



MUNDELEIN™  
MUSTANGS

DISTRICT 120 UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2019

# THE MESSENGER



Dedicated to  
academic excellence  
for all learners  
through the core values of  
equity, growth,  
and collaboration.

We are MHS.

**M** #mundypride

## WHAT'S INSIDE

At Mundelein High School, we are dedicated to the pursuit of excellence, supporting our students' particular needs and interests, and developing the skills they need to succeed in life. Our faculty is dedicated to inspiring our students to grow into unique individuals.



## IN THIS ISSUE, LEARN HOW WE...

- Celebrate student excellence
- Become inspired by the accomplishments of others
- Are grateful to our charitable community
- Honor our esteemed faculty and alumni
- Anticipate incredible theatre performances

WE ARE PROUD OF THE RICH TRADITION IN OUR COMMUNITY.

**#MUNDYPRIDE**



KEVIN MYERS, PHD  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
DISTRICTS 75/120

### U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT 2019 MUNDELEIN HIGH SCHOOL RANKINGS

#93 of all 665  
High Schools  
in Illinois

Top 10% of all  
U.S. High Schools

#2,475 of all  
26,000 Public  
High Schools



## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

The 2019-2020 school year is reaching the mid-point and we have many things to be proud of in District 120. You may have noticed the "badge" on the cover of this magazine recognizing MHS as a "Best School" in Illinois. In fact, we are ranked 2,475 in the nation of 26,000 public high schools. That means we're in the top 10 percent of U.S. high schools. We are also rated #93 in Illinois which has 665 high schools.

Three years ago we had passionate discussions about changing from a 4x4 Block Schedule to a traditional eight-period day schedule. We are already seeing some positive results. The SAT test scores for the top 10 and top 15 percent of each senior class from the past three years are steadily rising.

### RISING SAT SCORES FOR MHS SENIORS (TOP 10%)

CLASS	AVERAGE SAT SCORE
2018	1314
2019	1393
2020	1409

This is remarkable progress and we owe it to our students, teachers, staff, administrators and the entire Mundelein High School family for taking the risk to modify the bell schedule.

We are also in our first year of the Shared Services Model (SSM). As superintendent of both Districts 75 and 120, I am happy to see the coordination taking place between the two districts and we are gradually adding more shared elements. Currently, those include technology, curriculum, transportation, payroll, human resources and some aspects of special education. These are all positives as our districts learn and grow together.

I am also happy that we are a part of the Mundelein Consortium for Student Learning which brings together the principals and curriculum directors from Districts 73, 75, 76, 79 and 120 to review our common areas of focus and then develop a plan that will be implemented this year to address that common focus.

These are exciting times for the future of education in Mundelein. Join us on this positive journey into the future.

—Kevin Myers, PhD  
Superintendent of Districts 75/120



COVER: MARCHING MUSTANGS MEMBERS REYNALDO PALACIOS, ALONG WITH JOE FINZEL, ERIKA GARCIA AND OLIVIA LEWIS

# EQUITY A “BIG DEAL” AT MUNDELEIN HIGH SCHOOL

Mundelein High School administration has been laser-focused on equity, one of the district's three core values which also include growth and collaboration. Because of the scope of the concept of equity, more than one year has been devoted to exploring this issue.

The district is in its third year of institutes, in-services and staff meetings that address ensuring that MHS is an all-encompassing school.



Led by Stacey Gorman, assistant principal of teaching/learning, an all-out approach is in place to look at all aspects of equity in the school setting. The goals of the study include:

- Developing an understanding of the impact of inequity on student learning
- Examining inequities within the school and community
- Reflecting on personal attitudes, values and beliefs regarding various forms of inequity
- Developing tools to create more equitable learning environments for all students
- Developing the knowledge and skills to effectively collaborate with families of various cultures and backgrounds

Throughout the previous year and continuing this year a number of trainings and events have immersed the staff into looking at inequities and seeking solutions to correct that. Some of those include Beyond Diversity, an equity training that helped MHS administration and staff better understand the impact race has on student learning and the role that racism plays in institutionalizing academic achievement disparities. Participants discussed how race and racism can influence the culture and climate of schools. The staff is scheduled to experience the Beyond Diversity training as an elective activity next summer.

