ultrasounds using AR can save lives by showing the entirety of a major organ, not just one side. In the operating room, a surgeon wearing a headset that maps out the veins and arteries of a person onto the body will make fewer mistakes or slip-ups.

An Israeli-based company,

Augmedics, has already created technology for complicated spinal surgery that allows a surgeon to "see through" the skin and superimposes CT scans on the spine of the patient. This heavily privatized industry is now on the brink of a transformative experience. The same technology that has been used for gaming is now becoming a catalyst for saving lives.

So, is this the beginning of something big or is it just a passing phase? That remains to be proven, but AR is the technology of the near future and companies only stand to gain by investing in it now.

U-HIGH MIDWAY

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1362 East 59th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637
Phone 773-702-0591 FAX 773-702-7455
Email laimone@ucls.uchicago.edu

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EDITORS-IN-CHIEF* Dheven Unni, Talia Goerge-Karron

DEPUTY EDITORS* Natalie Glick, Sonny Lee

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In a time when the press is criticized, the U-High Midway seeks to inform, educate and serve the community of University High School. The Midway is created by students, for students.

CORRECTIONS
ISSUE 5, JAN. 19, 2018:

- Page 1: Photo credited to Sam Fleming should be credited to Janie Ingrassia.
- Page 7: Leland Culver is not yet an Eagle Scout.

Stories behind the statistics

Every Chicagoan has seen gun homicide maps of Chicago filled with tiny red dots, but the real impact of each shooting is more than just a dot on a map

by **SAM FLEMING**
CHICAGO LIFE EDITOR

Chicago has become numb to gun violence, according to a Chicago victims advocate. Tom Brindisi, the senior associate executive director for the Chicago Area Project, one of the biggest community advocacy organizations in Illinois, has intimate knowledge of the city, but he said the city still often confounds him and other advocates, who struggle to understand why the murder rate never seems to come down. Last year marked the second straight year Chicago saw more gun homicides than New York and Los Angeles combined. The causes of the high murder rate have been a constant point of contention between community advocates and Chicago citizens. Advocates like Mr. Brindisi reference the break-up of street gangs in the early

2000s as a spur of violence, while elected officials including Mayor Rahm Emanuel cite policing strategies and systematic reform as the cause of gun violence. The Chicago Area Project is one of many organizations working within communities to learn the stories of those affected by violence around the city. They then train community members to become their own advocates and start their own organizations. The staggering statistics often miss the human impact of gun violence on citizens and neighborhoods. “People need to stop seeing this issue as a ‘those people’ problem,” Mr. Brindisi said. “The best way to get people to see the root causes of this violence is for them to see and hear the stories of people within their communities who are affected by violence daily.”

Gun Violence by the Numbers

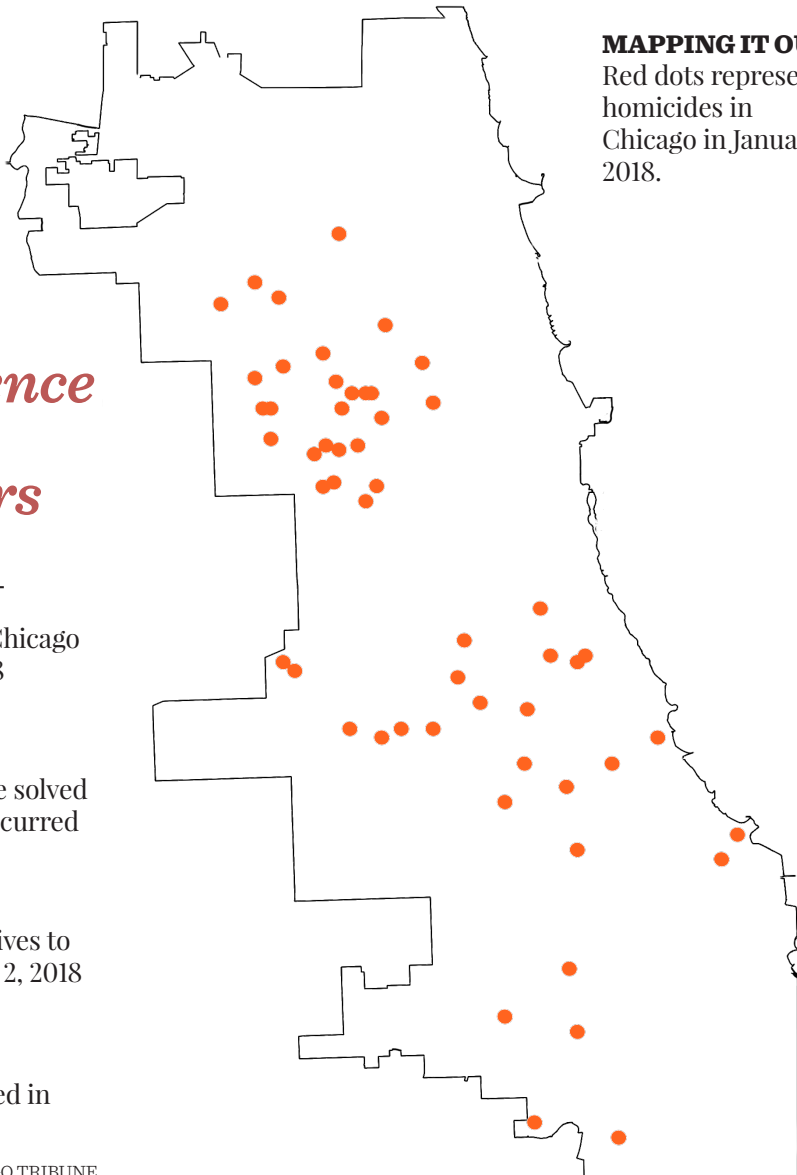
20,000+ shootings occurred in Chicago between 2010 and 2018

