

TOP PAGE EDGE

fit to print WSSS

In

Huddled in Room 111 until 5 or 6 p.m., never without a camera close by, searching for new stories to tell. It all comes with being part of the *West Side Story* staff.

“The *WSS* allows students of all backgrounds to share their stories and add their inputs into the big ideas that the whole school should be talking about,” said Eugenia Chen ‘17, citing the Nov. 6 cover story on religion.

The *WSS* also lets students explore different sides of writing. “I was interested in how versatile newspaper could be,” co-editor in chief Kelsey Keranen ‘16 said. “Nonfiction could be as rich and fulfilling as fiction, and I gained appreciation for finding the stories of other people.”

That excitement pulled in others eager to write for the paper. “I knew I wanted to be on staff since I was in fifth grade when I saw one of the newspapers,” Fenna Semken ‘18 said. “I love it.”

A few staffers found unexpected enjoyment in their roles.

“I really liked taking pictures when I was asked to take them one day,” said Jeremy Hu ‘16, who had photographed some organizations he volunteered with and done senior portraits.

Similarly, Maddie Moriyama ‘18 and others, including Taylor Libby ‘16 and Claire Murray ‘17, found their passion in design.

“I get a lot of my ideas from Pinterest. It’s great,” Moriyama said. “The Internet is your best source when it comes to design.”

But not everyone tended to stick to one area. Staff members could explore whatever area interested them.

“Sophomore year I was just a writer, but what I love about staff is you are able to try everything,” said Allie Biscupski ‘17, broadcast co-editor and online managing editor.

But the staff’s overall goal remained the same: to give readers something to excite them.

“I think the *WSS* gives West High a platform for controversial issues to be discussed, in addition to providing entertaining and informative articles,” Shawn Thacker ‘18 said.

When brainstorming, original ideas inevitably sprang up.

“There is a wide variety of ideas and creativity on the staff,” Junhee Lee ‘18 said. For example, Ellie Gretter’s Nov. 6 story on “What Did You Find at Stadium Cleanup?” caught readers’ eyes.

Although the time commitment could be overwhelming at times, members of the staff enjoyed working on each issue.

“Everyone’s really welcoming, and our work nights are a lot of fun, even if they’re kinda crazy sometimes,” Wingel Xue ‘18 said.

—By Julia Austin

CAUTION!



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204 clubs&academics/west side story

BOTTOM PAGE EDGE

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Page No. 204
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School Name: icwest

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