



# MARCH TOWARD GRADUATION

## what goes on behind the scenes

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designer **taylor stewart**

In a little over a month, the class of 2022 will be graduating on May 22. So far, this school year has been the most typical school year since the outbreak of COVID-19 in spring 2020 that shut down schools.

Before graduation, there are still many senior events yet to come, including the senior breakfast and senior picnic. Senior Class Cabinet is in charge of putting these events together and everything that goes behind the scenes.

“As one of the social media officers, I help spread the word about activities, t-shirt sales, sign-ups to make sure everyone is informed about deadlines and the days that the events will be taking place,” Senior Class Cabinet member Lauren Berend said.

Senior Breakfast is an annual senior tradition that includes eating breakfast together as a class,

announcing senior superlatives and watching the senior video, which consists of photos sent in by students. If the weather is warm enough, the breakfast will be held in the stadium.

“We hire Cris Cakes, which is a breakfast catering service that flips the pancakes to people and you have to catch them. They usually have pancakes, sausage and some type of drink,” English Teacher and Senior Class Cabinet Adviser Elizabeth Stringer said.

Last year, graduation was different compared to previous years. Instead of being held at the Schottenstein Center in downtown Columbus, the school hosted a drive-thru graduation and a pre-graduation event in the stadium called Sunset Salute.

“Most of the class cabinet members wanted to continue some of the events such as the parade so we proposed

our ideas on keeping those events to the class cabinet advisers,” Berend said. “Then, they took those ideas to higher people, and once approved, the advisers will bring them back to us to start planning.”

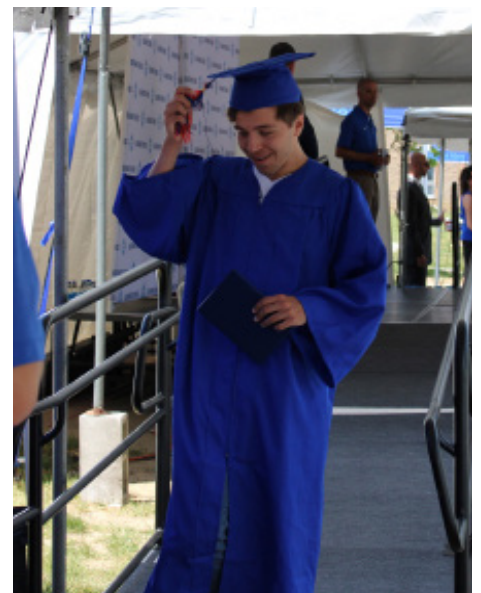
For seniors, their four years in high school haven’t been typical due to COVID-19. However, class cabinet has been working hard to make their experience a memorable one and create new traditions for future graduating classes.

“High school had a lot of highs and lows due to challenges like switching school formats and going through the pandemic, so I wouldn’t consider my time in high school to be ‘normal,’” senior Lexi Sisson said. “For this to be the first somewhat ‘normal’ year in high school and it being my last is disappointing, but I’m so glad I got to experience it.”



Science Teacher Tammy Sensibaugh directs students to the drive-thru graduation on May 23.

Varsha V. fills her plate during Senior Thanksgiving on Nov. 3.



2021 Graduate Noah B. moves his tassel as he participates in the drive-thru graduation.

## COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS students use app to reach out to colleges

writer **marshall medley**

designer **nathan chow**

With the end of the year right around the corner, seniors need to start figuring out where they are going to go to college. Students now have one central location where multiple scholarships are listed.

The best way students can apply for scholarships is to use the SchoolLinks app in their MyOLSD portal. With this app, they can reach out to colleges and give the colleges information about how to reach them.

“Students can use it to search for the best match for scholarships, colleges or universities by completing profiles and other onboarding features,” Guidance Secretary Cynthia Vande Water said. “Counselors use it to submit transcripts, track scores, help build a graduation path

and inform students of scholarships.”

Vande Water has considerable experience with this scholarship app and has helped students with scholarships for years. This app can be a great way for students and guidance counselors to get students out there to colleges.

The SchoolLinks app is a convenient way for students and colleges to communicate. Students have all the power and can choose if they want a certain college to reach out to them. All they have to do is login with their MyOLSD information and they can communicate easily.

“For me, the process wasn’t too hard. It was pretty straightforward for my experience,” senior Cheeky Koo

said. “But it definitely did take a while.”

A straightforward experience can create a relaxing college scholarship hunt and will ease students’ anxiety about the process.

This app is helpful as the students do not need to find people to directly reach out to as well. This app is more efficient than the last program, Naviance.

