

REPPIN’ THEIR CLASS: Valedictorian finalists, left to right, **Nima Ghane-Tehrani**, **Waleed Hakeem** and **Nadia Hakeem**, and **Alirod Ameri**, all grade 12, strike poses after their fellow seniors voted for their speeches on Wednesday from among six candidates. Even though there are four student finalists, the Hakeems, who are also twins, will be doing their speech as a pair.

Grads cast votes today for valedictorian

RENEE BOLDUT
Staff reporter

Today at lunch, grade 12 students will be voting for who they want to have as their valedictorian at their commencement on June 18 among the three finalists: **Alirod Ameri**, **Nadia Hakeem** and **Waleed Hakeem**, and **Nima Ghane-Tehrani**, all grade 12.

“A valedictorian is the face and voice of the grad class. It’s more than just being an honor student, thought that is immensely important,” said **Corie McRae**, counsellor. “This representative of the student body needs to encapsulate what it means to be a Gleneagle student extraordinaire,” added McRae.

The finalists were chosen from eight valedictorian nominees who each presented a speech on Wednesday in hopes of becoming the valedictorian.

The nominees this year were Ameri, Nadia Hakeem and Waleed Hakeem, Ghane-Tehrani, **Anika Lee**, **Jade Zhong**,

and **Kristen De Los Reyes**, all grade 12.

“I chose to run for valedictorian, it’s something that’d be the cherry on top of all of the experiences that I’ve had so far in the last four years at Gleneagle,” said Ghane- Tehrani. “I think I belong in every aspect somehow some way in the grad class,” added Ghane-Tehrani.

“I thought it would be an amazing experience to represent our graduation class in front of an audience of thousands,” said Ameri. “I believe being valedictorian is an amazing honour, as you get to represent the entire graduating class,” added Ameri.

“I wanted to have the chance to address the group I’ve been with for four years,” said De Los Reyes. “Being valedictorian is important to me because it gives me the opportunity to share my high school experience with everybody to some extent,” added De Los Reyes.

Something unique about this year’s valedictorian process is that two students are running together for valedictorian this year.

“I’ve decided to run with my twin sister, Nadia Hakeem, because we feel that together, we represent Gleneagle in a much larger way, and that we can speak to the entire grad class as a whole,” said Waleed Hakeem

Valedictorian nominees are required to meet certain criteria set by the counseling department.

“The nomination process was really simple. The people who planned to run just needed ten student signatures and two sponsor teacher signatures,” explained De Los Reyes.

Nominations are then approved by administration and the students are given time to prepare a two-minute speech to explain why they should be valedictorian.

“Running for valedictorian is an honour and a privilege, and it is quite exciting to be running against such talented and bright people, all of whom we have spent our past four years with,” said Nadia Hakeem. “It is going to be an exciting race,” concluded Nadia Hakeem.

New schedule almost ready to be finalized

TIANA ZHAO
Staff reporter

Although having a five-block schedule is non-negotiable next year, there are some undecided issues about outside timetable courses, customized learning (CL), and off blocks.

Students proposed to have CL twice a week, and every grade will have a chance to choose not to be in a classroom.

“I don’t think it’s necessary because it’s going to make things become complicated, and since there’s going to be a lots of students in the lineup that it’s going to be a waste of time,” said **Sophie Zhou**, grade 11.

“I find that having CL is a good opportunity for students to ask their teachers questions or study with a group,” commented **Sissie Wang**, grade 11. “For me, I usually do not have enough time to study with my friends because of all my schoolwork and extracurricular activities,” added Wang.

Another change about the new schedule is that some outside timetable courses will be moved inside the timetable.

There will no longer be an X block because of the early start of school. X blocks, such as vocal jazz, will take place in block 1.

Some Y block courses will also be pushed inside the timetable, such as choir. However, it is still undecided if courses that meet irregularly, such as AP courses and journalism, will happen inside the timetable.

“I think it is good to have some linear outside timetable courses being inside the timetable because then I would have more time after school to things I want to do,” commented Wang.

“I’m confused about where the courses will be placed,” stated **Janelle Feng**, grade 10. “If the course replaces a fifth flex block, it will be really stressful for students because they would have a five-block schedule probably for the whole year,” added Feng.

“I think [journalism] should [go into the timetable] because if it is inside the timetable, then we won’t have to do all the work like producing the paper on our own time, and we’d have every day to work since it is a class,” said **Claire Moon**, grade 10. “So, we’d have more time to do everything,” added Moon.

One thing is for sure: students can take more courses if there are spaces available. Those who have asked for an off block next year can see their counsellors if they change their mind since they will get one free block each semester next year.

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INSIDE

CULTURAL APPROPRIATION : Traditional indigenous head-dresses used as costumes at the Toronto Caribbean Festival spark controversy.



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TALONS ADVENTURE TRIP: Talons adventurers kayak to Granite Falls and in Howe Sound, hike the Stein Valley trail and the Juan de Fuca trail in April and May.

TALONS ATHLETES WIN BIG SCHOLARSHIP: Six graduating Gleneagle athletes receive admission scholarships from several Canadian universities.



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ONtheCALENDAR

- | | |
|---------|--------------------------------------|
| MAY 29 | Talons In-depth Night |
| MAY 30 | Motivational speaker - David Johnson |
| JUNE 2 | Math Contest Awards Night |
| JUNE 7 | Awards Evening |
| JUNE 14 | Year End Concert |
| JUNE 15 | Athletics Banquet |
| JUNE 18 | Commencement Ceremony |
| JUNE 23 | Grad Dinner & Dance |



Cultural appropriation not same as appreciation

Many are accusing Carnival Nationz, a mas band that plays carnival music, of cultural appropriation after they released their costumes, including a headdress in an attempt to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday, for the annual Toronto Caribbean Festival.

Cultural appropriation is when an ethnic group takes another's clothing, practices, or other cultural pieces and uses it as their own.

Though the concept behind it is simple, it is often misunderstood an exchange or a way to respect another culture and it is necessary to differentiate between the two.

Cultural exchange is different from cultural appropriation as it comes out of a place of respect.

Both groups exchanging are relatively equal to each other in the power structure that exists in society. This creates a mutual interaction that consists of not only respectfully taking but also willingly giving.

After understanding cultural exchange, it becomes simpler to understand cultural appropriation.

On the surface, it's taking parts of another group's culture, but that isn't all what cultural appropriation is. However, it is also the absorption of aspects of a minority

group's culture to the benefit, enrichment, or entertainment of the dominant culture without the necessary respect.

These pieces of culture have traditions and meanings behind them that are completely disregarded when being appropriated. This is the danger behind cultural appropriation: it takes the meaning behind these cultural items away and makes them commercialized and profitable.

