



SUPER SPEECH

Looking worried, seniors Megan Baumler, Emrys Yamanishi, and Isabelle Krapfl act out a part of their ensemble acting piece *We Can Be Heroes*, where their characters lose their super powers. They performed at the Pops Show May 15 in the Performing Arts Center. Photo by Lillie Hawker.



Practicing their group mime routine, Nathan Woods, senior, Michelle Hanna, junior, and Jessica Belding, junior, follow junior Rafe Pisarik's lead at rehearsal. Photo from Grant Freeman.

RECORD NUMBER OF STUDENTS MAKE ALL-STATE

Nine students are nominated for Individual All-State speech

Story by Lillie Hawker

The highest honor any student in speech can achieve is getting an All-State medal in an Individual Event. Being a highly successful season, a record number of Mount Vernon students achieved this honor. Nine MVHS students received All-State medals for an Individual Speech Event.

Among those nine students was senior Sophia Andrews. Andrews made it to All-State in the category of Original Oratory. Andrews wrote and performed an original speech about her experiences being on the autism spectrum. "It was telling my story about my experience of learning that I was autistic and teaching others ways to be mindful and accepting toward

autistic people," Andrews said.

Andrews said that she was very proud of herself for making it to All-State. "I didn't expect my piece to go to all-State at all. I did it to tell my story about being on the autism spectrum" Andrews said, "It making it to All-State was the cherry on top."

Another student who was nominated for All-State was Alice Conroy. Conroy was nominated in the category of Poetry. Conroy's poem was about double standards for different races, genders, and classes in America. "Basically it was a dramatic poem about America's social and political issues," Conroy said. Conroy said she was very happy about being nominated for All-State. "I feel really lucky and grateful to have such wonderful and supportive coaches who helped me get there, and also really proud of myself," Conroy said, "The hard work and effort paid off."

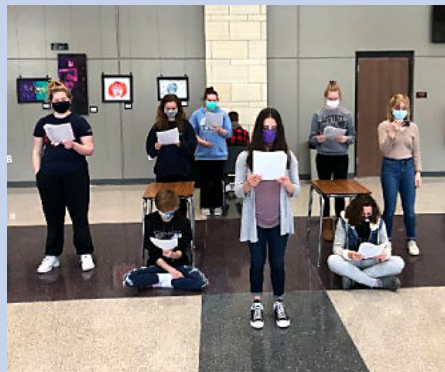
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TRIM LINE TRIM LINE

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Ashlyn Steen, a junior, sits in senior Sage McVay's lap as they rehearse the song *Gaston* as a part of their musical theater group at State Speech Contest Jan. 23. Photo by Lillie Hawker.



REHEARSING IN THE HALLS

Above: A group mime group practices their piece before performing at State Speech Contest Jan. 23. Photo from Grant Freeman.

Above Left: Seniors Jasper Rood, Nathan Woods, and Elijah Webster act out an improv scene during rehearsal. Photo from Grant Freeman.

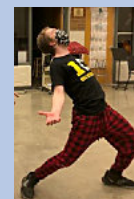
Left: The Choral Reading group rehearses their piece in the PAC lobby. Photo from Grant Freeman.

What was your favorite line from your piece?



"We were taught that just because something happens, doesn't mean you are to talk about it."

Alice Conroy, '21



"From the improv team: punching babies"

Jasper Rood, '21



"And all of a sudden, all these girls with their moussed and gelled hair were going up like Roman candles."

Lydia Benesh, '23

ALL-STATE NOMINATIONS

Large Group:

Choral Reading - Eulogy to My Heart:

Sophia Andrews, Tessa Baty, Lynn Burgin, Alice Conroy, Trevor Fernau, Sage McVay, Natalie Spinsby, Ashlynn Steen, and Emrys Yamanishi

One Act Play - 26

Pebbles:

Megan Baumler, Lydia Benesh, Ellie Crock, Trevor Fernau, Lillie Hawker, Ashton Hunt, Abbey Keen, Eli Krob, and Margaret Player

Individual Event:

Sophia Andrews - Original Oratory: Autism

Megan Baumler - Storytelling: Stephanie's Ponytail

Lydia Benesh - Acting: Margo the Magnificent

Lillian Bishop - Acting: Confession Tape

Alice Conroy - Poetry: Somewhere In America

Trevor Fernau - Public Address: This is Water

Lillie Hawker - Acting: A Thousand Seconds

Jasper Rood - Improv

Natalie Spinsby - Prose: Happy Endings



Trying to get their voices heard, the *Suessical* musical theater group rehearses a scene from the musical during rehearsal. Photo from Grant Freeman.



Seniors Jasper Rood and Lillie Hawker and junior Anna Hoffman rehearse their ensemble acting piece Jan. 5. Photo from Grant Freeman.

Striking a manly pose, the Manly Men musical theater group performs at Pops Show May 15. Photo by Lillie Hawker.