“The district thought this program would be more efficient for everyone. The State required all Ohio schools to have a graduation plan, and SchoolLinks provided an option for all schools to use,” Vande Water said.

The graduation program for Olentangy is effective and easy. With a recommendation letter from their teachers and a career plan, they can be off to college with no stress.

## A NEW WAY TO LEARN interactive TVs are making their way into classrooms

writer **valentina urbaez**

designer **nathan chow**

The SmartBoard and projector have been a staple in thousands of classrooms around the country, but with new Busonic Interactive TVs being introduced, it’s possible they could soon be replaced.

The district may be in the process of phasing out the SmartBoards and transitioning to the Busonic TVs. There’s an application teachers would need to submit if they’re interested in getting one in their classroom.

“We wanted to make a fair and equitable process for all staff who wanted one. We have a list of Microsoft form questions and use a rubric to grade their submissions,” IT Supervisor Brent Rohrer said. “We typically ask how it would change their classroom, the learning experience and the features they believe would be beneficial. Staff always have the opportunity to resubmit and refine their application.”

English Teacher Alicia Barden was one

of the few teachers to get a head start on using them.

“I heard about them coming in and potentially making the switch. The SmartBoard and projector just weren’t doing it for me anymore and the TV gave me a much smoother system,” Barden said.

“Our plan was that we wanted more interaction with the students. They’d be able to cast their work, share screens and use a feature called ‘throwing’ where they could share their files, docs and thoughts on the screen without complication,” Rohrer said. “It shows the students thinking rather than just their teacher’s and allows for collaboration.”

Sophomore Alysse Leonard has also found herself learning to like the experience.

“I prefer the TVs because they provide more interactive ways to participate in class and offer better images,” Leonard said.

The SmartBoards are known to interfere

with class time as they glitch out and slow lessons down.

“The TV gives me a much more seamless, problem-free alternative to my lesson plans. The quality is really clear, and it still allows me to scribble all over it if I need to,” Barden said.

Students and teachers tend to be on the same page on how it helps things to run.

“I can’t say there’s a massive difference to how the SmartBoards work from where I stand, but they have changed how smoothly things run in class,” Leonard said.

The TVs have made it possible for classrooms to be led without the use of projection.

“We believe that the Busonic are the future of classrooms,” Rohrer said. “Maintaining the cost of SmartBoards is no longer sustainable and Busonic offers more ways for students to have an active role in their learning.”

## AN EVENING IN THE COSMOS upperclassmen attend prom

writer emma banhart  
designer emma barnhart

photos by caroline fihe

All upperclassmen look forward to the one night a year that is dedicated to them: prom. The Junior Class Cabinet had been hard at work to prepare for this event.

With prom being improvised last year due to COVID-19, being able to go back to how the event used to be was sentimental. Last year, juniors were not able to attend.

“We used to take these things for granted, so I think it was really moving just getting to see everyone having fun with one another,” Junior Class Cabinet Adviser and Social Studies Teacher Rebecca Whitney said.

Class Cabinet had chose the theme “An Evening in the Cosmos” for this year’s event.

“I was super excited to see all of the decor come together and light up the building, and I was really looking forward to the planets hanging above us,” Junior Class Cabinet member Kendall Cadegan said.



Juniors and seniors having fun at “An Evening in the Cosmos”.

The decorations were made to accommodate students and to make the night memorable.

“We met every few weeks, and students worked to put together all of the elements that make up prom,” Whitney said.

The Junior Class Cabinet enjoyed organizing the event and sharing new design plans with each other.

“We came up with compromises and suggested creative ideas to make for a great night,” Cadegan said.

Although the final result of prom was worth the hassle, the work required to set it up took a lot of energy.

“Making sure that we had everything lined up in terms of a designer, music, the venue and that these things all worked together seamlessly were challenging,” Whitney said.

Now that juniors were allowed to attend prom again, they anticipated going.

“Prom is a high school experience that is important for many people, and now all upperclassmen finally had the chance,” Cadegan said.

Junior Class Cabinet members were dedicated to making sure everything ran smoothly so that everyone had a great night.

“Ticket sales and last-minute issues can make things a little hectic in the lead-up to the event, but it was worth it when it all comes together that night,” Whitney said.

The price to attend was set higher due to more expensive arrangements.

“Prom pricing was higher in part because it took place at Express/Kemba Live downtown and hiring decorators to put up the decor,” Cadegan said.

Upperclassmen were thrilled to return to the traditional evening of prom.

“Celebrating together as the upper grades is a fun rite of passage that



Senior Madelynn W. dances with friends at the event.

many students tended to look forward to each year, and we were thrilled that they got the chance to do so again,” Whitney said.

There were a few changes that were made from last year’s event.