This is where the issue behind Carnival Nationz's headdresses lies: traditional indigenous headdresses are often reserved by chiefs for special occasions and ceremonial purposes, not the Toronto Caribbean Festival.

"It's very disrespectful when you see people just wearing them as a costume, because it's not a costume. It's very, very traditional, very, very cultural, and it holds a lot of meaning. It's very symbolic," said **Shaniece**, a Mi'kmaq-Jamaican woman in a CityNews interview.

"The headdress is revered in our culture and is not worn just by anybody," added **Denise Stonefish**, deputy grand chief of the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians in a CTV News interview.



Although the band's original intent to honour indigenous people isn't harmful, their disrespectful execution is, and there are better ways that they could celebrate indigenous culture.

It is up to dominant culture to understand the significance and story behind the items they choose

to take in order to avoid appropriating significant or sacred cultural items and removing their context.

The best way to do this is to involve people from the minority group and start a conversation about these cultural symbols in order to become more thoughtful when using things from other

cultures, to consider any sacred or important backgrounds of the objects, and to learn about the best practices to show respect.

By doing this, one can appreciate and respect other cultures and their items better, rather than stealing valuable pieces of other ethnic identities.

Unpredictable BC election leads to possible minority government

BRAEDEN MANDRUSIAK
Staff reporter

The political landscape in British Columbia has begun to sway, for the first time in 65 years, the province has elected a Liberal minority government into power, which proves the division between normal British Columbians and the political elite.

Prior to this election, the Liberals held 47 seats, the NDP 35, and the Green Party one, plus two independents.

BC legislature approved the creation of two new ridings in Surrey and Richmond for the provincial election, which increased the total number of ridings from 85 to 87. The boundaries for 58 pre-existing ridings were also adjusted.

The election saw **Christy Clark** of the Liberals, **John Horgan** of the NDP, and **Andrew Weaver** of the Green Party square off against each other for control of BC.

Education, the environment, housing, and cash-for-access fundraising were only some of the election issues that were highlighted by the three leaders throughout each of their province-wide

campaigns.

Also, the record breaking election included four transgender candidates, 111 women, and four elected indigenous MLAs.

In the riding of Coquitlam-Burke Mountain, **Joan Isaacs** of the Liberals beat **Jodie Wickens** of the NDP by 268 votes.

Several prominent Liberal cabinet ministers lost their seats in the election including **Amrik Virk**, minister of technology, innovation and citizens' services and **Suzanne Anton**, attorney general and justice minister.

Naomi Yamamoto, minister of emergency preparedness, and **Peter Fassbender**, minister of community, sport, cultural development and the minister responsible for TransLink also lost their seats.

As the election results currently

stand, the Liberals have 43 seats, the NDP 41, and the Green Party three, but two recounts and the addition of about 176,000 absentee ballots may move the Liberals into a majority government situation.

Absentee ballots are votes that are completed and mailed in by people who are unable to attend their assigned polling station on

at CFB Comox.

Judicial recounts will be needed to finally decide the winner of the election because the riding recounts and absentee ballots did not change the results as they were still very close.

The NDP has a chance to close the two-seat gap they have between them and the Liberals, but the Green Party will hold the balance of power if either the Liberals or the NDP form a minority government.

"We want to ensure that the values we brought to the legislature, which were clearly supported

by a large number of British Columbians actually flow over into any working arrangement we have with any of the other political parties," said Weaver in an interview with the Vancouver Sun.

The Green Party is currently

participating in talks with the Liberals and the NDP over the possible future of British Columbia.

Weaver and his party are not interested in endorsing Clark's vision of a provincial liquefied natural gas industry, and he expects any new government to immediately table a bill in the legislature about the banning of corporate and union donations.

If a minority government does form, the Green Party will form a coalition with the party that has the most "Green-friendly" platform.

Weaver and Horgan have already agreed on issues like the Trans Mountain pipeline, electoral reform, and a ban on corporate and union donations, but a possible agreement between the two parties is still up in the air.

Although the tension in British Columbia is mounting, the people of the province have spoken loud and clear.

Even though a new government will be appointed, the final result of the 2017 election will certainly strengthen the resolve that British Columbians have in the democratic process.

“Although the tension in British Columbia is mounting, the people of the province have spoken, and even though a new government will be appointed, the final result of the 2017 election will certainly strengthen the resolve that British Columbians have in the democratic process.”

—Braeden Mandrusiak
Edge columnist

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election day.

In the contested riding of Courtenay-Comox, **Jim Benninger** of the Liberals is relying heavily on absentee ballots from those in the military because he once served as base commander

TALONSTalk

With a commentary reporter discussing the increasing challenges of entering university, *The Edge* asked:
“How does the growing expectations of universities affect how you spend your time?”

“You start to do a lot of preparation because university is not like high school where people stick around and chase you down.”

— grade 12


ARTONA

“Instead of doing the extracurricular activities that I want, I have to do the ones that make me look well rounded and suitable.”

— grade 10


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“I have been spending my time the same as usual but with more regrets.”

— grade 11


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“I try to maintain a healthy balance between setting myself up for the future and enjoying myself in the present.”

— grade 10


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“I spend more time memorizing the material than actually understanding what it all means.”

— grade 11


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“It changes the way I use my free time as I spend more time studying because of the raised standards.”

— grade 9


ARTONA

Students face growing expectations, challenges to enter university

JENNY BI

Edge columnist

With only 20 more school days until the end of the semester, school life is becoming increasingly busy with the final push for good grades and end of the year activities. The school is constantly buzzing, with junior grades worrying about growing responsibilities and senior grades stressing over their future. It is painfully obvious that education standards have increased over the years. While post-secondary education is not a prerequisite for success, a degree can open many future opportunities. In well-paying jobs, the vast majority of employers require their employees to hold college degrees. The lack of a college education can be an unmovable hurdle to getting hired. High school diplomas do not carry as much weight in the workplace as they used to, and a master’s degree is quickly

becoming the new bachelor’s degree. This creates a growing panic in both students and parents, as nowadays simply having good academic standings is not enough to be admitted into prestigious universities. Anxious parents head start their children as early as elementary school, signing them up for a multitude of extra classes in order to mold their children into well-rounded individuals, giving them an advantage over others. According to UBC’s student newspaper, Ubyyssey, UBC’s admission average has increased from 86.94% in 2007 to 90.04% in 2016. In just a decade, students are expected to perform 3.1% better just to be admitted. Similarly, Harvard, arguably one of the most prestigious universities in the world,

experiences a significant increase in expectation. Ivy Coach states that an acceptance rate of 9.8% out of 20,986 applicants in 2007 dropped to 5.4% out of 34,285 applications in 2016. It seems that to get into a “good university”, students need to achieve straight A’s, excel in music or arts, play three different sports, speak five foreign languages, participate in about ten other clubs and

extracurricular activities, and spend the rest of their free time volunteering. Unconsciously, a great deal of pressure is placed onto the students’ shoulders. This pressure builds up over time, greatly incapacitating individual performances. Expectations constantly shape decisions, often forcing people to give up the more enjoyable aspects of life. The pressure to be the best becomes unrealistic, causing teens to lose self-confidence and sink into depression. Teachers try their best to prepare students for post-secondary education. However, when surrounded by thousands of aspiring, competitive, and brilliant individuals, it becomes very easy to compare oneself to others and undermine personal attributes. Students then drown in self-pity and lose motivation to give their all and meet their potential. Should accomplishment come before happiness, or happiness before accomplishment?