21% of 2016 homicides were solved within the year they occurred

34 people have lost their lives to gun violence as of Feb. 2, 2018

15% fewer murders occurred in 2017 than 2016.

SOURCES: CHICAGO TRIBUNE, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES



MAPPING IT OUT. Red dots represent homicides in Chicago in January 2018.

HOMICIDE DATA SOURCE: CHICAGO TRIBUNE

King seeks solace in organizing after brother's death

by **SAM FLEMING**
CHICAGO LIFE EDITOR

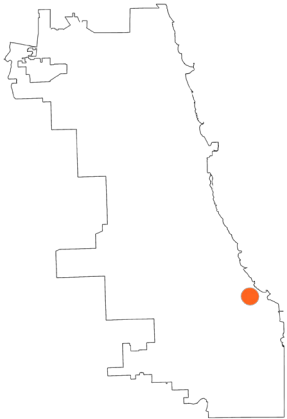
While most high schoolers do community service because it is a graduation requirement, one University of Chicago Charter School student is using service to empower himself and overcome trauma. King Collier's life changed when his older brother was shot and killed in July 2016, but through his brother's death he learned to organize within his community and has become involved in a variety of organizations dedicated to stopping gun violence. “I just want to try to get the community more involved,” King said. “I work with police, two of my cousins are officers, and I work in jails to reach out and try to prevent future violence.” His brother was a close friend whose death spurred King to take action. “My brother's passing got to me. I don't want anybody else to go through that,” King said. “That's when I knew I had to get involved.” In honor of his brother, he began an organization which holds



PHOTO PROVIDED BY KING COLLIER

LEARNING TO LEAD. King sitting in on a leadership session in UCW's Chicago Police brutality program. a basketball game every May. King is already gearing up for the event this May. “Basketball was my brother's favorite sport and that's actually what the incident happened over,” King said. “Every year we go to a gym. Last year it was at the Salva-

Seeds of Peace and a couple of my mentors at school,” he said. “Along with them and my family, they help spread the word.” Although King is working toward reducing gun violence, he emphasized the incredible amount of work that is still left to be done in Chicago. “The killing rate keeps going up. It increased by 0.5 percent last year, but the best thing we can do to deal with gun violence is to get rid of the guns,” King said. King also takes issue with the lack of empathy from Chicagoans not on the south and west sides of the city. He made it clear that if Chicago does not find a way to address the problem of gun violence on the south and west sides, the violence will become a citywide issue. “I feel like it is gonna expand. It's gonna expand to the North Side and downtown,” King said. “Everyone should have the mindset to help because not only is it possible for the violence to expand and you never know, you could be the next to lose a family member.”



OGDEN PARK. King Collier's brother was shot and killed in Ogden Park in July 2016.

But through all of the conversation around violence, King emphasized that most importantly Chicago is home. “Depending on what I become in life I'm still trying to come back to here,” King said. “Even though I've gone through a lot of trauma here, I still wanna give back to the city.”

