

Michael Deng's

GRAPHIC DESIGN JOURNEY

Pluma Classicorum, Founder & Editor in Chief (2012)

Wanting to inspire students to continue to take Latin, I taught myself Publisher to feature student work through a local JCL publication.

The publication won second place in the National JCL local publication contest.

The Keystone, State Newsletter Editor (2013)

I was elected to Pennsylvania Junior Classical League Newsletter Editor, editing and designing the quarterly newsletter for the organization.

Keystone earned first place in the National JCL State Publication Contest.

Cardinal Directions, Editor in Chief (2014)

In addition to organizational responsibilities, I helped promote the school newspaper through design.

I designed the *Cardinal Directions* logo and promotional fliers.

SPARK, Founder & Chief of Layout (2015)

My friend and I wanted to feature our school's photography talent. So we founded our school's first-ever photography magazine.

I curated over three hundred submissions and designed the layout.





April– May 2013

Announcements:

- **5/29 World Language Volleyball**– Although Latin didn't do as well as in previous years, everyone had fun!
- **6/5 Club Elections**– Support dedicated, qualified and passionate UDJCLers by coming to elections and voting! The future of our chapter depends on you!
- **6/5-6/6 Latin Finals**– Study hard! Good luck!
- **6/7 Annual Mondauk Park Barbeque**– Celebrate a year of Latin and socialize with fellow Latin students before summer! More information will be posted later.

Inside this issue:

The PAJCL Convention 2-3
2013 Experience

UD Spirit Optimus Est! 4

Spotlight On: New and Old Conventioneers 5

Classical Art! 6

Classical Trips! 7

Lingua Latina Vivit! 8

Field of Blood & Glory 9

From the Editor's Desk 10

Pluma Classicorum

Plume of the Classics: The Official Publication of Upper Dublin JCL



The Upper Dublin JCL delegation right before leaving Pennsylvania JCL Convention at Pennsylvania State University. Seventeen chapters attended this year's convention, and UDJCL was the largest division II chapter.



UDJCL officers have some fun.

The PAJCL Convention 2013 Experience

Convention Crazy

Emily Wu

The night before convention, I sat sprawled over a dimly lit kitchen table littered with pens, pencils, erasers, scraps, picture references, trying to finish my last minute convention project; at 1:00 a.m. in the morning, still working, I knew my first PAJCL Convention experience had unofficially begun.

When I finally stumbled up the stairs, exhausted and bleary eyed, wished the whole hurrah of the weekend would soon be over. I collapsed into sleep, promising to wake up early to pack my bags in time. The next morning, I frantically ran up, down and around my house getting my things and rushed out the door to arrive at school where the coach bus was waiting and ready to depart at 7:15.

Although I couldn't find a single position comfortable enough to fall asleep, the four hour drive past endless farmland and the occasional grazing cows was fun. I smiled as I realized I was not alone; around me in the constant buzz of chatter, laughter and excitement, others were finishing art projects, memorizing oratory and dramatic interpretation speeches, and cramming for academic tests and certamen.

Despite all that had been told to me by returning JCL conventioners, nothing could have prepared me for the truly amazing experience of PAJCL Convention. It was organized

and fun, and there was always something to do, whether it was participating in the spirit competition, or just cheering teammates on. Volleyball, basketball, tennis, art impromptu art, a march of hundreds of students in togas—yup. You name it, convention had it.

There was something for every individual to excel in to help bring points to their local chapter. The spirit competitions were crazily intense and the celebration of the classics was unmatched. Not only did I get to meet fellow spirited Latin students from around the state, but I also got to hang out and get to know awesome people from my own Latin club better.

At convention, the concept of time slipped away and we stepped out of modern day and societal issues and were transported to our own world with no further purpose then to honor the classical civilizations.

At the end, I looked around me and wondered incomprehensibly why so many other freshmen would choose not to come. A lot of them thought they were too cool, but honestly they were missing out on one of the greatest experiences and perks of taking Latin. I couldn't be more excited for next year!



