

## All The World's A Stage

As seen in the Fall Top 10, Thespian Troupe 856 traveled to the University of Northern Iowa for the 2019 Iowa Thespian Festival on November 8 and 9. They arrived eager for the long awaited chance to perform *CARRIE: the musical*, which had just closed at the high school the previous weekend. Over 1,000 people attended the festival, which made their experience much more memorable. After the festival was over, they came back home feeling accomplished with what they had done, and proud of the honor that they brought home to Pleasant Valley.



"I am so humbled and grateful to do something that can impact people on a level I never thought possible. You never know how much the message you are sending means to the audience. I love doing what I love to help others." -Anna Myatt '20

## PROPS TO YOU

### Fall Drama Brings You "Helium"



As the 2019-2020 PV Spartan Drama Season began, a new show slot was added to the lineup: the Fall Play. This slot's inaugural show was "Helium", by Julian Wiles, directed by Anna Myatt.

Myatt commented that she "wanted to do this show because [she] wanted to do a show that meant a lot to [her]." After her freshman year, her grandmother, who, while never diagnosed, displayed many dementia symptoms, passed away. Her grandmother was very much like the show's main character, Mrs. Molly Kingsley. This was a great way for Myatt to put her emotions into something that will connect with others as well as convey a message.

Mrs. Kingsley is an 80 year old retired high school chemistry teacher, chocolate enthusiast, mother, and

grandmother. As her elderly mind begins to slip, helium filled balloons rekindle all the memories from her youth.

Junior Lola Johannsen played the lead role of Mrs. Kingsley and Delaney Riley played Alice, her daughter. The rest of the cast included Grace Engstrom, Braeden Jackson, Matt Bolin, and Ethan Kilcoin. Together they all portrayed what it means to have a deep connection with your family and youth.

On September 20 and 21 at 7pm in the Black Box, the cast and crew finally got to perform what they had worked on for so long. "Some equations aren't for us to solve," became a well know phrase that represents exactly what the actors were trying to get across to the audience, in life, things will happen that don't make sense, and that's completely okay.

Delaney Riley performs during the play Helium as Alice. "Being a part of the show, Helium, was an experience unlike anything else I have ever done. Not only did I make such amazing friends, but I was able to help tell a story that was funny, sad, and all-around beautiful. Acting allows for me to put on someone else's shoes, who often times is completely different than I am in real life. It has helped me to try and understand everyone around me, all while doing something that I love." Delaney Riley has been acting and an active member of drama since seventh grade. She still continues to impress everyone with her character on and off the stage.

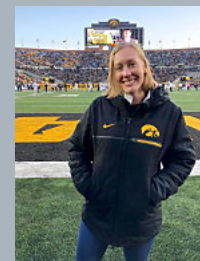
"There is never a time on stage that I don't feel the audience's energy and get so happy because of it"  
-Jared Jones '21

On October 10, PV put on an unforgettable show for anyone who wanted to smile or laugh. Students try out for Varsity Improv in the spring, and JV in the fall, and this year, there were 17 students on four teams, and Logan Croll. Throughout the night they compete against all the other teams to see who can get the most laughs out of the audience. Every single person has to be quick on their feet to come up with scenarios to act out. It definitely takes a talented person to be a part of an improv team. The four teams performing were the JV team, Kakistocracy, Hatrick, and Wacit, but in the end this years the winners were the JV improv team.



## CHASING DOWN THE Dream

PV students dream big, knowing hard work and determination can get them anywhere. Here's how these Spartans are chasing their dreams.



**Emma Mask '20**  
"My biggest dream in life is to be happy and healthy, and to live a life that is worth being remembered."



**Kaitlyn Drish '21**  
"Although I have many dreams in my life, the biggest one is that I want to make it through college and become a teacher."



**Sarah Abdullah '23**  
"My biggest dream in life is to move to California and be able to continue dancing and start my own family."

## what does it cost to be kind?

### performing *the dream*

This year, the drama department put on one of the most memorable and thrilling musicals ever directed. "CARRIE: The Musical" truly expresses the impact of how actions can effect everyone. People had the chance to watch the musical on October 31 and November 2 at 7pm, as well as November 3 at 2pm in the PV High School Theater. The lead role of Carrie was played by Senior Anna Myatt. In the words of Myatt, she portrayed a girl who is forced "to think she isn't good enough for anyone or anything." Lydia Cox, Amy Oberhart, Brady Sexton, Grace Engstrom, and Ian Olderog rounded out the other principal roles. They, along with the 29 other cast members and many crew members, came together and performed three amazing shows for the high school (and one in Cedar Falls) and showed how many talented thespians there are at PV.