“Expectations constantly shape decisions, often forcing people to give up the more enjoyable aspects of life.”

—Jenny Bi
Edge columnist

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LETTERS

to the EDITOR

Re: Trigger jokes cause more harm than fun for mental illness sufferers
When reading through this article, I couldn’t stop thinking about how there are bigger fish to fry than worrying about people being offended at triggered jokes. There has been a huge push over the last couple years to fight mental illness, which I agree with, though I think it can be a little excessive. I know that sounds harsh and cold-hearted but I firmly believe that if you find yourself in a situation you can’t handle, it is your responsibility to find a way to handle the situation or remove yourself from it. If you find yourself getting “triggered” by trigger jokes, it is your responsibility to learn how to handle them or remove yourself from the people making them.
-Connor Attridge, grade 11


Re: Raising driving age has potential to lower traffic accidents, deaths
I was interested when seeing the headline for this article because this problem tends to be in discussion quite often. I don’t think the age should be raised to drive, because as a young person, this is the best time for me to learn how. I don’t necessarily agree that young people cause more accidents, rather distracted driving and driving under the

influence is more problematic. For example, it’s a law that you’re not even allowed to eat while driving in Ontario. Another system, however, that I agree with more is switching the age restrictions of the legal drinking age and the age that you’re able to obtain a license. Many countries in Europe have the legal drinking age of 16-18 year old and in that case, young people learn the importance and gain the experience of how to handle alcohol. That way, when they are able to gain a driver’s permit, they are less likely to drive under the influence, because they know that if they’re intoxicated, they would be driving dangerously.
-Emma MacDonald, grade 11

Re: New schedule adds fifth block, proposed new learning time
I was happy to be further informed about the new bell schedule in the last issue of the Edge with Tiana Zhao’s article. I think that in addition to having more course choices with this flexible schedule, it provides many students time to finish their homework or study for an upcoming test in school. However, the late dismissal might make it harder for athletes and student employees to get home at a reasonable time. I think

these students should be provided with the option of having their off-block at the end of the day so that the sports practices would start sooner and working students could go to work on time. Many employers or volunteering organizations assume that school ends at about 3 pm for most students so many shifts or volunteer opportunities start as soon as 4 pm which would make it impossible for those Gleneagle students to take advantage of them.
-Mina Freeman, grade 11

I believe that it would be beneficial for the students and teachers to have smaller class sizes. However, I believe that the solution for the huge amount of students could be solved differently. We have a cap for cross catchment students, but seemingly none for international students. In the beginning of the year, we had so many international students that adjusting courses was almost impossible. I believe that all students should have the same opportunity to attend this school, meaning if there is a cap on cross-catchment students, there should also be a cap for international students. This alone can help our situation a bit with class sizes. I also believe that the start and end time are very inconvenient. 8:00 AM for students is very early as most middle schools had a later start than 8. In



addition to how early it is, many buses do not even run at that time and many of our students bus to and from school. It is also scientifically proven that our brains do not fully start working until 10:00 in the morning. The end time at 3:40 is very inconvenient. Sports and extracurriculars at school would now end later. The 3:40 end is also difficult for students who have sports or classes outside of school, as they usually adjust to the regular 3:00 PM end time. However, despite these points, I believe that the smaller class sizes and customized learning time may be beneficial for many students who are struggling.
-Sammie Lam, grade 11

The Edge welcomes letters to the editor and will be printed as space allows. Email your letter from your student account to theEdge@sd43.bc.ca or give it to an English teacher.

Coast movie night success, prep for Bowron trip

SYDNEY KO
Staff reporter

On May 17, COAST hosted their annual movie night, where they showcased various short films on nature and videos from their previous trips to help fundraise for the program.

“The GoPro videos that we showed are our own videos that we made from our past trips,” said **Jay Kim**, grade 10.

The movie night was organized by a leadership group of eight students within the COAST program. It raised a total of \$470, and over 70 students and adults attended.

“[The movie night] is a chance for past and future COAST students to interact and share stories,” said **Shawna Smith**, COAST teacher. “The night has become a traditional event to celebrate the students and their accomplishments in the outdoors.”

The movie night was held to fundraise for COAST’s equipment and trips, including their eleven-day trip at Bowron Lakes, taking place from May 24 to June 3. On the trip, 24 COAST students, **Krista Bogen**, COAST teacher, and Smith are participating in various activities, including canoeing and portaging.

To prepare for this trip, the COAST program went on a five-day trip to the Cowichan Valley. Students did river training and learned how to paddle.

“In previous trips, there was a bit of disagreement between groups at times, but on the Cowichan trip, we repaired that and worked as a team,” said **Katie Chowanietz**, grade 10.

COAST students also participated in rescue training at White Pine Beach to prepare for the Bowron Lakes trip.

“We purposely flipped over canoes and rescued one another during the training,” said Kim.

Throughout the semester, COAST has completed a total of five trips, with the Bowron Lakes trip being their sixth.

“I am looking forward to being mentally, physically and emotionally challenged along the Bowron Lakes while bonding with my classmates and enjoying the scenery,” concluded **Liz Gilder**, grade 10.

Students reflect on changes in schedule

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“I really like the idea of being able to take more courses because I want to take some art courses like painting,” said Wang, “I never have the time to because I feel obligated to take all my academic courses, but with the new timetable, I can take two more electives that I am really interested in.”

Counsellors will try to make each student have an off block in either block one or five, but there is no guarantee that no one will have an off block in block two, three or four.

“I want to have an off block at block one or five,” said **Kiran Guan**, grade 11. “That way, I can either sleep in or go home early and have more time to do things that I enjoy. It is not that pleasant to stay in school for a long time.”



MARTIN KIM PHOTO

SERIOUS SKILLS AT WORK: Two grade 11s work on their bathroom model project. Carpentry is one of many skills that students explore in the new skills exploration course.

Skills exploration opens options for students

MARTIN KIM
Staff reporter

Skills exploration is a new course that is offered this year at Gleneagle.