Jay finds empowerment in gunshot-wound first-aid

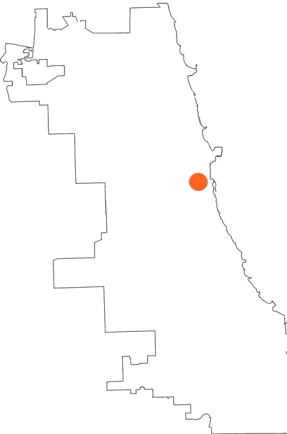
by **TALIA GOERGE-KARRON**
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On July 18, 2016, Journey “Jay” Jamison heard gunshots in her neighborhood. She had just returned home. Moments later, the gunshot victim ran through her open back door. Jay was about to put her gunshot wound training to use. The victim, Peter, consented to Jay providing first aid, and then he consented to 911 being called. “I did the standard things, which we teach in our workshops,” Jay said, “which is mainly applying direct pressure and keeping him conscious by talking to him and keeping him hopeful for the future.” Peter survived his wound. For Jay, teaching gunshot-wound first

aid has been the most empowering experience of her life. Jay, now a junior at Lincoln Park High School, became involved with the organization UMedics, a “grassroots black health collective based in Chicago” that teaches first aid for gunshot wounds and asthma first aid workshops. “We teach basically urban preparedness for tragedies,” Jay said. The group plans to expand curriculum to include diabetes and mental health crises. In 2016, Jay became a trainer for the UMedics workshops, so she can now train people how to respond to shootings. “Being a contributor to my community was nothing strange to me,” Jay said. “By being in the community I heard about this ori-

entation that was happening for UMedics. I just kind of spontaneously found myself at the workshop.” For Jay who currently lives in Roseland, but considers Bronzeville her home, gun violence has never been a deterrent for her to walk around in her community. “The only experience that I have had with gun violence have been empowering,” Jay said. “Obviously, I don't want people to be shot and I don't want people to have access to guns when they shouldn't, and I want people to carry responsibly, but I have never been afraid to walk outside of my house. I have never been afraid of my community in that kind of aspect.” Although Chicago is often de-

scribed as one of the most dangerous cities in America, Jay has never felt afraid of the South Side. “Honestly, gun violence is something that, like I said, is really projected a lot, especially when you live in Chicago and you're black,” Jay said. “I feel like it's something that's constantly thrown at your face.” Jay said that her experiences with UMedics empowered her to lead. “It has been the most empowering thing in my life thus far,” Jay said. “Gun violence, especially where I'm from in the southeast side, is really just this dark cloud. And, it makes you feel helpless a lot of times, but getting trained and knowing that I can help somebody changed things for me.”



BRONZEVILLE. Jay Jamison gave gunshot-wound aid outside her house in Bronzeville in late 2016.

Gender freedom

Clothing stores begin to recognize consumer preference

by **EMMA TRONE**
SPORTS EDITOR

You step into an Abercrombie & Fitch, a Target or an H&M, and scan the displays. Fuzzy hoodies, bootcut jeans in assorted washes, and crisply folded henley shirts are arranged on the shelves. As you lean in to look more closely at the labels, you discover that the bright stacks are organized only by body type and shape, with traditional “Men’s” and “Women’s” labels conspicuously absent.

Retailers large and small have begun to embrace gender-neutral fashion, removing gendered labels on select collections. Within the last six months, Target and Abercrombie & Fitch have both rolled out gender-neutral kids clothing lines. The Phluid Project, a start-up in New York City, plans to take a more community-oriented approach to unisex fashion when it opens in March, touting on its website that it will provide “a gender-free shopping experience.”

According to Allison Leahy, who teaches courses in Fashion Business at Columbia College Chicago, gender lines are beginning to blur in fashion design because consumers do not want to be told

what women or men should wear. They want the freedom to choose their style.

“I believe companies want to differentiate themselves and capture a niche market of consumers. When I say niche market, I mean they want to go after a market where they see the demand for a product and clearly there is demand for non-gender product,” Ms. Leahy said. “Additionally, from a purely merchandising standpoint, there are advantages to carrying one collection of unisex products versus separate lines for men and women. One key benefit is the brand may carry less inventory and have to manage fewer styles relative to product forecasting, planning and purchasing.”

Eva Griffin-Stolbach, a U-High senior who chooses to dress outside of the gender binary, believes that this burgeoning trend has positive implications for people of any age, but particularly for children.

“Especially for kids’ clothes, it’s awesome that kids who walk into a Target can pick any range of clothes that they want to wear, and I think especially at that age if I had walked into a store and didn’t have the restriction of, ‘These are the girls’ clothes, so these are the

“It’s a nice gesture to be able to wear clothes that you’re comfortable in, and that are made for you.”