Emily is at the top of the human pyramid! (top)

As her fellow UDJCLers cheer her on, Emily dashes towards the finish of an intense 1600 meter run. (middle)

This year's official PAJCL convention shirts this were designed by none other than UDJCL's Emily Wu! (bottom)

William Raynor

A few days later, as I gathered my defeated projects, I was to remember that distant morning when the coach bus alighted and I discovered the magic that is Latin Convention. Surrounded by my comrades, I, looking like a misguided tourist, followed as we collectively moved towards the Findlay Commons, where we received our t-shirts, lanyards, dorm keys, and über-chic pouches. A compatriot and I hurried to the dorms to finish our projects for registration.

Project registration was followed by dinner at which we gorged ourselves with fresh creamery ice cream, which was followed by General Assembly I introduced by the perfectly fabulous Conner Philips. The general assembly was reminiscent of one of UD's Latin club meetings, starting with the JCL creed and song, as any true JCL meeting should begin. The assembly allowed me time to review Roman history and grammar on which I would be tested at the Certamen preliminaries, fifteen minutes after the meeting was adjourned.

Two schools enthusiastically cheered to be recognized to adjourn the assembly, and disorder dominated as conventioners parted ways. I headed to be sequestered. Sequestering was followed by competing, which was followed by my one-man Certamen team sweeping the Certamen preliminaries.

The next day consisted of launching rubber poultry and an impersonator. The entertainment show was sexy. After the entertainment show, the UD caucus convened, and the next morning, I woke up to myself making instant noodles. We claimed our projects, said our farewells and went home from a most eventful convention.



Oh hey William!...
WILLIAM!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?

Doppelganger of William.
(Left)

AND...

WILLIAM?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?

The real William. (Right)

O_O.



The club shirt designed by Catherine!



...Catherine? X_X.

Catherine Liu

This was the third convention that I've been to, and it hasn't failed to once again be one of the best weekends I've spent.

Every year, I look forward to going to Penn State with some of my closest friends, knowing that we'll be able to have a great time together. In addition to this, I looked forward to being able to meet up with some old friends who I had met during my first convention— we still keep in touch! Once we got off the bus and stepped foot on campus, I was filled with excitement since I could already see students from many other schools walking around, getting registered, carrying around their projects, and all in all looking very excited. It felt like the place hadn't changed at all, like I had finally reached a home that I had forgotten for a while.

As soon as we were all registered and unpacked, I couldn't help but think about all the activities that we had to look forward to, such as the spirit competitions, impromptu art, the entertainment show, and the track & field events. Most of all, I looked forward to seeing my friends from Conestoga and North Allegheny who I had been thinking about and missing for the past year. I am very happy to say that this year's convention has proved to me that I should definitely come again next year!!

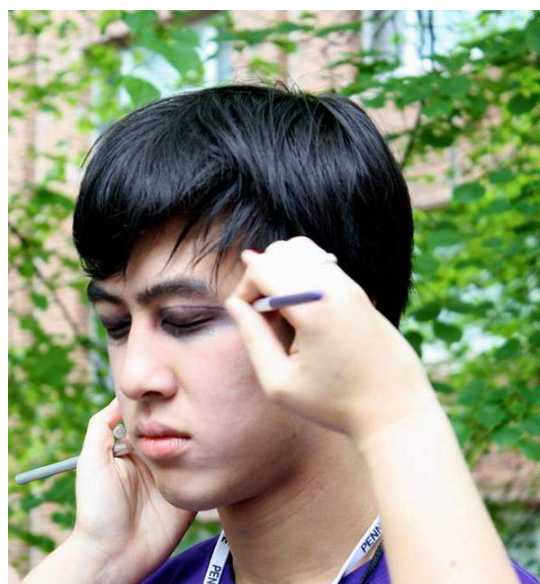
UD Spirit Optimus Est!



Friday: Around the World Since Roman Days



Saturday: May the Fates Be Ever in Your Favor



Spotlight On: New Conventioneers



... And Old Ones Too! (We'll miss you seniors!)



Classical Art!