This course will be of great cost saving benefit to any future home owner should they choose to take on “do-it-yourself” home maintenance projects.

“This course is about exposing you to the various disciplines of carpentry, plumbing and electrical to give people hands on experience of what a potential career in these fields might be like,” said **Peter Poka**, skills exploration teacher.

“This course can lead you to the ACE-IT program and your Red Seal for carpentry, plumbing, and electrical. There are apprenticeship programs through BCIT to get a very well-paying job with good demand for the future,” added Poka.

The class’ latest project is a scale model of a bathroom corner with eight-foot walls, proper plumbing for a toilet and sink, and electrical with a light fixture and plug.

Students gain unique opportunities and

experiences within this class.

Similar courses are also offered at Terry Fox and Charles Best.

No prior knowledge or plans for a career in trades are needed to take this course.

“This course gives you the confidence in doing your own home repairs,” said **Andrew Stocker**, grade 11. “I want a profitable future that makes a good living as well as having the satisfaction of knowing that I am doing something for the community.”

Poka and other staff worked to get the course implemented into the school since there was no previous skills course offered at Gleneagle.

“We need to do a better job of helping people get the skills and requirements needed for a job outside university,” commented Poka. “There aren’t enough people going into the trades or are not told about the benefits of working in trades.”

“I want to go into plumbing for good money, benefits, and a proper lifestyle,” said **Donovan Chan**, grade 12.

“I will be doing a six-week plumbing course in Annacis Island then after that I

will further myself by going to BCIT or get an apprenticeship if a company wants to pay to keep me on the job site,” said Chan.

“I will be doing the ACE-IT program, which will help me with carpentry,” added Stocker.

“I’m going to get my level 1, then after I finish the program I will get a Red Seal certification,” added Stocker.

Fellow student **Tate Vince**, grade 11, joined the class to “experience different trades and prepare for courses outside of high school.”

“I will be attending BCIT’s plumbing program to get a good paying job that involves labor work,” added Vince.

The curriculum is very flexible, so the teacher has the chance to “change [his] courses all the time so [he is] going to take the feedback [he] gets from the students and maybe expose them to some extra skills and experiences,” mentioned Poka.

For more information on the course, students are welcome to check out the cage by the auto shop to see the progress on the bathrooms.

Student wins best in BC award, second in Canada

SYDNEY KO
Staff reporter

On May 5, **Benjamin Sigerson**, grade 10, participated in the Vancouver Chamber Choir Young Composers competition where he placed second in the secondary division in Canada and also won the Best in BC award.

“Being able to hear such incredible musicians sing a piece that I wrote brought an indescribable feeling,” said Benjamin Sigerson. “It gave me a huge amount of satisfaction, gratitude and joy. There are really not many more beautiful feelings than hearing your music come to life in front of you,” added Benjamin Sigerson.

In March, Benjamin Sigerson was also a finalist for the Fraser MacPherson Jazz Fund, a scholarship for secondary and university jazz instrumentals.

Benjamin Sigerson has been involved with music since he was six years old, when he began playing the piano.

At nine years of age, Benjamin Sigerson expanded his musical horizon by composing his first piece.

“I wrote a song that my dad recorded on an album and released [in 2010],” said Benjamin Sigerson.

At age thirteen, Benjamin Sigerson began learning jazz piano with the help of his father, **Chris Sigerson**, professional jazz pianist and piano teacher.

“My dad has been a strong supporter and

teacher for me ever since I began playing and composing music,” said Benjamin Sigerson.

Last year, Benjamin Sigerson began composing more music, including jazz lead sheets, classical ensembles, and choral music.

Benjamin Sigerson’s passion for music has contributed much towards Gleneagle’s music department.

In Gleneagle’s concert band, Benjamin Sigerson plays the French horn and has also composed a piece that the band will be performing at their year-end concert, under his conduction.

“He is multi-talented in so many ways, as a pianist, French horn player, and as a composer,” said **Kevin Shan**, music teacher.

Benjamin Sigerson also runs Gleneagle’s jazz combo, where he works with six other students to teach them about jazz music through common jazz charts and improvisations.

“I really love being a part of the jazz combo,” said **Brian Sun**, grade 10. “[Benjamin Sigerson] is a really great teacher because he is so knowledgeable and passionate about jazz music. I have improved a lot in terms of my playing and understanding for jazz with his guidance,” added Sun.

“[Benjamin Sigerson] is really fun to work with and I learn a lot from him. I can always tell that he is working really hard when it comes to music,” said **Alicia Ellis**, grade 10.

Currently, Benjamin Sigerson has



SYDNEY KO PHOTO

CHASING THE RHYTHM: A grade 11, expands his musical knowledge through composing. Not only has he won multiple awards for his work, but his piece will also be featured at Gleneagle’s year end concert.

auditioned for the piano chair in both the BCMEA jazz band as well as the TD honour jazz band. Results for the positions will be announced later this month.



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HIKING WE WILL GO: *Students in the Talons program hiked the 47 kilometre Juan de Fuca trail on Vancouver Island as part of an adventure trip from May 19-23. This was just one of three separate adventure trips that different students have undertaken in the past month that included hiking 42 kilometres of the Stein Valley trail as well as kayaking over 60 kilometres around the Indian Arm and Howe Sound.*

Talons connect with nature on adventure trip

AILEEN ZHANG
Staff reporter

Leadership 10, 11, and 12 students from the Talons classes went on three separate adventure trips in the last month.

15 of the students hiked the 47 kilometre Juan de Fuca trail on the southwestern coast of Vancouver Island from May 19-23.

Another 17 students hiked 42 kilometres of the Stein Valley trail from May 18-22.

The final 19 students kayaked up the Indian Arm from Deep Cove to Granite Falls and back from April 22-23 and island-hopped around Howe Sound from May 5-7, covering over 60 kilometres total.

“It was definitely challenging, physically and mentally, but all in all, I gained unforgettable experiences that I could not have gained elsewhere,” said **Mimi Kim**, grade 10. “The adventure trip really taught me how to appreciate things, like our modern comforts and the beauty of our natural backyard,” added Kim.

“I really enjoyed this trip because it gave me a great sense of pride to know that I was able to do an overnight backpacking trip in such tough conditions thanks to all the

hard work we put in,” said **Jiwon Hwang**, grade 9.

“When we started off on the first day [of the Stein trip], it was pretty difficult and a lot of people were struggling with the heat and the weight of the packs,” said **David Salisbury**, Talons teacher. “As the trip continued, it just got hotter and hotter, but the group just got more efficient and streamlined and seemingly had more energy. When we finished I was blown away by how much improvement there had been as a group,” added Salisbury.

In addition to gaining leadership skills, the adventure trip is also seen as an opportunity to build closer relationships with their groupmates.