— ZOE DERVIN, JUNIOR

clothes I have to wear,’ it would have been great,” Eva said. “And for a lot of adults, who don’t necessarily wear the clothes associated with their sex assigned at birth, it can be hard to find clothes that fit your body type. But if this catches on, you’ll be able to find clothes that fit you, and everyone wants to wear things that fit them great.”

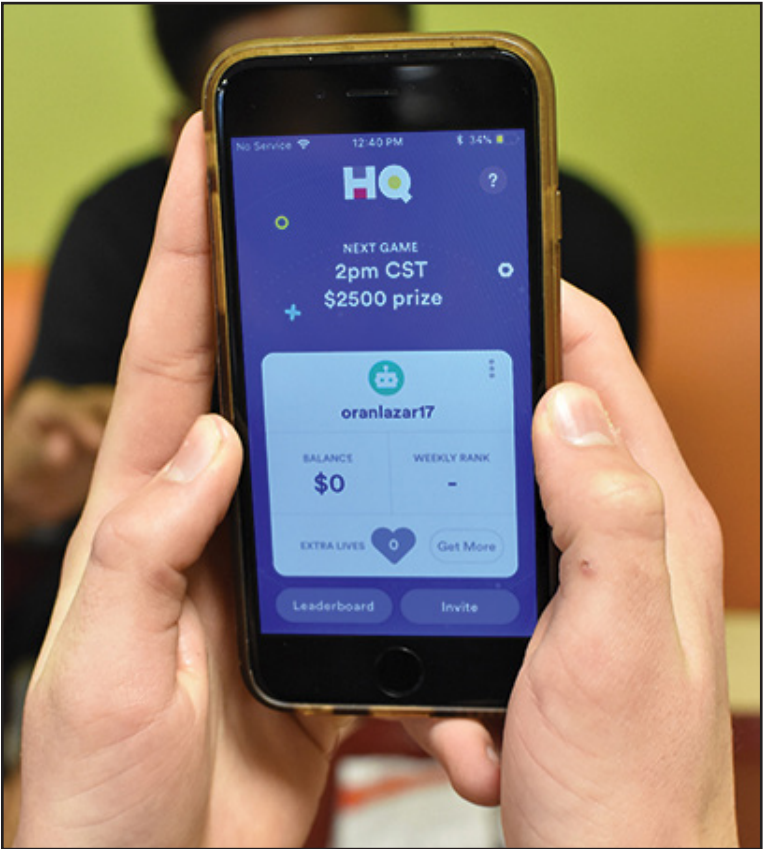
Junior Zoe Dervin, who describes her style as “classy tomboy,” similarly celebrates the opportunity to have more comfortable clothing options available, both in style and fit.

“Sometimes, the clothes you like to wear aren’t made to fit your body, so they can look kind of strange,” Zoe said. “So I appreciate gender-neutral clothes becoming more mainstream, because you can dress how you want to dress, and it looks better on you. It’s a nice gesture to be able to wear clothes that you’re comfortable in, and that are made for you.”



MIDWAY PHOTO BY LILLIAN NEMETH

FLANNEL FASHION. Senior Eva Griffin-Stolbach peruses flannel shirts at Uniqlo. Founded in Japan in 1949, the store provides a variety of unisex clothing. Other stores with gender-neutral offerings include H&M, Target and Abercrombie & Fitch.



MIDWAY PHOTO BY SAM FLEMING

TRIVIA GAME GRABS ATTENTION. HQ has gained more than 1 million users since its inception in 2017. The trivia game goes live at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Central Time.

HQ Trivia app enthralls students

by **MAX GARFINKEL**
MIDWAY REPORTER

It’s 2 p.m. A group of seniors gathers around the orange corner booth in the café during a free period. They’re all looking at one student’s phone.

The voice of Scott, the HQ trivia host, emanates from the phone: “Hello HQties!” The game begins, and the students frantically debate over the questions, desperately trying to answer them within a 10-second time frame. A correct answer results in a cheer. A wrong answer equals a sigh. Then it’s back to chatting.

The HQ trivia app has recently spread through the school like wildfire, with students playing the game daily.

HQ was created by the co-founders of Vine and has gained more than 1 million users since its launch in late August 2017. It is a live trivia game, meaning that the game always starts at the same time, and all the players are competing against one another. One wrong answer eliminates a player from the game. Remaining winners split the cash prize, which

“I like it because the questions are fun, and I like trivia generally, but the possibility of winning money makes it much more exciting.”