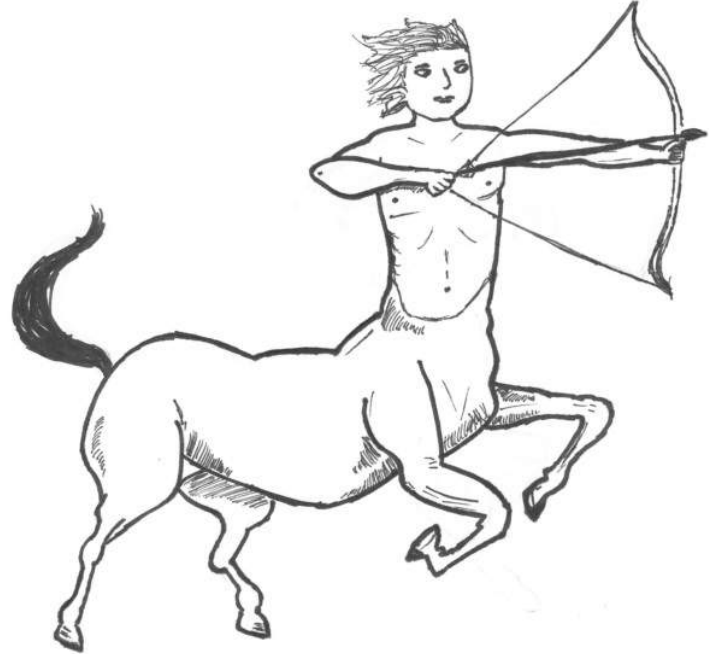
Diana

Ashley Huh



Centaur

Marina Duka



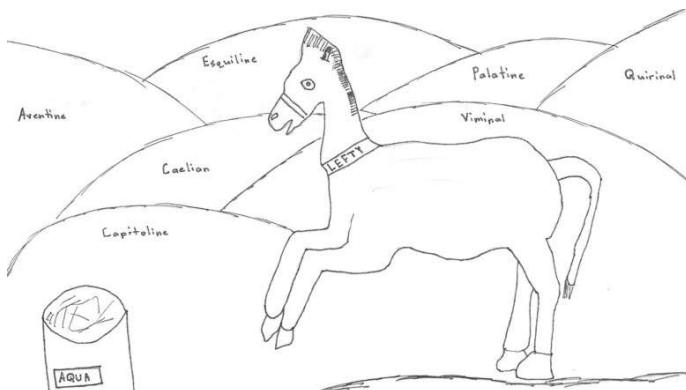
Iustitia Omnibus

Madeleine Marlowe



Lefty

Adam Simon



Classical Trips!

Rome's Birthday at the University of Pennsylvania Museum



Grounds for Sculpture in New Jersey

When I was in Rome

Evan Paris

This past summer I travelled to Rome with my family, and as a Latin student, not only was it amazing to see all of the popular sites for tourists to see, but also it was awesome to see things that we learned about in Latin class.

I saw many things that were talked about in the *Ecce Romani* books such as the Coliseum, the Pantheon and the Forum. I also saw many other things we learned about in class such as, written on the cover of a manhole in the street, SPQR.

Recently in Latin III we started translating Caesar's *Gallic Wars*, and it was fun to read about places where Caesar led his army that I had been to. It was amazing to think about how thousands of years ago, Caesar had led his army around the very mountains we were riding a train through, or how two armies were poised to strike on both sides of the very river we were walking over.

Visiting these places helped to give me a better understanding of Roman culture, which was crucial to understanding what was happening in Caesar's *Gallic Wars*. If you are ever presented with the opportunity to travel to Rome, or even Europe in general, I highly suggest you take the opportunity— you will not regret it.



Lingua Latina Vivit

Jen Polin

Back in middle school when I decided to take Latin as a language, I didn't think much of it; all my cousins and sister took Latin, so I thought why not? Now, four years later, I've realized taking Latin was a great decision.

Although Latin is probably the most difficult language offered at our school, but it has made me a hard worker. It has made me push myself to achieve goals, and even though it is hard, I didn't give it up.