“We created a lot of closer connections between people because you’re in it together and you have limited resources. There was also camaraderie that was really strong on the trip,” said **Quirien Mulder ten Kate**, Talons teacher.

“You really get to see a different side of people in the backcountry, being with them all the time for everything. The bonds that we have made during this trip will, I think, last for a long time to come,” added Kim.

The students have been preparing for this trip since February and their thorough planning was evident during the trip.

“I think all the planning meetings we had really improved my experience as I didn’t need to worry about small problems because we had taken measures to prevent them,” said Hwang. “It allowed me to focus more on the beauty of what was around me,” added Hwang.

“I think what makes the adventure trip special is that students have a stake in planning it. The grade 10’s took on a big leadership role and made [the teachers’] jobs a little easier,” said Mulder.

“It’s like successional training. You learn something and you pass it onto the grade 10’s who pass it onto the grade 9’s. That’s really unique and for me it’s really pleasing to see the connections people are building,” added Mulder.

“My biggest hope [for next year] is that, the grade 9 students who will be grade 10’s next year have more of a say and are more involved in the process for choosing and investigating the trips so it’s as student-centered as it can possibly be,” concluded Salisbury.

Upcoming in-depth set for Monday performances

JENNY BI
Staff reporter

On Monday, students from the Talons program will host the annual in-depth night, with over 50 demonstrations done through stage performances and learning centers.

Since January, students have been pursuing a single subject extensively and comprehensively. From finding a mentor to exploring their areas of interest, each individual’s learning experience is documented using blog posts.

In-depth night is an opportunity for students to showcase their learning through performances, presentations, demonstrations, and many other creative mediums.

“In the past years, in-depth has been a project where students can follow their passions and conduct a project in something that they are interested in but never had a chance to do,” said **Timothy Song**, grade 11 alumnus.

From singing and dancing to cooking and baking, in-depth is traditionally filled with surprises because of the eclectic subjects learners would choose.

“This year for in-depth, I have chosen to

pursue the k-pop/hip-hop dance genres, both through research and performance,” said **Mimi Kim**, grade 10 Talons learner. “I have been given the opportunity to exercise both my individual integrity through solo dances, and teamwork through group dances with two fellow Talons. Surprisingly, this project has also given me the chance to get more in touch with my Korean heritage and its pop culture and societal evolution,” added Kim.

“My in-depth project branches off my project from last year, which was singing,” said **Hira Lalani**, grade 10 Talons learner. “This year I’ve made my two focuses music production and song-writing, so for my final performance at in-depth night I hope to be able to sing an original song of mine with a fully produced backing track,” added Lalani.

“I decided to learn jazz piano for my in-depth project,” said **Lucas Hung**, grade 9 Talons learner. “Since I also play classical piano, jazz has offered me a fresh take on learning music. I believe it makes a more well-rounded musician.”

Not only will the parents and friends of Talons learners be attending this event,

alumni ranging from grade 11 to university will be present as well. In-depth additionally serves as a celebration for yet another successful generation of outstanding students.

“I’m very proud of my fellow Talons for challenging themselves in so many different disciplines,” said Kim. “It’s been very interesting to see what everybody has been accomplishing thus far and what everyone will be doing next. The grade 10’s have really elevated this year’s in-depth by building off of their experiences from last year, and the grade 9’s have really challenged themselves for their first time around.”

“As my first year of being a Talons alumnus, I’m super excited to see the diverse projects that the Talons learners conducted through their performances and learning centres on in-depth night,” added Song.

“I’m so excited to be around the Talons energy again and I’m super excited to see how everybody has grown this year. It’s always a fun evening for everyone, lots of socializing, and as alum we can eat the food,” said **Anne Yolland**, grade 11 alumna.

In-depth will commence on May 29 at 7 pm in the MPR.

Spirit week ends today with carnival

CLAIRE MOON
Staff reporter

Today marks the end of spirit week with the arrival of the Spring Carnival, which will be held after school in the MPR. May 23 was black and white day, May 24 was twin day, and yesterday was denim day.

This event will offer a variety of different activities ranging from henna and face painting to carnival foods and food trucks that will be serving cotton candy, mediterranean food, and refreshments.

The main attraction of the event is the games, particularly the arm wrestling booth that will provide students the chance to battle against **Peter Poka**, socials teacher, for a chance to win a prize.

“The carnival is our way of not only bringing springtime happiness to Gleneagle, but also reminding students exactly why Gleneagle is so distinguished, because of our unity and passion,” said **Anika Lee**, grade 12 and 2016-17 vice president.

This event is special not only because it is the second year that Gleneagle has hosted a Spring Carnival, but also because it is student council’s first attempt in its five years of existence to actively work with other clubs.

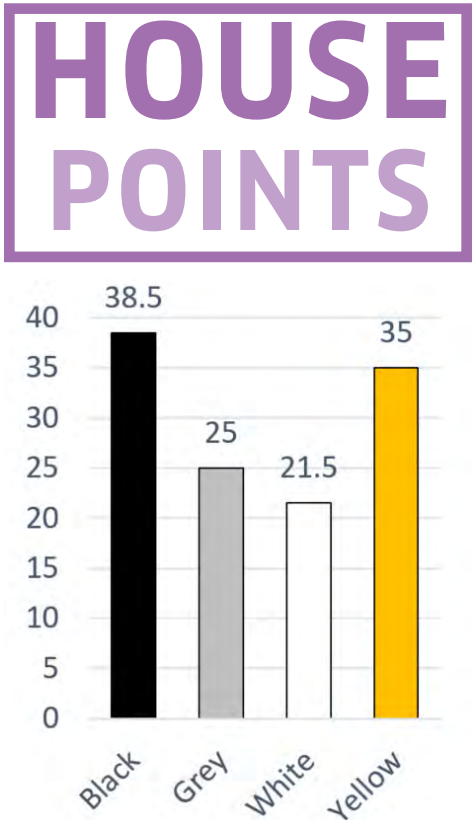
“This year, we really attempted to better last year’s carnival by involving even more regions of the school. We not only communicated with big clubs like Me to We and Kindlers to set up booths within our fair, but also with sports teams and musical ensembles,” continued Lee.

Student council hopes to continue this collaborative experience in future events.

“One of our goals this year and next year is to work with more clubs over the school year. Student council should be representative of the students within Gleneagle and the best way to do so could be to gather more opinions from other clubs,” said **Christine Choe**, grade 11 and 2017-2018 internal communications director.

Next year’s executive team hopes to yet again bring back the carnival with new and improved additions.

“Although the carnival hasn’t been in existence for too many years, the value that the event brings is already evident and I really hope I can help lead next year’s team to continue its success,” concluded Choe.