— JESSICA FRANKS, SENIOR

is usually \$2,000 total. The game is live at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Central Time. According to the terms of use, one must be 17 or older to play, yet many of the participants are under 17.

Jessica Franks, senior, has been playing HQ for a few weeks, and she often plays during her free periods on Tuesdays. She said she usually plays it with her friends, or anyone else in the room who is playing, because they can help each other out, and if one of them loses they can laugh about it.

“I like it because the questions are fun, and I like trivia generally, but the possibility of winning money makes it much more exciting,” Jessica said.

Even if students at U-High have not talked much before, they can

still connect over the quirky, fast-paced trivia game.

Although there are not many people in the cafeteria, it buzzes with excitement when the 2 p.m. game comes on. People start playing with the small groups that they are sitting with, their conversation filled with anticipation for each question.

Like Jessica, sophomore Kepler Boonstra plays with his friends, but he also plays with his family.

Kepler’s whole family shouted in celebration when he won \$5.14 from a game he played with his family on Christmas Eve.

“When we won my whole family stood up and clapped in celebration for at least 15 minutes,” Kepler said.

He said his sister first introduced HQ to him during late November, and that he plays HQ trivia once or twice a day, depending on whether he has a free period during the 2 p.m. game.

Kepler said, “I think that we are very big on measuring intelligence, at least our generation is, so we find a lot of fun in working together and solving problems.”

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Just keep swimming

Team captain Horace Shew inspires progress and accomplishments

by **ABBY SLIMMON**
MIDWAY REPORTER

Horace Shew first started swimming at just 8 years old but eventually quit. He joined the high school team as a freshman and with the constant support of his teammates, fell in love with the sport over the next three seasons. Now, as a senior, he is encouraging his teammates and helping them realize their passion for swimming.

Horace first quit swimming because he wasn't enjoying it anymore. He said he didn't have great teammates, which made it difficult to love the sport. After giving swimming another try, the encouragement from his teammates, support of his coaches and U-High logo on his swim cap for the past three and a half seasons have reminded Horace of his love for the sport.

At first, Horace wasn't swimming to his full potential, but his U-High teammates made a big difference in his success. Horace also joined Midway Aquatics the summer before junior year, which helped him get faster. Now, he could potentially make it to state.

With teammates that are constantly supporting him, Horace started to enjoy going to practice and being part of the team.

"My teammates really believed in me," he said. "They told me that I could get better and they encouraged me to put the time in. I set high goals for myself."

This year, Horace and his coaches have set specific goals that he hopes to achieve this season. Kate Chronic, one of Horace's coaches, explained that Horace has had big plans to finish off his last year on the team from the start of the season. To achieve those goals, they drew up a plan of steps and a timeline for Horace to reach them.

"He is actually ahead of the plan right now, which alternately I am excited for, and it makes me nervous at the same time," Ms. Chronic said. "Now it is just a matter of we keep doing what we are doing and he stays healthy. If any of the swimmers get sick at this point, their season is finished because we are so close to the end."

As one of two captains, Horace thinks it's important for the team to be a lot closer together now



MIDWAY PHOTO BY ABIGÆL THINAKARAN

ALL SMILES. Teammates and friends smile with Horace Shew, center, to congratulate him after a race, during the meet against St. Ignatius College Prep Jan. 30 at the Ratner Athletic Center.

than they were at the beginning of the season. He said he wants each swimmer to not be afraid to step out of his comfort zone to achieve his goals.

"As a captain, it's important that I create an environment in practice where we can all push each other beyond any self-imposed limits to achieve goals that are meaningful to ourselves," Horace said.

One of the most important aspects Horace brings to the team is leadership. Both Coach Chronic and teammate Ben Cifu mentioned how Horace leads by example. According to Coach Chronic, Horace brings a sense

of work ethic to the team, which hasn't always been present in previous years.

"Horace is quietly inspiring to everyone else. He makes everybody else want to do better in practice and makes everyone want to compete better at swim meets," Coach Chronic said. "He's a big cheerleader as well. He's always very supportive and genuinely cares about each and every one of the guys."

With four freshmen on the team, Horace has worked to make each of them feel included from the very start. Freshman Graham Waterstraat explained that after

every meet they have a ritual called "shoutouts" where each member gives another swimmer a compliment on something they did well. Horace went out of his way to shout out to new members of the team to make them feel more welcome.