Latin has also helped me in multiple classes including history, science, and English. Many of the words we learn in English are derived from Latin words, so when we have vocabulary tests, I already know most of them from Latin. Without Latin, I would not be able to fully understand other things we learn in school.

There is no doubt in my mind that I made a great decision by taking Latin as my language for school. These past four years would not have been the same without it. People always say, "Why would you take Latin if it's a dead language?" However, it isn't dead. Yes, it may not be a country's spoken language, but if it is still taught to students, how can it be dead?

Tori Sandler

Even though I have only taken Latin for three years, I can safely say it has had a positive impact on my life. Everywhere I look now, I find Latin. Whether it is in a movie, book, poster, or a science or English class, Latin seems to sneak its way in.

From learning derivatives, my vocabulary has expanded. From learning the cases of nouns and tenses of verbs, I have gained an advantage in every literature or grammar related class I have taken. When Magistra Moller told us in sixth grade that Latin is everywhere and that I would learn a lot, I honestly did not really believe her. I thought, "Latin is dead. Nobody speaks it. Why would it influence my life in anyway?"

Well, I have learned that Latin is not dead. We speak it in class and it influences my life every single day. While reading Julius Caesar in my American Literature class, I knew that Latin had done me well. While watching *Silver Linings Playbook*, I knew Latin had done me well once again, after first hearing the movie's well known phrase "Excelsior". Latin has, and still is, continuing to make my life easier every day.

Whether I am in school or at home, Latin has had me making connections I would have never been able to make back in sixth grade. In addition to the language itself, the people I have met and become great friends with due to taking this class have been nothing short of amazing. I am extremely happy I made the decision to take Latin when I was only twelve years old. Latin has taken me great lengths so far, and I cannot wait to see where it will continue to take me.

Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*: A Comparison to Reality

Gabriella Bloom

In Shakespeare's renowned drama, *Julius Caesar*, the plot is centralized around the murder of one of Rome's most precious rulers, Julius Caesar. Although the events that occur in this play are historically accurate, many details about specific motivations and mannerisms are not true to life. Shakespeare's interpretation of this historic scene was designed to entertain an audience, and to enrich his masterpiece. For this reason, he may have felt the need to alter these facts.

Compared to Caesar's actual death, Shakespeare was able to recreate a realistic account of this historical moment. Many elements of his story, including the date of the murder, are indeed accurate. Caesar was killed for the sole reason that the Senate feared his ultimate power and kingship. It is also true that Caesar was hesitant about visiting the Senate, on account of many religious omens that warned of danger. These included his wife's dreams and the soothsayer's forewarning.

Once at the Senate, the conspirators attacked him with daggers hidden under their togas. Casca struck first, initiating what would be one of history's most famed deaths. Shakespeare painted a very elaborate picture with his comprehension of this tragic scene, although not all of the story elements are entirely authentic. Specifically, the murder occurred at Pompey's Theatre, where the Senate was meeting on the Ides of March. Caesar was contemplating attending this meeting, and sent Mark Antony to dismiss the Senate. However, he arrived late, when a conspirator named Decimus reinterpreted Calpurnia's dream. It was then that a man named Cimber created a fraud petition for Caesar, while the other conspirators prepared to strike.

After stabbing him relentlessly, Brutus struck Caesar in the groin. Contrary to the play's description, Brutus was Rome's current praetor, and a distant relative of Caesar's. Although the famous lines, "Et tu, Brute?" were supposedly spoken by Caesar at his death, this is simply a theatrical fabrication. Maintaining his dignity, Caesar had the strength to pull his toga over his face. Stabbed twenty-three times, he collapsed in front of the blood-splattered statue of his enemy, Pompey. After his tragic death, the conspirators fled from Rome, having no initial intention of gaining power.

It is for these reasons, along with many others, that Julius Caesar contrasts with history. Although Caesar's death is portrayed differently in Shakespeare's drama, one thing is certain. The story of the fall of Julius Caesar is moving, forever reminding its listeners to remember the Ides of March.

Field of Blood & Glory

Robert Liu

Blood is to be shed on this day.

