



ACADEMY HIGH
CHAMPAIGN URBANA

WEEKLY NEWS

December 2, 2022



Upcoming Events

Monday, December 5th

AHPA Meeting on Zoom 7 pm

Friday, December 9th

Humanities Studio 7-10 pm

Monday, December 12th - 16th

Finals Week/End of First Semester

Monday, December 19th -
Friday, December 30th

Winter Break/No School

Monday, January 2nd

Faculty Inservice/No School

Tuesday, January 3rd

Start of Second Semester

Wednesday, January 11th

Girls Basketball Game at Savoy Rec Center 6 pm

Advancement



The **"Reaching Higher" Capital Campaign** is an effort to raise \$2.2 million by 2026 to pay for the purchase and renovation of our new facility at 2001 Fox Drive. More than funding the bricks and mortar of the building, all funds raised will allow us to deepen our commitment to collaborative spaces, state-of-the-art classrooms, and other features that enrich student learning.

As of November 1st, 2022, many of our current families and 100% of our faculty have made a pledge or a donation to this fund. To date we have secured \$1.1 million in pledges or donations from members of our local and school community.

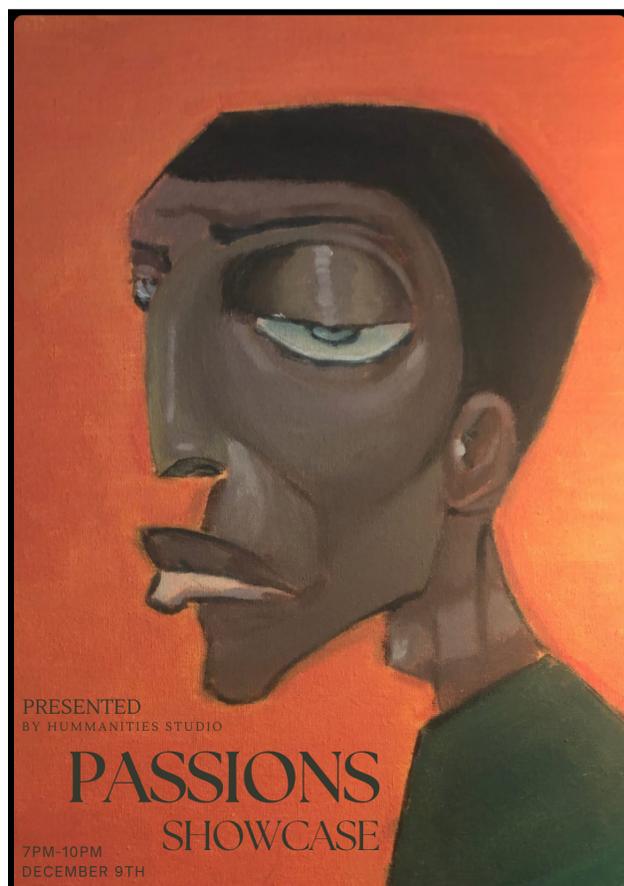
If you're interested in making a pledge or a donation, please visit our website to learn more or reach out to advancement@academyhigh.org with any questions!

Humanities Studio

This year's Humanities Studio Showcase, titled "Passions," will be on Friday, December 9th from 7-10 pm. It will be a collection of original art and performance by students. It's also a chance for the Academy High community to come together and share with friends and family the amazing things we have been doing!

The event is at Urbana Dance Company, 122 W. Main Street in downtown Urbana, next door to Rick's Bakery. Free parking along the street or in the parking garage at Broadway and Main.

Feel free to invite friends and family for this fun-filled night!



Academics & Student Life

Curriculum Focus: Social Studies

Freshmen World History

After working our way from the formation of the earth to a lively debate about what killed the dinosaurs, the freshmen have finally turned their attention to humanity and the development of civilizations. We explored early agricultural societies and human migration through documentaries and articles focusing on archaeological and anthropological evidence. Now we're focusing on trade, networks, and the growth of cities and empires. We'll finish the semester comparing the Han and Roman Empires via student-produced newscasts.