Other activities included a Book Club reading and discussing *White Fragility: Why it's so hard for white people to talk about racism*. The book's author explains the counterproductive reactions whites have when their assumptions about race are challenged and how these reactions maintain racial inequality. Additional activities scheduled for this year are:

Grading for Equity, a professional development event for teachers and instructional assistants to discuss chapters from the book, *Grading For Equity*.

Professional development for 10- and 12-month support staff. They are receiving training on how to work with diverse families and provide them with the resources necessary for their children to be successful at MHS.

The security staff will be engaged in professional development about microaggressions and their impact on students of color. Microaggressions are statements or actions that are typically indirect and unintentional, leading to discrimination against members of a marginalized group.

Previously staff members heard from Dr. David McIntosh, Chief Diversity Training at the University of Kentucky Medical School; Calvin Terrell, equity presenter who provides strategies to help educators create more equitable systems, structures and experiences for students, and local presenter, Sedrick Newburn, who presented about culturally responsive teaching and white privilege. Staff members engaged in reading a number of articles about the idea of equity and read/discussed the book, *So You Want to Talk About Race*.

**“I am excited that MHS is leading an initiative to grow in our commitment to collaboration and equity for the Mundelein community. Some of our partners include District 75, Mundelein Parks, Fremont Library and other community organizations.”**

**–DR. KEVIN MYERS, SUPERINTENDENT**

Continuing throughout the current school year a group of teachers, administrators and community resource personnel, known as Mundelein United, will work together to work on equity throughout the Mundelein community.

The group is led by Gina Harris and Frances Kraft who have years of experience working on equity, most recently on a television show filmed at Oak Park/River Forest High School. They hope to build productive relationships among the school and community as partners for a stronger Mundelein.

The plan includes analyzing systems, structures and policies in both school and community organizations to ensure equity and equitable access for everyone. In addition the group will study and share reactions to the *Colorblind or Color Brave* video and discussing the article “Communities Organizing for Equity.”



“This is an ongoing process and we hope to do everything we can to have an equitable approach to education, and also an equitable manner of living together as one, cohesive Mundelein Family,” Myers concluded.

# CELEBRATING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



PARKER GEARY, MACKENZIE STEWART AND TYLER GREEN



## IN NATIONAL FBLA COMPETITION

### MHS SENIORS TAKE FIRST PLACE

Mundelein High School senior, MacKenzie Stewart, earned first place in the Global Business event and seniors Parker Geary, Tyler Green and Zach Scott (not pictured) earned first place in the Sports & Entertainment Management event at the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) National Competition in San Antonio, Texas. Both teams competed against many teams across the country and beyond, and they were awarded \$1,200 along with their first place trophies.

**"It was exciting to see the two teams up on stage," said FBLA adviser Chris Hoster. "They all took a tremendous amount of time studying the material and understanding their events."**

The national competition, which took place June 29 through July 2, had students compete in a variety of business and career-related subjects, attend leadership sessions, network with other students and professionals, and explore the city of San Antonio.



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



## CAITLYN MATHEWS ELECTED TO GIRLS NATION IN WASHINGTON, DC

Caitlyn Mathews, 17, Mundelein High School senior, has been elected to Girls Nation for a weeklong all-expense paid trip sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary. Girls Nation, the highly selective federal-level component of the Girls State program, operates like a mock federal government with elections for federal-level offices and selection of a supreme court. Participants learn caucusing and debating skills and draft legislation. The program, now 79 years running, also includes visits to historic sites including Arlington National Cemetery and national memorials, meetings with federal legislators and a session with the President of the United States in the Rose Garden.

The American Legion Auxiliary-sponsored program begins at the state level. More than 300 girls met in June at Eastern Illinois University to operate a mock state-level government. Mundelein High School selected Caitlyn Mathews and MacKenzie Stewart, for the program.

The process to be elected to Girls Nation involves multiple levels of interviews. "Initially, I wanted to go to Girls State to meet new people and go through the legislative process," Mathews said. "But I was motivated by the girls I met."