Senior girls’ rugby play in BC’s today

CLAIRE MOON
Staff reporter

Despite two losses in the Fraser valley playoffs, the senior girls’ rugby team qualified for the provincial tournament that started yesterday and concluded today.

The team played against Yale on May 11 and Semiahmoo on May 16 in the playoffs, losing both games.

However, the team qualified for provincials in fourth place, which is an improvement from their fifth place standing entering provincials last year.

“We have definitely been able to play smarter,” said **Nicole Huang**, grade 11. “We make good plays. If the ball’s out, people go for it instead of being scared and thinking about it for too long,” added Huang.

Further helping them was the great improvement in the team’s defensive play since the beginning of the season.

“On defense, we are supposed to be in a straight line so that no one on the opposing team can pass to their teammates,” explained Huang. “We have been a lot better at doing that, and following which side the ball goes which has been helping us to perform better during our games,” added Huang.

While the team made effective plays, and had a solid defensive line, the playoffs tested the girls’ ability to adjust to difficult situations during matches.

Some players were concussed or injured, and were unable to play during the playoffs, and because of this, the empty positions had to be filled by the other players.

“It was super important for players to be able to step up and play other positions they have never played before,” said **Sammie Lam**, grade 11. “We had three backs playing forward positions the last game, but we were able to adapt quickly with the help of the forwards on the field,” added Lam.

The support off the field is also a large part of the team’s performance.

“The rookies have definitely bonded with some of the seniors,” said Lam. “We are all able to support each other on and off the field, and the injured players still stand on the sidelines and give us advice and encouragement!” added Lam.

Despite the team’s improvements, their two losses during playoffs showed that the girls still have areas to work on for provincials.

“Sometimes we have to react faster, especially on penalties,” remarked Huang. “We have to look back quickly, and make sure we keep our eyes on the other team before they run,” added Huang.

“Tackling low is something that we need to work on,” said Lam. “We also need to keep our heads up and catch space when we run up the field,” added Lam.

The girls began play in provincials yesterday and continue playing today, and hope to improve their standing from last year, when they placed fourth in their tier.

“I definitely think we have a better chance than last year,” said Huang. “Our ranking going into provincials is pretty good, and we have improved a lot already,” added Huang.

“Seeing how far we have come this season and the determination and commitment of our team, I am certain that we are going to play our hearts out and make a name for ourselves at provincials, no matter if we win or lose!” concluded Lam.

Provincial tournament results were unavailable at press time.

Spectacular

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Athletes set to soar in post-secondary

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READY FOR VARSITY RULES: *Six extremely talented Talons have received substantial admission scholarships from major post-secondary institutions for September. List names of students in order from left to right , all grade 12.*

CHRISTINE CHOE
Staff reporter

Six graduating Gleneagle female athletes have received substantial admission scholarships from several Canadian universities as well as the University of Idaho.

Amira Brar, Nadia Hakeem, Hana Tyndall, Haley Bannister, Laura Touhey, and Sara Knowles, all grade 12, will each be attending university in the fall and competing in their individual sports.

For these athletes, the scholarship isn’t just a form of financial aid, but an opportunity to play competitively on a much more intensive and legitimate level.

“Being able to get an education at a great school while continuing to pursue field hockey is an amazing opportunity!” said Brar, who received a field hockey scholarship from York University in Toronto for the commerce program.

“I think it will definitely put some extra pressure on us as we go into university. Aft

er all, post secondary is certainly a whole new ball game. Not only are your classes harder, but your competition is also stronger,” added Brar.

Transitioning into university may seem overwhelming enough, let alone competing in the varsity level for sports.

However, these athletes have already adapted to balancing busy schedules as they have spent all of high school juggling with the ever-growing school work and relentless training for sports after school.

“Soccer is extremely demanding on your body,” expressed Hakeem, recipient of an athletic scholarship at SFU, who plans to study business. “I am busy 5-7 days a week just training for soccer. You have to be extremely fit and strong to be able to keep up with the competition,” said Hakeem.

“While [pursuing sports] has impacted my social life a lot, in the end, it’s all worth it. It’s all about what you’re willing to sacrifice so you can become a better player,” commented Bannister, accepted into York with a scholarship for field hockey and pursuing environmental sciences.

All the students demonstrate how the dedication and sacrifices that is required does

“In the end, it’s all worth it. It’s all about what you’re willing to sacrifice so you can become a better player. “
— *Haley Bannister grade 12*

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ARTONA

not get in the way of their passion in sports.

“I love the feeling I get when I play ball. It’s the rush of adrenaline, the competitive edge it gives me,” explained Knowles, entering University of Toronto for General Engineering with a scholarship for basketball, “I hate getting out of bed, but for basketball, I’ll get out of bed at 6 am every morning to shoot hoops.”

“Field hockey has had nothing but a positive impact on my life, I have made life-long friendships and have learned valuable life lessons along the way,” stated Touhey, attending the kinesiology and health science program at York University on a field hockey scholarship.

“I love this sport wholeheartedly and I

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PRINTED WITH PERMISSION OF NADIA HAKEEM

AHEAD OF THE COMPETITION : *Nadia Hakeem, grade 12 (left) who goes to head the ball, is off to Simon Fraser University for a soccer scholarship, Amira Brar grade 12 (right) has earned a field hockey scholarship to York University.*

Photo removed as per SD43 policy

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Netball team places second at provincials

RENEE BOLDUT
Staff reporter

The junior and senior girls’ netball teams attended provincials from May 12-13 at Burnaby Mountain. Junior girls came in second place while the senior girls placed in semi-finals.

The girls’ first game was won against Burnaby South with a final score of 8-0. The second game was against Burnaby North where Gleneagle won 17-0. The third game was against Sentinel where Gleneagle won 17-0. The fourth game was against Burnaby Mountain where Gleneagle won 14-13 in sudden death overtime.

“We played our hearts out and the results showed that,” said **Ashley Seo**, grade 10.

The team had a strong dynamic that helped lead to their success.

“What helped us succeed as much as we did is how close we became. A team has to be a family to succeed and that’s exactly what happened,” said **Liz Gilder**, grade 10.

Next year, the girls’ netball teams are hoping to win first place.

“We are definitely going to go for gold next year, we’re ready to come back and beat Moscrop,” said **Daniel Orea**, grade 10.

Golf team pre-qualified for provincials

KEVIN ZOU
Staff reporter

Gleneagle’s golf team has started their season in early May and has participated in tournaments in Pitt Meadows, Vancouver, and Coquitlam.

Last June, the team placed first and won a provincial title in the “AAA” division, defeating other high placing golf teams from schools such as Charles Best, Walnut Grove, and Point Grey.

Since the team secured a provincial title in the 2016 high school golf season, Gleneagle automatically once again qualified for the 2017 “AAA” high school golf provincials which takes place from June 5 to June 7.