"Horace is always really supportive of everyone and helping them get faster. He is also really good at critiquing everyone and giving them positive feedback," Ben, a sophomore, said. "He teaches them how to train really well so that everyone can be more productive in practice and get faster."

Smaller teams yield social advantages for athletes



MIDWAY PHOTO BY JANIE INGRASSIA

MOVIN' AND GROOVIN'. Dance Troupe members Macy Beal, Aida Bašić, Alexis Tyndall and Yael Rolnik rehearse in the dance studio. Although the team only consists of five members, it provides opportunities for easier formations and routines. It also strengthens bonds between members. Another small team this winter season is girls basketball.

by **DHEVEN UNNI**
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Music booms from the speakers. In perfect coordination, dancers perform a choreographed routine in the studio. It seems more like a group of friends getting together. After all, most teams have more than five members.

Despite their extremely small roster, the five participants in Dance Troupe seem like they're enjoying themselves. They aren't the only small team at Lab, though they are the smallest. The girls basketball team has only 10 members. While Lab's smaller teams face different obstacles, they have still found silver linings in their small size.

Dance Troupe captain Yael Rolnik, junior, attributes the decrease in members to the quantity and popularity of winter sports. While the winter and fall quarters both have seven teams playing, boys basketball and squash have high participation, that can mean people are often committed to oth-

er activities. The numbers for girls basketball aren't a decrease but actually higher than last season's.

"It's generally around this size," girls basketball captain Roxanne Nesbitt, senior, said.

"We had a JV team my freshman year and part of my sophomore year, but not many people sign up." She said she hoped next season the team would have more people.

With so few members last year, the girls basketball team wasn't able to practice as well as their competitors.

"Last year our team was even smaller, so we're pretty used to having a small team," Roxanne said. "It's good that this year we have enough people to scrimmage in practice, because last year we had eight or nine, so we couldn't get any in-game experience."

Despite Dance Troupe's participant decrease, Yael sees advantages, including how quickly a smaller group can learn routines.

"It's definitely strengthened our

team dynamics," Yael said. "Having a team that's so small helps us bond a lot off the court, which makes it a lot easier to act as a team. Since it's so small, everyone knows each other really well, and we can all joke around."

While there are advantages, the pressure is on every member to participate fully.

"At the same time, it's kind of hard to work with only five people on the team," Yael said. "When someone doesn't come to practice, it's a lot harder to coordinate without them. When someone doesn't come to a game, we can't perform because with only four people it ruins formations."

Luckily, usually all of the members show up to the practices, according to Yael. This contributes to the collaborative, music-filled atmosphere that pervades the dance studio when Dance Troupe is practicing. Rather than losing hope, the troupe's size has only convinced them to bond more as a team and create more routines.

TEAM RESULTS

U-High scores are listed first.

Boys Basketball, Varsity

Notable: The team is looking towards championship season, with Regionals Feb. 19.

Northridge	Feb. 2	43-46
Walter Payton	Jan. 30	80-66
Morton	Jan. 28	36-61
Morgan Park	Jan. 26	65-58
Latin	Jan. 23	49-36
Hyde Park	Jan. 20	39-41
Elgin	Jan. 19	52-17
Northshore	Jan. 16	62-50
Schaumburg Christian	Jan. 15	57-50

Boys Basketball, JV

Northridge	Feb. 2	36-25
Walter Payton	Jan. 30	52-68
Acero Cruz	Jan. 26	67-63
Latin	Jan. 23	29-57
Elgin	Jan. 19	60-23
North Shore	Jan. 16	63-52

Girls Basketball

Notable: The team celebrated seniors at the final home game of the season.

Morgan Park	Feb. 2	54-44
Parker	Jan. 30	55-11
Willows	Jan. 23	24-14
Kelly	Jan. 19	55-8
Jones	Jan. 18	29-62
Woodlands	Jan. 19	40-20

Fencing

Notable: At the Great Lakes High School Fencing Conference Feb. 3, Jacob

Shkrob placed third and Clemente Figueroa placed fifth in men's foil. Clemente and Jacob finished second and third place respectively in foil at the Illinois State Championship Jan. 27.

Squash

Notable: The team placed third in the Chicagoland Squash Conference Feb. 3, the first conference championship attended in team history.

Chicagoland Squash Conference Champ.	Feb. 3	3rd
--------------------------------------	--------	-----

Latin	Jan. 24	4-3
Lake Forest	Jan. 18	2-5

Boys Swimming

Notable: Three U-High divers competed for the first time at the home meet against St. Ignatius Jan. 30.