**Mathews gained support from peers by inviting their comments on legislation to make the November election date a federal holiday. In a question-and-answer session in front of all 300 Girls State representatives, Mathews was asked how she would manage the influx of refugees. "I suggested that American families volunteer to house refugees who are vetted."**

Only two Girls State delegates from each state are elected to act as Girls Nation senators. Mathews will be joined by Kendra Kelly from New Baden in the southwestern corner of the state. Girls State and Girls Nation carry honored traditions. Arlene Lolley is president of Mundelein Unit 867 which sponsored the two Mundelein High School students and four additional junior girls from Grayslake this year, and had this to say:



**"There are very few programs like this for young women that offer opportunities for personal**

**development in the areas of oratorical and networking skills. We are proud of the fact that Girls State and Girls Nation have constructed a framework for women to learn leadership and good citizenship practice."**

**-ARLENE LOLLEY,  
MUNDELEIN UNIT 867 PRESIDENT**

The Mundelein unit 867 Girls State participants are funded by donations from local businesses including Mundelein Community Bank, Liberty Auto City and DoubleTree by Hilton Mundelein.

This is the second time in three years that a Mundelein High School student was selected to attend Girls Nation.

## JUSTIN O'CONNOR NAMED NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALIST

Officials of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) have announced the names of approximately 16,000 semifinalists in the 65<sup>th</sup> annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,600 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$31 million that will be offered next spring.

**Mundelein High School senior, Justin O'Connor, has qualified as a semifinalist and will move forward to compete for a finalist position.**

To become a finalist, a detailed

scholarship application must be submitted which includes information about the semifinalist's academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment and honors and awards received. A semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay and earn SAT or ACT scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test.

**"We're proud of Justin's high school accomplishments and support him as he works to qualify as a finalist," said Dr. Anthony Kroll, MHS principal.**

National Merit Scholarship winners of 2020 will be announced in four nationwide news releases beginning in April and concluding in July and will join more than 345,000 other distinguished young people who have earned the Merit Scholar title.

SEMIFINALIST



**MH 2020**  
National Merit® Scholarship Program

## SEVEN MHS SENIORS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR ACADEMIC PROMISE

Officials of National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) have announced the names of Commended Students in the 65<sup>th</sup> annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

About 34,000 commended students throughout the nation are being recognized for their academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2020 competition for National Merit Scholarship awards, commended students placed among the top 50,000 scorers of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2020 competition by taking the 2018 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

**"Congratulations to these seven Commended Students. Your hard work and persistence are seen in this recognition and we know we can expect continued success during your senior year at MHS."**

—DR. ANTHONY KROLL, MHS PRINCIPAL

## NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION COMMENDED STUDENTS



Dillon Blake



Tyler Green



Derek Lee



Brandon Linane



Caitlyn Matthews



Bradley Rossbach



Luke Roswick



NATIONAL MERIT  
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

## STUDENTS RECOGNIZED AT MUSTANG PRIDE BREAKFAST

Eleven Mundelein High School students were recognized with Mustang Pride awards during a recent ceremony.

Students may be nominated by staff members for a number of reasons, both academic and social. Some of those reasons can include acts of kindness, raising a grade or grade point average significantly, tutoring other students, assisting staff members in class and many others.



MUSTANG  
PRIDE  
AWARD

Damia Ali  
Tony Cuevas  
Nickie Figueroa  
Alejandra Martinez  
Brandom Ibarra  
Michael Kukla  
JP LaCroix  
Luca Lopez  
Lizbet Maldonado  
Maya  
Taylor Ocho  
Violet Wark

**"A big shout-out to the students who were honored with a Mundelein Pride Award," said Meghan Bargar, dean of students and coordinator of the event with Principal Anthony Kroll.**

**"And thank you, also, to the staff who nominated students and spoke about all the qualities they possess that make them worthy of this recognition," she concluded.**



FLORIDA TIMES-UNION PHOTO

## MHS HOSTS OLYMPIC SWIMMER AND MEDAL WINNER CAELB DRESSEL

Mundelein High School's swim team feeder program and the Mundelein Mustang Swim Club hosted Olympic swimmer Caeleb Dressel on September 15. He ran three different swim clinic sessions and spoke with athletes and parents.

Dressel is fresh off his 2019 World Championship performance where he won eight world medals including six gold and two silver. At that meet he also surpassed Michael Phelps and set a new world record in the 100m butterfly, making a time of 49.50.



Three sessions were held and included an instructional swim session as well as an opportunity for a photo and autograph with Dressel.

