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- 1. Freshman **Olivia Cunningham** performs the Forté novelty routine.
- 2. Senior **Ashley Hardman**, junior **Bailey Knouse**, and freshman **Harleigh Walkup** dance at the Iowa State Dance and Drill Team Competition.
- 3. **Knouse** and sophomore **Kelsey Hall** dance in the military routine. Forté won 1st place for this routine. "The military, we were really happy to win. We won my freshman year, then my junior year, and then this year," said senior **Erin Nossaman**.

## PELLA FORTÉ GOES TO STATE

Forté won first place in military routine. Forté also won third place for pom and 4th place in the novelty category. Forté also received the Judge's Choice Award for military, which is only given to 6 groups out of the 500 groups competing.

"It was actually super exciting because we

actually never had gotten a Judge's Choice Award. I think its been 8 years since we got one," said **Ella Jahner**, a senior in her fourth year of Forté.

This year the State Dance Competition looked different because of COVID-19. However,

**Nossaman** was grateful to go in person.

"A highlight I'd say was just getting to be there with my team, and it was a little bit different than normal, but a lot of schools had to send in videos ahead of time," said **Nossaman**. "I just feel lucky that we got to go and experience it."

## Q&A WITH MALLORY WESTERKAMP ABOUT HER BUSINESS SIMPLY CALLIGRAPHY



Q: What made you decide to start your business?  
 A: "I decided to start my business because I found something that I was truly good at and loved to do. I wanted to make things for people that made them smile and spread my joy. I loved to do this, so why wouldn't I spread the love and give things to other people?"

Q: What advice would you give to other young entrepreneurs?  
 A: "If you are wanting to start a business or you already started, I would tell you that you should always give your best. Some days are hard, and

there is no motivation, but to keep being successful, you have to give it 100% at all times. Make sure that you love the thing that you are going to sell. Make sure you love to do it and aren't just doing it to make money. Put your whole heart and soul into this, so you can spread your talent."

Q: What products do you sell?  
 A: "I sell a lot of handmade cards, ornaments (at Christmas), custom canvases, digital art, logos, stickers, prints, and really anything that you want me to do."

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## STATE SOLOISTS

● Left: Senior **Julia Smart** performs a lyrical dance to "Grow as We Go."  
 ● Below: Freshman **Olivia Cunningham** dances to "Carry You" by Ruelle. "I loved being able to present my 2020-2021 solo with the school dance team," said **Cunningham**. "Nothing compares to performing at State Dance."



Seniors **Julia Smart**, **Erin Nossaman**, **Ella Jahner**, freshmen **Harleigh Walkup**, **Isabelle McCann**, **Olivia Cunningham**, and junior **Bailey Knouse** all performed solos at the Iowa State Dance and Drill Team Competition. They also all received division ones.

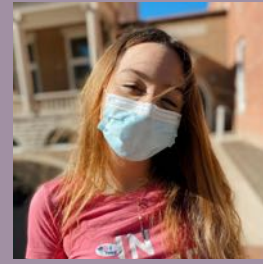
"It's super exciting because

usually not a whole team gets a division one rating because that's really hard to do," said **Jahner**. "So it was really exciting we were all able to pull it off."

**Knouse** also won 9th place as a soloist, and **Jahner** won 3rd place for her color guard routine set to Stevie Wonder's "Signed, Sealed, Delivered."

"We haven't had someone do color guard for the past 15 years at State, at least in the individuals section. So I was just trying to get more interest in performing a color guard routine at state," said **Jahner**. "And I've already had people ask me what they should do for a solo next year. I suggest they look into color guard."

## FIRST TIME VOTERS



"I voted for the first time knowing that this election wasn't a normal one; however, that didn't take any of the excitement away from me. It felt almost like a coming of age for me as I walked in, handed the workers my identification and received a ballot."

-Senior **Natalie Boll**



"The coolest part of my experience was not the voting itself but actually knowing what to do and who I honestly wanted to vote for. I can thank government class for that. **Mr. Buchanan** taught a politics unit before the election in order for us students to be more knowledgeable about this election."

-Senior **Andrea VanHeukelom**

● Senior **Andrew Wogen** and sophomores **Aleigha Ausman**, **Abbey Beal**, and **Taryn Peffers** play Among Us during lunch. "The fact that I play this game nearly every day this year and have gotten imposter three times is a scam," said **Ausman**.



## AMONG US

The game Among Us became very popular quickly on the live streaming platform Twitch, drawing over 435,000 viewers, making it one of the most popular Twitch streams ever. Among Us is a multi player game created by game studio Innersloth. It was released in June of 2018. The game is all about paranoia, suspicion, and misdirection.

"Among us has been around for a while, but people just started playing it a lot this year," said sophomore **Zoe Blanton**.

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