Two armies, great in size, stare unmoving

At each other, each man chasing dreams of glory

For his bravery to be etched on the walls of history,

Unscathed by the blowing sands of time.

On one end stand the Romans

Tall in pride and unwavering in demeanor.

Strength, Duty, Virtue

Are the words to the song that beats in each of their hearts.

Opposite them, the Barbarian horde,

Tall in stature, defiant in their gazes,

Quick to the challenge and quick to the slaughter.

No sword is sharper than the steel in their eyes.

A single trumpet blast

Breaks the tension, the barrier

Flooding the field in men and arms,

With bravery and spirit wading through.

A torrent of arrows and a rain of spears

Decimate the barbarian line.

With cries for blood the Romans charge forward.

In kind, with a throaty roar the barbarian beasts descend.

They meet in a fiery clash

Of yells, blood, metal versus mettle.

Men fall and are replaced.

The angel of death works tirelessly this day.



Contact Your Officers!

Alan Yang, P: alanyang77@gmail.com
Caroline Simon, P: caroline.rs@verizon.net
Jen Deasy, VP: jen.d.96@gmail.com
Julie Baldassano, ST: julie@hatsforhomes.org
Ian Snyder, CC: music_ian27@yahoo.com
Carol Lu, H: carollu95@gmail.com
Kimberly Lui, H: klui517@gmail.com
Catherine Liu, SC: mehyperyoustupid@gmail.com
Dana Russell, SC: danarussell2@verizon.net
Nico Castagna, SC: nico.castagna@verizon.net
Robert Liu, SC: bolshevik327@gmail.com

Michael Deng, EIC: michaeld308@gmail.com

Mary-Jane Koons, sponsor: mkoons@udsd.org
Tina Moller, sponsor: tmoller@udsd.org

www.udlatin.wikispaces.com
www.pajcl.org
www.njcl.org

Photo Credits:

Julie Baldassano, Catherine Liu

From the Editor's Desk

Hello UDJCLers!

It is incredible to me and somewhat hard for me to write that this is the last issue of *Pluma Classicorum* this year. I am very proud that it has continued for now five issues, and am most grateful for all of the support everyone has given me in this venture. Hopefully many of you found that this publication did indeed entertain and help foster your enthusiasm for Latin and the classics. Although I am somewhat saddened and, interestingly, very shocked that I will not be creating *Pluma Classicorum* next year, I look forward to continuing my work with JCL publications with PAJCL's *Keystone* next year.

On another note, we did it! This year, UDJCL, with its history of second places, finally earned first place at PAJCL State Convention. Tying for first place in spirit, our chapter displayed great energy, and everyone was most proud of that. Next year, we will hopefully bring many more JCLers to state convention (we were, unfortunately, a division II or small chapter this year) as well as attend national convention at Emory University.

Although the school year ends very soon while Latin finals begin even sooner, don't forget to keep a little classics in your life over the summer; read some mythology, visit a Roman museum, or even journey to Rome herself! Make sure you come to the club elections on 6/5 and have a say in the future of our club, as well as stop by Mondauk Park on 6/7 to socialize and eat hot dogs with your UDJCL friends.

Have an amazing (and classical) summer,

Michael Deng



First Place!

KEYSTONE



Official Publication of The Pennsylvania Junior Classical League Convention 2014

The Magic of Convention



The Owen J. Roberts JCL chapter dresses up in tie-dyed togas before the Roman Banquet on Saturday.

Owen J. Roberts

Navdeep Handa

Inside this issue:

First Time Conventioneers!	2
Classics Day Celebrations	3
Overcoming Challenges	4
"Encouraging Competition"	5
Fundraising for Convention	6
Glassblowing	7
State Service Project	8
Spirit Snapshots	9
Classical Drawings	10
"This World of Today"	11
Plaster Casting My Friend	12
Ave Atque Vale	14
From The Editor's Desk	15

It's that time of year again.

No, not finals week; we've got a little bit yet. Same with summer vacation. Anyway, I'm going to save you a little bit of mindless guessing and just come right out and say it: PAJCL Convention time!