In addition, Dressel provided a motivational talk and stories about his training, preparation, nutrition and progression from an age grouper to a world-class Olympian. It concluded with questions and answers for swimmers, coaches and parents.



## GRAND REOPENING OF NEW BOUTIQUE-STYLE WELCOME CENTER



Mundelein High School has long had a small pantry available for residents in need who could “shop” for food and clothing items free of charge. Located in the main hallway, it was very small and not private at all for families to shop in. Director of Maintenance and Facilities, Kevin Quinn, and his facilities team have now created a boutique-like Welcome Center located at the District Office Building, adjacent to the high school, at 1500 West Hawley Street.

Unique about the Welcome Center is that participants from the Transition Center (a program where special education students are able to remain at the high school until they turn 22 years old) have not only set up the majority of the center, but they will also replenish items and re-stock as needed. “This will give them the real-life experience and skills needed to work in a retail store,” said Jamie DiCarlo, assistant superintendent of student services.

**Families will be able to visit the Welcome Center on Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:15-10:45 a.m. when the participants are there.**

DiCarlo and Parent Liaison Sol Cabachuela have been working with various organizations like Mano a Mano and the Libertyville Women’s Junior League to obtain donations for the Welcome Center. Currently, the majority of clothes have come from Mundelein School District 76 and MHS staff members.

### MOST NEEDED ITEMS

**Gently used boys (toddler to teen) clothing, children’s coats, snow pants, gym shoes, and winter boots. Also brand new undergarments and socks.**

—CONTACT SOL CABACHUELA AT EXT. 1269 TO DONATE

“The idea is that we will re-stock items through different drives from athletic teams, clubs, and donations from the community,” Cabachuela explained. “For example, we would like to do a women’s undergarment drive for Breast Cancer Awareness Month and a hat/glove drive in November.”

# HONORING OUR DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI



## MHS HONORS DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AT 2019 AWARDS LUNCHEON

Mundelein High School held its third Distinguished Alumni ceremony and recognition with a recent luncheon at the D120 District Office Building. Hosted by Mundelein High School District 120 Superintendent Kevin Myers, the event formally recognized five MHS graduates as Distinguished Alumni.



**Martin Atilano, Class of 2006**, came to MHS speaking no English and was able to attend

and graduate from MHS in two years. After attending the Real Estate Institute of Chicago, he opened his own company, American Dream Realty. Now a managing broker, Atilano has opened a third office in Mundelein. His company has donated hundreds of backpacks with school supplies and more than 150 pairs of shoes.



**Brad Forch, Class of 1973**, earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Illinois State University and a

doctorate in physical chemistry/chemical physics from Wayne State University. At the time of his death in September 2018 he was the Army's Senior Research Scientist for Ballistics assigned to the laboratory's Weapons and Materials Research Directorate. In addition to his work, Forch published several papers on the relative thermodynamic stabilities of substituted annulenes and their anions and dianions. His research led to the discovery of a new laser-based resonant ignition mechanism that rapidly transitioned to practical applications for many army weapons systems.



**Michael Infanti, Class of 1974**, holds a bachelor of science degree in management, a master's degree in military

studies and a second master's degree in national resource strategy. He enlisted in the U.S. Army as an infantryman in January 1980 and also joined the Reserve Officers Training Corp (ROTC) and was commissioned as a second lieutenant. During his career, Infanti earned the Legion of Merit/Bronze Star, the Purple Heart Award, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and the Joint Service Commendation Medal. He served part of his service time in Iraq and retired from active duty in June 2014 as a Colonel.



**Amy Aufmann King, Class of 1987**, holds a bachelor's degree in education from Northern Illinois University,

an MBA from Benedictine University and is completing a doctoral program at the University of Southern California. She is currently the Group President of the Central Region of DeVry University. King also serves as regional administrator for 12 DeVry University locations. She has more than 20 years of academic leadership experience. King has also served on the Board of Directors for several organizations including the Will County Center for Economic Development, the Romeoville Economic Development Commission and the Bolingbrook Hospital Foundation.