Jones/Payton	Feb. 1	Lost
Latin	Feb. 1	Won
St. Ignatius	Jan. 30	Lost
Evergreen Park Inv.	Jan. 19	4th

Boys Indoor Track

Notable: The boys track team placed 2nd at the first indoor meet Feb. 4.

DeLaSalle Institute Inv.	Feb. 4	2nd
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Girls Indoor Track

Notable: The girls track team placed third at the first indoor meet Feb. 4.

DeLaSalle Institute Inv.	Feb. 4	3rd
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— COMPILED BY EMMA TRONE



MIDWAY PHOTO BY SOPHIE HINERFELD

FLOAT LIKE A BUTTERFLY. Junior Johnny Brown leaps up as he attempts to block his opponent in a game against Walter Payton College Prep Jan. 30. The varsity boys team won 80-66.

Gold and glory at the Games



ILLUSTRATION BY AMBER HUO

The PyeongChang Winter Olympics will open amid international tensions. Here are three things to look out for after the opening ceremony Feb. 9.

1 An unusual men's hockey team
With National Hockey League barring its players from Olympic participation for the first time since 1994, the 2018 U.S. men's hockey team won't feature big names like Patrick Kane, Ryan Suter or Jonathan Quick. Instead, USA Hockey has selected players from a wider range of experiences — everyone from NCAA upstarts to NHL retirees, and American players in European leagues. However, experts agree that a gold medal is unlikely.

2 Korean diplomatic implications
With this year's games taking place only 50 miles from the border between North and South Korea, athletes and spectators will gather in the shadow of an uneasy, nuclear truce. While both governments have agreed to march their athletes under a united flag, a still-precarious political situation is bound to offer hiccups, of different magnitudes, to the North-South relationship over the course of the games.

3 U.S. Figure Skating's best hope
At only 18 years old, two-time national champion Nathan Chen gives Team USA its best chance at a skating gold medal in PyeongChang. Equipped with the unique ability to complete an impressive number of quadruple jumps and emboldened by an undefeated season, Chen easily earned a spot on the U.S. roster in January. However, in order to win Olympic gold, Chen must face off against Japan's Yuzuru Hanyu, the reigning Olympic champion.

— COMPILED BY EMMA TRONE

Olympics should empower LGBT athletes

by **MICHAEL RUBIN**
MANAGING EDITOR

Young children who watch the Olympics notice competitors from the U.S. team hugging their loved ones after each event. They have seen male athletes hug their female partner and female athletes



Michael Rubin

hug their male partner. This year, for the first time at the Winter Olympics, viewers could see a man embrace his same-sex partner. The world is becoming more openly accepting of the LGBTQ community. However, one sector has just begun to change: the Olympics. Self-branded as "the Sport to Create Social Change," the International Olympic Committee must do more to establish a welcoming and supportive environment for everyone regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Analysis
In the 2018 PyeongChang Winter Olympics, more than 90 national teams will compete, with thousands of athletes participating in a variety of sports. Among these athletes, two Americans are openly LGBTQ. Adam Rippon, selected as one of three men's figure skaters on the U.S. Olympic team, was the first openly gay American athlete to qualify for the 2018 Winter Olympics. He is joined by freestyle skier Gus Kenworthy, who won a silver medal at the 2014 games and came out in 2015. Mr. Rippon has publicly stated that the Olympics are not a supportive environment for gay athletes, most dramatically by protesting Vice President Mike Pence's leadership of the U.S. delegation. In nearly a century of Olympic tradition, athletes have only recently begun feeling comfortable discussing their sexual orientations without fearing harsh

retribution from other athletes or the public. Several institutions have been created throughout the past half-century to empower athletes that identify with the LGBTQ community, yet more nuanced steps need to be taken. The Federation of Gay Games, created in 1982, was an attempt to address inherent prejudice toward gay athletes and their perceived inability to openly participate in sporting events. In 2010, the Olympic Committee created a temporary Pride House to host LGBTQ athletes, volunteers and visitors attending the Olympics. Although the IOC has publicly stated the need to empower LGBTQ athletes, the action they have taken has been minimally effective. In the past, the IOC utilized its influence to create real social change. The IOC banned South Africa from competing during the Apartheid era. The IOC has the capability to use similar tactics to incentivize nations with anti-LGBT laws to abandon their discrimina-

tory practices in order to compete. Now, the IOC should pressure countries to repeal anti-gay laws in order to participate in the games. Since the Olympic Games are held in such a high regard by nearly every country, their administration holds the power to effect real social change. Moving forward, the IOC should focus its efforts on future generations and the legacy their games create. Through demonstrating the importance of accepting all people, regardless of sexual orientation, both the Olympic Games and sports at large will become more welcoming toward members of the LGBTQ community. The Olympic Committee can make these institutional change to utilize their powerful influence in a positive way. For all children watching the Olympics, seeing the success of LGBTQ athletes and their ability to perform at the same level as their straight competitors will embolden the acceptance of LGBTQ people in future generations.