Latin Convention is a weekend affair at Penn State University during which Latin nerds from all of PA join together and participate and compete in a whole bunch of Latin-themed events, including everything from the academic to the athletic: exams, track events, game-

show-style Certamen, etc. Perform well in a category, and you will be recognized for your accomplishments in front of the JCL members of the whole state.

The rest of the time is yours to spend as you wish, which means you can hit up the Creamery to chill out with some ice cream or roam the campus professing your undying love for Octavian (though we don't recommend you do that if you plan on having a social life). It might not sound so great on paper, but it is truly one of the most fulfilling experiences a Latin student can ever have.

Take it from a former attendee herself, who has gone twice already; there's a reason I referred to it as

magic. This year, from May 23rd to May 25th, we members of JCL embarked on a journey through the language of Latin and watched this "dead" language breathe before our very eyes. Apart from challenging our knowledge of Latin against some of the best in the state, we forged friendships with fellow JCLers (in the fires of Vulcan's workshop) and experienced life on a college campus a little bit early.

OJRJCL and its students claimed numerous awards for their hard work and Latin prowess. I, for one, had a blast. There was no other way I would have wanted to spend my Memorial Day weekend.

PAJCL State Service Project



LEUKEMIA &
LYMPHOMA
SOCIETY®

fighting blood cancers



Congratulations PAJCL! Through water balloons and collection boxes, we raised exactly \$405 for the Pennsylvania Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

2013-2014 Executive Board

Lavi Ben Dor, President: lavibendor@verizon.net

Manasvi Ramanujam, Vice-President: manasvir@gmail.com

Brittany Ellis, Secretary: ellisb@theellisschool.org

Alan Yang, Treasurer: alanyang77@gmail.com

Medha Sharma, Parliamentarian: missmedha@yahoo.uk

Michael Deng, Editor: michael308@gmail.com



2014-2015 Executive Board

Michael Deng, President: michael308@gmail.com

Matthew Woodward, Vice-President: macwoodward@gmail.com

Fiona Copeland, Secretary: fcopeland5@gmail.com

Linda Wu, Treasurer: linda.wu723@gmail.com

Medha Sharma, Parliamentarian: jhu15143@gmail.com

Marisa Delsignore, Editor: m.delsig115@gmail.com



From the Editor's Desk



Dear PAJCL,

I cannot believe that this is my final *Keystone*. It has been an incredible experience, and I hope that you all have enjoyed reading it as much as I have enjoyed making it.

To all of the local editors and Magistrae who worked so hard to put together your local submissions: **GRATIAS**. I hope your schools continue to submit the distinctive work that I have come to expect this year. I look forward to reading your new editor Marisa Delsignore's *Keystones*, as well as working with the rest of the state officer board as your president.

Let us continue to be excited about not just the classics, but also each other, for I truly believe the JCL is one of the most affectionately supportive communities in "this world of today."

Michael Deng
PAJCL President

Post-Convention Survey

Would you like to help make convention even better next year? Here is your chance! Fill out the post-convention survey at <http://goo.gl/TcLrXy>.

School	Convention	Total
Butler	125	125
Conrad Weiser	125	125
Downingtown	125	125
Ellis	125	125
North Allegheny	125	125
Owen J. Roberts	125	125
Reading	125	125
State College	125	125
Tredyffrin-Easttown	125	125
Upper Dublin	125	125

KEYSTONE



Queen of the Underworld

Jess Derr, Upper Dublin

CARDINAL DIRECTIONS

Our School Newspaper by UDHS Students



Want to write an article?
Join us on Facebook at
UDHS NEWSPAPER STAFF
And listen for morning announcements!

Follow us on Facebook at **Cardinal Directions!**
Have suggestions or story ideas? Feel free to message us!

Want to join the School Newspaper?
It's never too late! See the blue box for more information.

Discover Your Talents

In Writing, Social Media, Website, Photography, Layout Or Marketing!

We Know You Can Help.