The team hopes to win another provincial title this year.

Tennis over with forfeit win

BRAEDEN MANDRUSIAK
Staff reporter

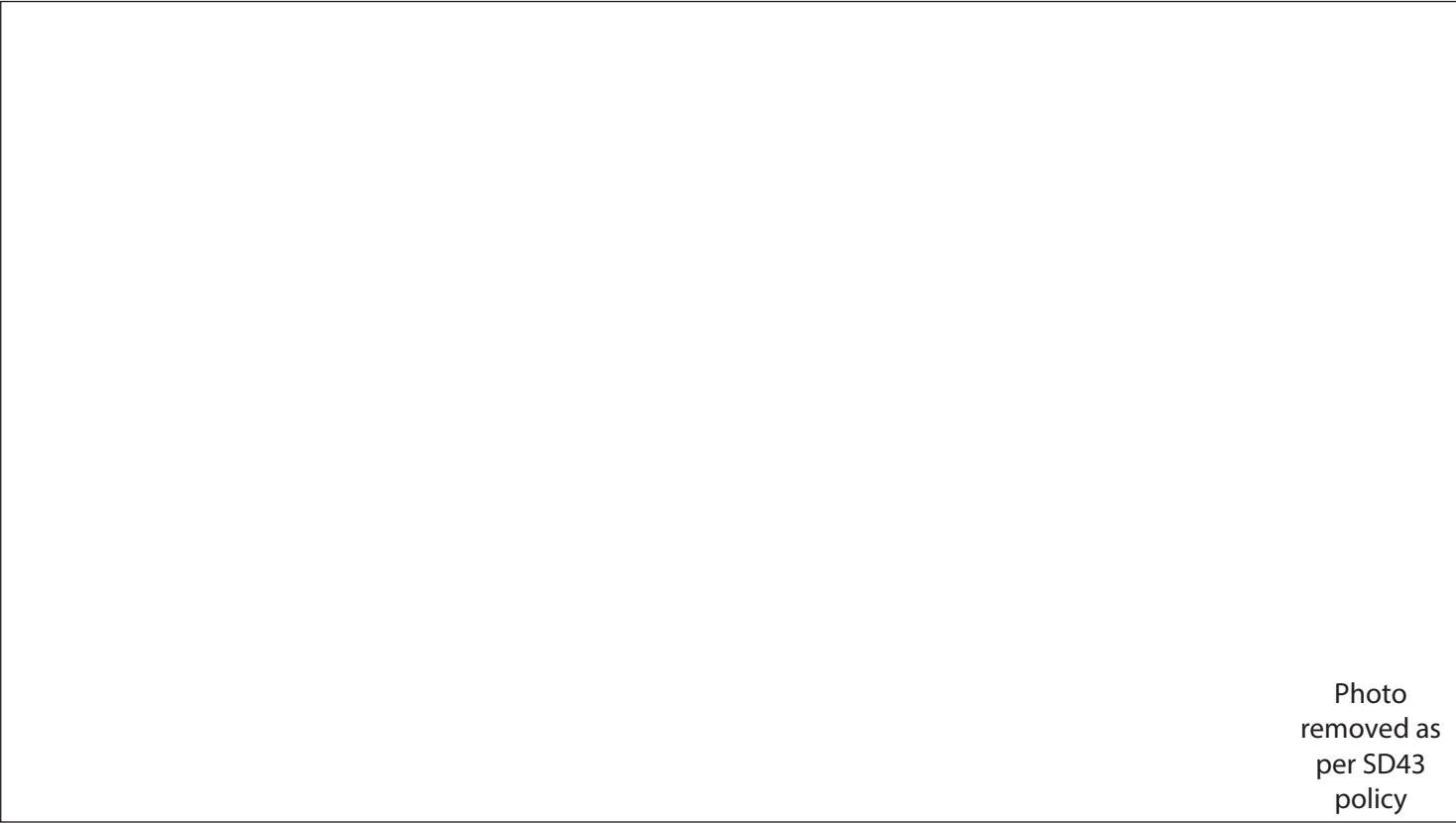
The tennis team closed their season with a forfeit win over Riverside on May 11.

“I was happy with our players this season,” said **Daniel Beley**, coach and EAL teacher. “We had a great mix of returning players and new players,” added Beley.

The team came out of the season with a 2-4 record standing.

“Even [though] I lost all my games, I still enjoyed playing tennis and had a fun experience,” said **Spirit Bacalla**, grade 11.

The team failed to qualify for the district championships, but Beley “[is] optimistic about the [tennis program’s] future [at the school].”



PRINTED WITH PERMISSION OF HANA TYNDALL

LEAPING TO SUCCESS : *Hana Tyndall* grade 12, leaping over a hurdle, has earned a prestigious track and field scholarship to the University of Idaho where she will be studying kinesiology.

couldn’t imagine my life without being on the field,” continued Touhey.

These resilient athletes and students demonstrate that playing team sports teaches valuable skills and experiences that cannot be offered without being proactive like they have been doing for so many years.

“This sport has helped me push through challenges as track is always challenging me physically and mentally, daily,” quoted Tyndall who will be moving to the USA to enroll in the University of Idaho where she will be studying kinesiology with an athletic scholarship.

“Although track is an individual sport for the most part, it’s taught me that the people you work alongside make the biggest impact in your life and the ones you are the most grateful towards,” added Tyndall.

The girls, though nervous, retain great anticipation for playing their sports in university and getting the chance to experience the new endeavors that their respective universities have in store.



ARTONA
Hana Tyndall
grade 12

“Sports definitely helps shape the person you are, not just on the field, but also off the field. “

— *Amira Brar*
grade 12



ARTONA

“I honestly don’t think it has hit me yet that I am moving to Toronto, but I am extremely excited for the university experience living on my own,” said Touhey.

“Of course, I am a little sad about leaving my family but I know I am going to have a fantastic time at York,” added Touhey.

“I want to make it to Nationals each year and compete against the top teams in the country from the west coast such as UBC and UVIC,” remarked Brar.

“I truly believe York can win a National title! In order to reach my goals, I will contribute my 110% effort each and every practice and game,” continued Brar.

For these athletes, their sports aren’t just leisure activities or a way to burn calories, it is a crucial part of their identity that was

built upon the successes and losses that come along with playing in a sport.

Brar shares her experience, “Sports definitely helps shape the person you are, not just on the field, but also off the field.”

“For instance, they help you with

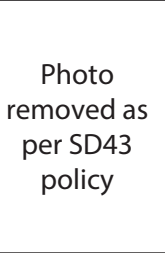
communication skills as you are constantly communicating with your team. Or you are pushed to learn to lead a group if you are team captain,” continued Brar.