QUICK Q

What's your favorite Winter Olympic sport?
Emily Sun: "I really enjoy the figure skating. I really enjoy their artistic interpretations and the emotion that they can express through something that doesn't use words. I think that's really amazing."



Claire Syverson: "I really like the skiing. I'm a skier, so that's something I like to watch. It is inspiring to watch the skiers because it's something I do a lot. And watching them kind of helps me improve in a way because I see what they are doing and what I am doing wrong."

— COMPILED BY ELLA BEISER

Skating blends technique, self-expression

by **NATALIE GLICK**
DEPUTY EDITOR

Lacing up her skates, sophomore Kathy Luan gets ready to step out onto the ice for her lessons. She glides onto the ice and starts off by taking a few laps around the rink to warm up for practice. For 10 years, Kathy has been a competitive ice skater. She competes both solo and as a member of her synchronized skating team. Jasmine Wang, a junior, has also been ice skating competitively for over 10 years. But Jasmine said she didn't see herself being interested in skating, let alone a competitor. "I didn't initially choose to enroll myself in skating lessons, but now I love to skate because figure skating is so unique," Jasmine said. Kathy first discovered skating at age 3 when she went to the rink on the Midway Plaisance with her parents, and she soon wanted to start skating competitively. She soon started skating with a private coach. When Kathy was six she started competing solo, and then at 13 she started competitively synchronized skating. The feeling of being on the



MIDWAY PHOTO BY SAHAR SIDDIQUI

GLIDE. Kathy Luan practices at the Midway Plaisance ice rink, where she first began to skate at 3 years old. Since then, she has become a competitive skater in team and solo competitions. ice and skating is what attracted Kathy to the sport. The feeling of skating helps her clear her head, and just skate. "It was just a different feeling, and stepping onto the ice made me feel like a whole new person," Kathy said. "Skating just has such a different feeling than like running on the ground, so when I first step onto the ice the first glide is smooth and feels natural and effortless and it makes me feel like a part of the ice. The first glide on the ice just makes everything else in my life go away and clears my

mind of my problems." Figure skating competitions require the skater to be flawless when performing. This requires the athletes to focus on both technical and performance aspects of skating. "A really good skater needs to be able to look effortless when they perform their elements," Jasmine said, "and an important part of the sport is making an emotional connection with the audience and the judges. The fact that the sport has been moving so far into the direction of being overly focused on the technical aspects has created lots of conflict within the figure skating world and spurred reconsiderations of current judging systems." Even though Jasmine loves the sport, skating is a high-demand art. "Skating isn't always the most rewarding, but it teaches you self-discipline, self-expression, and pain tolerance all at the same time. It's also just very satisfying to be on the ice and execute your elements well," Jasmine said. "When you have to throw yourself around on the ice, it's very nice when you finally stop falling."

Chicago ice rinks
A nice ice rink near U-High is Midway Plaisance Park ice skating rink. It is only \$6 to rent skates, but admission is free if you have your own skates. It is a pleasant place to hang out after school and is relatively cheaper than other skating rinks. One of the prettiest skating spots is the Maggie Daley Ice Skating Ribbon next to Lake Shore Drive. Admission is free, but skate rentals are \$12 Monday to Thursday and \$14 Friday to Sunday. It's open through the first week of March. The McCormick Tribune ice rink is great for all ages and experience levels. It is next to the Cloud Gate statue in Millennium Park. Skate rentals are \$12 on weekdays and \$14 on weekends and holidays, but if you have your own skates admission is free. If you need to warm up after skating, the Park Grill Cafe is right next to the rink. If you are looking for a unique ice skating experience, go to the Ice Rink at Lincoln Park Zoo. It is located inside the petting zoo area and overlooks the north and south pond. Admission is \$5, but while you are there you can check out the zoo for free.

— MAX GARFINKEL