Sophomore and Junior Global Studies



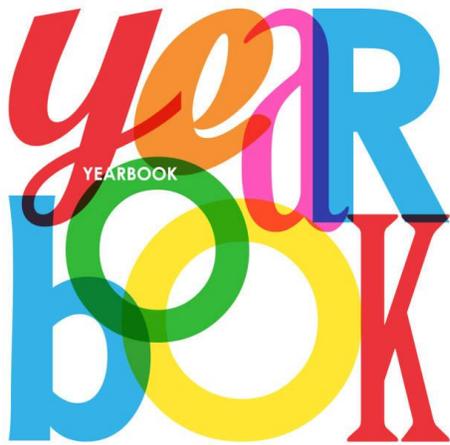
The final project for our Origins of the Modern World unit in both classes involved creating board games that expressed one or more of the themes we encountered over two months of readings, activities, and documentaries. The topics covered included trade and the Black Death, London's sewage treatment challenges, the lives of Victorian women, modern politics, war, and the French Revolution. After designing their games, students played each other's games and offered feedback. We then went through a revision phase and a final play through. It was fun to see their creativity and senses of humor center stage!

Now the sophomores are beginning a Europe unit based on an EU simulation in which five groups each represent an EU (or former EU) country and debate key issues from their country's perspective. The juniors are reading Tim Marshall's *Prisoners of Geography: Ten Maps that Explain Everything about the World* as part of a discussion-based unit focusing on global geopolitics.



Senior Environmental Studies

In Environmental Studies we're finishing up our third unit. We began by examining the origins of the Environmental Movement via two classic works—Aldo Leopold's *A Sand County Almanac* and Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*—as well as a documentary and several articles. We then tackled biodiversity, exploring our own backyard and creating naturalist-style drawings of what we found. After reading and discussing *The Sixth Extinction*, each student selected an endangered species on which to write a short research paper. We're currently wrapping up a unit on energy and climate change with our own documentary updating Al Gore's classic *An Inconvenient Truth*. The seniors are totally in charge of the project, and I can't wait to see what they come up with. Stay tuned to a youtube channel near you for the final product!



Yearbook Committee: Share photos from Academy High events

The yearbook committee has been working on compiling images for the 22-23 Academy High yearbook and would love the help of the community. If any student or parent has photos related to any Academy High events, please feel free to send them to Porter Milling.

Caring Crew sending cards to Clark Lindsey

The Caring Crew wrote notes to the residents at Clark Lindsey. They spent time drawing pictures and composing thoughtful messages to brighten the residents' day. We hope to hear back from the residents and continue communication with them!



Caring Crew represented at the Victory over Violence event

The AH Caring Crew reached out to the United Way to learn about volunteer opportunities for Giving Tuesday. The United Way invited the Caring Crew to participate in its Victory over Violence Day of Giving. The Caring Crew was represented at this event at WCIA, which raised over \$10,000.

Athletics

Girls Basketball

On November 22nd, our girls basketball team played Blue Ridge High School in Farmer City. They played again on Tuesday, November 29th against Normal Cavalry Christian in Bloomington. Our girls showed strong competitive spirit and teamwork throughout both games.

Both games had great spectator attendance and support from our Academy High's parents, students, and fans. Our next game will take place on Saturday, December 10th at 10 am at Decatur Lutheran.

This year, we are hosting two home games! Our first home game will take place on Wednesday, January 11th at 6 pm, and our second game will be on Saturday, January 21st at 10 am. Both events will take place at the Savoy Recreation Center. Please come out to show your support!



AHPA

Teacher Appreciation Lunch on Monday, December 5th



Let's show some love to our amazing faculty and staff by treating them to a Teacher Appreciation Lunch! The lunch set-up will start at 11:30 am in the faculty lounge. Parents can drop off food items at arrival or at 11:30 am. Clean-up will take place starting at 4 pm, allowing teachers the ability to enjoy all afternoon.

Next AHPA Meeting: Monday, December 5th at 7 pm

All parents and guardians are welcome to join us for the next AHPA meeting on Monday, December 5th at 7 pm on zoom! This great group works together to build community and to support our teachers and students. If you have any questions about the AHPA, please reach out to Katie Stafford.