**Oliwia Zurek, Class of 2006**, holds a bachelor of arts degree in biology from Knox College and

a doctorate in immunology and infectious diseases from the Voyich Lab at Montana State University. She works as a USMA Immunology Medical Science Liaison II at Genetech, Inc. in South San Francisco. She previously completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the pathology department, Galli Lab at Stanford University. She has been a contributor to 11 publications and has made 17 oral presentations in the U.S. and abroad. She entered MHS speaking no English and excelled through the MHS English as a Second Language (ESL) program, learning English as a second language.

**Mundelein High School honors alumni each year who have excelled in a chosen profession, community service, civic involvement and others.**

Learn more at [www.d120.org/mhs-community/alumni](http://www.d120.org/mhs-community/alumni)

GROUP PHOTO ABOVE, LEFT TO RIGHT: GREG FORCH AND KATHERINE PEGLER, BROTHER AND SISTER OF HONOREE BRAD FORCH; MICHAEL INFANTI, AMY KING, OLIWIA ZUREK AND MARTIN ATILANO



FROM LEFT: MARK AND COLE EMORY, MEDLINE PRESIDENT ANDY MILLS AND KAREN EMORY

## COLE EMORY, '10 HONORED WITH CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE AWARD FROM MEDLINE

Cole Emory, MHS Class of 2010 alumnus, was honored with a Circle of Excellence Award for his work in the Medline mailroom. Emory was a special education student at Mechanic's Grove, Carl Sandburg and Mundelein High School. He is autistic and was a special education student with a one-on-one aide for most of his school years.

The Circle of Excellence Award from Medline, his employer for the last 6 ½ years, is presented to employees who excel in their areas and usually goes to top salesmen, R & D personnel, or others in visible positions.

"When his mailroom supervisor called to give me the good news he said it was a very big deal, not just for Cole, but for his entire department (mailroom)," said Karen Emory, Cole's mother. This department had never had a recipient of this award.

"I know that each and every one of you has had the pleasure of interacting with him at some point," said Clay Kalweit, Emory's supervisor. "You know that he is relentless in finding the person he is looking for as he works his way through his daily route covering every floor in Northfield," he said.

## 2005 ALUM LAWRENCE MALIGAYA PROVIDES FUNDS FOR SUMMER STEM, ARTS SCHOLARSHIPS



PICTURED FROM LEFT: JENNIFER BRUNKOW; STEVE FIGVED, MHS FOUNDATION PRESIDENT; EMILY BAUMAN; HAILEY NEGLEY; REBECCA PANOS; LISA JOHNSON, MHS FOUNDATION SECRETARY; ELLIE WHELAN

Lawrence Maligaya, a 2005 Mundelein High School graduate, decided to "give back" to the high school by donating funds to cover STEM and Arts scholarships for current MHS students.



"Mundelein High School provided me with opportunities to be able to attend MIT and pursue a fulfilling career in engineering and technology."

—LAWRENCE MALIGAYA '05 ALUM

He lives in the San Francisco Bay area and works for a global automotive supplier for next-gen electric and autonomous vehicles.

Last year, Maligaya was able to support four students who attended a coding camp, a Purdue Seminar for top engineering prospects, an aerospace camp and robotics, coding and CAD experiences.

This summer five MHS students benefited from Maligaya's generosity. Three students took part in summer STEM camps: Emily Bauman, Sahil Patel and Hailey Negley, while Rebecca Panos participated in an Arts Explorer Scholarship.

Negley was part of the Focus on Biomedical Engineering Camp at the Milwaukee School of Engineering. During the camp she built her own EKG from scratch, used a TENS unit to make an EEG and built and programmed a robotic arm. She participated in a number of other activities while there and worked closely with summer program assistants and professors.

"I am thankful for this opportunity. While at camp I was taught by a variety of professors and real life engineers. Together, they showed me what it is like to be a biomedical engineer today. This camp has affirmed that biomedical engineering is the major for me with the goal of becoming a prosthetist which means I will make artificial limbs."

—HAILEY NEGLEY, SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Maligaya plans to continue his benevolence in working with current MHS students.

"Your gift will help more students attend a vocational or college program and promote innovative ideas for education excellence," said Steve Figved, MHS Foundation president.





ROBOTICS CLUB ADVISOR MANNY ALDANA IS PRESENTED WITH A CHECK FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DART FOUNDATION, CHERYL NESTEROWICZ AND JOHN MCINERNEY.