Other girls from the group of distinguished athletes share a similar sentiment.

“I don’t know where I’d be without soccer. It has allowed me to become the independent, goal-oriented person I am today,” stated Hakeem.

“The field has become a place for me to relieve stress, laugh with my friends, and create endless memories with a bunch of great girls and I can’t be more thankful for all the lessons I have learned along the way through soccer,” continued Hakeem.

As a new beginning full of sweat and tears awaits the six athletes at postsecondary education, Gleneagle stands proudly behind them, wishing them all the best and cheering them on behind the sidelines.



ARTONA
Nadia Hakeem
grade 12



PRINTED WITH PERMISSION OF LAURA TOUHEY

SHOOTING FOR THE WIN : *Sara Knowles*, grade 12 (right) who swooshes the ball into the hoop, is off to University of Toronto for a basketball scholarship, *Laura Touhey*, grade 12 (left) has earned a field hockey scholarship to York University.



ALIROD AMERI PHOTO



PRINTED WITH PERMISSION OF ANDY ZHOU

POWERFUL ART, POWERFUL MESSAGE: *A Corner of Society*, a painting by **Andy Zhou**, grade 12, shows a man who lost his job who is now homeless. The painting was inspired by Zhou’s volunteer work, where he assisted those who are less fortunate than others.

Artists showcase work at Coquitlam Centre

CHRISTINE CHOE
Staff reporter

From May 24 to May 29, Gleneagle select-ed artists have the opportunity to showcase their artwork to the public at Coquitlam Centre to receive well-deserved praise outside of school.

For five days, Coquitlam Centre will host an art show presenting the artwork of students from eight Coquitlam high schools.

Not only will this allow the public to get a peek at the high schools’ artistic talent, but administrators from SD43 will be awarding scholarships to grade 12 artists going on to art universities.

From Gleneagle, three grade 12 students applied to be selected for the various scholarships; **Yannie Lo**, **Andy Zhou**, and **Sylvia Wang**, all grade 12.

“I submitted my artwork because I wanted to get more recognition and confidence, as well as receive financial support,” said Lo. “I’m really excited about the whole process and hope to get chosen for one of the

scholarships,” added Lo.

Lo entered five of her pieces: *Attention* was created by the medium of ink, *Cacophony* with watercolour, *Demolition* using charcoal, *Free to Perceive* was digitally created, and *Silent Turbulence* was made with oil paints.

Lo elaborates on the reason why she fa-vourites her self-portrait called *Silent Turbulence*.

“The expression of my face [on the painting] is really timid but there’s art strokes painted over it, so it’s expressing how I am really shy but passionate as well,” explained Lo.

Lo, though having a reserved persona, is able to shout though her paintings and express herself without saying a word, which is the fundamental reason why she is so passionate about art.

Zhou, too, uses art to speak when he struggles to find the right words to communicate with in English, as he transferred to Gleneagle as an international student.

“I choose to do art because it is a king

of communication; just like my mother tongue, I can express my ideas and feelings,” explained Zhou. “I can think freely, I don’t have any scruple for thinking, and I can do anything I what,” continued Zhou. “Art teaches me to enjoy beautiful things from different perspectives, so it empowers me to be expressive,” finished Zhou.

Zhou submitted three pieces to the art show. They include *A Corner of Society*, *Difference in Thinking*, and *Who Am I*, all acrylic creations.

“[The pieces] come from inspirations that occurred to me when I was engaged in daily activities such as volunteer work,” stated Zhou. “My work, *A Corner of Society*, is what I know about jobless people. They live a very hard life and have many worries,” added Zhou.

Zhou was able to directly encapsulate his experience during his volunteering through his art, to evoke the greater need of recognition for those that are not as privileged .

“The guy in my painting has just lost his job,” explained Zhou. “He is having a hard time and hopes to have a better future. I was really touched by the whole experience so I tried my best to give them care during my volunteer work,” added Zhou.

Wang also applied for the scholarships through her five art pieces using mediums of mixed media, graphic design, watercolour, acrylic, digital, and pencil.

All of these young artists have dreams for their artistic careers as they take one step out of high school.

“I am going to the States for the Rhode Island School of Design,” said Lo. “I want to major in painting, but I’m not sure yet, but I’ll have time to explore my options as the first year is just the foundation year so you don’t have to choose yet,” added Lo.

“I really like drawing, so my ideal job is related to the arts,” said Zhou. “For me, visual design and computer design are required or beneficial for my future job,” added Zhou.

Although it is a farewell to the students, it is guaranteed that the real world will greatly utilize their artistic talents, scholarship or no scholarship.



PRINTED WITH PERMISSION OF YANNIE LO

WORDS SPEAK LOUDER THAN ACTIONS: *Attention*, a painting by **Yannie Lo**, grade 12 shown above.

Musicians set to perform at district concert tomorrow

TIANA ZHAO
Staff reporter

Tomorrow, Gleneagle musicians will perform at the Lafarge Lake Bandstand as part of “District Concert in the Park”. It is a family friendly event running from 10 am to 4 pm.

The junior and senior bands will perform separately with pieces that they have practiced since September.

They also have the opportunity to watch other schools in the district perform.

Pieces include *Variations on an English Folk Song* for junior band, and *Rhythm Danse* for senior band.

The musicians feel confident after winning a gold prize in the Regional Con Brio Whistler festival last month.

“After achieving gold in concert band at the Con Brio Whistler music festival, I feel this district festival is a great way to show our musical strength in our program within the reaches of our community,” said **Gregory Choi**, grade 10.

“Whistler is playing in front of the judges,” said **Helena Qin**, grade 11. “But there’s no judges for the district concert, so I will feel more relaxed,” added Qin.

Students have different feelings regarding the music festival. Some are feeling a bit pressured while some are considering this event as a chance to enjoy themselves and to learn different techniques from other schools.

“I think we still need to try our best because we are representing our school,” remarked Qin. “Nevertheless, it is still a nice event to participate as a band student. I can just have fun and enjoy the music with my friends,” added Qin.

“I don’t feel any pressure,” said **Esther Ko**, grade 10. “I am just excited and kind of nervous. Plus, I feel that I can learn new types of music and how others perform differently from us,” added Ko.

“Rather than feeling nervous or stressed, I see this festival as an opportunity to learn some techniques by listening to other schools performing,” said **Lucy Dai**, grade 11.

“Playing at a district music festival with other schools also gives me a valuable performance experience,” concluded Dai.

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ARTONA

Gregory Choi
grade 10

Photo removed as per SD43 policy

ARTONA

Helena Qin
grade 11

Photo removed as per SD43 policy

ARTONA

Esther Ko
grade 10

Photo removed as per SD43 policy

ARTONA

Lucy Dai
grade 11