



Eris Ewoldt '23

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Falcons show off their tattoos

"YOU'LL regret that when you're older." "They're painful to get done." "No one will hire you." These common phrases are sure to earn an eye roll from people with tattoos, and they are beyond tired of hearing them. Despite all the stigma and controversy surrounding them, this isn't stopping many high schoolers from getting a tattoo. A tattoo is a means of expressing oneself through art or words. It can be classy, minimalistic, or bold depending on the design. With its flexibility in style and size, tattoos can fit anyone's personality.

Additionally, tattoos can hold sentimental value. A date or specific letter can represent a deceased family member or a current one. Others may have matching tattoos to commemorate a special event or bond between two people. Some may just be spontaneous, in the moment, tattoos. Either way, each tattoo has its own unique story and experience that the owner will remember for the rest of their lives, even if they choose to remove it. No matter the reason, these West students proudly show off their tattoos with West High pride.
Story By: Kathy Truong

Permanent MEMORIES



"I got my first tattoo as a memorial for my Mom. It is a big cross with her name in it. The pain level was definitely a 9/10."
-Caleb Dodds '21

"My first tattoo means to have strength and get through all of life's struggles. It didn't hurt bad but felt like a pencil on your skin."
-Bailey Emery '22

Whose Tat is

Whose?

Answer Key: 1. Serena Arguello 2. Hailey Schumacher 3. Tiara Soppe 4. Alex Geigle



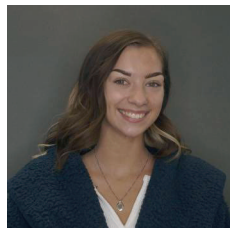
Alexandria Geigle '21



Hailey Schumacher '21



Serena Arguello '21



Tiara Soppe '21



"My tattoo is my Grandpa's birth date. I got it because I grew up with him, and he is my best friend. I wanted it to be meaningful, and it's like he's right by my side every day. The pain level was about 6 or 7."

-Ryen Larson '23



"My tattoo is an elephant with music notes coming out of the trunk. The 4 music notes stand for each of my siblings. The elephant stands for good fortune and positivity. The pain level was a 7 out of 10."

-Reina Aguilera-Gomez '21

Future Tattoos

"I want to get butterflies tattooed behind my ear because I think it represents how everyone is unique and different. It shows how everyone can grow."

-Emma Peters '22



"I want to get a tattoo on my forearm that has something to do with my family and has my last name. I want it to have a cool quote under 'Garcia.'"

-Michael Garcia '23



"I would get my name tattooed on my wrist but spelled as 'Eric' with the 'c' crossed out and make it a 'k' because everyone always spells my name wrong, and I think it's a funny and dumb idea I wouldn't regret."

-Erik Colclasure '21



Tattoos
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"I decided to get a lion because it symbolizes my zodiac sign which is a Leo. I got it at O'Tool here in Davenport, and honestly it didn't hurt that bad, so I would say it was about a 4, pain wise."

-Jonathan Thornton '21



"My tattoo is a cross. It doesn't have a meaning, I just really liked how it looked. Pain level was probably a 6.5."

-Jermaine Gardner '22