## DART FOUNDATION MAKES \$5,000 DONATION TO ROBOTICS PROGRAM

Representatives of the Dart Foundation recently presented a gift of \$5,000 to Manny Aldana, physics teacher and robotics advisor, for additional enhancements and financial support for the robotics program.

Last year, the Robotics Team took first place in the VEX Robotics Competition to qualify directly for state competition. The team also traveled to Google Headquarters in February to compete in a nationwide, invitation-only event. The team at that time was made up solely of freshmen.

The funds will be used in part to enhance the current Robotics work area and future travel.

The Dart Foundation is a private family foundation established by Dart Container Corporation founder William A. Dart and his wife Claire T. Dart. The Foundation supports projects that enhance education, especially in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math, and those that improve the quality of life in specific communities. Representatives of the Dart Foundation also participate in local giving.



MHS ALUMNUS, LARRY MARKUS, PRESENTS A \$2,000 DONATION IN SUPPORT OF THE ROBOTICS CLUB. HE IS SURROUNDED BY MEMBERS OF THE CLUB AND SOME OF THE ITEMS THAT THEY WILL WORK WITH IN THEIR ROBOTICS COMPETITIONS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

## MARKUS '67 GENEROUS DONATION SUPPORTS MHS ROBOTICS PROGRAM



MHS graduate, Larry Markus, Class of 1967, recently presented a \$2,000 donation to the MHS Robotics program.

Markus represents Sirius Automation of Buffalo Grove, Illinois. He then spent time working with students offering assistance with projects the students are currently working on.

"Mr. Markus mentioned that our students are very passionate and driven about what they are doing here and I totally agree with that sentiment," said Manny Aldana, Robotics and Project Lead the Way advisor and physics teacher.

**"The generosity and support of Sirius Automation will help the Robotics program in preparation not only for our upcoming tournament in October, but also for our students being the next generation of problem solvers."** **-MANNY ALDANA**



PICTURED LEFT TO RIGHT:  
 PRINCIPAL ANTHONY KROLL,  
 FINE ARTS DIRECTOR  
 LARRY CALHOUN, HONORED  
 THEATRE DIRECTOR  
 JONATHAN MEIER AND  
 SUPERINTENDENT  
 KEVIN MYERS

## MHS THEATRE DIRECTOR PRESENTED WITH HIGHEST HONOR

Jonathan Meier, Director of Mundelein Theatre at Mundelein High School, was recently presented with the Illinois Theatre Association's (ITA) 2019 Award Honor. The organization's highest honor, the award was presented as part of the Illinois Theatre Association's Annual Red Carpet Gala, held at Drury Lane Theatre in Oakbrook.

"I don't know if I was more honored or shocked when I received the notification. The Illinois Theatre Association is an organization that is near and dear to my heart and to receive this honor from them is special beyond words," Meier said.

Each year the ITA recognizes both individuals and organizations for their significant contributions of promoting quality theatre throughout Illinois. Meier was nominated by the ITA community, approved by its divisional representatives and accepted by ITA's board of directors.

"We are grateful and fortunate that Jonathan found his way back from the business world to the world of theatre education. We appreciate his service on the ITA Board as a Secondary School Theatre Representative, and, of course, serving on the Finance Committee. We cherish his participation in the Illinois High School Theatre Festivals. We admire that, aside from an 18-year banking stint, both his personal and professional life have been immersed in the world of theatre."

-AIMEE-LYNN NEWLAN, ITA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"I was especially honored to have so many MHS administrators and theatre staff in attendance at the Gala to help me celebrate," Meier said. "I think it speaks volumes as to the level of support for theatre and the arts in general at Mundelein High School."

## MHS THEATRE PROUDLY

In their continuing effort to bring interesting and diverse literature to the students of Mundelein High School and the Mundelein community, Mundelein Theatre has announced their theatre offerings for the 2019-20 school year.



### AN EVENING OF STUDENT-DIRECTED ONE ACTS

**PAST PERFORMANCES: SEPTEMBER 9 AND 10**  
 As always, the season opened with *An Evening of Student Directed One Acts*. This year ten different MHS seniors had the opportunity to direct their own short plays.