SPARK

UPPER DUBLIN HIGH SCHOOL 2014 – 2015

A photograph of a person swimming in a body of water. The water is a vibrant green color, and there are many pink petals floating on the surface. The person is in the upper right corner, mostly submerged. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**SPARK PHOTOMAGAZINE
BY SHOSHANNA ISRAEL,
MICHAEL DENG,
UPPER DUBLIN HIGH SCHOOL
PHOTOGRAPHERS,
& CARDINAL DIRECTIONS
SCHOOL NEWSPAPER STAFF.**

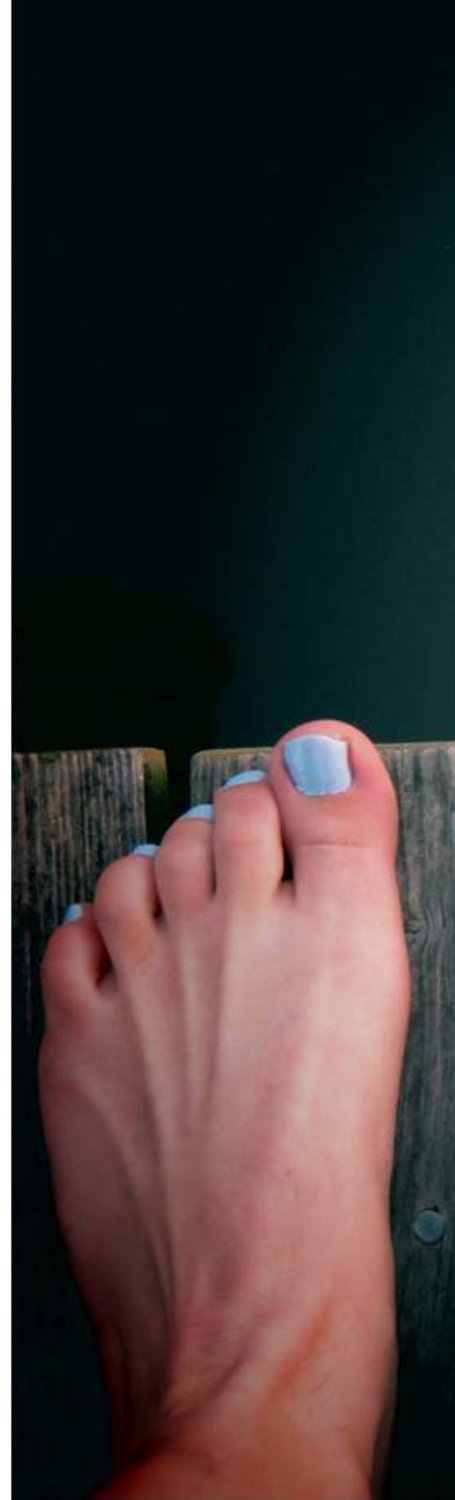


YIHENG CHEN

JAMES TRALIE



JACE WATKINS



AUBREY HAGGERTY



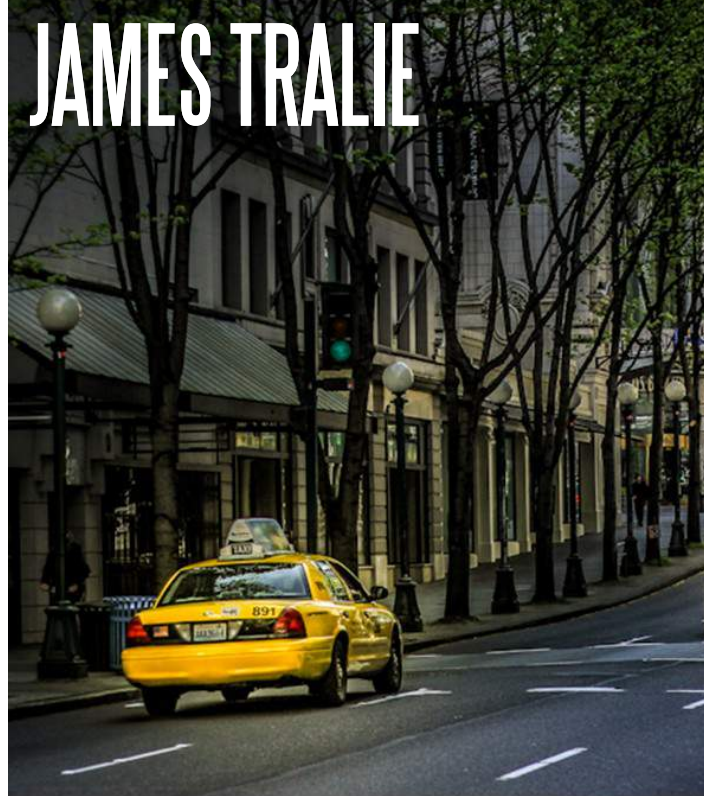
AUBREY HAGGERTY



JACE WATKINS



JAMES TRALIE



LINDSAY DUBIN







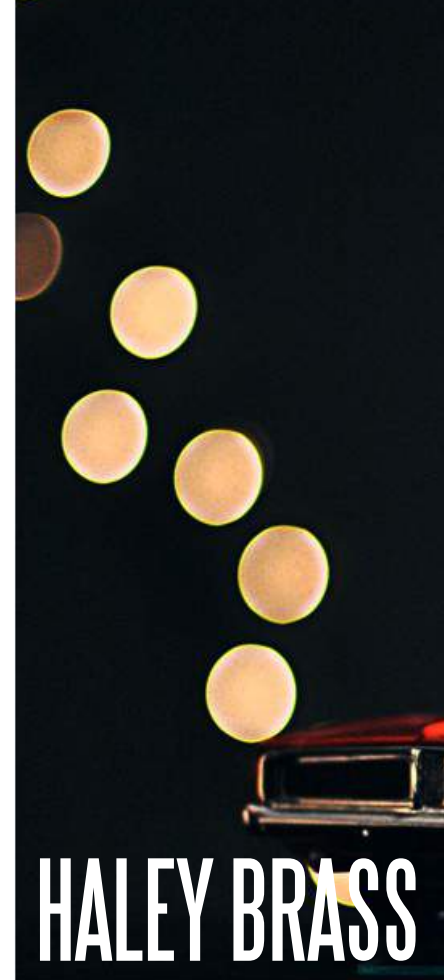