“It was a traditional dance rather than a gala event like last year. Other than that, it was back to all upperclassmen and guests from other schools can attend as well,” Cadegan said.



Seniors Ava T. and Ryan H. are nominated for prom court.

## ARTS FESTIVAL

### the upcoming K-12 arts festival

writer **valentina urbaez**

designer **nathan chow**

During a time of uncertainty, people turned to works of inspiration and beauty for comfort. Since the spread of COVID-19, the high school has decided to slowly ease into bringing back the arts festival. It has always been a great way to highlight student talent and creativity where any students, K-12, have been invited to have their work on display on Sunday, April 24.

The arts festival provides an opportunity for anyone to learn about the arts offered and see what the students have taken away from it.

“There will be art making demonstrations such as printmaking, jewelry, throwing on the potter’s wheel and digital art. We will have

food trucks for everyone to enjoy and students will be outside decorating our sidewalks for the chalk walk,” Visual Arts teacher Allison Echelberry said.

The Humane Society of Delaware County has also been invited to bring dogs that need to be adopted. There will be an art and bake sale where all proceeds will be donated to them.

Senior Ella Stamolis is one of the many seniors who will have pieces on the Wall of Fame and on her own table.

“I will have 19 pieces on display. I have ink-based, marker, colored pencil drawings and gouache paintings that mostly include cats. I also have representational pieces with abstract qualities that I’ve been exploring this past year,” Stamolis said.

The festival invites people to come and see progression within students.

“Art has always been a very natural outlet to me. I’ve been in 17 art classes over the last four years, and it’s very fulfilling to see my progress,” Stamolis said.

Many students have been looking forward to the tradition for years, and Stamolis is no exception.

“It has definitely been a very big goal of mine. I loved going to the art show in middle school and my freshman year. I helped some friends put up their own senior walls, and I have always been very excited to put my own together,” Stamolis said.

## SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE

### the multicultural fair returns to orange

writer **emma clute**

designer **nathan chow**

The event showcasing different parts of the world hasn’t been able to be in its full form since three years ago due to COVID-19. However, this year the multicultural fair is back for students to enjoy.

This year the fair was on Friday, March 25 before students left for spring break and they were able to come and learn something new about the cultures that surround them.

“It’s a celebration of all the countries and cultures around the world that are represented at the high school by our students and staff,” Face-to-Face Adviser Austin Nunn said.

The most popular aspect of the fair was by far the booths. Set up around

the Aux Gym, groups got to create presentations and items to represent a country or culture that they felt was important to recognize and celebrate.

“In our booth, we tried to showcase the highlights of Sudanese culture by showing the language, fun facts and music,” Face-to-Face President Jude Mirghani said.



The Sudan Booth, showcasing their culture for the multicultural fair.

The event was not the exact same as it was prior to COVID-19, but with many restrictions being lifted, it was very similar.

“The main difference was that students could not serve food, and it was a come-and-go during students’ lunch periods instead of foreign language periods,” Nunn said.

Students continued to make the multicultural fair popular every year that it was hosted, allowing a plethora of people to learn something new.

“I think it is important to share your culture with the people that you’re around every day and to learn about all the cultures that are represented in our school,” Mirghani said.

## APRIL FOOLS' DAY

favorite memories and traditions

designer emma clute

Freshman Jake Martin  
“My favorite part of April Fools’ Day are the jokes. Sometimes it’s obvious that they aren’t real, but also sometimes you forget what day it is, and then, it’s funny.”

Knock

Junior Emily Uhl  
“It’s a good start to spring because you get to have fun with your friends and joke around.”

There?

Knock

Sophomore Natalia Favila Inacua  
“Once, my friend got pantsed in the middle of the turf. He was fighting back tears, and it was pretty funny.”

Who’s

Senior Connor Goudie  
“My dad used to always prank me really badly on April Fools’. He would wake me up by telling me that I didn’t have school and then make me go anyways.”

## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH & PIONEER PRIDE BARS

### MARCH

Isabella Williams  
Evan Eichel  
Loren Geiger  
Evangeline Duell  
Morgan Powell  
Serenity Lewis  
Mia Ichida  
Jacob Zingg  
Hunter Bright

### PIONEER PRIDE BARS

Casey Covert	Jamii Wangugi
Alex Stiteler	Lauren Diehr
Brandon Carson	Reagan Hoyt
Kamaury Kibby	Aiden San Filippo
Colin Finney	Aubrey Timmons
Lauren Goelz	Bruce Pachko
Allison Timms	Avi Gautam
Elizabeth Weinberger	Maddison Sharp
Kaleb Duarte	Alin Myers