### THE END OF THE WORLD (WITH PROM TO FOLLOW)

**PAST PERFORMANCES: NOVEMBER 1 AND 2**  
 The New Faces production was *The End of the World (With Prom to Follow)*, by Sean Abley. New Faces features freshmen and sophomores, as well as juniors and seniors who have not had the opportunity to be in a show at MHS. The play is about teenagers from Great Falls, Montana. One morning they awake to find a wall of light encircling their town, and everyone but the student body has vanished. This is a drama/comedy that explores mortality, friendship, and the survival of ethics when survival itself is at stake. Directed by Jeff Harding, the play ran November 1 and 2.

ANNOUNCES PERFORMANCES FOR 2019-20 SEASON



REHEARSING FOR THEIR FIRST DRAMA PERFORMANCE, NEW FACES ACTORS PERFECT THEIR LINES.

**THE CURIOUS SAVAGE**



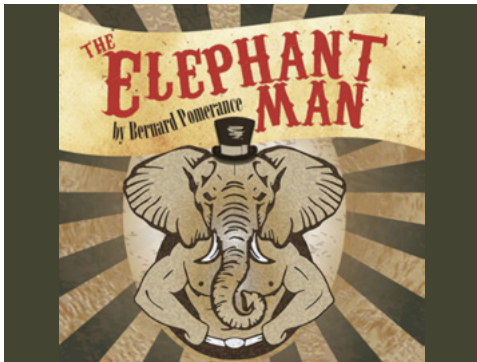
**THE CURIOUS SAVAGE**

JANUARY 31 AT 3:45

JANUARY 30, 31, FEBRUARY 1 AT 7:30 P.M.

UNDERSTUDY PERFORMANCE: FEBRUARY 1 AT 2 P.M.

The winter play is *The Curious Savage*, by John Patrick. This comedy is the story of an elderly widow whose husband has left her 10 million dollars. She intends to give the entire fortune away to people who wish to pursue their "foolish dreams," but her stepchildren strongly object. Directed by Jonathan Meier, the play will be performed January 30-February 1.



**THE ELEPHANT MAN**

NOVEMBER 21, 22 AND 23 AT 7:30 P.M.

NOVEMBER 22 AT 3:45 P.M.

The fall production will be *The Elephant Man*, by Bernard Pomerance. This Tony Award-winning play follows the story of John Merrick, who is a horribly deformed young man—a victim of rare skin and bone diseases. Seen as a freak by society, his life changes when young physician Frederick Treves agrees to care for him. This show is not recommended for children. Directed by Jonathan Meier, the play will be performed on the 200-seat onstage thrust configuration in the MHS Auditorium.



**CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE SLAM**

PUBLIC PERFORMANCE: NOVEMBER 21 AT 5:30 P.M.

PRELIMINARY BOUT COMPETITION: NOVEMBER 23

Mundelein Theatre students will once again compete in the Chicago Shakespeare Slam. The team is comprised of 16 students. Eight of the students perform, and the other eight make up the Bard's Circle, a group that helps write and develop the two five-minute pieces to compete against schools from throughout the Chicago area. There will be a public performance of their slam pieces on November 21. Co-directed by Mark Landuyt and Jonathan Meier, the team will compete in their preliminary bout on November 23 at Addison Trail High School.



**CHICAGO**

PUBLIC PERFORMANCES: MARCH 19 AND 20 AT 7:30 P.M.

SECTIONAL COMPETITION: MARCH 21

Mundelein Theatre will once again compete in the IHSA Group Interpretation competition. This year they will perform *Chicago*, by Maurine Dallas Watkins. Mark Landuyt will direct and adapt this 1926 play about actual criminals and crimes that would later become the basis for the musical of the same name.



**GUYS AND DOLLS**

APRIL 23, 24 AND 25 AT 7:30 P.M.

APRIL 25 AT 2

Closing out the season will be the spring musical, *Guys and Dolls*, by Frank Loesser, Joe Swerling and Abe Burrows. Based on the short stories of Damon Runyon, it has been hailed as the perfect musical comedy. This award-winning classic gambles with luck and love under the bright lights of Broadway. Directed by Jonathan Meier, the musical will run April 23-25.



**MUNDELEIN THEATRE**  
Mundelein High School

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION,  
VISIT THE THEATRE WEBSITE AT  
[WWW.MUNDELEINTHEATRE.ORG](http://WWW.MUNDELEINTHEATRE.ORG).**



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