LINDSAY DUBIN



LINDSAY DUBIN



LINDSAY DUBIN



HALEY BRASS



NICHOLAS NAL



ENCE

JAMES TRALIE



LINDSAY DUBIN



LINDSAY DUBIN

Marin
orons



GELILAH FESSEHA





LINDSAY DUBIN

OLIVIA ROSENFELD



OLIVIA ROSENFELD







JACE WATKINS



BRYNN REESE

YIHENG CHEN



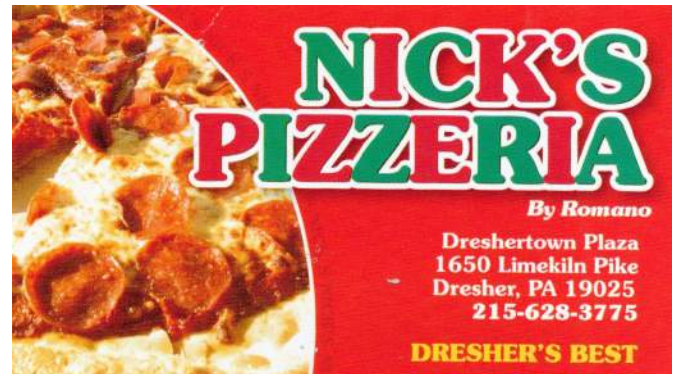
HAYLEY BRASS

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



Vivian C. Kessler
President

vkessler@searchinnovations.com



CARDINAL DIRECTIONS



By the students of Upper Dublin High School

SEARCH

INNOVATIONS

NICK'S

PIZZERIA

EDITOR IN CHIEF:

SHOSHANNA ISRAEL

CHIEF OF LAYOUT:

MICHAEL DENG

ADVISORS: KIMBERLY STERN & JENNIFER TULLI

FRONT: JESSICA DERR

BACK: ERICA JONES

